

July 2022: 10.00 - 15.00

Via zoom

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Welcome to the day from LINK Chair: Charles Dundas.

Introduction to the context for today's networking: see slides in Appendix 1

Deborah outlined today's working context at national UK and international levels; the pressures and expectations, opportunities and challenges those bring and the cross group priorities and ambitions we already have in our strategic plan and Group work plans.

Dan outlined what's happening in Parliament now and the opportunities we have coming up over the next 6 months.

Group plenary exercise to consider these questions:

1. Where are the gaps in LINK's work?
2. Which ones do we want to fill as a network?
3. Which ones will members be filling either uni or bi laterally?

Suggestions were noted on an active miro board. See appendix 2.

Convenor updates on:

1. Identify priorities for successful action
2. Need to work with other groups
3. External organisations / coalitions to bring on board

Food and Farming: placing nature at the heart of food and farming. Pete Ritchie

Group priorities over next 6 months:

- The process of trying to create an agriculture reform scheme – Gov has a plan to make agriculture in Scotland a leader in relation to nature recovery.
- Cab Sec are committed to agri ecology but our job is to work with LINK on the campaign & get cab sec to see that there is an alternative to business as usual but is difficult with NFUS messaging. Partnership working with NFFN
- Good Food Nation Bill – requirement to set up a food plan. F+F group are trying to influence that process at national & local level so there is a connection between the food we eat and the farmers in Scotland.

Land use, land reform, landscape: land reform bill, NPs: John Thomson via written update:

- Land reform – the twin emergencies are becoming more apparent & politicians are waking up to how we manage our land and the impact on nature/climate. Radical rethink of land reform with more emphasis on
- Actions – consultation on land reform and the advice that the Scottish Land Commission are obvious opportunities.
- Links between NPs and Land reform agendas. Engaging communities national and local. The landscape policy mantra can support NN ambition and relates to 30x30.
- Continuing to support RLUPs as a necessary underpinning for that.
- Scottish Land Commission are on the same page as LINK members – he has his eyes on SCCS and wants to get them more firmly on board & wants to work with more community bodies.
- Overlap with Planning, Marine, Woodland Groups.

Wildlife: Delivering a nature rich Scotland; 30x30, nature networks, biod strategy, protecting our freshwater habitats. Natalie Stevenson

- Next 6 months we are waiting the publishing of NPF4 and developing of nature guidance.
- Promoting and embedding NN across Scotland – tied to NPF4.
- Engaging consultation work on NPs and responding to that from a wildlife perspective.
- Leading on the development of LINK response to SBS – contributing to LINK thoughts draft.
- 30x30 – pulling together a new report to be done by end of September.
- All this work will need to have input from other LINK groups.
- Working with LINK on Nature Champions – more MSPs championing species and habitats.

Governance: UK post Brexit policy; Indep ref challenge, maintaining high env standards. Lloyd Austin

- Interested in cross cutting issues to do with the systems and processes of governance.
- Brexit – still seeing the fallout of that in work of keeping pace process, environmental principles and ESS strategy. Working with other LINKs and Greener UK on cross cutting issues.
- Independence referendum – there is a sub group monitoring development on that
- Levelling up bill at Westminster – potentially another Brexit fallout. That has devolution implications Working with other Links.
- SNP-Green party – future generations commission – what that looks like and what it might be – had a discussion with WEL as they already have a FGC. Seeking meetings with officials and ministers.
- Human rights to a healthy environment agenda – working with ERCS.
- Continuity act now requires the Scot Gov to do a consultation which will be next early year- possibility of an environmental court.
- Working with other groups – keen to work with all groups due to cross cutting work. Examples from other groups will be valuable. External partners – most concerned with those we are trying to influence – Scot Gov, Parliament, Officials. Etc.

Economics & GR: sustainable econ strategy; green jobs & skills, funding nat restoration, circular economy bill. Matthew Crighton

- Discussion about merging Economics with Green Recovery Group: this is now progressing.
- New remit for the merge – will be uploaded on LINK website as soon as group has agreed it
- Acknowledged that economics isn't a natural place within environmental movement.
- Circular economy – continuing to look for funding to support ongoing advocacy on this. Big issue is the consultation on the content of the Circular Economy bill and the road map that encompasses that. Phoebe has written a guide for other organisations on how to respond – not the same as LINK response. In general, Group is pleased with the bill content but it isn't ambitious enough – the issue around targets is twofold & not sure if the working is what we want. Resolve whether we call for the consumption-based targets to be carbon based, material or both.
- Economics and climate change and just transition. Energy strategy is being redrafted. Extensive engagement process being run by Scot Gov. FoeS, SCCS, LINK have opportunity to organise a consultation process on the content of this for the environment sector. This has not yet been agreed.
- Nature Positive economy – the growing topic.
- Economics strategy – overarching. Good work with Wellbeing Economy Alliance on why the national strategy isn't such a thing and what it should look like.
- Other groups – overlapping with other groups frequently. How do we make sure the links are always being made?

- Alliances around climate and social justice, trade unions

Planning: delivering NPF4, nature networks. Esmee Clelland and Juliet in absence of other Group members.

- Keeping an eye on things for NPF4 process
- Looking for a new convener for the Planning Group
- Working with the Land Use Group to

Hilltracks: Helen Todd

- Waiting for 2 years for a consultation to be published.
- Continuing to monitor key local authorities for tracks – organisations have put objections into specific tracks – specifically Pentlands. Have been getting PQs together on this.
- When consultation is launched, they will be reconvening the group – thinking about how we engage the public.
- Working with Planning Group as it is a landscape issue/regulation. Mountaineering Scotland are keen to get involved as an ally.

Freshwater: Beryl Leatherland

- Published briefings on small water bodies, free flowing rivers to support advocacy on river basin management plan & SBS.
- Craig had an article in the Scotsman on free-flowing rivers.
- Briefing on biodiversity on freshwater – for use following the consultation on SPS
- Scottish water – pushing for more transparency. Info on sewer overflow spills. Only available through FOI but SW have said by end of the year it will be available publicly.
- Small scale hydro schemes.
- Planning to prepare a report on these issues with case studies later this year.
- Keeping an eye on UK chemicals strategy and how it will be developed in Scotland.
- SEPA meeting on RBMP, circular economy, nature networks – they see LINK as a useful ally.

Marine & aquaculture: Delivering ocean recovery plan: MPAs; fisheries. Esther Brooker

- Ocean Recovery Plan - 4 key asks
- Legally binding targets – working with FFSN and members to look at this through the Natural Environment Bill.
- 30x30 for Scotland's seas and commitment of 10% of seas to be highly protected. They require new legislative provisions which will be through the Natural Environment Bill. Building public support, targeted campaigning, evidence base, MPA fighting fund and IUCN definitions of MPA network. Secured a meeting with Mairi McCallan on MPAs.
- Sights of Scot Gov's draft on HMPAs. Will be giving feedback. Will come into consultation in early autumn.
- Climate smart and nature friendly fisheries – ties into MPA stuff. Consultation on Scottish aspects of the UK fisheries act. Consultation soon on Scot Gov commitment to implement a cap on fishing on in shore area.
- Investment in ocean recovery – SMEEF is active. LINK have been offered a place on the grant panel. Panel is chaired by Susan Davies.
- Feeding into SBS from a marine perspective, 30x30 LINK report.
- Sea Scotland planning for next year.
- Working with Fisheries and local community organisations and campaigns – a lot of discussion and overlap how best we can compliment each other.
- LINK places on Scottish aquaculture council

Deer & wildlife crime: sustainable deer management; eliminating wildlife crime: written updates from Mike Daniels and deer and Logan on wildlife crime

- Wildlife Crime Group is becoming a correspondence group for the next 6 months.
- Natural Justice Report – won't be publicly published but used behind the scenes.
- Keeping a watching brief on licensing issue, crime figures, reporting and monitoring.
- They are considering a new name.
- Moorland Licensing when that comes though – on Wildlife Group plan

Deer

- Have a clear action plan and justification – SBS. Looking for action in order to meet the culling & deer management recommendations.
- One ask was clear public Ministerial statement to set Gov in direction- they have achieved this from Lorna Slater.

Woodland: expanding & regenerating woodland; FGS. Andrew Weatherall

- Food and Forestry Grant scheme – not looking for a light touch approach
- Continuing advocacy for Saving Scotland's Rainforest
- Working with Wildlife Group on NBS and SBS
- Working with Deer Group on deer management issues
- Community interest in forestry – trying to work with Scottish Forestry
- Have some capacity issues in Woodland Group

New Carbon Group: a new proposal from JMT to form a new Group, if there is sufficient interest around Carbon.

Group aim: to build sector credibility through working together and signalling our serious intention to walk the walk on carbon credibility across the network, to government and agencies and wider society:

Group actions:

1. Office / travel / construction / pensions carbon accounting: sharing methodologies, building consistency and developing where necessary
2. Land and sea monitoring and emissions for land owning organisations
3. Travel to nature sites and for work
4. Advocacy around Carbon offsetting and green finance, taxation, divestment, green laird issues plus others

Overlap with other group interests:

- Marine: blue carbon
- Wildlife: offsetting
- Economics: offsetting and effective accounting and reporting
- Operational: accounting and enabling / encouraging wider adoption within and outwith membership
- Land use and reform: taxation and offsetting; green lairds

Interest was signalled from: NTS, WWF, Buglife and FoES.

Member updates:

Key member plans for everyone to be aware of eg planned research, events, campaigns, reports. 2 mins each max.

Beryl (SWLG)

- 40th anniversary and 100th edition of the Wild Land News. To mark this they have created a report – can be found on the website. Used as an advocacy tool and baseline. Wild Land Research Limited and a Planning Consultancy wrote the content.
- Refreshed the website. Have become a Skeel? Not just a charity.
- Have done a few consultation responses but heavily involved in LINK work.
- Having a big recruitment drive this year.

Eddie (Scottish Badgers)

- New 3 year lottery project. To repeat a skewed sample survey of km squared of badgers in Scotland. 4 part time staff now in post. The basis of this – recruiting volunteer surveyors but the survey group will be as diverse as possible.
- Concentrate on the central belt and Glasgow. Recruiting 300 surveyors a year. Expectations is that they think they will find prime habitat for badgers – broad leaf woodland and grassland that isn't there anymore as well as more access problems.
- Legislative – putting time into hunting for dogs bill. SSPCA, One Kind and X cruel sports. Help from MSPs and parliamentary staff.

Isobel (RSPB)

- Policy – agriculture & agri reform is top priority this year. Working with the LINK campaign.
- Nature restoration targets – working on SBS ahead of Natural Environment Bill. Alongside 30x30, NPs.
- Marine – tackling avian influenza will dominate that. Wind on MPAs.
- Uplands, deer grouse
- Case work and planning – follow on from NPF4, nature networks. Working with the coalition on Coul Links campaign.
- Habitats regulations at UK level – keeping a close eye on. If it changes, we will shift our focus onto that.
- Building a pipeline of collaborative work – Cairngorms Connect, Agri campaign.
- Raising profile of nature – nature and climate crisis – raising profile of marine work and impacts avian influenza. Piece of work – greater focus on measures to reduce emissions – land use change. RSPB concerned about what that means – did a piece of work called Land Use Scenario projects – found you could have trade offs e.g., food reform.
- Food and Farming issues – enabling use of finance for habitat restoration at scale. Good Food Nation Bill – that bill passed a month ago and 2 main commitments were for gov to produce a food plan and every local authority to produce one & commitment to create a Scottish food commission to oversee plans. RSPB still figuring out how they will be involved in this.
- Significant staff change in policy team – coming through the other side of that. Head of Marine, Head of Planning and new Campaigns Manager.

Suzie (Woodland Trust)

- Hero Campaigns – every couple years come up with new campaign – runs up to 18 months/2 years. Living Legends Campaign – ancient and veteran trees don't have automatic legal protection. Asking Govs across UK to have automatic legal protection for boldest ancient trees, stop loss of ancient trees through development, support landowners to properly manage ancient trees,
- Policy work – continuing to work on NPF4

- SBS – campaign responding to that.
- Working on agro forestry – produced a report recently with soil association. Continuing to produce an update to ancient woodland inventory.
- New project in Scotland looking to map high density areas of ancient trees across Scotland.
- Continue working with Alliance for Scotland's rainforest and pushing for Rainforest Restoration fund.
- Continuing to build relationships with local authorities.
- Planning applications – high speed rail coming to Scotland etc.

Annie (CIEEM)

- Autumn conference is coming to Edinburgh in November – delivering a Nature Positive and Carbon negative future. Call for papers is open until 8th August.
- Survey on Scottish Local Planning Authorities – looking at provision of training.
- Green skills, jobs and economy – mainly through CEO – will be a briefing paper and position statement in autumn.
- Repeating survey done 10 years ago on looking at data and evidence – sheer amount of ecological data through consultant and reports that isn't ending up at local X centres
- Engaging with COP15
- Carrying on work providing member network events and universities supporting people coming into the profession.

Helen (Ramblers)

- Coul Links is back, Flamingo Land, Level Crossing
- Radical Road enclosure
- Response will be centred around nature importance during pandemic – managing not planning
- Trying to reduce barriers – trying to get new people out. Videos on responsible access – 1.5 million views.
- Out There Award continuing – getting young people outdoors. Out There Award Plus – taking people out camping.
- Outreach work with communities on mapping Scotland's Paths.
- 20th anniversary of Land Reform Act next year – event in parliament in January to celebrate Scottish access rights & calling for more funding.
- Sitting on NP stakeholder group.

Claire (FIDRA)

- Changes of staff – lost main chemical member of staff. Chemicals work is being split between three staff members.
- Pausing work on this now – waiting for consultation.
- Engaging with Scottish Administration on this as they will have sign off.
- Started more work on a sustainable fire safety project – reducing chemical flame retardants in home furnishing. Engaging with upholstery groups and how they have high rates of respiratory problems. Human health impacts that chemicals have. Increase in awareness of impact of chemicals – e.g. plastics.
- Working with community groups trying to build up global network of organisations and getting them to support each other.
- Project on artificial turf – waiting for outcome on European legislation which has been delayed.

- Salmon farming – sitting on Scottish agri council as LINK Rep. First meeting was end of June and next meeting is September. Will be communicating to the marine group updates.
- New member of Staff – Joanna Cloy – comes from Scottish Agri college – she will be working with soils and agri but haven't developed this yet. She's also working on the Circular Economy Group within LINK.

Natalie (Buglife)

- Continuing to work on the B Lines project – two big B Lines projects on the ground. Working to talk about it from a Nature Networks perspective.
- Working to protect most endangered species – invertebrates. Threatened species work and specific species recovery projects on the ground. Concerned using chemicals on our land and waters- pesticides etc.
- Freshwater environments – the free-flowing rivers article that Craig published – next few months will be starting a new project to support citizen science on river fly monitoring around Scotland.
- Talking about light pollution and its impact on invertebrates – urban areas
- INNS and biosecurity
- Scotland – continue on peatland work

Claudia (Bat Conservation Trust)

- Claudia just started in May.
- BCT running Bat Monitoring project – ongoing. In Scotland – looking for pipistrelles specifically. Online training courses provided. BCT hoping to do more projects on supporting citizen science.
- Habitat management – working with SWT and RSPB to learn about how to best manage habitats for bats.
- Citizen science and working with different bat groups – bat enthusiasts organising workshops and conferences.

Euan (WWF)

- Euan is new Public Affairs Advisor.
- REM has been a big focus for marine team.
- Lyndsey – Marine lead - has been working on restoration forth.
- Heat and decarbonisation of heat – report will be released in October. Primarily heat pumps and decarbonation of heat in existing properties. Will include rural considerations.
- Agriculture – working closely with LINK campaign. Continuing to develop work on land use and peatlands.
- WWF are still hiring for [Policy position](#). This role will support Ruth in preparing for Agri bill.
- Commission for Land based learning built into PfG.
- Lang, WWF director, X commission, just transition sectoral plans published such as agri from Scot Gov.
- Maximize engagement with MSPs and officials – parliamentary event organised for October.

Catherine (MCS)

- Marine litter
- Emmy is Native Oyster and Shellfish Officer who has joined the MCS team – based in Scotland. Promoting what restoration forth is all about.
- Great British Beach Clean coming up in September – 16th – 25th September across all of Scotland. Beach clean and surveying litter you have found.

- Reached our 4 relevant ministers – hoping they will come along as well as key MSPs.
- Young people – new youth ocean networks – Youth Engagement Officer based in Stirling. Networks 13- 18 and 18-25 – monthly meetings talking about MCS work, what they are interested in and how they can get them involved.
- Deposit Return – 16th August will be the ‘one year to go’ working with APRS and others to keep the pressure on.
- Dynamic Earth have a new exhibit on called discovering the deep – MCS going to try and get Nature Champions to visit. Meeting Dynamic Earth in 2 weeks.
- Launching campaign around Pfas – chemical work around UK Gov. Moving sure Scottish Gov are doing everything they said they would to keep us in line.
- [Mental Health Swims](#) – charity set up in lockdown. Monthly swim meet ups.
- <https://www.runtalkrun.com/>

Benji (ERCS)

- Encouraging any LINK members to sign petition calling on the Scot Gov to have an environmental court ensuring higher standards for a right to a Healthy Environment etc.
- Human Right to a Healthy Environment – getting that to an enforceable mechanism to Human Rights Bill. Consultation in September – has been delayed. Encouraging organisations to respond.
- Our House convention – reform legal expenses, removing court fees and ensuring there is public participation in review process and trying to get full Scottish compliance and reforming their action plan.
- Pushing for an Environmental Court Tribunal – specialist court with environmental expertise.
- Looking at procedural right – access to information/justice for right to food.

Summary of the day:

Busy year ahead – potential for many changes, and opportunities.

All Groups and members busy – the pressures of the need to act: nature and climate emergencies; public support and calls for more action, wanting to make a difference, risking burn out and even greater need to maintain staff and volunteer wellbeing.

Today about coordinating, communicating, sharing resources and the burden, being more efficient,

Priorities: agriculture and land management, MPAs and fisheries plus food, biodiversity and looking forward to Natural Env Bill, bird flu, pests and diseases - resilience, and offshore wind, NPF4, nature networks, infrastructure case work, green skills and upskilling future generations, managing and investing in access

UK and EU level via ELUK and EEB: Habitats Directive risks, post CAP, trade

Tactics:

1. making the links and making it all our jobs to connect and share – we’re all in this together and we’re stronger together.
2. Maintaining visibility in Parli thr quarterly meetings, SPAd contact, CPGs, Ref Challenge & voice for env.
3. Building louder voice though inclusivity and sharing: at member level, with new Nature for All project to build member capacity and confidence.

4. Building funding for nature positive and net zero, limiting funding for activities that work against that
5. A new carbon group
6. Education: education delivery is delivered through members. Is there a role for education advocacy? Is this part of the green skills work? and if so, who within LINK can lead on that? Is here something we could do through the member youth wings??
7. Food: F and F and Marine Group need to work together on National Food Plan
8. Landscape in wider policy: possibly an emerging gap.
9. Voices on govt groups and external led coalitions: thanks to everyone who volunteers – voluntary or not: National Park Stakeholder Groups, Just Transition sector plans and future plans, National Performance Framework advisory group, Forestry stakeholder groups, Funding boards – SMEFF and Nature Restoration Fund, Scottish Aquaculture Council: see website page on LINK representation page

Tools:

1. Cross group drip feeds: on public benefits – land use, sea management, access to nature, well being
2. Building more and stronger Partnerships: Community Land Scotland, WEaLL, Scottish Food Coalition, farming networks
3. Training and conferences: advocacy, financing nature, CIEEM Aut conf on carbon neutral, nature positive; LINK congress
4. Sector viability: sector wellbeing through mental health swims and more, combining funding streams for nature, access, health for eg. Part of nature positive economy. Staff turnover in LINK and member bodies. Embedding EDI measures through new project plus member actions
5. Pipeline of large scale collaborative work: RSPB plus LINK
6. Comms: aligning messages, using campaigns – eg veteran trees, chemicals, blines, beach clean, celebrations eg access legislation, amplifying members voices through blogs, Friends Scotsman and wider comms (recruiting soon)

Next steps:

Group plans will be updated and Groups asked to check them at next meeting. Miro Board gap analysis will be sent round plus list of cross group priorities, tactics and tools.

Note: Juliet Caldwell, Deborah Long

26 – 27 July 2022



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LINK networking 2022



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Setting the scene – where are we in 2022?



Scotland's environment is **Connected | Restored | Resilient** | Our society and wellbeing have nature at their heart, benefitting people, communities and the planet.



OUR LAND is home to ecologically coherent and inspiring landscapes, where nature thrives as part of productive sustainable land use
SDG11; SDG15



OUR SOCIETY thrives with equal rights for communities; access to a healthy, safe environment and is based on a circular economy
SDG12



OUR SEAS are home to ecologically productive habitats and wild seascapes with sustainable fish & marine stocks and flourishing coastal communities.
SDG14

- Nature and climate emergencies: pressure to act now, deliver effectively.
- Europe – the Scottish Government/majority of Parliament ‘wants in’ and eNGOs need to recognise/work with this as well as recognise the global importance/influence of EU environmental law
- eNGO burn out: staff and volunteer wellbeing increasingly important.

2021 cross network context & opportunities:

Working with others	Working with others to pump up the volume of voices;
Equality, diversity and inclusion:	Our sector is one of the least diverse in the UK: new project, staff member starting 1 sept, to help us change and do more with support & working together
Coalition Parliament; new approach	Sector viability and working with Govt and business Maintaining a laser focus on net zero, nature positive – not a return to business as usual. Tactics: new Cross Party groups and other (Dan)
Climate and nature emergency rhetoric:	Providing a vision of a better and achievable future: we need to build public demand and turn it into action on both emergencies. Public pressure is mounting: we need to coordinate better so we are ore effective.
European and Global context:	
EEB resources and opportunities	EEB: work plan priorities that read across on trade, environmental rights; CAP and farming policy, incding food security; fisheries; protected areas on land and at sea; biodiversity, and more
Biodiversity CoP15: Canada: December 2022	Biodiversity: building on Edinburgh Declaration; future proofing SB, NPF4 etc.





A louder voice

Nature Networks &
resilience

Nature positive: framing for action

Farm for Scotland's
Future

Land and sea use &
management

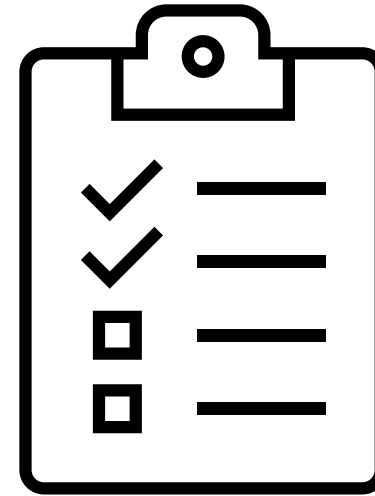
Nature positive economy

Financing nature restoration

Nature champions

Building on Green / SNP coalition

Manifestos and Programmes for Government



Scottish parliament in 2022: opportunities and challenges.

- Programme for Government
- Good Food Nation Bill (passed June)
- National Planning Framework 4 (awaiting final publication)
- Circular Economy Bill (consultation open)
- Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (consultation open)
- Land Reform Bill (consultation open)
- Agriculture Bill
- Natural Environment Bill



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We start again at 1400

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Top advocacy priorities for LINK Groups August 2022 - Jan 2023

Group	Advocacy priority	Is this a gap? YES OR NO	Related member action	Related group action
Food and Farming Group Food and farming	Link up with the other national LINKs & government officials for more effective national partnership working on farming.	Yes		
Across all LINK Groups but led by Economics Group members Economics & Green Recovery	Training requested around financing nature restoration/ Nature & the economy	Yes		
New EDI Steering group	Building on the narrative established through the pandemic and associated lockdowns.	No	RSPB has already made progress on this through Nature Prescriptions movement - there is very positive response from this from policy makers. Scottish Badgers: have a 3 year project soon to be commencing which emphasizes wellbeing and inclusivity	
Hilltracks Land use ; land reform; landscape	Public access agenda needs to be more prominent across groups: Land use Group needs to provide messaging for all groups to use in own policy areas	No		Highlight in Farm policy agenda nad papers
Governance	Human Right to a healthy environment - overlaps many policy areas. Access to greenspace etc,	No	ERCS - responding to Human Right to a Healthy Environment consultation	Governance group working on consultation too Plus Env Court pre and post consultation advocacy
Economics & Green Recovery Woodland, deer, wildlife crime	Halt flow of private funding into nature destructive actions via badly conceived adn executed carbon and biodiversity offsetting	Yes	Forestry policy group - met with Alan Hanson(or Scottish Forestry Grants Scheme - there is a lot of private money flowing into forestry into productive timber (money coming from pension plans and private investment) - defining nature based solutions and how this relates to forestry	Economics Group work on nature positive economy.
Woodland, deer, wildlife crime Food and farming	Stop public funding flowing into the destruction of nature via SRDP ; agric adn forestry subsidies and into nature positive action	No	Farm for Scotland's Future Campaign	Woodland group paper on FGS. Also relevant to Agric bill.
A new Carbon Group Marine & Aquaculture Economics & Green Recovery	A new Carbon Group - to look at sector record in carbon adn investment (pensions) plus advocacy around carbon offsetting, green finance etc.	No	WWF - decarbonisation of heat work. FoES emphasize the need for consensus on LINK's position; i.e. approach to carbon markets. Concerns around public engagement and participation in existing carbon mechanisms/ attention to environmental justice (*including social justice) and galvanizing public support.	New group: JMT, NTS, Buglife, FoES, WWF plus others?? LINK Land workshop coming up Marine Group have been attending climate change plan meetings -discussing how government should be developing a roadmap including saltmarsh and seagrass and their contribution to climate mitigation etc.
No current home at LINK	Advocacy on Environmental Education - Flexibility in the curriculum needed. Anything related to nature/the environment is, by nature, interdisciplinary and needs to fall in different subjects. Can LINK influence school curriculum in relation to working in environmental studies at an early age - similar to England? Portal / signposting to member activities / education materials? Which networks work on this in Scotland? Where can we sign signpost members to? Interest in the museums sector to do work on public education/engagement on the environment - there is funding available.	Yes	MCS: don't work on advocacy related to education but have resources linked to Scottish curriculum. Have spoken about advocacy in the past around improved ocean literacy. UK wide advocacy on education: ocean literacy Scottish badgers: has a whole suite of resources available. New 3-year project starting which is focused on youth engagement. Other members also deliver education - JMT, NTS, SWT< RSPOB - but gap on advocacy for education to cover environment.	Is there appetite amongst members for a new LINK group around env advocacy? Who would convene? Who has capacity to set group up a dn agree work plan to take forward?
Economics & Green Recovery	Green skills: young people training / work experience: how to enables members to do that? eg member advocacy training: could we refit for young people?	?	MCS: have a series of youth representatives - consider the place that young people are engaged with LINK's broader work. CIEEM work at UK and Scotland level	Economics / Green Recovery Group actions on green skills Governance group work on Future Generation Commission
	Also, I'd like to see a group working on our connections to the research community (especially in universities) to ensure we get the best evidence base for our policy, using what is available and shaping future work to be relevant to the questions we need answers to. How can LINK service this request? Currently each group maintains its own links to academia. Is this sufficient?	Yes		
Wildlife & freshwater Marine & Aquaculture	CSO: making link between rivers and sea: Marine and FW need closer ties to work together on this. Fixed agenda items in meetings to cover at relevant times / points?	No		Marine and freshwater groups both working on CSOs: need better mechanisms to work together on this issue
Food and farming Marine & Aquaculture	National Food Plan: fish plus agriculture, food and drink. Food currently sitting with Scottish Food Coalition - now winding up. While LINK should not fill that gap, marine adn Food and Farming Groups need to work more closely on national food plans.	No	Need to link Marine group work into Food work of F and F group	Fand F group plus Marine group: need better mechanisms to work together on this issue
Land use ; land reform; landscape Wildlife & freshwater Woodland, deer, wildlife crime	Protected areas: potential of 30x30 to polarise landscape adn people's experience too. need to include mechanisms for management. Need to work out how to bring all 3 agendas together, with agreed adn consistent messaging. Do we need a LINK vision of landscape in 21st century Scotland? See farmland visions in FSP campaign	?		Nature networks, agric landscapes, protected areas and forestry: need mechanism for all 3 groups to work together on this issue
Land use ; land reform; landscape	Making case for landscape in wider policy - emerging gap. Links to aesthetic, economy & wellbeing	?		Landscape group plus Scott Landscape Alliance - emerging gap. PLAcE making