

Review of Progress Against Action Plan Priorities 2017/18

July 2018

Explanation of RAG status and indicators

| Indicator | Status | Indicator means one or more of the following | | |
|-----------|---|---|--|--|
| | There are significant issues with the project | Delays against critical milestones over 4 weeks | Significant lack of resources that cannot be resolved internally | Dissatisfaction or resistance from stakeholders that mean acceptance may be delayed or benefits not achieved |
| | A problem has a negative effect on delivery, but can be dealt with by NBN Secretariat | Delays against critical milestones over two weeks | Lack of resources that can be resolved | Dissatisfaction or resistance from stakeholders which can be addressed |
| | Performing to plan | On course to complete on time | No resource problems | Stakeholders satisfied with outcomes |

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July 2018

The actions shown in the table below were identified as priorities for the 2017/18 financial year. The two red status actions have not been completed due to events outside of the Trust's control, due to a lack of engagement by network members in the first case and an inability by funders to secure funds required by the end of the financial year for the sensitive species access.

Some of the technical tasks were postponed due to a lack of technical expertise in the team, with the system developer only being appointed in December 2017.

| Strategic Aim | Strategic Action | Milestones | Measure of success | NBN Lead? | Supported by | Progress as at 31/03/2018 | RAG Status |
|--|---|---|---|-----------|---|--|------------|
| 1. Record, collect, diversify, enhance & mobilise biological data | Increase verification capacity through establishment of a UK Verification Network to share best practice, celebrate success and recruit | Draft ToR for UK verification network by 20/11/2017 ToR agreed by partners by 31/12/2017 | A demonstrable increase in verification capacity and "time to market" of verified records by 31/12/2018 | No* | Verification & online recording working group | Discussions within Working Group suggest a formalised network with ToR is not required/wanted by wider network Lack of impetus from working group has resulted in this stalling | |
| | Maintain and improve NBN Record Cleaner rule sets and identify quality of records across all NBN systems | Preliminary assessment of current situation with Record Cleaner, what updating is required and level of use by 31/10/2017 | An updated and fit for purpose Record Cleaner that is compatible with the NBN Atlas by 28/02/2018 | Yes | Verification & online recording working group | NE have provided some funding to BRC for to look into updating record cleaner. | |

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July 2018

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|---------------|--|--|--|-----------|---|---|------------|
| | Prepare an online recording strategy for the UK to ensure system consistency and standardisation | Working group convened July 2017 First draft of strategy circulated by 15/10/2017 Strategy agreed by 28/02/2018 | Online recording methods are clear, consistent and interoperable by 31/03/2019 | Yes | Verification & online recording working group | NBN Staff are heavily involved in the SBIF review, which is progressing these discussions through their workshops. | |
| | Create regional and national sensitive species lists | Workshop to be held in July 2017 | NBN data partners understand criteria for inclusion on NBN Atlas Sensitive Species lists so that locations of only species in genuine need of protection are blurred | No* | Taxon experts, National schemes & societies, government agencies, ALERC, BRC, CEH | Completed. Final policy published February 2018. | |
| | Accelerate data flow through NBN systems by publicising the data flow model, establishing data flow agreements and creating a data flow tool to track records through the system | Data flow model to be agreed by 30/11/2017 Data flow agreements established by 31/01/2018 Specifications for data flow tool agreed by 31/03/2018 | Data flow "time to market" significantly increased by 31/03/2019 | Yes | ALERC, BTO, BRC, RSPB | NBN Staff are heavily involved in the SBIF Review which has made great progress on this through their workshops. A proposed simplified data flow has been produced (see Appendix A). Future milestones may change to align with the SBIF timelines. | |

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| | | | | | | | |
| 4. Provide the best biological information Management Infrastructure | Prepare and implement a technical vision and strategy for NBN data infrastructure for data capture, management and dissemination (in conjunction with NBN Trust members and international partners) | Initial discussions completed by 31/10/2017 Draft strategy available by 31/01/2018 | A clear and transparent vision for the NBN data infrastructure published by 31/03/2018 | Yes | BRC, RSPB, SNH, NE, NRW, CeDAR | Other work has taken priority over this. Postponed to 2019/20 | |
| | NBN Atlas: Implementation of a system for identifying and displaying verification status of records on the NBN Atlas | System agreed by 31/10/2017, implemented by 31/12/2017 | All records on NBN Atlas include a verification status | No* | Verification Working Group | Completed System implemented February 2018 | |

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| | Development and implementation of system for enhanced access to capture resolution sensitive species records on the NBN Atlas | System agreed by 30/09/2017, implemented by 30/11/2017 | Authorised users able to access capture resolution sensitive species data through NBN Atlas | Yes | NBN Atlas Steering Groups | Phase 1 of system developed but funding not received for phase 2 (approx. £15,000 required) from SNH, NRW & NIEA, Development on hold until funds can be secured | |
| | Hold stakeholder workshops and determine priorities for development of further functionality | Workshops held by 31/10/2017 Priorities agreed by 31/12/2017 | Priorities, timescales & costs for further functionality agreed | Yes | All network members and funders | Successful event in Wales held on 25 th April. Event in Scotland scheduled for 21 st June. Northern Ireland were not in a position to hold an event in 17/18, no specific plans for an event in 18/19 yet. An event in England is has not yet been held, lack of NBN Atlas is possibly impacting on SG willingness to commit to an event in England. | |
| | Development and implementation of | Implemented by 31/03/2018 | Users able to customise and save their account pages | Yes | | Postponed to 2018/19 | |

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| | customisable user pages | | | | | | |
| | Sourcing and ingesting further habitat, spatial and environmental layers | Ongoing | Increased number of layers available | Yes | | Ongoing | |
| | Review the NBN membership scheme to ensure it is fit for purpose and accessible to all current and potential members with clear benefits | Continuation of review started in 2016/17 | Increase in the number and diversity of NBN members | Yes | | Review to take place in FY 18/19. | |
| | Clarify Network roles and membership to promote ownership and engagement by the member organisations | Initial discussions concluded by 31/12/2017 Paper published by 31/03/2018 | Network roles clear, greater engagement & ownership of actions from wider network | Yes | All network members and funders | Postponed until after strategy and sustainability review | |
| | Review of NBN Trust Board & Governance | Initial discussions with board in July 2017 Findings and proposed approach agreed in November board meeting | NBN Trust board includes Trustees with relevant skills to assist with the strategic aims of the organisation Articles of Association reviewed & updated | Yes | | Completed | |

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| | | 'New' board in place by 31/03/2018 | | | | | |
| | Develop and implement a sustainable funding model for the NBN Trust and prepare a medium term financial strategy | <p>Medium Term Financial Strategy presented to board in July 2017</p> <p>Implementation of 3 options with the aim of generation of 10% of income from these sources by 31/03/2018</p> | The NBN Trust generates at least 50% of its income from alternative sources by 31/03/2020 | Yes | | <p>Opportunities for advertising and sponsorship investigated Has been determined that this is not a viable income stream for the NBN at this time</p> <p>Initial enquiries made on HLF Resilient Heritage Grant</p> <p>Internal review of strategy & business model to be completed in FY 18/19</p> | |

* NBN Secretariat facilitate and co-ordinate, but discussions and decisions led by others