

## **WBP Business & Biodiversity Sub Group Meeting**

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Time: 10.30 am – 1pm (coffee from 10)

Location: Coed Cymru, The Old Sawmill, Tregynon, Newtown, Powys SY16 3PL Tel  
01686 650 777

Host: David Jenkins

Purpose: to integrate the work done to date by the WBP business & biodiversity subgroup into the emerging NEF Partnerships work stream, A Living Wales. Also to decide on the most effective way to deliver our objective of engaging business with biodiversity.

### **Agenda**

1 – Welcome, introduction & apologies (10.30-10.45)

2 - Actions from the last meeting. (10.45-11)  
An update on the status of actions from the last meeting.

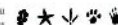
3 - WBP Steering Group update (11-11.10)  
Feedback from the Steering Group meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> November regarding the two papers submitted by the Business & Biodiversity sub-group.

4 - A Living Wales (Andy Schofield)  
Structure and work plan: a brief introduction to who and what will be happening (11:15 – 11:45)

Communications & messaging: a discussion on communicating NEF messages to the business community, looking at both direct and indirect communications. (11.45-12:15)

4 - Engagement with WBP members: how can the A Living Wales work stream make the most effective use of the experience of WBP members?  
Engagement with businesses: how will A Living Wales engage with the businesses with whom we already work? (12:15-12:45)

5 - Role for WBP Business & Biodiversity sub-group: taking into consideration the discussion just held & resource issues faced by many members, what can WBP Business & Biodiversity sub-group contribute to the process? (12:45-1pm)



### WBP Business & Biodiversity Meeting 3; 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Coed Cymru, The Old Sawmill, Tregynon, Newtown

Attendees: Amy Mulkern (Chair, WTW); Sean McHugh (WBP); David Jenkins (Coed Cymru); Alison Smith (WAG DE&T); Catrin Evans (NPT CC); Andy Schofield (EAW/ NEF Partnership Work stream)

Apologies: Nick Birula (EAW); Ceri Llewellyn (Visit Wales); David Trotman (RSPB); Russell Elliott (CCW); Angie Polkey (Shared Earth Trust); Jeff Morgan (Consultant); Steven Bromley (Groundwork); Robin Woodyatt (WLGA).

<p>Actions &amp; updates from 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting</p>	<p>Amy welcomed all to the meeting. Conceptual framework for business engagement produced &amp; endorsed at WBP SG meeting. Business &amp; biodiversity portal on WBP website now live. Noted that Groundwork don't have resources to host. Businesses case studies are on the portal and a request for further studies made.</p> <p>Alison Smith updated meeting on DE&amp;T restructure. Two broader roles in North &amp; South Wales respectively covering a broader sustainable development role including environment &amp; energy. Potential for linkages with Economic Renewal Program (ERP), Green Jobs and NEF.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Alison Smith &amp; Steve Spode to provide support &amp; contacts.</p> <p>Amy indicated that she no longer has the capacity to chair the group.</p> <p>A discussion around the current state of business and the charity sector in the current economic climate &amp; indicated many were in 'survival mode'</p>	<p>Link: <a href="http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/businesses-44.aspx">http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/businesses-44.aspx</a></p>
<p>WBP Steering Group update</p>	<p>The group presented 2 papers at the recent WBP SG meeting on Nov 10. i) Summary paper tidying up</p>	<p>Amy sits on the Visit Wales sustainable tourism forum for Wildlife Trust &amp; agreed to market Wales as wildlife destination.</p>

	<p>loose ends ii) Conceptual framework for business engagement. Conceptual framework endorsed by WBP, Alison was unable to comment at the time &amp; fed her comments into the meeting (link in with ERP &amp; delivery framework; business support; supply chains; green Jobs) Visit Wales (VW) environment toolkit-comments received. Wildlife now featured as a tourism objective in VW strategy.</p> <p>ACTION: Andy Schofield to take account of Alison's feedback and to seek to build links between NEF and existing business framework.</p> <p>ACTION: Amy to contact Ceri Llewellyn (VW) to establish when the toolkit will filter down to local authority level</p>	
<p>A Living Wales (Andy Schofield)</p>	<p>Andy gave a brief background to the NEF and the Living Wales consultation arising from it. Andy is involved with the partnership work stream of the NEF. The core group of the partnership work stream will meet on 18<sup>th</sup> Nov; wide ranging group membership. The group will promote the current consultation, comms. tools, presentations; key messages. Consultation finishes on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec; interim report is expected Feb 2011; this will raise issues and it's envisaged some work streams will continue until 2013.</p>	<p>Living Wales Link: <a href="http://new.wales.gov.uk/consultations/environmentandcountryside/eshlivingwalescons/?lang=en">http://new.wales.gov.uk/consultations/environmentandcountryside/eshlivingwalescons/?lang=en</a></p> <p>Comments on NEF &amp; business implications: need a 'one stop shop'; clear messages; institutional reform; more focused business support incl R&amp;D support. General NEF comments: Needs to deliver as much invested in the process by many agencies. Expectations need to be managed.</p>
<p>Communications &amp; messaging: a discussion on communicating NEF messages to the business community.</p>	<p>The discussion focused on linking in with existing networks including business support network; Agri Environment (Glas Tir); Water companies/management; ERP; utilize Corporate grant mechanism/Environment Development Grant; Green Procurement Group; Need to incentivise process, clear communications; targeted approach;</p>	<p>Steve Bromley sent in a link to NetRegs website: plain English guidance on environmental regulations for your business. <a href="http://www.netregs.gov.uk/">http://www.netregs.gov.uk/</a></p>

<p>Engagement with WBP members: how can the A Living Wales work stream make the most effective use of the experience of WBP members?</p> <p>Engagement with businesses: how will A Living Wales engage with the businesses with whom we already</p>	<p>provide simple grant mechanism; land management &amp; enhancement of business-owned land; promote sustainable development message (ecosystem services not understood?) to increase understanding to the people who deliver services reliant on the environment. Connect to delivery, profit &amp; business opportunity; Reduce VAT rate for 'green goods</p> <p>ACTION: Alison Smith to influence business funding in ERP program &amp; provide details of Green Procurement scheme and report to the group.</p> <p>ACTION: Andy Schofield to send Amy communications toolkit from NEF Partnership Work stream.</p> <p>All organizations in the Business &amp; Biodiversity Group will continue to give their support for the aspiration of the groups strategic intentions. The Conceptual framework will feed into the NEF work. The 3-agency review will influence way forward.</p> <p>Business support mechanism advisable rather than the strategic overview and identify business lead on activities. Federation of Small businesses (FSB) are well respected and need to be involved. NEF to take forward business-environment agenda for next 6 months &amp; report back to the group. (The group can</p>	
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<p>work?</p>	<p>exist as an email forum during this time).</p> <p>ACTION: Andy Schofield to canvass for a business &amp; biodiversity slot at the FSB Environment Committee meeting. Also to look to build links with the CBI.</p> <p>ACTION: Andy Schofield to discuss with NEF Partnership work stream the best way of reinvigorating business involvement &amp; identify business lead.</p>	
<p>Role for WBP Business &amp; Biodiversity sub-group</p>	<p>Strategic focus of group to be 'parked' as businesses &amp; other agencies regroup in light of the economic downturn &amp; the group's activities to cease for the present time. Amy Mulkern is standing down as chair and no new chair identified.</p> <p>ACTION: Amy to formally inform Diana Reynolds of her decision to stand down as chair and inform of the cessation of group activities &amp; NEF take up.</p>	