

## LINK forward plan at January 2011: taskforces and other proposed collective work areas - for discussion at Jan 27th 2011 Networking meeting

Black font represents forward plans provided by existing TFs with *Indicator of Progress information in blue*. *Proposals agreed by members at November's strategic planning discussion are in green*.

Taskforce/ Work area	Aims towards sustainable Scotland	Tasks	Active Membership/ Leadership	Staff support/ Funding	LINK Integration	Allies/ Liaison
<b>Agriculture</b>	<p>1. Implementation of an SRDP which contributes to ATF's goals for a sustainable agricultural sector that delivers the maximum possible environmental and other public benefits.</p> <p>2. Input into changes of the agricultural support used in Scotland until 2013 to ensure that they are best suited to the Scottish environment. Continue lobbying for further CAP reform.</p> <p>3. Continue lobbying for further CAP reform on a European scale and develop thinking on how it could best be tailored for Scottish conditions</p> <p>4. Aim to target funds better at High Nature Value farming including through Less Favoured Areas Support scheme reform</p> <p>5. Scottish Government policies on climate change and agriculture that incorporate LINK views.</p>	<p>1. Continue involvement with SRDP PMC. Monitor what is included in scheme. LINK ATF reps on above groups with input from other ATF members. (high effort) <i>Indicator of Progress (IOP): No decrease in funds going to axis 2 options or Rural Priorities. Involvement with development of new SRDP which is well targeted at environmental delivery.</i></p> <p>2. Follow up results of Pack review and environmental impacts are suitably assessed. ATF led by convenor (high effort) <i>IOP: Movement of SFP away from historical model. Better cross compliance measures.</i></p> <p>3. Develop briefings updating Beyond the CAP vision. Discuss UK CAP vision with UK Links. ATF led by convenor (high effort) <i>IOP: Production of briefings and UK vision. Use of it by others</i></p> <p>4. Lobby for changes to LFA as part of CAP reform. ATF led by convenor (med effort) <i>IOP: LFA targeted better at environmental delivery</i></p> <p>5. Continue involvement in Scottish Government Agriculture and climate change stakeholder group. (high effort) <i>IOP: ATF representative on group Production of agricultural measures that stand scrutiny against the targets of the Climate Change delivery plan.</i></p>	<p>Archaeology Scotland, Bumblebee Conservation Trust, Butterfly Conservation Scotland, National Trust for Scotland, RSPB Scotland, Scottish Wildlife Trust, Woodland Trust Scotland, Soil Association Scotland</p> <p>Led by RSPB</p> <p>Representation on various groups by ATF members</p>	<p>Parliamentary support may be needed for some aspects of work, e.g. promoting CAP vision</p> <p>LINK discretionary funding for publication of factsheets on CAP.</p> <p>Possible event.</p>	<p>Need to work closely with Woodland Task Force, Land Use Strategy, climate, water, SEFF and deer task forces on CAP reform and SRDP which overlap a number of policy areas. Mainly work through e-mail communications though occasional joint meetings will be required.</p>	<p>SNH, SEPA, National Parks and ScotGov</p> <p>SGRPID, SG Wildlife and Habitats division, agriculture policy unit in SNH, SEPA land use policy</p> <p>Some joint LINK work around Lyon report and potentially updating CAP vision with UK LINKs.</p>

<b>Agriculture /cont</b>	<p>6. Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Rural Implementation Plan reflects LINK views.</p> <p>7. As part of the wider LINK group, input into the Scottish Land Use Strategy to reflect LINK views</p> <p>8. A Scottish food policy which contains sufficient environmental objectives</p> <p>9. A soil strategy that includes measurable environmental targets</p> <p>10. Input into review of Scottish Organic Action Plan and its replacement.</p>	<p>6. Continue involvement with Farmland and lowland ecosystem group. ATF representatives on group.(low effort)</p> <p>7. ATF input to LINK document and Scottish Government's development of strategy. ATF lead on SLUS (med effort)</p> <p>8. Keep check on what Scottish Government producing on food policy and ensure that the environment is not forgotten (low effort)</p> <p>9. Continue involvement with development of framework (med effort)</p> <p>10. Continue involvement and watching brief (low effort)</p>				
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<b>Biodiversity</b>	TF will talk on 8 Feb re plans/ capacity for joint work.  Sustainable Scotland thinking (below) relates		Plantlife, Buglife, RSPB, NTS, RZSS  No Convenor Depute Buglife  Various members interested		Sust Scot work would involve links with other TFs	
<b>Climate Adaptation</b>	Scottish Government adaptation policies enable biodiversity to adapt to the impacts of climate change  Public bodies and the private sector adapt to the impacts of climate change in a way which does not damage the natural environment.	Influence the development of Scottish Government's Adaptation Framework Sector Action Plans.  Gain membership of Adaption Stakeholder Group when it is constituted.	Soil Association, Buglife, Plantlife, Butterfly Conservation, SAGS, RZSS  Led by RSPB No depute yet	None currently required	Adaptation is a cross-cutting issue which is important for a majority of taskforces. The CATF needs to decide the best way to engage with the other TFs	Stop Climate Chaos Scotland – through SCCS policy group.  SNH – Bill Band – Strategic Direction  Scottish Government - James Simpson – Adaptation team
<b>Deer</b>	Pursuing sustainable deer management planning and a duty on landowners to manage deer sustainably.	WANE Bill involvement. We are contributing to LINK submissions, evidence and lobbying in connection with the Bill. (effort – high)  Indicators of progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivery of statutory deer management planning.</li> <li>Delivery of a duty of sustainable deer management on landowners.</li> </ul>	RSPB Scotland, JMT, NTS, SWT, SNW, Cairngorms Campaign  Led by RSPB Depute JMT	Parliamentary support re WANE Bill  Funding for legal advice on statutory deer management planning	Working with WANE TF	Liaison with ADMG, SRPBA and BASC through various fora.  SNH/DCS for bi- annual bi-lateral meetings as previously happened with DCS prior to merger

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<b>Energy work (no specific TF)</b>	Members in November agreed TFs should review own positions/and any need for development of these	Other energy focuses identified were Promote conservation/demand reduction Consider biomass in the round Making case to avoid costly local inquiries / budget planning Linking with SNH over renewables	Action esp for MTF, ATF, LTF, CATF, PTF			
<b>Freshwater</b>	<p>Influence implementation of the River Basin Management Plans, including significantly reducing Scotland's diffuse pollution problem.</p> <p>Influence implementation of the Flood Risk Management Act.</p> <p>Work around these tasks aims to ensure that regulations and policies will improve Scotland's water environment and safeguard it from deterioration. Achievement of this aim through an integrated catchment approach that benefits water quality, flood risk management, climate change adaptation and sustainable land use will contribute to a sustainable Scotland.</p>	<p>Monitor implementation of RBMP through feedback from TF member reps who sit on Area Advisory Groups and those involved in the Area mgmt Plans: Ongoing (Intending to produce an initial review of RBMPs early 2011) (high effort)</p> <p>Review SEPA's monitoring data on water quality and, for example, enforcement of the diffuse pollution regs: 2011 (to coincide with SEPA's first phase of priority catchment work) (medium effort)</p> <p>Respond to consultations and input via our stakeholder place on the Scottish Advisory and Implementation Forum for Flooding - ongoing until 2015 when Scotland's first FRMPs are to produced (medium effort)</p>	<p>RSPB Scotland, SWT, Buglife, RAFTS, WWT</p> <p>Led by RSPB Depute RSPB</p>	<p>Parliamentary support re RBMP review would be welcome</p> <p>May require funding for production of RBMP review</p>	Some integration e.g. liaison with Marine TF on coastal issues	Periodic meetings with SEPA and SNH Wetland and Water policy lead and Scottish government Environmental Quality Division
<b>Governance</b>	Scrutiny of legislation (holding Govt to account)	<p>Manifesto sub section</p> <p>LINK governance paper for lobbying pre/post-election</p> <p>Lobby and build into policy work</p>	<p>Board lead</p> <p>Cross-TF approach</p> <p>With others incl. BEFS, SCVO</p>			

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<b>Justice</b>	Access to Justice	FoES funded project and open enquiry relate LINK to keep eye on pulse If campaign opportunity emerges all members will be consulted about possible action	Parly Officer and Trustee (LWA)			
<b>Landscape</b>	<p>Seek to ensure landscape concerns are integrated into all relevant areas of Scottish Government policy (effort - high)</p> <p>Promote positive management of relevant protected areas (effort - medium)</p> <p>Raise levels of understanding of landscape within LINK (effort - medium)</p> <p>Exchange information about current landscape-related issues (effort - low)</p>	<p>i. Promote European Landscape Convention</p> <p>ii. Promote sign-up to and implementation of Scotland's Landscape Charter</p> <p>iii. Lead development of future liaison mechanisms following demise of Scottish Landscape Forum</p> <p>iv. Research actual as against claimed socio-economic benefits of previous developments which LINK members opposed on landscape grounds ~~~~</p> <p>i. Take active part in outcome of National Parks Review, particularly Ministerial Strategy Group</p> <p>ii. Promote development of Management Strategies for National Scenic Areas</p> <p>iii. Encourage local authorities to review Areas of Great Landscape Value and to show replacement Special Landscape Areas clearly in forthcoming suite of Local Development Plans</p> <p>iv. Take active part in SNH Protected Areas Review ~~~~</p> <p>i. Seek appropriate opportunities to direct internal advocacy on landscape issues towards other LINK member bodies</p> <p>ii. Ensure landscape concerns integrated into LINK statements, eg re draft land use strategy ~~~~</p> <p>i. Share information on current landscape-related casework, seeking consensus where possible</p> <p>ii. Share information on development of</p>	<p>Archaeology Scotland, APRS, JMT, MCoS, NTS Ramblers Scotland, SCNP, SWLG, Bob Aitken Hon Fellow, Dorothy Breckenridge (observer)</p> <p>Led by APRS Depute Arch Scotland</p>	<p>Raising levels of understanding of landscape within LINK may require limited staff input re seeking opportunities to carry out internal advocacy</p> <p>Discretionary project funding may be required to conduct research on actual versus claimed socio-economic benefits of previous developments which LINK members opposed on landscape grounds</p>	<p>SNH Protected Areas Review could involve Biodiversity TF and possibly others</p> <p>Internal Advocacy on landscape and integration of landscape concerns integrated into LINK statements will require working with other LINK member bodies, eg via presentation and workshop/written input respectively</p> <p>Exchange of information on landscape issues involves Planning TF, with which there is some overlap of members</p>	<p>Will be leading on development of future liaison mechanisms following demise of Scottish Landscape Forum</p> <p>Regular and positive liaison with SNH</p> <p>Occasional liaison with SG Landscapes and Habitats Team including Ian Hooper Bob McNeill</p>

Landscape /cont	Landscape TF members consider that the protection, restoration and enhancement of landscapes are integral parts of a sustainable Scotland	policies for wild land protection				
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<b>Marine</b>	Ensuring effective implementation of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010. Aquaculture, fisheries and offshore renewables are also important areas for potential collaboration although capacity is limited. Collective work on these sectors is likely to focus largely on how they interact with the provisions of the Marine Acts e.g. marine planning and marine protected areas.	<p>Responding to consultations and Scottish Government policy flowing from the Marine Act, including marine planning and planning regions, marine nature conservation, marine licensing and priority marine features, and responding to consultations arising from other drivers such as offshore renewable energy development.</p> <p>Concerted advocacy will be needed where concerns exist about unsustainable elements of policy and secondary regulations flowing from the Act. This has already happened to date regarding MTF members concerns about an incomplete approach being taken to implement an ecologically-coherent MPA network, with the omission of Natura features.</p> <p>Most of the policy and advocacy work will be carried out by the LINK Marine officers with input and sign-off by members of the Marine Task Force. They will do this by consulting relevant policy and planning experts within the MTF and carrying out further background research where necessary to develop and refine policy, developing briefings and policy documents, advocating LINK MTF policy to Scottish Government officials, other relevant statutory contacts and MSPs.</p> <p>Indicators of progress: National marine plan is configured to deliver sustainable development and the protection and recovery of the Scottish marine area</p> <p>National and local marine plans are underpinned by Marine Ecosystem Objectives</p> <p>Scottish marine regions cover all the</p>	<p>MCS NTS HWDT SWT WWFS RSPB WDCS</p> <p>Led by MCS Depute WDCS</p>	Non-marine LINK staff support already factored into work plans.	Co-ordination with planning task force will be important as the national and local marine plans are developed and as plans for offshore renewables develop.	<p>Regular liaison with SNH on key matters e.g. offshore renewables, marine protected areas ongoing.</p> <p>Regular liaison with Marine Scotland officials on all elements of marine planning and marine nature conservation provisions will also be necessary.</p> <p>On average meetings with SNH and MS are likely to be quarterly, with some meetings involving both organisations, but additional meetings may be required as necessary in response to events and MTF concerns with MS and SNH policy that are likely to arise.</p>

Marine /cont		<p>Scottish marine area</p> <p>Plans for the MPA network are deemed to be ecologically-coherent, including broadscale habitats and Natura features, and integration with the wider UK network exists</p> <p>MPAs are well-managed; Inshore Fishery Plans are integrated with local marine plans</p> <p>Wider seas measures such as Inshore Fishing legislation are being used in order to deliver marine conservation benefit.</p> <p>These IOPs will be judged based on final policies produced by the Scottish Government e.g. measuring whether the national marine plan delivers sustainable development can only be based on how the plan is drafted rather than an assessment of every activity or decision on the coast and at sea over a more protracted timescale.</p> <p>All tasks will require a high level of effort from the Marine Taskforce.</p>				
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<b>Planning</b>	Awaiting Planning TF forward plan from TF members	<p>LINK members at Nov proposed that the PTF plan might include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued policy work</li> <li>- How Planning Act is delivering</li> <li>- Potential critique of approach being taken to development using renewables as case study, and options for more sustainable approach (including discussion with SNH)</li> <li>- Engagement with MTF over national marine plan</li> <li>- Assessment of SNH's position/guidelines on casework</li> <li>- Review of how SEA is falling out (after SEPA review outcomes)</li> </ul>	<p>Led by RSPB Depute SWT</p> <p>It was proposed to work with MTF and LTF for the work in green</p>			
<b>Scottish Env Fundraisers Forum</b>	Our work helps raise the money needed to do the work to contribute to a sustainable Scotland.	SEFF meet four times a year and usually has one or two external speakers per meeting - e.g. reps from statutory, lottery, charitable trust, and corporate sources, as well as some who can offer fundraising advice, information and support. SEFF shares information and news about environmental fundraising in Scotland, to celebrate success and to discuss opportunities to influence and effect positive change.	<p>Wide membership varying from meeting to meeting</p> <p>Led by SWT Depute NTS</p>			SEFF has an excellent relationship with the SNH external funding team who continue to be represented at SEFF



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SOA TF	Complete and publish audit and hold seminar with key stakeholders to highlight gaps and trends and good practice, in lead up to Holyrood elections 2011. Assess with LINK the network's interest and capacity to maintain a watchdog role on local governance	Audit SOAs to monitor trends in how SD and environment fare now Publish audit and hold seminar with other key players Advocacy in lead up to Holyrood elections Assess situation and network capacity immediately post-election	WWFS, SWT, LivStreets, ArchScot, RAS, SCRA plus NTS, RSPB, SAGS (supporting)  Led by WWFS Depute LINK staff	Continued staffsupport requested for this area which was prioritised by members at 2008 and 2009 strategic planning and remains priority  Possible request to the discretionary fund in 2012		Will continue to liaise as needed with SSN, SDC Scotland (if it survives), BEFS and others relevant.
A new local govt TF (TBC)	Widen our effort to wider local governance monitoring, clarifying network strengths and building on these to highlight the environment and SD in the lead up to Local Government elections in 2012	Develop comprehensive list of duties of LAs re environment and SD, prioritising in terms of how they mesh with our concerns Ask questions and gather info to establish better ways for assessing and monitoring performance of these duties Review how eNGOs can make most impact at local level, whether to strengthen via local groups/tools for 2012 elections Clarify all TFs' top 3 asks of LAs for the 2012 elections; Explore how to monitor 'below the waterline' activity so that this is captured as part of the whole picture of delivery by LAs Consider possibility of future audits of SOAs or their equivalents				Ongoing liaison with Clive Mitchell SNH, Peter Russell SG, Alan Farquhar SEPA and through ArchScot with HS
Sustain-able Land Use	Project to influence the development of a Scottish sustainable land use strategy under the Climate Change Act, through to 2011	Seek parties' commitment to pursue improvement if published SLUS is 'poor' Assess published SLUS in April ahead of elections, with appropriate advocacy before elections Discuss SLUS with new Env Minister post-election. Perhaps follow up SLUS with key Agencies. Possibly promote our views on SLUS via positive case studies, or by profiling unsustainable examples, at appropriate	WTS, SWT, RSPB, Plantlife, JMT, Living Streets, Arch Scot, SAGS  Led by RSPB Depute SWT			

<b>Sustain-able Land use /cont</b>		<p>political opportunities</p> <p>Perhaps continue as over-arching coordinator on sustainable land use in relation to LINK TFs</p> <p>As proposed by members in Nov:</p> <p>Focus on indicative spatial planning and national marine plan, environmental indicators, services which identify appropriate land for different uses, potentially links with land ownership issues. Develop spatially indicative ideology drawing on other TFs (inc PTF, LTF, ATF, MTF) for late 2011.</p> <p>Link our proposals with CAP aims and do joint ATF/SLUTF briefings to influence 2013 negotiations.</p>	<p>+ ATF</p> <p>+ DTF</p> <p>+ FWTF</p> <p>+ other TFs</p>			
<b>Sustainable Developmt and economics</b>	<p>Engage with The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) to promote the thinking in our advocacy</p> <p>Build on and complement economics work done/being done by members, SNH, Carnegie, etc</p>	<p>Summarise essence of TEEB for LINK</p> <p>Consider how to promote in relation to our work areas</p> <p>Assess Carnegie Report</p> <p>Develop action plan including workshop with external economist</p> <p>Develop understanding of why GDP prevails and improving our communications for this debate</p> <p>Explore scope for joint conference with SNH</p>	<p>JMT, FoES, SWT, RSPB, RZSS, Plantlife, WWFS expressed interest</p>			
<b>WANE Bill</b>	Influence WANE Bill in direction of Sustainable Development	<p>LINK Bill Team working to development &amp; passage of proposed legislation, with input from DTF, BTF, ATF, LTF, etc</p>	<p>RSPB, Plantlife, JMT, NTS, SWT</p> <p>Led by RSPB (may change to SWT)</p> <p>No depute</p>	<p>Parly support up to and through legislation</p>	<p>Working with Deer and Biodiversity TFs</p>	<p>Recent contact with WCL re Natural Environment White Paper</p>
<b>Watching briefs on</b>	<p>Civic Scotland</p> <p>Public Attitudes</p>	<p>To advocate outdoor / real world learning via Manifesto and other routes</p> <p>And in elections, budget and SD work, look for common ground with SCVO &amp; BEFS etc</p> <p>Workshops (internal) re our potential role in behaviour change and other cross cutting issues</p>				