

WBPSG9

PAPER TO NOTE: B

12th November 2009, Wrexham

Bioamrywiaeth Cymru
Biodiversity Wales 

PARTNERIAETH BIOAMRYWIAETH CYMRU

WALES BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

Title: Improving links between the Wales Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) groups and research scientists.

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Background/Progress

In order to make stronger links between science and policy it has been suggested that post doctoral research associates, with relevant research interests, could be identified and approached to sit on appropriate Ecosystem Groups and the Species Expert Group. This would provide the Wales BAP groups with a link to up to date research knowledge and strengthen the connection between academia and the Biodiversity Action Plan process in Wales.

Plan/Proposals

The Group Chairs have indicated their support for the proposal for the WBP support team to informally allocate researchers to the relevant groups, whose attendance could then be confirmed by the Group Chair. Researchers would sit on the relevant Group for a 2 year period in the first instance.

Mike Bruford of Cardiff University has identified a number of suitable research groups that we could approach. The Wales Environment Research Hub should be able to provide further suggestions.

A checklist guide for communication between scientists and civil servants has been produced and is provided in Annex 1 to help understand what level of information one should expect from the other.

Action Requested

- Approve us to carry on as suggested above
- Approve the checklist for communication between scientists and civil servants as a WBP checklist