



defra

Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

Telephone: 0117 372 3546

Web: www.defra.gov.uk

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Dear Colleagues

In November last year, I wrote to UK HAP and SAP group Chairs on behalf of the UK Biodiversity Standing Committee about the future of UK HAP and SAP groups following a review of the groups by BRIG. I undertook to update you once we had reviewed the UK technical liaison needs in light of the outcomes from Nagoya.

At its meeting on 4th May, the UK Biodiversity Standing Committee confirmed that the UK HAP and SAP groups were no longer accountable at the UK level. However, they acknowledged that the groups could provide useful fora for exchange of ideas and best practice. They recommended that the organisations providing the staff and resources for the groups needed to take a view as to whether this investment was worthwhile.

The UK Standing Committee also emphasised that implementation of biodiversity policy was now a devolved issue and that any ongoing UK HAP and SAP groups should maintain appropriate contact with each country's lead delivery body on priority for action.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

With many thanks for your valuable help and support,

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Webster

Direct line: 0117 372 3546

Email: sarah.webster@defra.gsi.gov.uk

