

Invite to tender

Nature Recovery

Targets report



Scottish
Environment
LINK

1. Introduction

Scotland's nature is in crisis: 1 in 9 species at risk of extinction in Scotland¹, mirroring global declines in biodiversity.² While the First Minister's declaration of a climate emergency in April 2019 grabbed many headlines the nature crisis has received less attention, though the Scottish Government has also acknowledged that the nature crisis is of equal importance to addressing climate change.³ While nature recovery targets for England [and Wales] have been proposed in the UK Environment Act, there are currently no plans to set legislative targets for nature recovery in Scotland.

Scottish Environment LINK ('LINK') is commissioning a research report to contribute to the discussion around new nature recovery targets for Scotland. This in-depth piece of research will gather the detail of successful targets that have been applied in Scotland, in different policy areas, and evaluate the success and limitations of environmental targets to date.

LINK is the forum for Scotland's voluntary sector environmental organisations – with 39 members collectively representing around half a million people. It has three strategic objectives:

- Advocating for a sustainable Scotland
- Being a strong voice for Scotland's citizen-led, environment community
- Operating as an effective, efficient and accountable network

2. Task

To compile a report which sets out the following:

- An overview of existing environmental targets in Scotland and a brief evaluation of the progress in achieving these to date.
- The evidence base for the introduction of nature recovery targets in Scotland, providing credible examples of where targets have been successfully applied in other policy areas.
- Highlight examples of best practice from other countries.
- Recommended options for future targets, based on examples in the rest of the UK and overseas, and/or a methodology to identify options.

3. Deliverables

A clearly referenced report setting out findings from the task above, with clear recommendations to suit the Scottish context. The report should be delivered electronically in MS Word format.

LINK will disseminate the findings of the report through briefings, blogs and media articles in autumn 2020.

¹ State of Nature Scotland report, 2019. Available at: <https://nbn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/State-of-nature-Report-2019-Scotland-full-report.pdf>

² Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), 2019. Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. Available at: <https://ipbes.net/global-assessment>

³ Letter to Scottish Environment LINK, July 2019. Available at: <https://www.scotlink.org/publication/letter-from-the-first-minister/>

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4. Timings

- Deadline for tenders 5th June 2020
- Consultant engaged by mid-June 2020
- Initial meeting by late June 2020
- Proposed outline of report to LINK by 6th July 2020
- Report first draft to LINK by 27th July 2020

- Final report by 21st August 2020
- Report launch w/b 14th September 2020 (second week after summer recess)

5. Initial meeting

Consultants are asked to be available for an initial client meeting w/b 15th June to discuss details and access to complementary pieces of research from across the LINK network. The meeting can be conducted over the phone if travel restrictions remain in place.

6. Assistance available to the consultant

LINK has set up a steering group of members with professional expertise in biodiversity and Scottish Government policy to advise the consultant on questions arising from this work.

7. Fees available

The contract to be let is for a total of 20 days' work. A maximum day rate of £400 inclusive of VAT will be payable.

8. Quotes

Please let us know if you intend to submit a quote.

Please submit quotes for this contract to Vhairi Tollan, LINK Advocacy Manager, by email at vhairi@scotlink.org to be received no later than **1700 on 5th June 2020**.

If you would like to discuss this project, please contact Vhairi by email or on 07512 828004.