



Consultant's Brief: March 2012

Briefing on characteristics and measures of a flourishing Scotland

Introduction

LINK is the forum for Scotland's voluntary sector environmental organisations - over 30 members collectively representing around half a million people. A strategic objective for LINK is to work with others to secure sustainable policies and decisions affecting our environment. Over recent years, LINK members have actively contributed to the debate around our economy, spending reviews and the recent initiative by Scottish Government of a national performance framework linking strategic national objectives to outcomes and measures of progress. Following a LINK seminar (August 2011) on the contribution of environment to life and the economy, and the way in which this is currently valued in strategic decision-making, LINK set up an Economics Forum to promote collective concerns across the network and ensure a clear environmental voice in this debate which is critical to Scotland's future health.

Commissioning group

With funding from LINK's discretionary project fund as well as contributions from member organisations, LINK's Economics Forum is commissioning a short briefing paper.

Purpose

To pull together the views of the ENGO sector into a short paper setting out our high level vision of a flourishing Scotland and what this means for the nature of Scotland's economy and how we best measure progress towards achieving this. This work will underpin advocacy by LINK members in relation to this ongoing debate in Scotland and beyond,

Audience

The broad community of decision-makers, opinion-formers and stakeholders involved in Scottish life and policy development.

Product

A short paper presented in clear and accessible language, illustrating –

- 1) A short compelling vision of our view of a flourishing Scotland.
- 2) What this means for the nature of Scotland's economy – implications, opportunities & priority interventions to support such a transition including:
 - how growth relates to sustainable development, especially the SD principle of "living within environmental limits";
 - how to apply the principle that society should value public goods, including biodiversity, access, health, and ecosystem services, with objective assessment of challenges as well as the benefits which this poses and about the way in which decisions are and should be made; and
 - how to apply the principle of preventative spend from an environmental perspective and opportunities for this to help deliver across other sectoral headings such as health, communities, etc.
- 3) How Scotland can better measure progress towards our vision of a flourishing Scotland.

The expectation is of a succinct report of 12-16 pages plus appendices. This will be designed and produced as a PDF document by LINK.



Methodology

- 1) Briefing meeting / discussion with representatives of the commissioning group.
- 2) Desk study involving reference to key arguments and principles in a range of existing material including a number of documents which will be notified to the consultant.
- 3) Workshop with LINK members to discuss vision of future economy and priority interventions that would help progress this vision.
- 4) Report writing.

Signing off the draft report

The draft will be delivered to and then considered by the Forum's project steering group for comment before finalisation. The final draft will be circulated to all LINK member bodies for information at which time opportunity will be afforded for amendments to ensure for optimum messaging.

Timescale

Tendering process starts	28 th March 2012
Deadline for tenders	24 th April
Consultant engaged by	7 th May
Workshop with LINK	early June (date to be confirmed at outset)
Draft report to LINK by	20th June
Final report to LINK by	9 th July 2012

Copyright

Ownership of and copyright in the report shall be vested in LINK and the Consultants will be acknowledged as the authors. The report will be marked '© Scottish Environment LINK'. The Consultants will be requested not to disclose, or permit to be disclosed, any confidential information provided to him/her by LINK and its members, or resulting from studies, research or surveys prepared by him/her for LINK as a result of the contract. For the avoidance of any doubt this obligation on the part of the Consultants extends to disclosure to the media.

Publication

LINK reserves the right to publish an edited version of the report, with the approval of the authors, and alternatively not to publish the report.

Indemnity

The Consultant will indemnify and keep LINK indemnified from and against any and all loss, damage or liability (whether criminal or civil) and legal fees and costs incurred by LINK resulting from a breach of the agreement between LINK and him/her including any act, neglect or default on his/her part and breaches which result in a successful claim by any third party.

Payment

Payment will be made on receipt of a satisfactory final report.

The invoice should be sent to LINK, 2 Grosvenor House, Shore Road, Perth PH2 8BD, and marked for attention of Hugh Green, or emailed to Hugh at hugh@scotlink.org