

# **Cross-Party Group Annual Report**

**3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016**

## **Cross Party Group on Biodiversity**

### **1. Group membership and office holders.**

**Chair: Llyr Gruffydd AM**

**Members: Nick Ramsay AM, William Powell AM, Simon Thomas AM**

**Secretary: Wales Environment Link (WEL)**

**Other external members: None**

### **2. Previous Group Meetings since the last AGM.**

#### **Meeting 1**

**Meeting date:** Wednesday 11th March 2015, 12.15 - 1.30pm

#### ***Attendees:***

Llyr Huws Gruffydd AM	CPG Chair
Jocelyn Davies AM	Assembly Member
Alun Ffred Jones AM	Assembly Member
Rosanna Raison	Researcher & Media Officer (William Powell AM)
Russel Hobson	Butterfly Conservation/Chair, WEL Land Use and Biodiversity Group
Nigel Ajax-Lewis	Wildlife Trusts of South & West Wales
James Byrne	Wildlife Trusts Wales
Raoul Bhambral	WEL
Clare Reed	WEL / Marine Conservation Society

***Summary of issues discussed:*** The focus of the meeting was to have an open discussion to agree ideas for future meetings of the group, followed by the AGM of the Group.

#### **Meeting 2**

**Meeting date:** Tuesday 9th June 2015, 12.15 - 1.15pm

#### ***Attendees:***

Llyr Gruffydd AM	CPG Chair
William Powell AM	Assembly Member
Rosanna Raison	Researcher (William Powell AM)

Andy Fraser	Head of Natural Resource Management, Welsh Government
Dai Harris	Welsh Government
Katy Orford	Assembly Research Service
Iwan Ball	WWF Cymru
Annie Smith	RSPB Cymru
Llinos Price	RSPB Cymru
Peter Jones	RSPB Cymru
Steve Lucas	Bat Conservation Trust
Natalie Buttriss	Vincent Wildlife Trust
Lorna Scurlock	Marine Conservation Society/WEL
Damian Assinder	Llais y Goedwig
Scott Fryer	Wildlife Trusts Wales
James Byrne	Wildlife Trusts Wales
Andy Myles	Scottish Environment Link

**Summary of issues discussed:** Presentation from Andy Myles, Scottish Environment Link, on their approach to engaging MSPs in biodiversity issues, followed by a discussion of potential future legislation for biodiversity in Wales after the Environment Bill.

### **Meeting 3**

**Meeting date:** Wednesday 21st October 2015, 12.15 - 1.15pm

#### ***Attendees:***

Llyr Huws Gruffydd AM	CPG Chair
Alun Ffred Jones	Assembly Member
Nia Seaton	Research Service
Andrew Minnis	Research Service
Gareth Price	Enterprise and Business Committee Clerk
Rosanna Raison	Researcher, William Powell AM
Rachel Sharp	Wildlife Trusts Wales
Scott Fryer	Wales Environment Link / Wildlife Trusts Wales
Gill Bell	Wales Environment Link / Marine Conservation Society
Lorna Scurlock	Wales Environment Link / Marine Conservation Society
Gareth Cunningham	Wales Environment Link / RSPB
Karen Whitfield	Wales Environment Link
Russel Hobson	Butterfly Conservation Wales
Alison Palmer-Hargraves	European Marine Site Officer
Blaise Bullimore	European Marine Site Officer
Sue Burton	European Marine Site Officer

**Summary of issues discussed:** Presentations were given on proposed new European Marine Sites in Wales, the Scottish Marine Protected Area (MPA) process and the development of the Welsh Government's National Marine Plan. A discussion

followed which focused on priorities in terms of taking forward MPAs and the Marine Plan.

**3. Professional lobbyists, voluntary organisations and charities with whom the Group has met during the preceding year.**

The group has not met with any professional lobbyists, voluntary organisations or charities outside of the Cross Party Group meetings.

# Annual Financial Statement.

3 February 2016

## Cross Party Group on Biodiversity

Chair: Llyr Gruffydd AM

Secretariat: Karen Whitfield, Wales Environment Link

<b>Group's Expenses.</b>	None.	£0.00
<b>Costs of all goods.</b>	No goods purchased.	£0.00
<b>Benefits received by the group or individual Members from outside bodies.</b>	No benefits received.	£0.00
<b>Any secretariat or other support.</b>	No financial support received. Secretariat provided by Wales Environment Link	£0.00
<b>Services provided to the Group such as hospitality.</b>		
All refreshments paid for by Wales Environment Link.		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Description and name of provider</b>	<b>Cost</b>
11 March 2015	Beverages and welshcakes	£32.16
9 June 2015	Beverages and welshcakes	£33.78
21 October 2015	Beverages, sandwiches and welshcakes	£150.06
<b>Total cost</b>		<b>£216.00</b>