NBN Chief Executive's Report – November 2017

By Jo Judge

Highlights
- Software developer recruited, starting on 1st December 2017
- $30,000 (approx. £23,000) in credits received from Amazon Web Services
- Funding for NBN Atlas BAU agreed with all four countries
- Invited to give evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee on the NERC Act 2006 on the 31st October 2017
- Attended GBIF Global Nodes meeting

Strategic Aim 1: Record, collect and mobilise data

1. Standardised Verification Terms
Board Actions:
a) **Note** standardised verification terms adopted by NBN

The Improving Data Flows, Verification and Online Recording Working Group have agreed a set of standardised terms for verification status of records to be adopted by the NBN (see table). These terms will be used on the NBN Atlas and iRecord and the wider network will be encouraged to adopt the same terms.

Verification Status 1	Verification Status 2
Accepted	Correct
	Considered Correct
Not Accepted	Unable to verify
	Incorrect
Unconfirmed	Plausible
	Not reviewed

2. Display of unverified data on NBN Atlas
Board Actions:
a) **Note** proposals for displaying unverified data on NBN Atlas

The Improving Data Flows, Verification and Online Recording Working Group have recommended that there is a mechanism for differentiating between Accepted and Unconfirmed data per individual record on the NBN Atlas. It was agreed that Accepted and Unconfirmed data should be immediately distinguishable on maps, with clear legends. The preferred option would be for Unconfirmed data to be displayed in a distinct, paler colour (e.g. grey) than Accepted data and for Accepted data to be displayed on top of Unconfirmed data.

3. Submit a sighting
Board Actions:
a) **Note** proposals for reinstating submit sighting on the NBN Atlas

The NBN and BRC met to discuss the proposed submit a sighting function on the NBN Atlas. It was agreed that any sightings could be submitted through an NBN branded front page and go directly into an Indicia 'back end' and onto iRecord where it will be available for verification. BRC & NBN will be working on producing scoping documents by Christmas with the intention of implementing the system in 2018

Strategic Aim 2: Make biological data and information available to everyone

4. **Open Data Policy**
   Board Actions:
   a) **Note** separate paper TTE17-03 P02
   b) **Agree** adoption of policy

Strategic Aim 3. Captivate and engage people about wildlife

Board actions:
   a) **Note** separate paper Comms Report TTE17-03 P11 prepared by Mandy Henshall

Strategic Aim 4: Data Management Infrastructure

5. **NBN Atlas Update**
   Board actions:
   a) **Note** separate paper TTE17-03 P03
   b) **Note** the updates on the NBN Atlas

Stakeholder Engagement
All Steering Groups (NBN Atlas, NBN Atlas Scotland and NBN Atlas Wales) have decided to hold Stakeholder engagement events in early 2018 to discuss user needs and requirements for development of further functionality. The events are likely to be one-day workshops with the morning consisting of awareness raising and examples of how members are using the NBN Atlas with discussions on future functionalities in the afternoon. We are also investigating other ways of getting input from users who cannot attend a workshop.

Country Portals
NBN Atlas Northern Ireland
MoA now in place and the first steering group meeting has taken place. Development of the NBNA NI will being once funding has been received.

NBN Atlas Isle of Man
MoA in place, funding received and steering group meetings have taken place. The steering group have been working with Red Paint to develop the front end and development of the back end will begin shortly.

Strategic Aim 5: Support the development of the NBN, its board and its members

5. **Procedure for dealing with breaches of non-commercial licences**
   Board actions:
   a) **Note** the summary of the procedure below

As agreed at previous meetings, the NBN Trust will provide support to NBN members when the terms of the Creative Commons non-commercial licence (CC-BY-NC) are breached. Below is a summary of the procedure and eligibility criteria.

Procedure:
   i) Data provider contacts NBN with details of who they believe has breached the licence conditions
   ii) if the NBN agrees that the use appears commercial, the NBN will contact the data user in writing to enquire about data use

- In response the data user has the option to explain the use the data was used for and why they did not deem the use commercial

iii) if there is no response, or the NBN is satisfied that the use is commercial, the NBN issues a fixed charge notice (notice currently being drawn up by lawyer)
- The data user has the opportunity to appeal the fixed charge at this stage

iv) if data user does not respond or does not pay, NBN will make a claim through the county court claims system

In order to be eligible for support the data provider must;
a) be an NBN member
b) have an income of less than £2,000,000
c) provide evidence in support of belief that the licence has been breached

6. **Progress against Action Plan**
   Board actions:
   a) **Note** separate paper TTE17-03 P04
   b) **Note** progress against action plan priorities for 2017/18

7. **Advertising and Sponsorship**
   a) **Note** separate paper TTE17-03 P05 prepared by Giselle Sterry

8. **Board Governance Review**
   Board actions:
   a) **Note** separate paper TTE17-03 P07
   b) **Agree** Review Committee's recommendations

9. **Risk Register**
   Board actions:
   a) **Note** separate paper TTE17-03 P06