

April 2009

Wales Grassland and Heathland Ecosystem Group

Terms of Reference:

1. Drive the delivery of habitat and species targets:
 - Set objectives/targets (incorporating existing SMART targets) for the habitat and relevant species, at the Wales and LBAP level.
 - Prioritise the most urgent and important actions to meet the collective needs of the habitats and species within the overall group.
 - Identifying monitoring needs and recommending monitoring priorities to enable reporting against progress towards habitat and species targets.
 - Identify opportunities for leveraging resources and co-ordinate bids for research or implementation.
 - Identify priority areas for delivering biodiversity enhancements and improving connectivity at a landscape and seascape scale.
 - Further develop ecosystem approach, taking into account ecosystem services and carrying capacity.
 - Support and enable engagement with local partnerships.
 - Produce and coordinate Wales wide advice/guidance.
 - Report back to WBP on annual basis

2. Liaise with other relevant ecosystem groups where joint approaches could be beneficial.

3. Identify knowledge gaps and either address these directly, or recommend to the WBP how they could be filled.

4. Identify policy blockages and, through representation to the Policy Group, help drive policy development and monitor outcomes.

5. Coordinate reporting for habitats and associated species
 - Identify a member of the group to lead on reporting.
 - Use the Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS) to report against actions and targets and share information with partners including LBAP Partnerships;
 - Liaise with Lead Partners for UK species reporting.

6. Provide representation to any over-arching UK habitat group established by the UK Biodiversity Standing Committee.