

Scottish Biodiversity Information Forum

4th Advisory Group meeting, 20/10/2017, 11:00-14:30

RSPB Scotland Board Room, Edinburgh Park, EH12 9DH

Minutes

Present

Ellen Wilson (EW) (RSPB) [Chair]; Gill Dowse (SWT); Jo Judge (NBN Trust); Scot Mathieson (SEPA); Christine Johnston (CJ) (NBN Trust) [Minutes]

Apologies received

Andy Ford (CNP); Nick Fraser (NMS); Guy Harewood (Stirling Council); Claire Lacey (CIEEM); Craig Macadam (Buglife); Iain Macgowan (SNH); Sandra Marks (Scot Govt); Joanne Porter (Heriot-Watt University); David Roy (BRC); Jonathan Willet (BRISC); Graeme Wilson (TWIC)

In attendance

Liz Edwards (RSPB) (member of the SBIF Review Working group)

1. Minutes and matters arising from the last meeting (21/06/2017)

There were no corrections, matters arising or actions to be carried forward from the minutes.

The minutes [*SBIF Advisory Group minutes DRAFT 21 Jun 2017*] were approved for publication on the SBIF web pages of the NBN website.

2. Update on the Review of the Biological Recording Infrastructure

EW gave a presentation on progress and outputs from the workshops so far, and facilitated a discussion about the design of the future workshops.

Workshop 1 (Data Flow) held on 18/19th September, and Workshop 2 (Services) held on the 17/18th October

A summary of the content of each workshop and their respective outputs was provided. In the case of Workshop 2 the outputs were in draft format [although since the meeting they have been made available on our web pages]. The outputs from Workshop 1 are already available from the web pages.

It was noted that the draft Questionnaire and Interview findings have been used to inform the workshops. Once finalised these findings will be published on our web pages but in the meantime the Interview 'Rich Pictures' will be uploaded to the web pages.

Workshop 3 (Governance) on the 9/10th November, and Workshop 4 (Funding) on the 4/5th December

It was agreed that the design principles for each workshop must be underpinned by the principles adopted for the previous workshops to ensure that decisions made in these workshops are not undermined. It was also agreed that in Workshop 3 the Governance model that is in current use ought to be one of the models that is discussed.

The discussion was wide ranging and welcomed by the Working Group. The comments will help to shape the workshop designs.

To conclude the meeting attendees gave their support for the workshop process and outputs so far.

3. AoB

Sending a deputy to the Advisory Group meeting

It was re-iterated that each member of the Advisory Group is most welcome to send a deputy to the meeting if they are unable to attend. The discussion at these meetings is important as it ensures input to the Review process from each sector.

EW and CJ apologise for the late circulation of papers for this meeting. The papers were unfortunately overlooked owing to preparing for and running Workshop 2 earlier in the week.

4. Dates of next Advisory Group meetings and workshops

Next Advisory Group meeting

Thursday 18th January 2018 – 11am at Barnacle Room, RSPB, Lochside View, Edinburgh

There will be an option for people to attend in person or by phone. Please send a deputy if you are unable to attend. Future meeting dates will be discussed at this meeting.

Dates of next workshops

Workshop venue: SNH's Battleby Conference Centre

Workshop 3 (Governance): 09/10th November 2017

Workshop 4 (Funding): 5/6th December 2017