

WBPSG16
PAPER TO NOTE A
Annex 1
21st February 2012

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

Meeting held at Welsh Government Offices, Aberystwyth.
10.30am Tuesday 17th January 2012 Thursday 22nd September

Present
Gwyn Thomas – Dyfed Powys Police (Chair)

Countryside Council for Wales (CCW)	Iwan Hughes v/c
Dyfed Powys Police (DPP)	Pete Charleston
Dyfed Powys Police	Matthew Howells
Environment Agency Wales (EAW)	Rhys Hughes
Gwent Police	Colin Thomas
Gwent Police	Rob Maddocks
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MWWFRS)	Richie Hammond
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MWWFRS)	Richard Morris
North Wales Police (NWP)/CCW	Rob Taylor v/c
North Wales Police/Environment Agency Wales	Eryl Lloyd v/c
RSPCA	Keith Hogben
RSPB	Patrick Lindley 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)	Lisa Fielding
Welsh Government (WG)	Sian Iwan
Welsh Government (WG)	Gareth Davies
Welsh Government (WG)	Nicholas Shilton
Welsh Government (WG)	Lynda Makepiece
Welsh Government (WG)	Rachel Hodson
Welsh Government (WG)	Mark Stafford

Apologies.
Peter Jones, CPS
Sue Eddy, NWCU

The group wish to thank Welsh Government for providing the use of office and video conferencing facilities. Thanks also extended to those involved in the organisation of the recent Welsh wildlife crime conference.

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.	January 31 st 2012	Eryl Lloyd (1 & 2) Pete Charleston (3)	ISA between NWP/EAW now complete and has been signed. 1. Copy to be forwarded to chair. 2. SEB to made aware 3. Copy of draft ACPO/RSPCA ISA to be sent to chair.
4g	To investigate the work being done on the Gazateer project by Tony Bracey	September 2011	Rachel Hodson	Work is being undertaken on public service information ISA involving a number of organisations in Gwent. There is a presentation on the subject which is to be forwarded to Pete Charleston
4h	Chair to take NWP/EAW ISA to CC Arundale to explore ACPOC involvement	April 2012	Gwyn Thomas	
4i	Partners to identify points of contact with Eryl Lloyd for other ISA's to be progressed	End of January 2012	All	
9	To consider how a complete picture of wildlife crime in Wales might be achieved through the collation and submission of incident returns to the National Wildlife Crime Unit.			All now have procedures in place for the submission of incident data to NWCU. Action complete.
16	All to provide written input on their roles and responsibilities			Action complete

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

24	Establish if NWCU have produced offender profiles in relation to bird crimes in particular egg collecting	April 2011	Sue Eddy	Report awaited Chair ask for action to be completed by next meeting.
25	Establish what evidence there is to support a suggestion that incidents of finch trapping increase during times of economic hardship.	February 2012	Keith Hogben	Report awaited, Chair requests completion within 4 weeks
26	Chair to meet with force WCO's (including Gwent) to discuss how to in bed wildlife crime into core Police business			Action completed.
27	Establish if UKBA in Wales are aware of any export of finches to Mediterranean countries			Action discharged no evidence of this being a significant problem.
28	To look at NWCU's analysis of bird of prey persecution to identify any Welsh Problems and to identify actions needed to address those problems.	April 2012	Lead WCO's	This is an intelligence matter for tasking by the Police if appropriate. Group will be informed of the outcome of operational considerations.
29	CCW to ensure that suspicions of criminal behaviour within the licensing system that they are actioned.			Action completed
30	RSPB to establish whether bird of prey hotline is still active	October 2011	Patrick Lindley	RSPB hotline has been discontinued. WG have a poisoning hotline 0800 321 600

31	RSPB to provide link to birdcrime reports	October 2011	Patrick Lindley	Circulate result to members by email
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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	April 2012	Richie Hammond	Meeting still to be arranged. No wildlife lead at present but appointment to be made imminently. Chair to be informed of appointment.
33a	Presentation to be made to meeting on wildfires.	January 2012	SWP/SWFRS/MWWFRS	Action completed. Summary of presentation circulated to members.
33b	An enforcement guide relating to wildfires to be produced	October	Andy Scourfield	Action completed.
33c	Terms of reference to be forwarded to Chair	October 2011	Andy Scourfield	Action completed.
33d		October 2011	Jo Jones/Peter Jones	Action completed
33e	To develop a wildfire-working group to progress the ideas expressed in the presentation made today.	April 2012	Nicholas Shilton	Wildfire to be a standing item on the agenda of this group.
34	Welsh Deer Strategy	April 2012	Andy Scourfield	Report on actions being taken in relation to the recommendations made in the strategy.
34a		January 2012	Force wco's	To be included in annual report.
35	Law Commission review of wildlife legislation	October 2012	Rachel Hodson	Action complete.
36	Presentation from Ian Guildford on welsh wildlife crime priorities.	January 2012	Ian Guildford	Presentation provided, summary to be circulated. Recommendation that the welsh priorities should be the UK priorities plus damage to SSSI's accepted.
37	Production of an all Wales wildlife crime report for 2011	Draft by mid March and complete by April 2012	Iwan Hughes/Rob Taylor	
38	Representative (Jason Liptrot) of the Single Environment Board considering enforcement to be invited to the next meeting	April 2012	Eryl Lloyd	

Chairs AOB

Gwyn Thomas announced that as from Monday 23rd January 2012 he will be taking up an appointment at the Police College in Hampshire and will retire from the Police service in six months. He has discussed the matter with Chief Constable Arundale, who is considering the appointment of another senior Police officer as a replacement but in the meantime Gwyn will continue to carry out the duties of Chair.

Next meeting

It is hoped to hold the next meeting in April 2012 at the Headquarters of the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service in Carmarthen on a date to be fixed.

Presentations at the next meeting will be

Ian Rugg Welsh Government on the Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture)(Wales Regulations)

10-minute presentation from each of the four Police forces reporting on action EL2 of the delivery plan.