



The one hundred and nineteenth meeting of the  
Joint Nature Conservation Committee to be held  
at 08.45 on 6 June 2019 at The Park Avenue Hotel, 158 Holywood Road,  
Belfast, BT4 1PB

This paper was provided to the Joint Committee for decision/discussion  
or information. Please refer to the minutes of the meeting for  
Committee's position on the paper.

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## **Joint Nature Conservation Committee**

### **Matters arising**

#### **Paper by Tracey Quince**

1. A report on outstanding action points from previous meetings is attached at Annex 1. All other action points have been discharged.
2. A note from Professor Maggs **providing** an update on JNCC's science audit can be found at Annex 2. This discharges action point 6 from the March 2019 meeting.

## Annex 1. Action points from Joint Committee meetings

### June 2018

Action	Person responsible	Progress update
<b>5.2 Matter arising (JNCC 18 18)</b> AP01 Professor Maggs to consider using the policy pitches from the recent conference on the future of nature conservation to refine the list of JNCC research questions	Professor Maggs	In hand – Professor Maggs to forward to members.

### March 2019

Action	Person responsible	Progress update
<b>9.6 Report from Chief Scientists Group (CSG) (Official-sensitive) (JNCC 19 05)</b> AP01 A sub-group to be established to consider JNCC's international reporting and prepare a paper for the June Committee meeting.	Mr Rose	Completed.
<b>10.3 External factors affecting JNCC (Official-sensitive) (JNCC 19 06)</b> AP02 Dr Goold to ensure that key SNH staff are routinely copied into papers for meetings of the MPA Sub-Group and have sight of the group's forward plan.	Dr Goold	Completed
<b>12.2.ii Quarter 3 performance report 2018/19 (Official-sensitive) (JNCC 19 08)</b> AP03 Mr Brooks to add a definition of the foundation, intermediate and advanced levels on the skills analysis to future reports.	Mr Brooks	Completed. Definitions forwarded to members and added to SharePoint for future reference.

<p><b>12.2.iii Quarter 3 performance report 2018/19 (Official-sensitive) (JNCC 19 08)</b> AP04 Professor Maggs to add staff skills analysis to a future CSG agenda.</p>	Professor Maggs	Completed. Added to future agenda items list for CSG.
<p><b>12.2.iv Quarter 3 performance report 2018/19 (Official-sensitive) (JNCC 19 08)</b> AP05 Mr Yeo to review the rating of the EU exit risk on the significant risks register.</p>	Mr Yeo	Completed.
<p><b>15.3 Science audit (Official-sensitive) (JNCC 19 11)</b> AP06 Professor Maggs to provide a paper for the June Committee meeting setting out how team work reviews will be progressed.</p>	Professor Maggs	Update provided in June matters arising paper.
<p><b>18.3 Joint Committee assessment of effectiveness 2019 (Official) (JNCC 19 14)</b> AP07 Mrs Quince to draw up a plan with tasks incorporated into the work objectives for 2019/20 and present to the Committee for discussion in June.</p>	Mrs Quince	Completed. See June Committee paper.

## **Annex 2. Update on JNCC's science audit**

1. Following Committee member comments relating to paper JNCC 19 11 at the March 2019 meeting, and as a follow-up to the science audit interviews concluded in February and March 2019, one science team (Marine Monitoring and Evidence Team, MME) is participating in a science audit follow-up with Professor Marian Scott acting as a 'critical friend'.
2. Meetings with Marian Scott were held on 1 May (all MME team leaders – Elly Hill, Natalie Askew and Karen Webb) and 8 May (Natalie Askew). The MME team presented their work on seabed habitat mapping to Prof. Scott, showing that improved data sources with high resolution have brought benefits but challenges in the form of large quantities of data that are slowing down the process of updating the maps. Prof. Scott is providing advice to the team based on her expertise in statistics and big data approaches.
3. The science audit follow-up being undertaken by the Marine Monitoring and Evidence Team will be used as a test case for similar reviews requested by other teams in science audit interviews.