

## Welsh Biodiversity Partnership – wildlife crime prevention and enforcement working group.

Meeting held at Countryside Council for Wales Offices, Cardiff.  
10.30am Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2011

Present

Gwyn Thomas – Dyfed Powys Police (Chair)

Countryside Council for Wales (CCW)	Iwan Hughes v/c
Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)	Peter Jones v/c
Dyfed Powys Police (DPP)	Pete Charleston
Dyfed Powys Police	Matthew Howells
Environment Agency Wales (EAW)	Rhys Hughes
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MWWFRS)	Richie Hammond
North Wales Police (NWP)/CCW	Rob Taylor v/c
South Wales Police (SWP)/CCW	Ian Guildford
South Wales Police/Forestry Commission (FC)	Andy Scourfield
South Wales Police/MWWFRS	Jo Jones
Welsh Government (WG)	Rachel Hodson
Welsh Government (WG)	Mark Stafford

Apologies.

Barbara Spence, Forestry Commission Wales

Eryl Lloyd, North Wales Police, Environment Agency Wales

Colin Thomas, Gwent Police

Sue Eddy, NWCUC

Simon Williams UKBA

Keith Hogben, RSPCA

Chris John, British Waterways

The group wish to thanks the Countryside Council for Wales for providing the use of office and video conferencing facilities.

### Outstanding actions

	Action	By	By whom	Outcome
4	To complete review of existing EA/NWP's information sharing and data sharing agreements (ISA & DSA's) with a view to them being utilised as a template by other partners. When draft is complete consideration to be given as to whether ACPO lead can sign on behalf of all 4 Welsh forces.	October 2011	Eryl Lloyd	ISA has been agreed between NWP & EAW. Eryl offers to be lead for taking forward work on ACPOC ISA's between EAW and other interested parties.
4g	To investigate the work being done on the Gazateer project by Tony Bracey	September 2011	Rachel Hodson	Continuing work, report to be submitted to next meeting
4h	Chair to take NWP/EAW ISA to CC Arundale to explore ACPOC involvement	January 2012	Gwyn Thomas	
4i	Partners to identify points of contact with Eryl Lloyd for other ISA's to be progressed	January 2012	All	
9	To consider how a complete picture of wildlife crime in Wales might be achieved through the collation and submission of	January 2012	WG, RSPCA, UKBA	EA Wales submitting incident returns. Welsh Government has had no

	incident returns to the National Wildlife Crime Unit.			incidents to report in recent months but provide returns. Reports from UKBA and RSPCA to be made at next meeting
16	All to provide written input on their roles and responsibilities	October 31 <sup>st</sup> 2011	All	Document to be completed by 31102011 for uploading onto WBP website. Outstanding contributions to be made by 20102011

Actions arising from presentation provided by Patrick Lindley on bird crime in Wales

24	Establish if NWCUC have produced offender profiles in relation to bird crimes in particular egg collecting	October 2011	Sue Eddy	c/f from June meeting
25	Establish what evidence there is to support a suggestion that incidents of finch trapping increase during times of economic hardship.	October 2011	Keith Hogben	c/f from June meeting
26	Chair to meet with force WCO's (including Gwent) to discuss how to in bed wildlife crime into core Police business	June 2011	Chair	Meeting took place August 2011. Chair will have regular meetings with force wco's after each wwcpegw meeting
27	Establish if UKBA in Wales are aware of any export of finches to Mediterranean countries	January 2012	Simon Williams	c/f from June meeting
28	To look at NWCUC's analysis of bird of prey persecution to identify any Welsh Problems and to identify actions needed to address those problems.	January 2012	Lead WCO's	Work in progress, report to be made at next meeting
29	CCW to ensure that suspicions of criminal behaviour within the licensing system that they are actioned.	June 2011	Iwan Hughes	CCW and WG have processes in place for such eventualities
30	RSPB to establish whether bird of prey hotline is still active	October 2011	Patrick Lindley	Circulate result to members by email
31	RSPB to provide link to birdcrime reports	October 2011	Patrick Lindley	Circulate result to members by email

Actions relating to the Welsh Wildlife crime strategy delivery plan are circulated separately.

Actions relating to AOB

33	Chair to meet with CFO Andy Thomas to discuss wildfires	October	Richie Hammond	Meeting still to be arranged.
33a	Presentation to be made to meeting on wildfires.	January 2012	SWP/SWFRS/MWWFRS	Wildfires to be a standing item on agenda.
33b	An enforcement guide relating to wildfires to be produced	October	Andy Scourfield	Guide produced. Wildlife group has been constituted.
33c	Terms of reference to be forwarded to Chair	October 2011	Andy Scourfield	Terms of reference to be forwarded to Chair
33d		October 2011	Jo Jones/Peter Jones	CPS to be involved in wildlife working group. Recent case

				decision to be forwarded to CPS for comment/review
34	Welsh Deer Strategy	January 2012	Andy Scourfield	The actions identified in the Welsh Deer Strategy accepted in principle.  The issue of road traffic collisions involving deer is not one that involves crime and therefore not an issue for this group.
34a		January 2012	Force wco's	To consider and report on the extent of criminal offending relating to deer.
35	Law Commission review of wildlife legislation	October 2012	Rachel Hodson	To circulate information she has received from the commissioners.  To provide Pete Charleston with Law Commission contact.

#### Next meeting

It is hoped to hold the next meeting in January 2012 at Welsh Government Buildings, Aberystwyth. Date of meeting to be identified and circulated. Ian Guildford/Iwan Hughes will provide a presentation that will lead to the adoption of Welsh wildlife crime priorities by the group. (Deferred by time constraints)