



This paper was provided to the Joint Committee for decision/discussion or information. Please refer to the minutes of the meeting for Committee's position on the paper.

To view other Joint Committee papers and minutes visit <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2671>

To find out more about JNCC visit <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-1729>

## **JOINT NATURE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

### **STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT: ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT**

#### **Paper by Marcus Yeo**

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1 In December 2000, Joint Committee agreed a statement of strategic direction (SSD) as a submission to the quinquennial review (QQR) of JNCC. This was based on discussion between JNCC and the country agencies, but also took into account views from other organisations (e.g. NGOs and some parts of Government). However, JNCC was unable to engage with Government as a whole at this stage because the QQR was ongoing.
- 1.2 During Stage 2 of the QQR, the reviewing officer sought views from JNCC's customers within Government regarding JNCC's role and functions. These are summarised in Annex A of the Stage 2 report. The report recommended that JNCC should draw up a revised SSD.
- 1.3 The QQR Steering Group meeting in January 2002 supported this view, and noted that the revised JNCC strategy should address the points raised in the Stage 2 report. The revised strategy would need to be endorsed by the four Government administrations.
- 1.4 While the QQR has progressed, the Support Unit has also been considering strategic development in some areas, e.g. marine and international. These have been discussed with the country agencies, but not with Government.
- 1.5 Using the existing SSD and the Stage 2 QQR report as a basis, JNCC intend to enter into dialogue with relevant parts of UK Government and devolved administrations to develop a more coherent understanding of their views and requirements. This information will be used to revise the JNCC strategy.

#### **2. Analysis of Government priorities and key issues for discussion**

- 2.1 Points raised in the Stage 2 QQR report have been analysed to identify key issues requiring discussion and resolution (see Annex A). Strategy documents and Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets have also been examined to identify Government aims and objectives, and assess how these might link to JNCC's work (see Annex B).
- 2.2 The analysis undertaken so far has revealed a number of specific work areas where further consideration of JNCC's role in relation to Government requirements would be desirable (e.g. climate change, earth heritage, Overseas

Territories). Several broader issues have also been identified (see sections 2.3 to 2.10 below).

*Developing a strategic view of UK and international nature conservation objectives*

- 2.3 The Stage 1 and Stage 2 QQR reports concluded that JNCC should have a role in advising Government on long-term nature conservation objectives for the UK in a European and global context, and on how progress against these objectives should be measured. This will be important in helping UK Government to develop a more strategic approach to nature conservation, and enabling devolved administrations to place their objectives in a wider context.

*Obtaining a balanced view of priorities across Government*

- 2.4 The revision of JNCC's strategy provides an opportunity to engage with a wide range of Government departments and administrations, including some with which there has previously been very limited direct contact (e.g. Forestry Commission, Department for International Development). This should enable JNCC and Government to develop jointly a balanced view of what services are required by Government customers.
- 2.5 This dialogue, supplemented by further discussions with the country agencies and other stakeholders, will form a critical part of the revised JNCC strategy. It will provide a strategic framework for assessing priorities across JNCC. This will enable us to link funding levels more closely to priorities, rather than being constrained by historical patterns of resource allocation. As a consequence of this, it may be decided to reduce input to some areas and increase it to others.

*Relationship with devolved administrations*

- 2.6 During Stage 2 of the QQR, the Scottish Executive and the National Assembly for Wales raised several issues in relation to the role of JNCC following devolution. For example, it is unclear under what circumstances it would be appropriate for JNCC to provide advice directly to devolved administrations on strategic nature conservation issues, or on the interpretation and application of new European initiatives. This is clearly an important issue which should be explored with the devolved administrations and country agencies over the next few months.

*JNCC's role in sustainable development*

- 2.7 The concept of sustainable development underpins Government's work across the full range of its responsibilities. For example, in the DEFRA prospectus *Working for the essentials of life*, sustainable development is set out as the overarching aim of the department. It is similarly explicit in strategy documents produced by the devolved administrations.
- 2.8 Despite this, some Government customers have questioned what JNCC's role in sustainable development should be, or even whether sustainable

development forms a part of JNCC's remit at all. This is an issue which deserves careful consideration by Government and other stakeholders to clarify how JNCC's work relates to sustainable development, both in a UK and international context.

*JNCC's role in advising on policy development*

- 2.9 It is widely accepted that one of JNCC's strengths is the collation and dissemination of information on the status of UK biodiversity, and the Joint Committee has previously concluded that JNCC needs to develop its work on the interpretation of monitoring/surveillance data. The extent to which JNCC should use this information to advise on policy development requires clarification.
- 2.10 One of JNCC's functions is to advise ministers on the development and implementation of policies for or affecting nature conservation in Great Britain and internationally. However, during the QQR consultation, some Government customers expressed the view that JNCC should focus on providing scientific advice rather than advising on policy development, notwithstanding that this is a special function exercised through the Joint Committee. The respective roles of JNCC and the country agencies in providing policy advice remain unclear, and further discussion with Government is essential.

**3. Aims and timetable for completing the strategy**

- 3.1 The revision of the strategy will be co-ordinated by a small JNCC project team, drawing on other parts of the Support Unit and the country agencies as necessary.
- 3.2 The revised JNCC strategy should:
- i. contain a mission statement which defines JNCC's purpose and aims in terms of desired outcomes for nature conservation;
  - ii. define JNCC's role in relation to other environmental organisations;
  - iii. contain a clear statement of JNCC's strategic priorities for the next 5-10 years;
  - iv. place these priorities within the framework of existing and developing regional, UK and international conservation initiatives;
  - v. identify the customers for JNCC's work.
- 3.3 During July-September 2002, contact will be initiated with the Government departments and administrations listed in Annex C to resolve issues still outstanding from the QQR consultation, and, where necessary, provide clarification of Government's strategic priorities for JNCC services. This will be linked to discussion of shorter term priorities as part of the JNCC corporate planning process for 2003/06.

- 3.4 The themes identified in the existing SSD will form the basis for discussions on JNCC's strategy. In order to focus discussions, preparatory work has been undertaken to assess Government priorities and identify issues requiring particular consideration (see section 2 of this paper).
- 3.5 Following engagement with Government, further discussion will be undertaken with the country agencies to finalise the strategy. Independent Committee members have previously made a valuable contribution to strategy discussions, and their input will be sought again during the next stage of the process.
- 3.6 It is intended to submit the revised strategy to Committee for approval in December 2002.

**Annex A. Issues raised by Government customers in QQR Stage 2 report (Annex A – Analysis of JNCC possible future roles)**

<b>Paragraph reference</b>	<b>Issue raised by Government consultees</b>	<b>Comments</b>
A1.3	Relationship between the JNCC's role and any future UK Biodiversity Partnership	Needs clarification
A1.5	Distinction between JNCC and country agency roles in advising devolved administrations	Should JNCC be advising the administrations directly – or should advice be directed through agencies? See also A4.8
A2.8	Promotion of views that do not necessarily correspond with Government policy	Government clearly uneasy about this
A2.11	JNCC role in policy development (e.g. EU biodiversity strategy and sustainable development strategy)	Government view is that JNCC should provide scientific advice to Government rather than formulate policy in its own right
A2.12	Developing thinking on the interpretation and application of European initiatives with nature conservation implications	Scottish Executive feel this is more appropriately done at a country level
A3.3	JNCC role in relation to policies on resource use	JNCC role should clearly be at a UK level, co-ordinating country agency advice where appropriate
A3.10 & A3.11	JNCC's role in relation to land use policy issues (including GMOs)	Might be considered to be more of a country agency role
A3.14	Distinction between JNCC work and that of the country agencies in relation to the sustainable use of resources and the monitoring of environmental changes	Clarification needed
A4.2	JNCC's role regarding the interpretation of surveillance/monitoring data	Needs clarification – should the emphasis be on enhancing the collection of data, or on analysis and interpretation?
A4.4	Definition of JNCC's role on climate change	Government view seems to be that JNCC's role should be tightly defined in relation to the nature conservation implications of climate change The breadth of JNCC's role also needs to be considered in relation to other issues (cf A4.5)

<b>Paragraph reference</b>	<b>Issue raised by Government consultees</b>	<b>Comments</b>
A5.7	JNCC's role in influencing international policies, regulations and procedures	Caution expressed by Welsh Assembly regarding this role - JNCC would need to act in close consultation with Government
A5.15	JNCC's involvement in CAFF	Considered to be very important by FCO, and should be reflected in the strategy
A5.16	JNCC's role in relation to sustainable development	Needs clarification – Welsh Assembly feel that sustainable development is not part of JNCC's role
A5.17	JNCC's role in relation to earth heritage conservation	Key issues are considered to be site designation – possibly a greater role for country agencies than JNCC?
A5.18, A9.2	Proposed JNCC role in developing partnerships and networking	Government proposes that this should be dropped from the strategy as it is a method of working, rather than an end in itself
A6.2	Doubts about title of strategic theme 'fostering good practice in biodiversity and earth heritage conservation'	JNCC's role is concerned with establishing good practice in data collection and reporting, rather than conservation management
A8.3	Overlap between JNCC work and that of Government scientific advisers	Needs further consideration to avoid unnecessary overlap
A8.5	JNCC's role in research co-ordination	Need to consider relationships with other groups and organisations
A8.8	Role of JNCC in influencing European research	Some parts of Government not convinced that JNCC should have a strong input

**Annex B. Government aims, objectives and targets**

<b>Department for Environment, Food &amp; Rural Affairs (DEFRA)</b>	
Source: DEFRA website; <i>Working for the essentials of life</i> , March 2002; PSA targets for 2001/04	
Vision	Our vision of the future is of a world in which climate change and environmental degradation are recognised and addressed by all nations and where low carbon emissions and the efficient use of environmental resources are at the heart of our whole way of life. Where, here in the UK, rural communities are diverse, economically and environmentally viable, and socially inclusive with high quality public services and real opportunities for all. A country where the food, fishing and farming industries are not dependent on output-related subsidies, but work closely together and with Government to produce safe, nutritious food which contributes positively to consumer choice and the health of the whole nation. A place where we manage the land in a way that recognises its many functions, from production through to recreation; where we seek to promote biodiversity on land and in our seas; and where animal welfare and protection against animal disease is at the core of the way in which we farm and live. Through the practice of sustainable development, economic, environmental and social, we will achieve our vision.
Aim	Sustainable development, which means a better quality of life for everyone, now and for generations to come, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a better environment at home and internationally, and sustainable use of natural resources;</li> <li>• economic prosperity through sustainable farming, fishing, food, water and other industries that meet consumers' requirements;</li> <li>• thriving economies and communities in rural areas and a countryside for all to enjoy.</li> </ul>
Objectives	<p><i>Objective 1.</i> To protect and improve the rural, urban, marine and global environment and conserve and enhance biodiversity, and to lead integration of these with other policies across Government and internationally.</p> <p><i>Objective 2.</i> To enhance opportunity and tackle social exclusion through promoting sustainable rural areas with a dynamic and inclusive economy, strong rural communities and fair access to services.</p> <p><i>Objective 3.</i> To promote a sustainable, competitive and safe food supply chain which meets consumers' requirements.</p> <p><i>Objective 4.</i> To improve enjoyment of an attractive and well-managed countryside for all.</p> <p><i>Objective 5.</i> To promote sustainable, diverse, modern and adaptable farming through domestic and international actions and further ambitious CAP reform.</p> <p><i>Objective 6.</i> To promote sustainable management and prudent use of natural resources domestically and internationally.</p> <p><i>Objective 7.</i> To protect the public's interest in relation to environmental impacts and health, including in relation to diseases which can be transmitted through food, water and animals, and to ensure high standards of animal health and welfare.</p>

<p>Relevant PSA targets</p>	<p><i>PSA Target 1.</i> Improve air quality by meeting our National Air Quality Strategy targets for carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, particles, sulphur dioxide, benzene and 1-3 butadiene.</p> <p><i>PSA Target 2.</i> Improve the environment and the sustainable use of natural resources, including by reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% from 1990 levels and moving towards a 20% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2010. (Joint target with DTI.)</p> <p><i>PSA Target 6.</i> Bring into favourable condition by 2010 95% of all nationally important wildlife sites, compared to 60% of sites currently estimated to be in such condition.</p> <p><i>PSA Target 7.</i> Care for our living heritage and preserve natural diversity by reversing the long term decline in the number of farmland birds by 2020, as measured annually against underlying trends.</p>
<p>Other relevant targets (from <i>Working for the essentials of life</i>)</p>	<p><i>A better environment and wise use of resources</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will work with other government departments to press for more sustainable agriculture – through CAP reform, fisheries, trade and economic policies internationally.</li> <li>• We will work to reform the Common Fisheries Policy.</li> <li>• We will lead the Government’s Marine Stewardship Report to achieve safe, productive and protected oceans and seas.</li> <li>• We will extend our protection of marine wildlife under EU legislation beyond territorial waters.</li> <li>• We will start a two-year pilot project in the Irish Sea in April 2002 to find out what is needed for regional marine conservation.</li> <li>• We will publish a Water Environment Strategy later this year.</li> <li>• We are developing the follow-up to the Soil Strategy for England.</li> </ul> <p><i>Food and farming: a sustainable future</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will build alliances with our European partners for ambitious CAP reform that reduces the overall cost on consumers and taxpayers, removes bureaucratic burdens on farmers and improves the environment.</li> <li>• We will work for a shift within the CAP away from production subsidies, such as price support and production-linked premiums, and towards programmes supporting a better environment and rural prosperity.</li> <li>• We will work with our partners to reduce trade-distorting subsidies and trade barriers as part of the agriculture negotiations in the WTO while safeguarding environmental, safety and animal welfare standards.</li> </ul> <p><i>Reducing and managing risks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will continue to play a leading role in improving air quality within Europe and internationally.</li> <li>• We will implement flexibly EU requirements to reduce emissions of three key air pollutants (SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and PM10) from major industrial plant and power stations.</li> </ul>

<b>Foreign &amp; Commonwealth Office (FCO)</b>	
Source: FCO website; PSA targets for 2001/04	
Mission statement	<p>The Mission of the Foreign &amp; Commonwealth Office is to promote the interests of the United Kingdom and to contribute to a strong world community.</p> <p>We shall pursue that Mission to secure for Britain four benefits through our foreign policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Security. We shall ensure the security of the United Kingdom and the Dependent Territories and peace for our people by promoting international stability, fostering our defence alliances and actively promoting arms control;</li> <li>• Prosperity. We shall make maximum use of our overseas Posts to promote trade abroad and boost jobs at home;</li> <li>• Quality of Life. We shall work with others to protect the world's environment and to counter the menace of terrorism, crime and the drugs trade; and</li> <li>• Mutual Respect. We shall work through international fora and bilateral relationships to develop understanding between cultures and to spread the values of human rights, civil liberties and democracy which we demand for ourselves.</li> </ul>
Objectives	<p><i>Objective 1.</i> A secure United Kingdom within a more peaceful and stable world.</p> <p><i>Objective 2.</i> Enhanced competitiveness of companies in the UK through overseas sales and investments; and a continuing high level of quality foreign direct investment. (Through British Trade International, shared with DTI).</p> <p><i>Objective 3.</i> Increased prosperity for the UK through a strengthened international economic order.</p> <p><i>Objective 4.</i> A strong international community; leading to an improved quality of life worldwide.</p> <p><i>Objective 5.</i> Pivotal influence worldwide over decisions and actions which affect UK interests; positive foreign perceptions of the UK; authoritative, comprehensive information on foreign issues for UK decision-takers.</p> <p><i>Objective 6.</i> A strong role for the UK in a strong Europe, responsive to people's needs.</p> <p><i>Objective 7.</i> Effective Consular services to British nationals abroad.</p> <p><i>Objective 8.</i> Regulation of entry to, and settlement in, the UK in the interests of social stability and economic growth. (Shared with Home Office).</p> <p><i>Objective 9.</i> Secure and well-governed United Kingdom Overseas Territories enjoying sustainable development and growing prosperity.</p>

<p>Relevant PSA targets</p>	<p><i>PSA target 4.</i> Improved quality of life around the world on issues of concern to Britain including the environment, human rights, good governance and crime reduction. For example, we shall work to secure the establishment of an International Criminal Court, ratification of the UN Convention Against Torture by 70% of UN member states, and reform of leading international organisations, so that the UK's objectives are delivered more efficiently and effectively. (No specific target relating to the environment.)</p> <p><i>PSA target 9.</i> A new partnership between the UK and the Overseas Territories embracing constitutional arrangements and citizenship, which yields improved standards of governance, human rights, the environment, sustainable development and the security of the territories. (Includes a target to slow the rate of degradation of key habitats/endemic species in all Overseas Territories by March 2004 to promote sound use of natural resources.)</p>
-----------------------------	--

<b>Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions (DTLR)</b>	
Source: DTLR website; PSA targets for 2001/04	
Aim	Better transport and thriving, prosperous, safe communities.
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reliable, safe and integrated transport for everyone, which respects the environment.</li> <li>• A sustainable pattern of land use, promoted by an efficient planning system.</li> <li>• A high quality of life for all in our towns and cities.</li> <li>• The renewal of our most deprived communities.</li> <li>• A decent home for everyone.</li> <li>• Effective community leadership and high quality public services through elected local government.</li> <li>• Successful regions, which develop a strategic vision for the future.</li> <li>• Improved health and safety by reducing risks from work activity, buildings and fire.</li> <li>• Improved transport safety and crime prevention.</li> </ul>
Relevant PSA targets	None

<b>Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)</b>	
Source: DTLR website; PSA targets for 2001/04	
Aim	To increase competitiveness and scientific excellence in order to generate higher levels of sustainable growth and productivity in a modern economy.
Objectives	<p><i>Objective 1.</i> To promote enterprise, innovation and increased productivity.</p> <p><i>Objective 2.</i> To make the most of the UK's science, engineering and technology.</p> <p><i>Objective 3.</i> To develop strong, competitive markets within a regulatory framework which promotes fairness and sustainability.</p> <p><i>Objective 4.</i> Enhanced competitiveness of Britain's companies through overseas sales and investments; and a continuing high level of quality foreign direct investment.</p>
Relevant PSA targets	<i>PSA target 9.</i> Improve the environment and the sustainable use of natural resources, including by reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% from 1990 levels and moving towards a 20% reduction in CO <sub>2</sub> emissions by 2010. (Joint target with DEFRA).

<b>Forestry Commission (FC)</b>	
Source: FC website; PSA targets for 2001/04; national forestry strategies	
Aim	The Forestry Commission's overall aim is the sustainable management of the woodlands and forests of Great Britain and a steady expansion of woodland cover to provide social, economic and environmental benefits for society.
Objectives	<p><i>Objective 1.</i> Protect Britain's forests and woodlands.</p> <p><i>Objective 2.</i> Expand Britain's forest area.</p> <p><i>Objective 3.</i> Enhance the economic value of our forest resources.</p> <p><i>Objective 4.</i> Conserve and improve the biodiversity, landscape and cultural heritage of our forests and woodlands.</p> <p><i>Objective 5.</i> Develop opportunities for woodland recreation.</p> <p><i>Objective 6.</i> Increase public understanding and community participation in forestry.</p>
Relevant PSA targets for GB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish in 2001 a National Forest Programme for the United Kingdom based on the forestry strategies for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.</li> <li>• Develop and publish by 2002 UK and country-based indicators for monitoring sustainable forest management. These will provide new benchmark information against which future progress in the delivery of sustainable forest management can be measured.</li> </ul>
Relevant targets from England forestry strategy <i>A new focus for England's woodlands</i> (other national strategies also contain relevant targets)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish a national woodland inventory to provide better information about England's woodland resources.</li> <li>• Support research to improve understanding of the value of the environmental benefits of trees, woodlands and forests and the environmental processes that they perform, particularly in relation to aerial and water-borne pollution.</li> <li>• Establish a framework for monitoring important woodland habitats and species linked to the National Biodiversity Network.</li> </ul>

<b>Department for International Development (DFID)</b>	
Source: DFID website; PSA targets for 2001/04; 2000 White Paper <i>Eliminating world poverty: making globalisation work for the poor</i>	
Key policy commitments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work to reduce the contribution made by developed countries to global environmental degradation.</li> <li>• Work with developing countries to ensure that their poverty reduction strategies reflect the need to manage environmental resources sustainably, and strengthen their capacity to participate in international negotiations.</li> </ul>
Objectives	<p><i>Objective 1.</i> To reduce poverty through provision of more focused and co-ordinated development assistance by the international community to low and middle income countries.</p> <p><i>Objective 2.</i> To promote sustainable development through co-ordinated UK and international action.</p> <p><i>Objective 3.</i> Improved education outcomes in key countries receiving DFID education support.</p> <p><i>Objective 4.</i> Improvements in health outcomes in key countries receiving DFID health care assistance.</p>
Relevant PSA targets	<p><i>PSA target 2.</i> To promote the integration of developing countries into the global economy through co-ordinated UK and international action, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• relief of unsustainable debt by 2004 for all heavily-indebted poor countries (HIPC) committed to poverty reduction, building on the internationally agreed target that three quarters of eligible HIPCs reach decision point by the end of 2000 (Joint Target with Treasury) and;</li> <li>• gaining international agreement on the integration of social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainable development into poverty reduction programmes.</li> </ul>

<b>Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)</b>	
Source: DCMS website; PSA targets for 2001/04	
Role of DCMS in implementing Government policy	The work of the DCMS contributes to the Government's determination to deliver on its manifesto commitments and to build a modern Britain built on a stable economy with a fair society offering opportunities for all. DCMS aims to promote access, ensure excellence, nurture education throughout life and foster creativity in the economy.
Relevant PSA targets	None

<b>Her Majesty's Customs and Excise</b>	
Source: Customs and Excise website; PSA targets for 2001/04	
Aim	To administer the indirect tax and customs control systems fairly and efficiently, and make it as easy as possible for individuals and businesses to understand and comply with their obligations.
Objectives	<i>Objective 1.</i> To collect the right revenue at the right time from indirect taxes. <i>Objective 2.</i> To reduce crime and drug dependency by detecting and deterring the smuggling of illegal drugs and other prohibited and restricted goods. <i>Objective 3.</i> To reduce the costs of international trade and improve the level of compliance with customs and statistical requirements.
Relevant PSA targets	None

<b>Scottish Executive</b>	
Source: Scottish Executive website; <i>Working together for Scotland: a programme for Government</i>	
Aims	<p><i>Environment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To help the people of Scotland secure a high quality of life through sensitive stewardship and sustainable development of the natural resources of Scotland; in particular by securing a clean, healthy and safe environment, ensuring a safe and effective water industry, and improving people's enjoyment of the environment.</li> <li>• To ensure we have an efficient and effective planning system that operates in the public interest.</li> </ul> <p><i>Rural development</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote improved environmental, employment and living conditions in rural areas.</li> <li>• To promote the adaptation of Scotland's agriculture to a sustainable future.</li> <li>• To promote the Scottish food industry.</li> <li>• To operate fair and effective systems for paying support to farmers.</li> <li>• To promote the development of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture.</li> <li>• To support a high quality science base in agricultural, biological and related sciences which delivers research of strategic relevance.</li> <li>• To promote sustainable forest management.</li> </ul>
Relevant targets	<p><i>Water, waste and pollution control</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce legislation in 2002 to protect and improve the natural water environment by implementing the EC Water Framework Directive.</li> </ul> <p><i>Natural heritage</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the system of nature conservation to work with local communities to achieve effective protection for nature.</li> <li>• Establish two National Parks in Loch Lomond and the Trossachs and in the Cairngorms by early 2003.</li> </ul> <p><i>Climate change and air quality</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the Scottish Programme and develop a strategy to adapt to climate change impacts.</li> <li>• Oversee implementation of the Air Quality Strategy, including introduction of Local Authority Action Plans by March 2002.</li> </ul> <p><i>Agriculture, forestry and food industries</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement an agricultural strategy.</li> </ul>

<b>Scottish Executive</b>	
	<p><i>Fisheries</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Protect Scottish interests and promote an enhanced regional dimension in the review of the Common Fisheries Policy.</li><li>• Work to secure a sustainable recovery strategy for depleted stocks.</li></ul> <p><i>Scientific research</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Invest further in the exciting opportunities opened up by recent research in life sciences.</li></ul>

<b>National Assembly for Wales</b>	
Source: NAW website; <i>Plan for Wales 2001</i>	
Guiding principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acting now for the future - sustainable development.</li> <li>• Achieving equality in all we do - equal opportunities.</li> <li>• Attacking poverty - social inclusion.</li> </ul>
Vision	<p><i>Where we live</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A sustainable, inclusive and equal Wales means conserving and improving our natural and built environment; developing an integrated effective and accessible transport system that supports a growing economy; and planning policies made in Wales, to meet the future needs of Wales.</li> </ul> <p><i>Supporting rural Wales</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A sustainable, inclusive and equal Wales has a sustainable rural economy which provides a broad base of employment, in particular for young people, and in which agriculture has adapted to become economically, environmentally and socially sustainable.</li> </ul>
Relevant targets	<p><i>Where we live</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce regulations to improve air and water quality.</li> <li>• Enhance biodiversity, supporting the development of local action plans.</li> <li>• Complete the Natura 2000 Network in Wales to protect our most important habitats.</li> <li>• Operate the most restrictive policy possible within the context of existing UK and EU legislation in relation to GM crop trials and future commercial GM crop development within Wales.</li> </ul> <p><i>Supporting rural Wales</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement a clear vision for rural areas through a strategy on the future direction of Welsh farming.</li> <li>• Work with the UK Government to ensure that Common Agricultural Policy reform takes into account the needs of Welsh farming and rural communities.</li> <li>• Develop the potential for Welsh woodland through the implementation of the actions in the <i>Wales Woodland Strategy</i>.</li> </ul>

<b>Department of the Environment (Northern Ireland)</b>	
Source: DOE website; DOE corporate plan for 2000/03	
Vision	The Department exists to improve the quality of life of everyone in Northern Ireland through the economic, effective, efficient and equitable exercise of its responsibilities.
Aim	<p>The Department's aim is to improve the quality of life for people in Northern Ireland through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the promotion of sustainable development principles in all the activities of government and wider society;</li> <li>• in particular, their application in DOE's responsibilities for land use, air and water quality, waste management and the natural and built environments;</li> <li>• the reduction of road traffic casualties; and</li> <li>• the promotion of efficient and effective local government.</li> </ul>
Strategic objectives for 2000/03	<p><i>Strategic objective 1.</i> To protect, conserve and enhance the natural and built environment for the benefit of present and future generations.</p> <p><i>Strategic objective 2.</i> To provide land use planning which balances the development needs of the region with the protection of the environment.</p> <p><i>Strategic objective 3.</i> To improve and promote road safety and ensure the proper regulation of drivers, vehicles and operators.</p> <p><i>Strategic objective 4.</i> To support a system of local government which meets the needs of citizens and ratepayers.</p>
Relevant key targets for 2000/03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To publish a NI Sustainable Development Strategy during 2001.</li> <li>• By 2002 to have in place a policy and legislative framework to deliver NI's contribution to the targets in the UK Air Quality Strategy.</li> </ul>

**Annex C. Provisional list of JNCC's Government customers**

<b>Department/administration</b>	<b>Division</b>
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	European Wildlife
	Global Wildlife
	Conservation Management
	Rural Development
	Air and Environment Quality
	Global Atmosphere
	Chemical and Biotechnology
	Fisheries I (Structures and Markets)
	Fisheries III (Sea Fisheries Conservation)
	Environmental Protection International
	Europe Environment Division
	Environment Protection Statistics and Information Management
	Land Management Improvement
Marine and Land Liability	
Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO)	Environment Policy
	Overseas Territories
Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)	Oil and Gas Office
Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions (DTLR)	Shipping
	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)	Architecture and Historic Environment
Department for International Development (DFID)	Rural Livelihoods and Environment
HM Customs & Excise	
Forestry Commission	
Scottish Executive	Environment and Rural Affairs Department
National Assembly for Wales	Countryside Division
	Environmental Protection Division
Northern Ireland Executive	Department of Environment