

# National Natural Capital Accounting in the UK

Adam Dutton

Starting at 12.30 PM

ESCoE ECONOMIC MEASUREMENT WEBINARS

# National Natural Capital Accounting in the UK

## The Associated Challenges & Possibilities for the Future

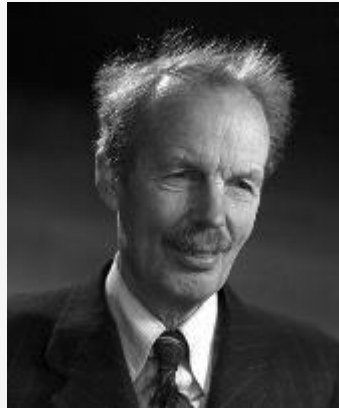
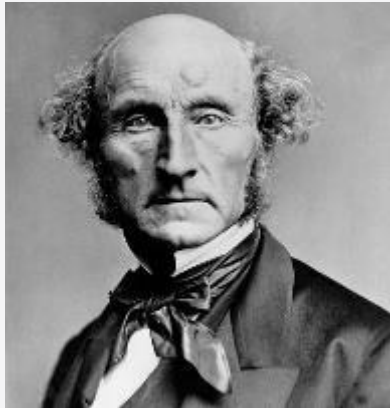
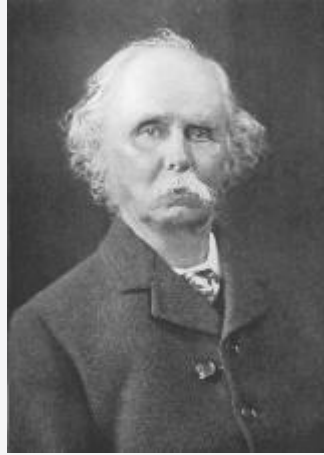
**Dr. Adam Dutton**

Branch Head – Natural Capital

2 December 2021



# What is Natural Capital – to economists?

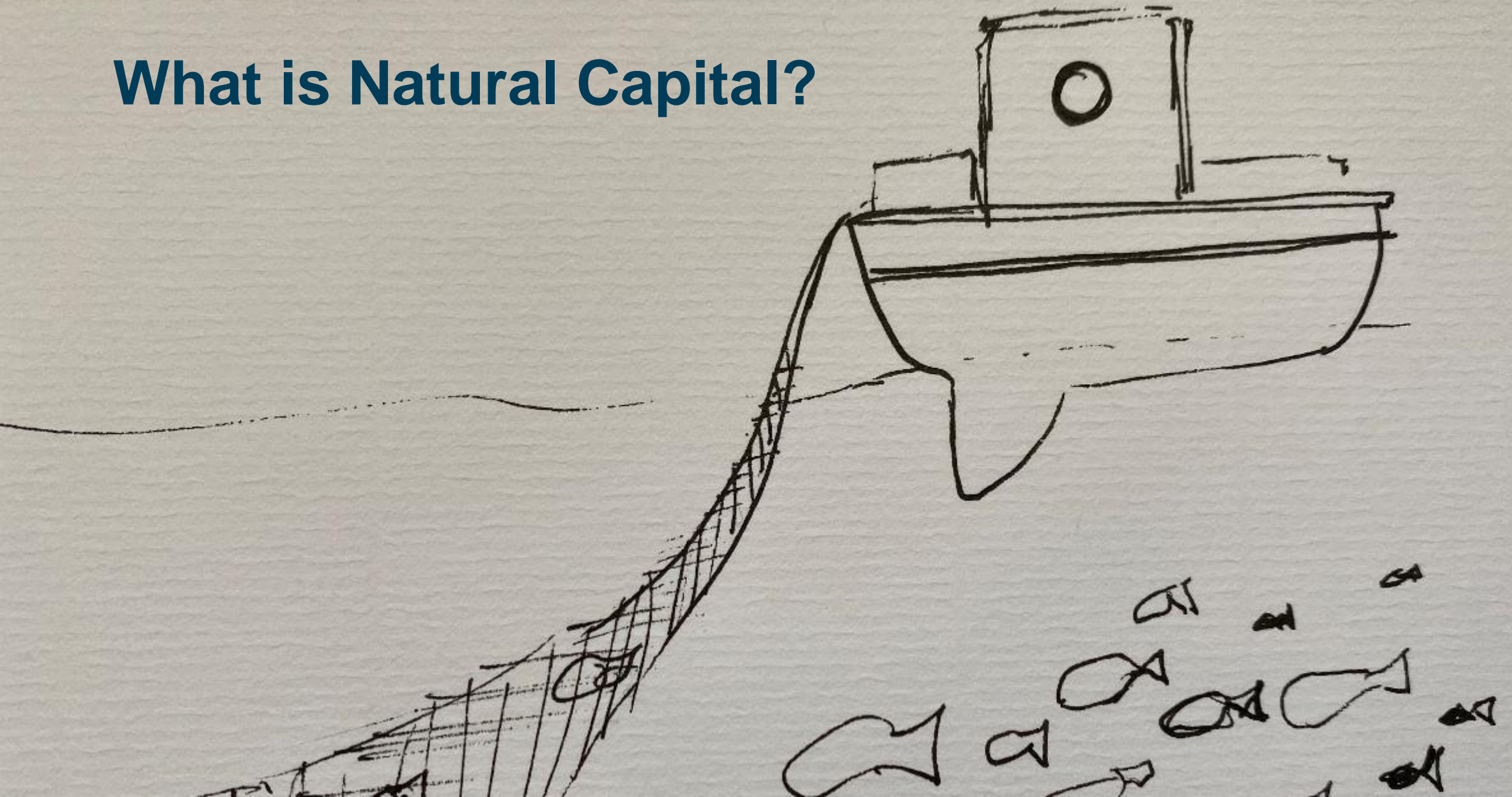


# What is Natural Capital - to ecologists?

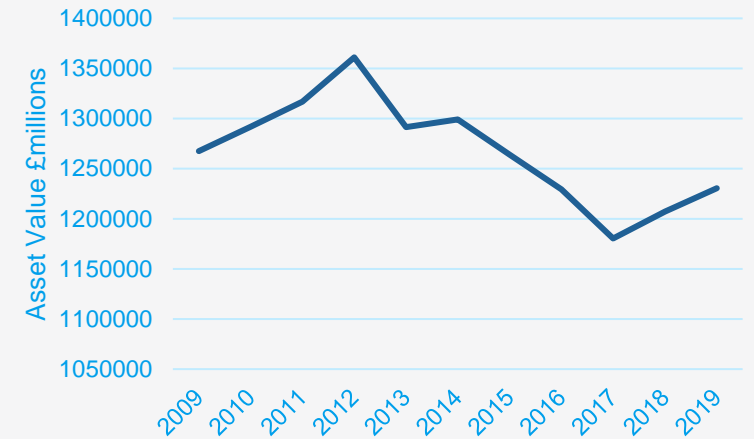
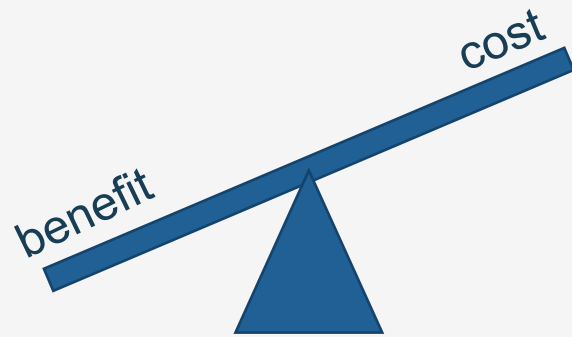




# What is Natural Capital?



# What is Natural Capital – to a policy maker or business?



# Why make a Natural Capital Account?

Big Numbers  
as advocacy

Local Numbers  
for engagement

Monitoring  
trajectories

Policy  
Development

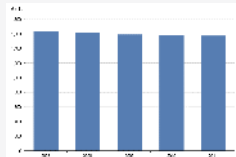
Green GDP &  
Inclusive Wealth

# History



Office for National Statistics

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

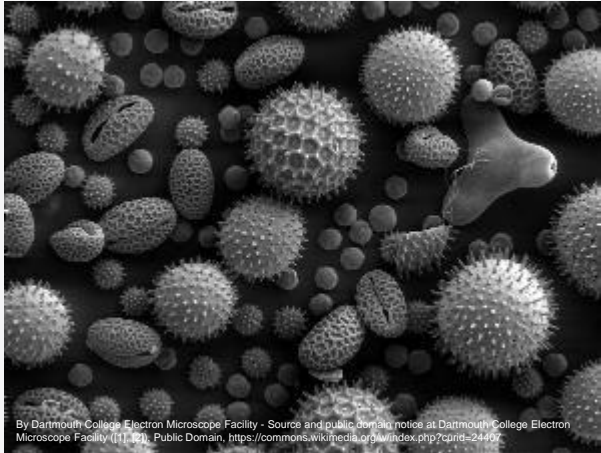


Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

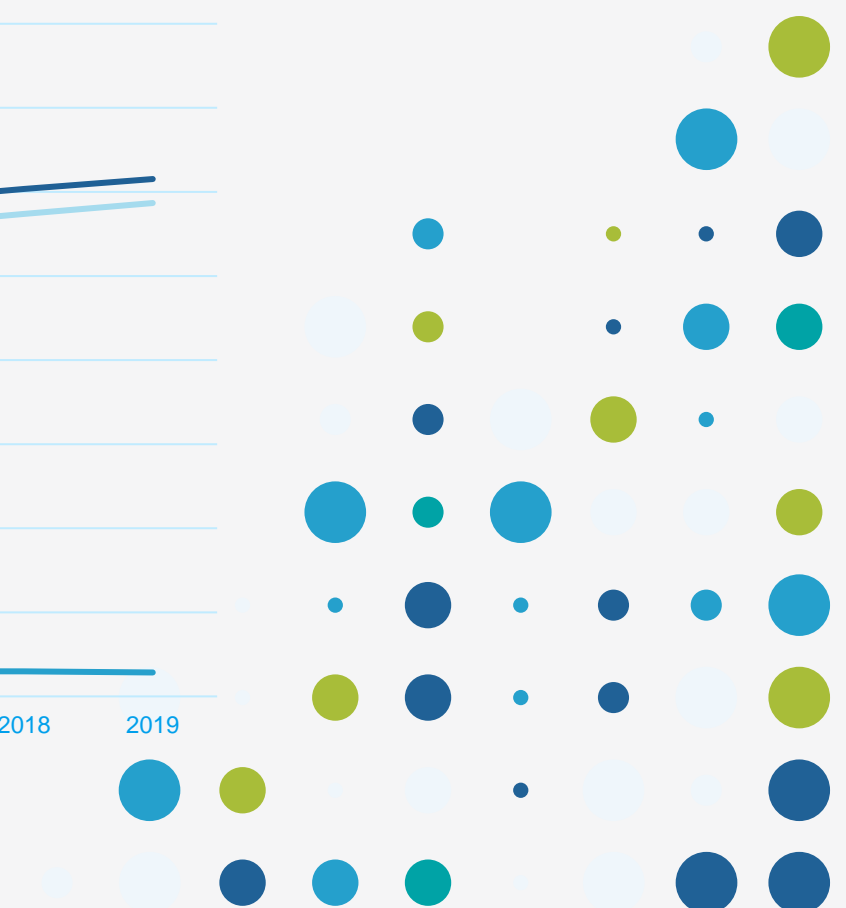
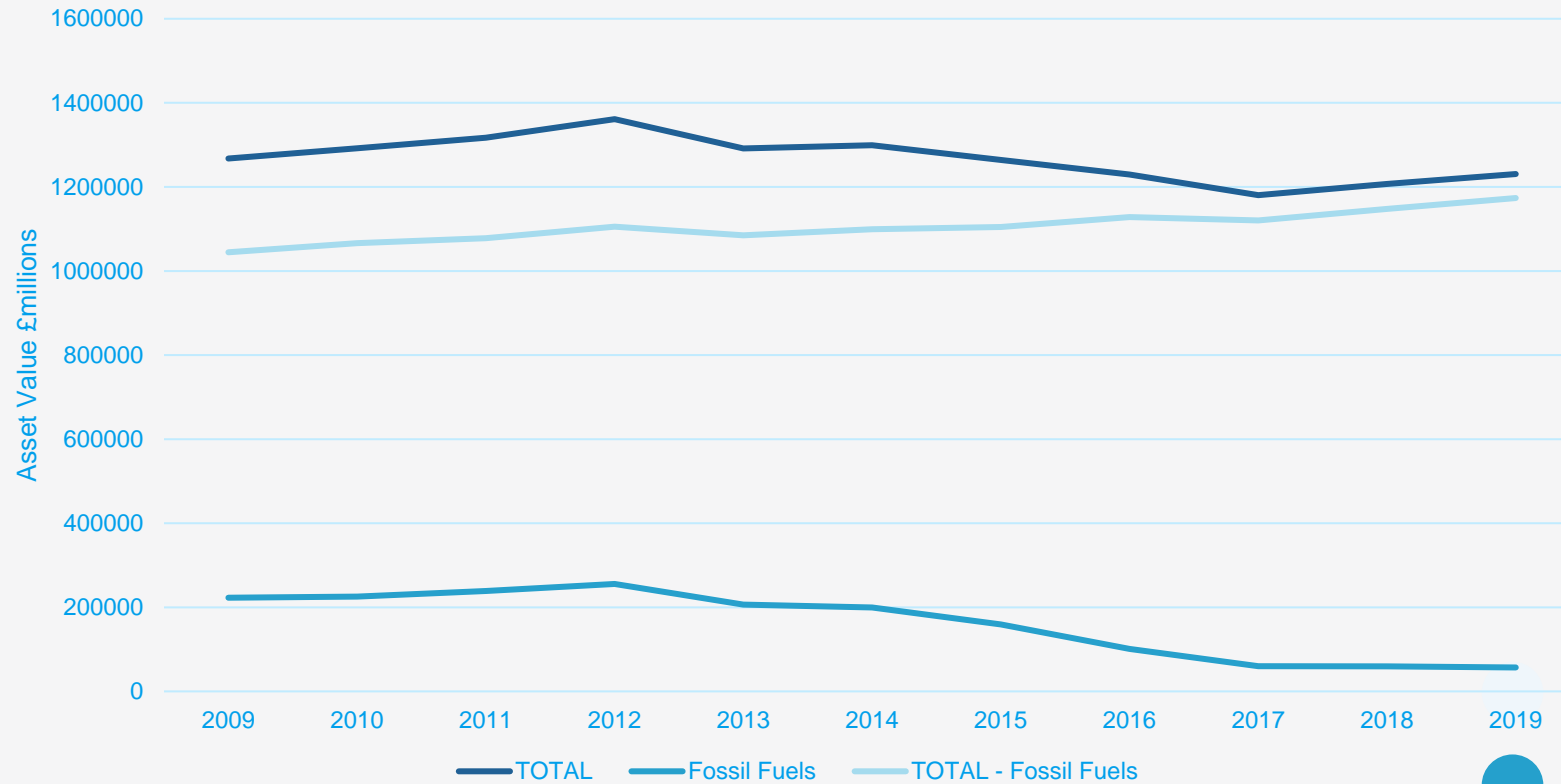




# How are we doing?

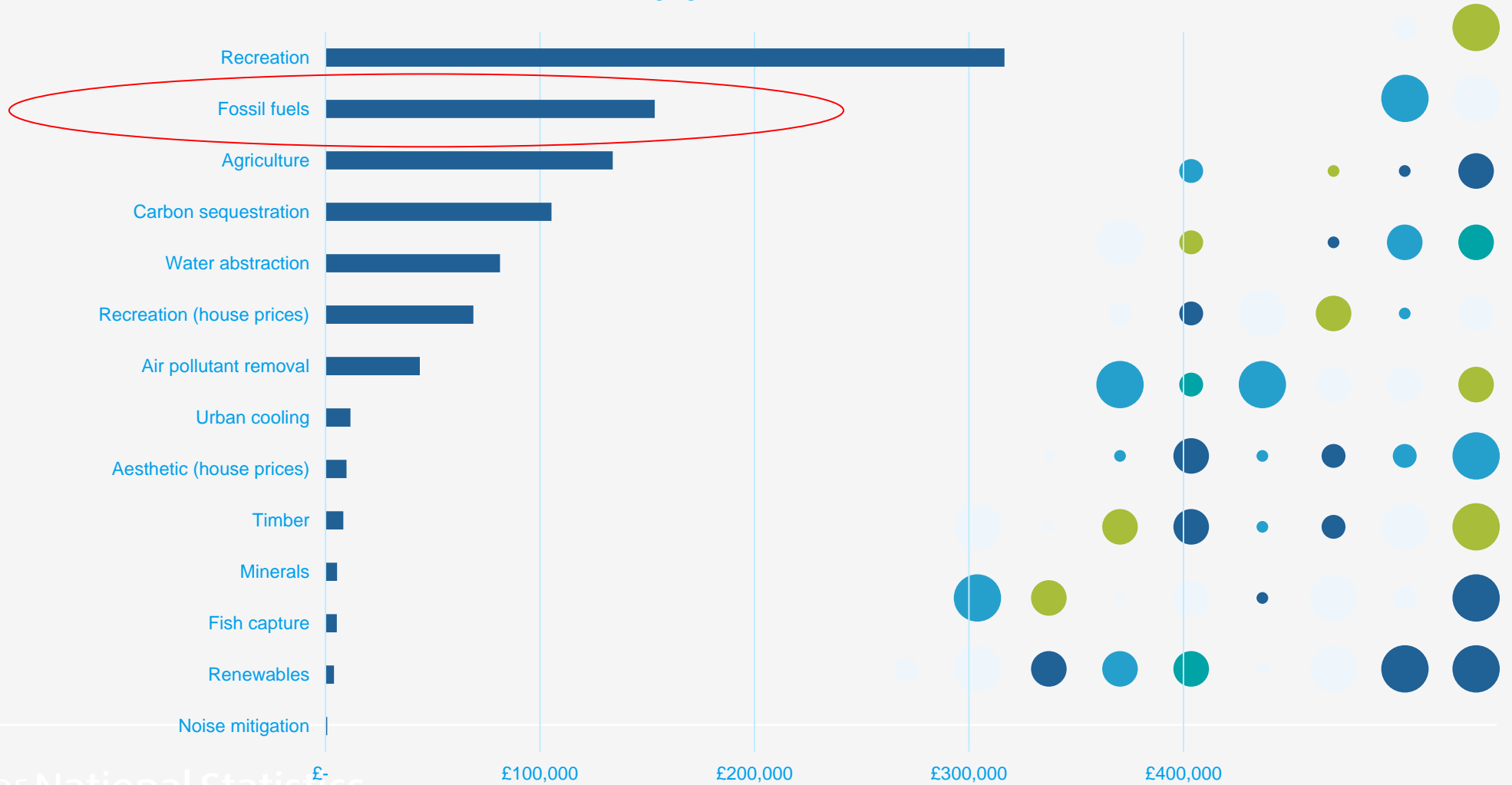


# Headlines



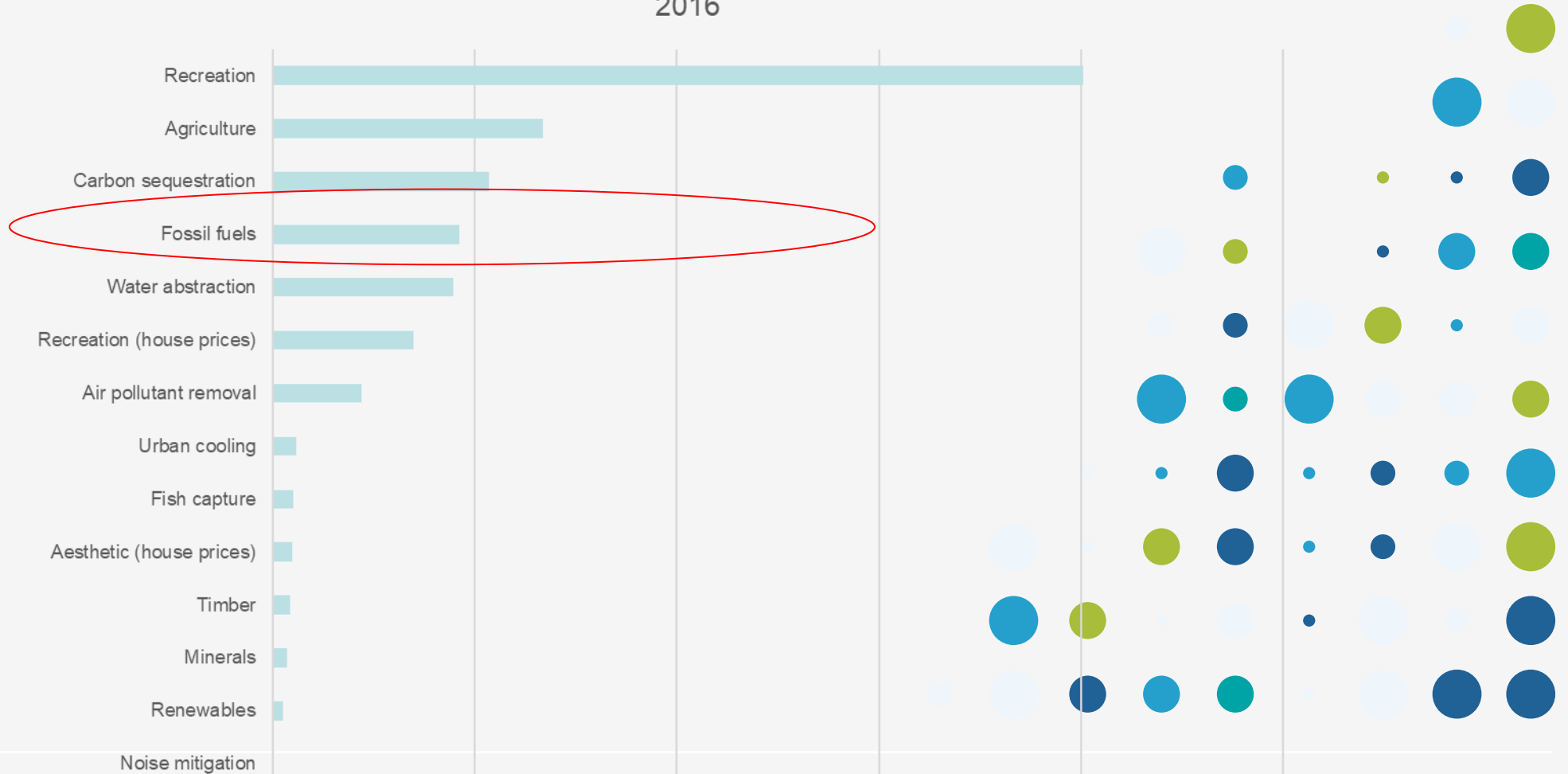
Some assets without all years presented have been held flat from the earliest or latest year to aid presentation.

# How the mighty... 2015



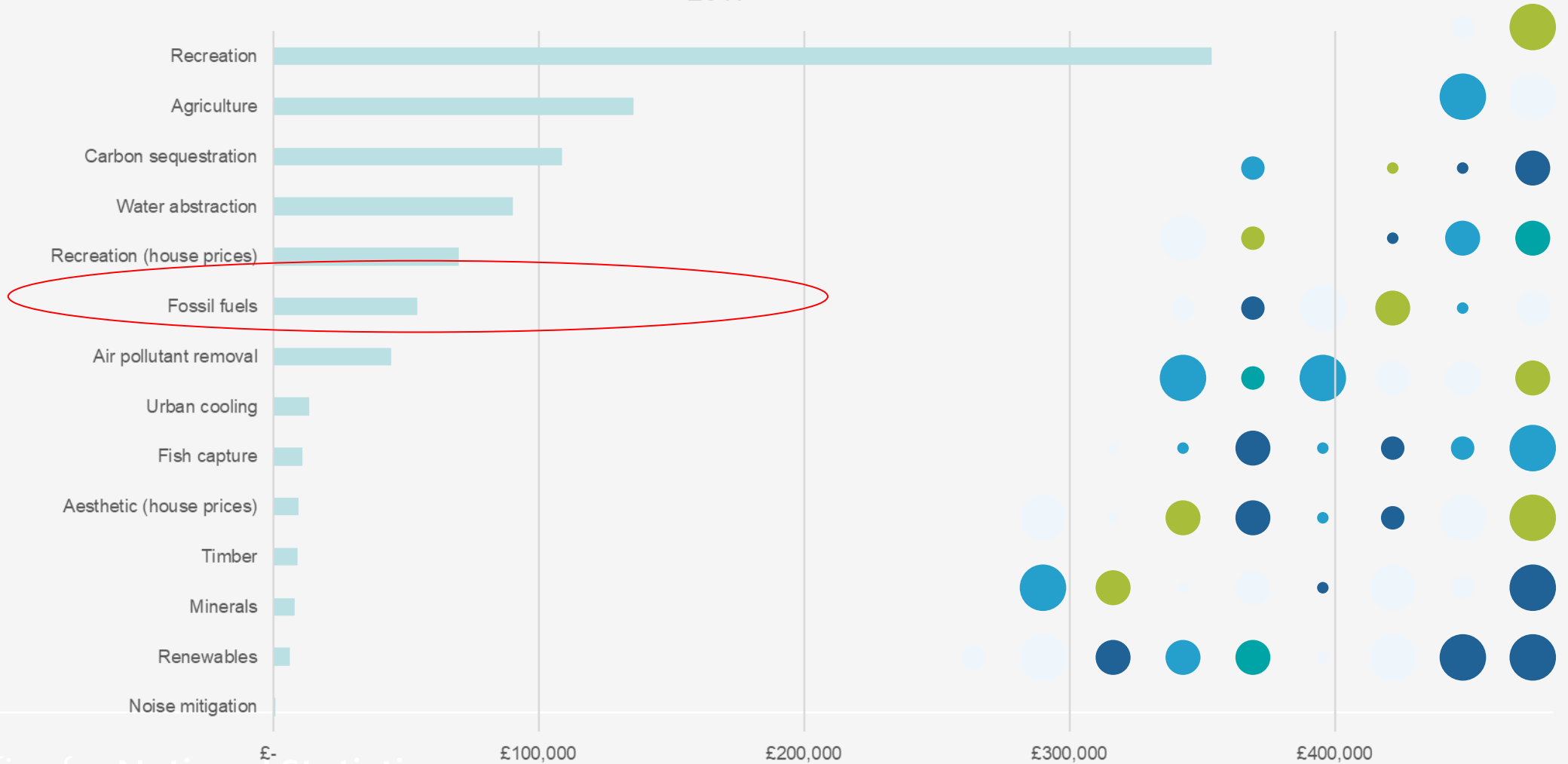
# How the mighty...

2016



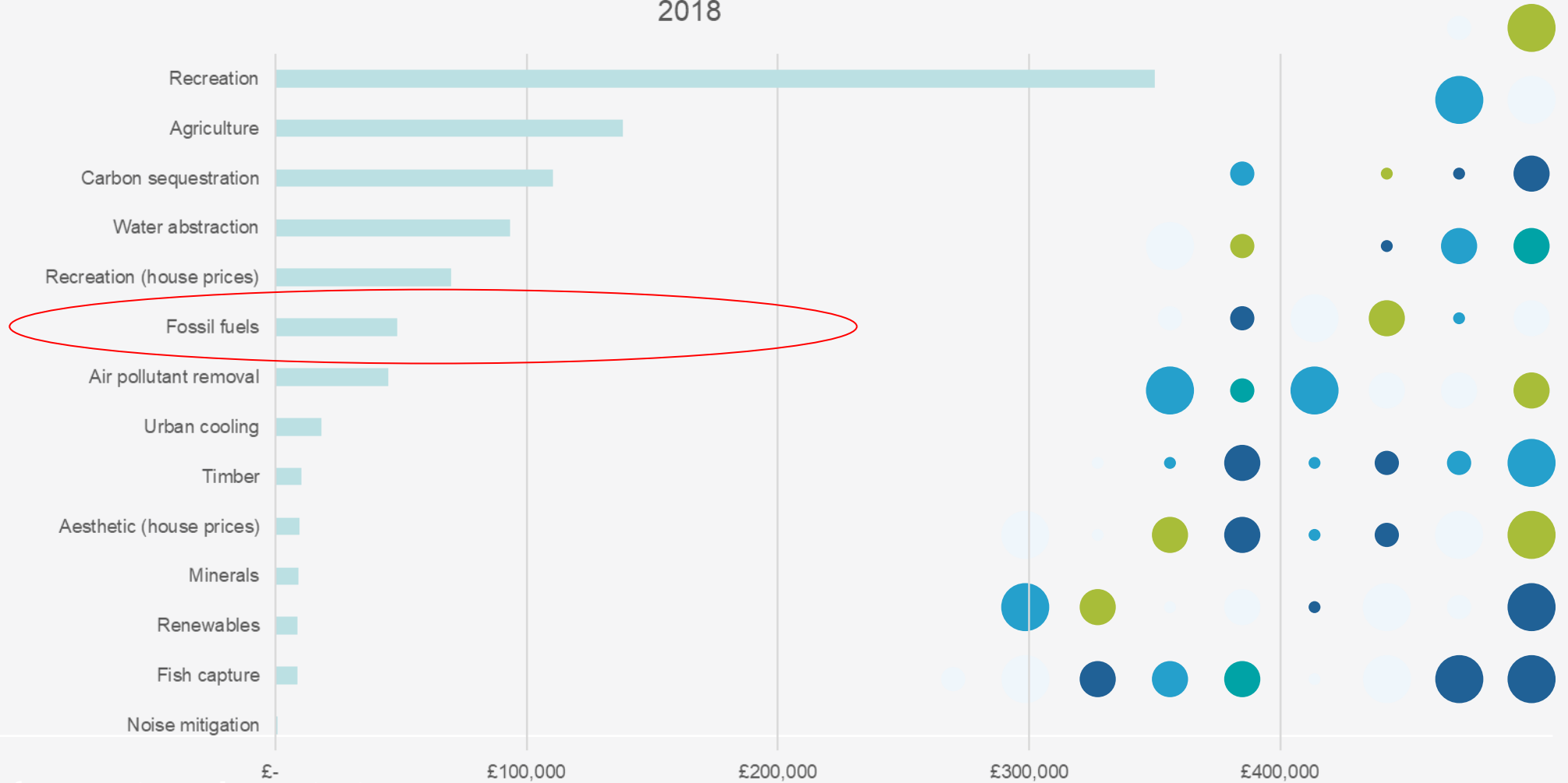


# How the mighty... 2017



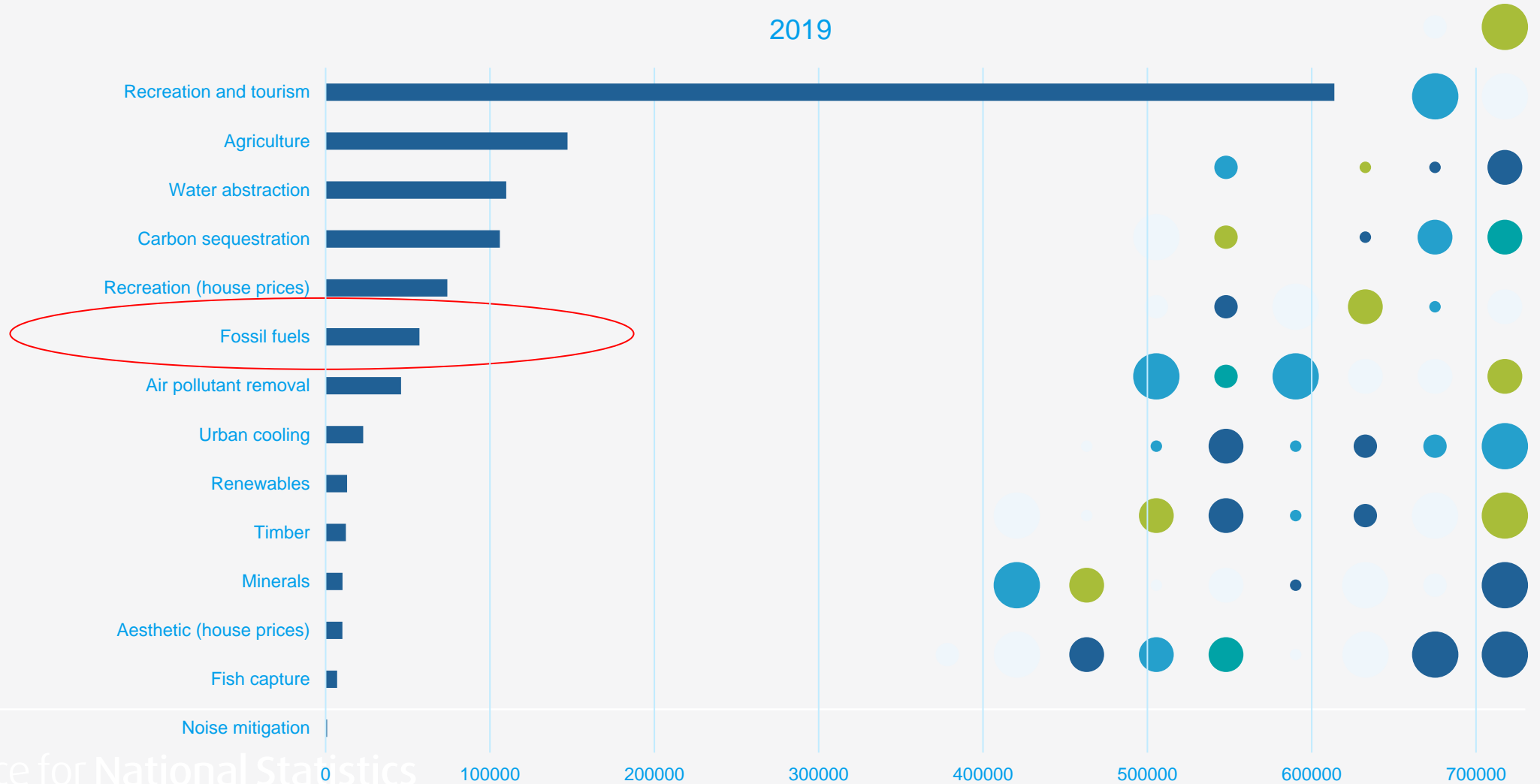
# How the mighty...

2018



# How the mighty...

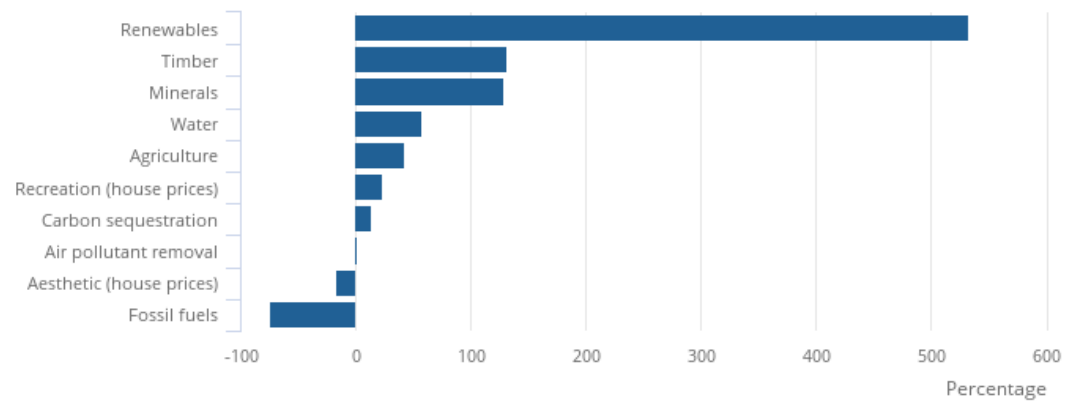
2019



# Money isn't everything...

Figure 7: Between 2009 and 2019, the asset value of fossil fuels decreased by 74%

Percentage change in asset value by selected services from 2009 to 2019, UK, 2020




Source: Office for National Statistics - UK Natural Capital Accounts






# Peer Review

 [Redacted]

UK natural capital worth £1 trillion. Sounds like a lot?

London's residential housing is worth £1.77 trillion.

 [Redacted]

The UK's natural capital is valued at about £1tr, which is obviously ridiculous.

I'd rather have the nature tbh.

[businessgreen.com/bg/news/500201...](#)

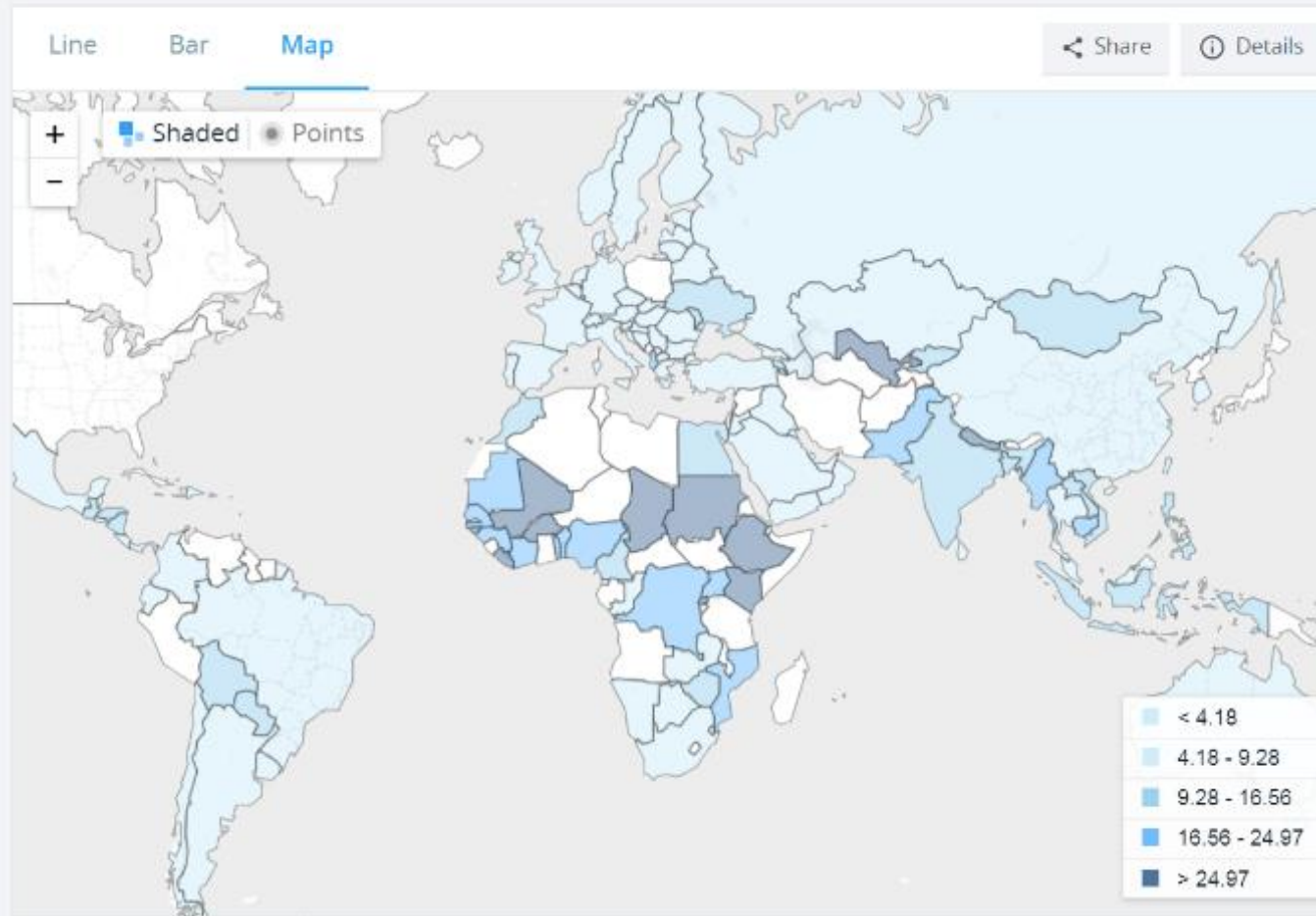
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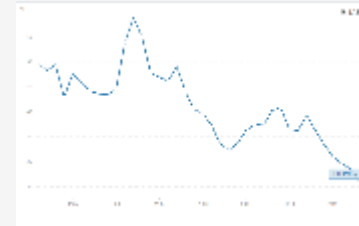
# Agriculture, forestry, and fishing, value added

World Bank national accounts data, and OECD National Accounts data files.

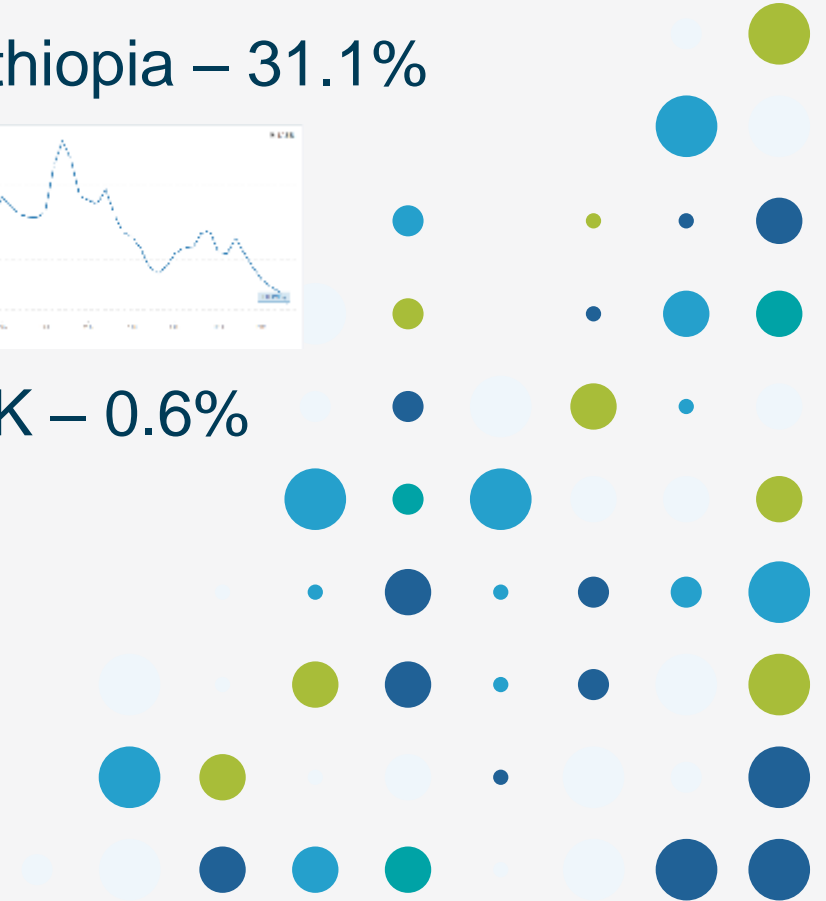
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Ethiopia – 31.1%

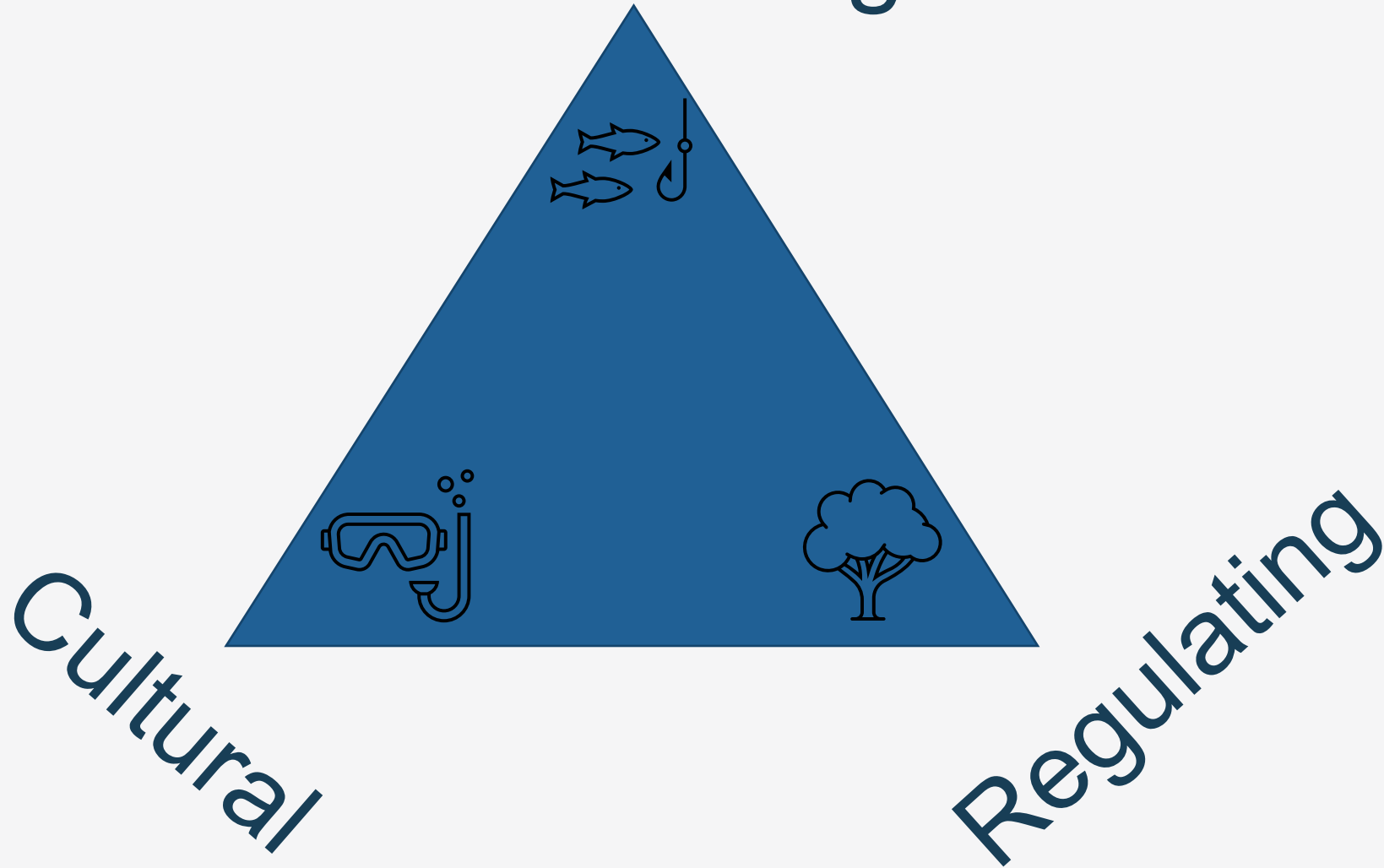


UK – 0.6%



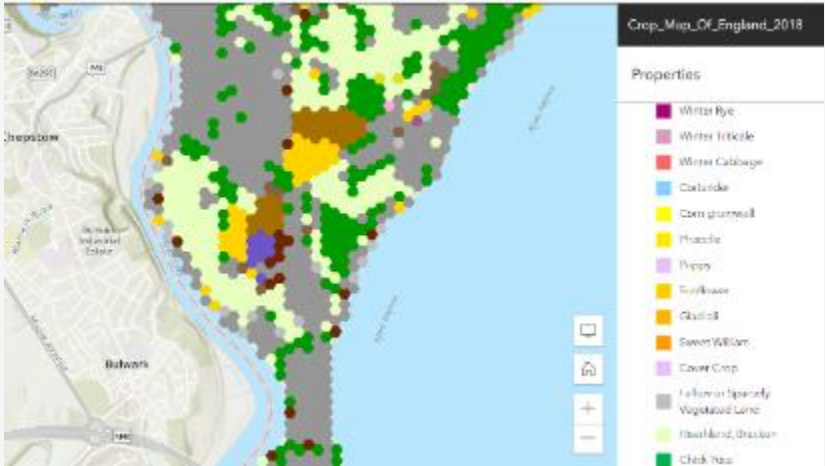
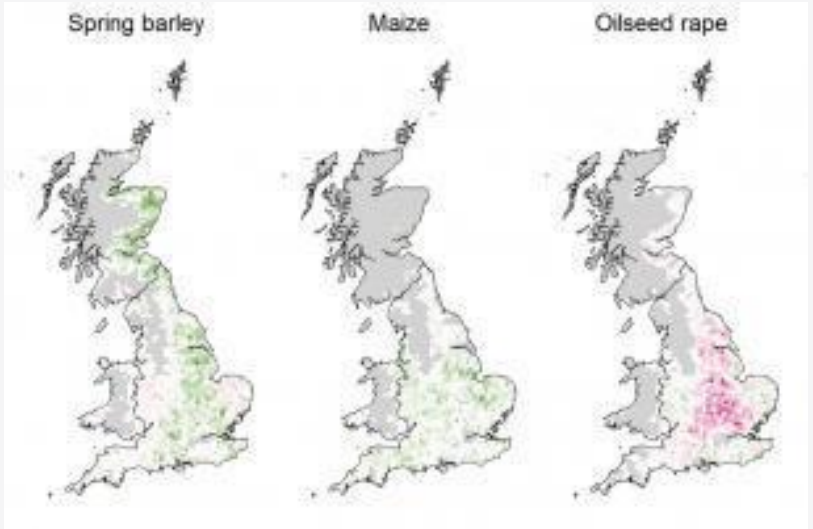


# Provisioning

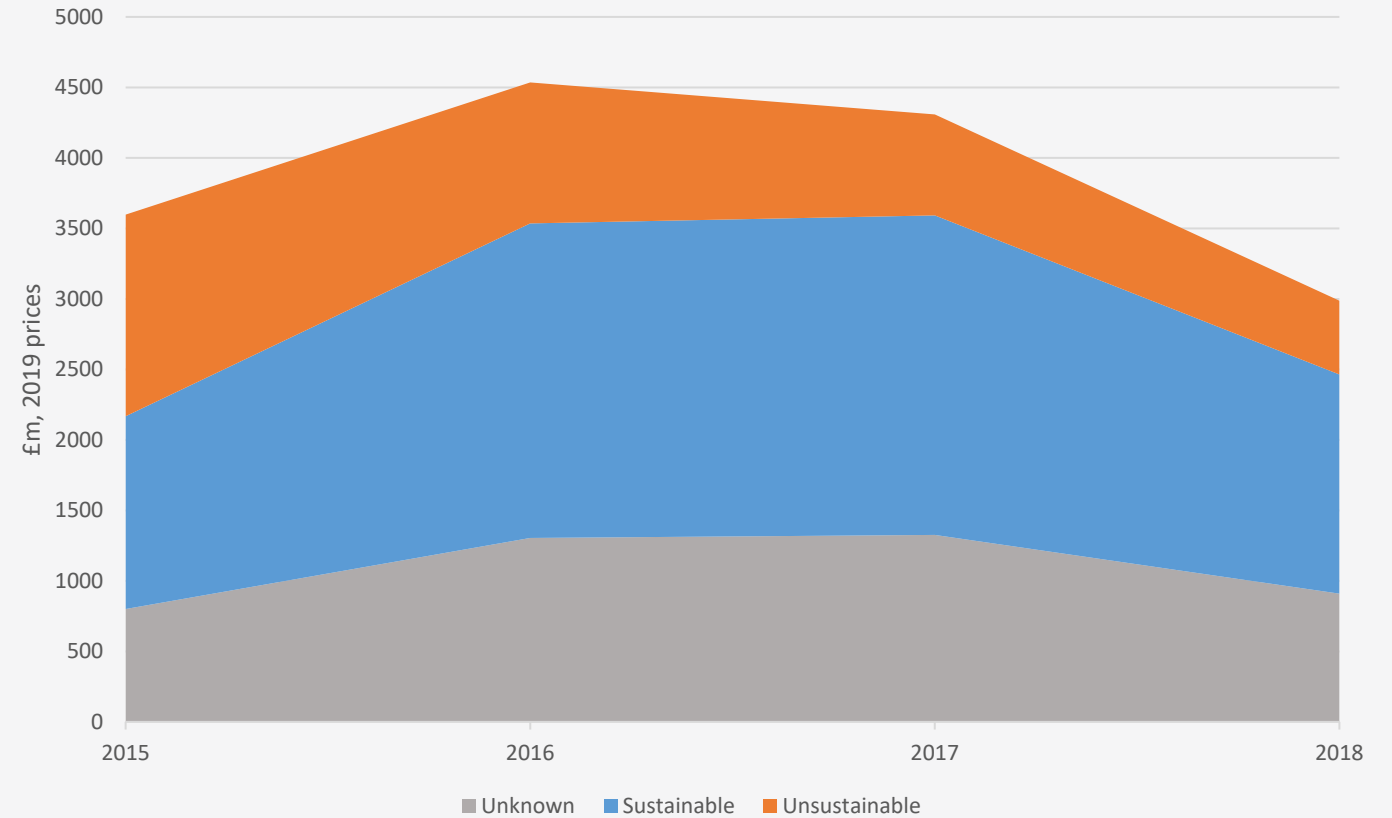
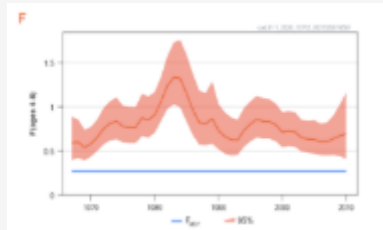
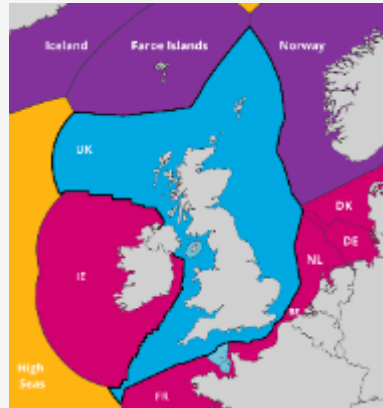
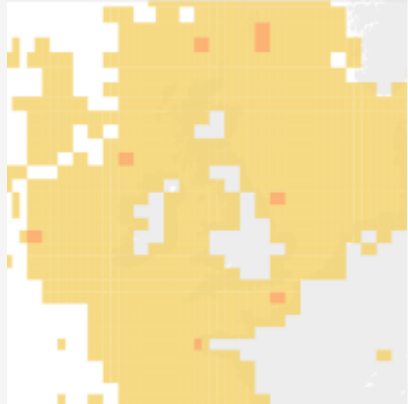




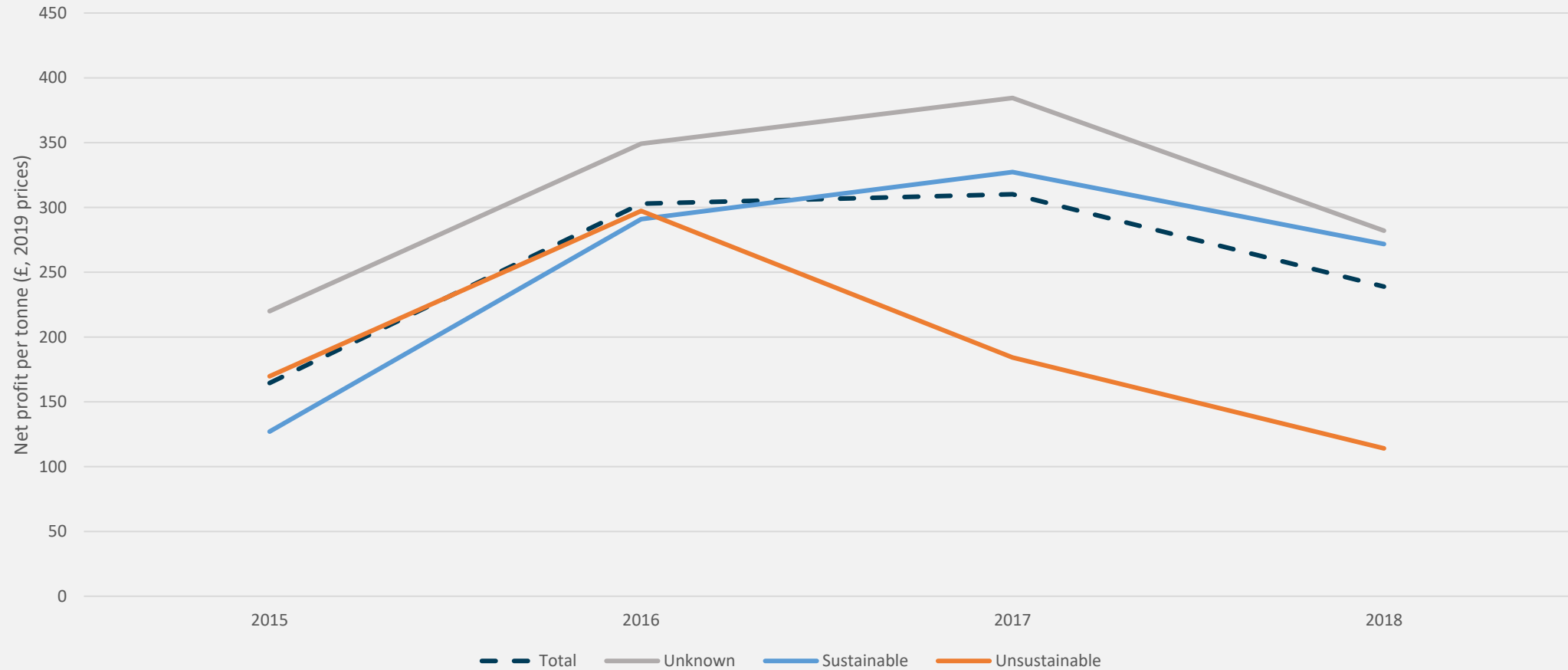
# Provisioning services



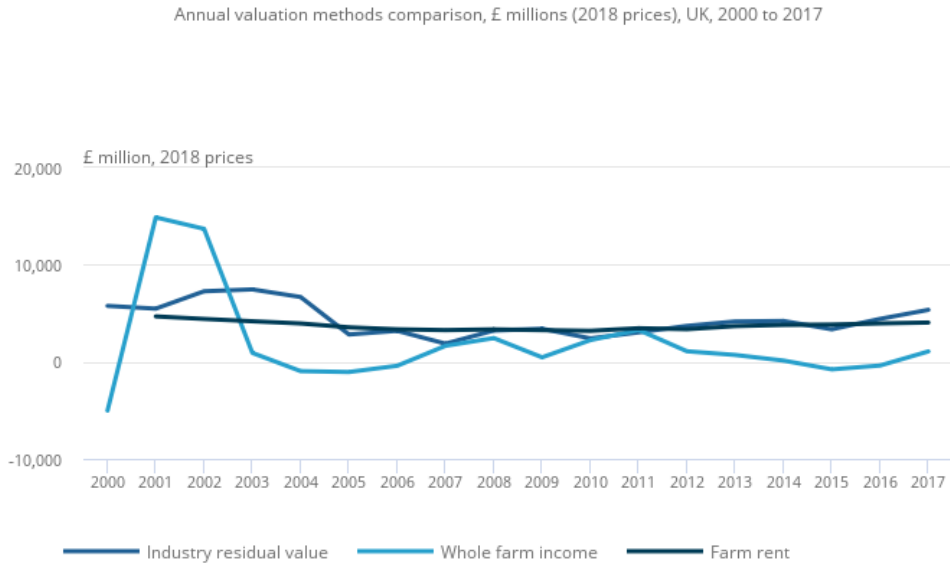
# Wild Fish



# Sustainability value



# Crops (for food etc.) and grazed biomass (for livestock)



Source: Office for National Statistics and Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs



# Timber



# Water Supply

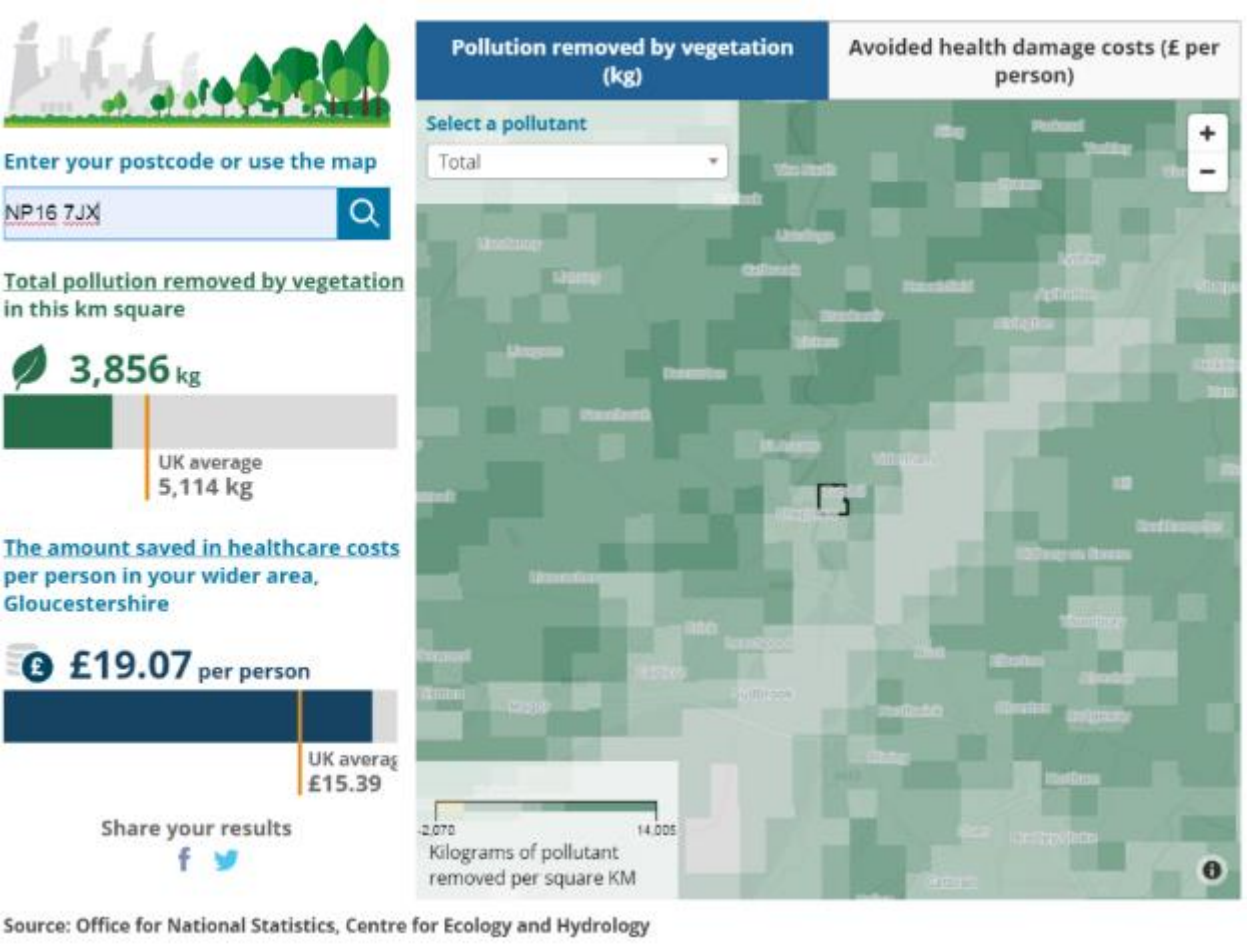


# Regulating services





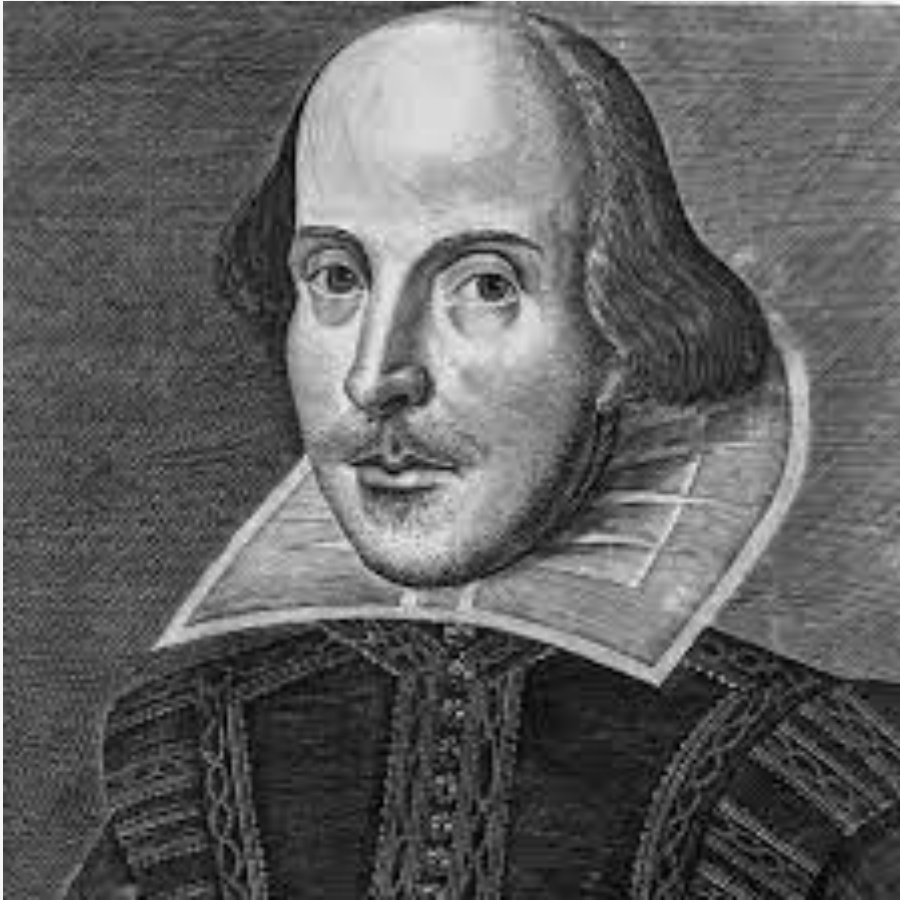
# Air Filtration



# Global climate regulation



# Cultural Services





# Recreation





# Visual Amenity Services

The estimated value added to your property by green space is

**£6,940**

Your nearest public green space is a **play space**, **233 metres** from your home.

Move the slider to see what difference being nearer or further away from public green space would make to the value.



# Education







Marine Management Organisation



British Trust for Ornithology



Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot



Oil & Gas Authority



Centre for Ecology & Hydrology

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



HM Treasury



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government



Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

# THANKYOU



# Contact

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All our data available here:

[https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/nationalaccounts/  
uksectoraccounts/methodologies/naturalcapital](https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/nationalaccounts/uksectoraccounts/methodologies/naturalcapital)

