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**Corporate Plan  
for 2002/03  
and forward look to 2005/06**



A committee of the above agencies, together with the Countryside Agency and independent members

## Foreword

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) was established by the Environmental Protection Act 1990 as a committee of the then newly-created country nature conservation agencies and others. The Countryside Council for Wales (CCW), English Nature and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) are the Government agencies responsible for safeguarding and promoting wildlife and natural features in Britain. CCW and SNH have additional duties to conserve landscapes and to encourage and sustain opportunities for public enjoyment of the countryside.

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee comprises thirteen members: a Chairman and three independent members, the Chairman and one other member from each of the three country agencies, the Chairman of the Countryside Agency, and two (non-voting) members appointed by the Department of the Environment (Northern Ireland). Members are listed in Annex 6. The JNCC is the forum through which the three country agencies act jointly to deliver their special statutory responsibilities for nature conservation in Great Britain and internationally. Since devolution, these special responsibilities have also related to the Scottish Executive and the National Assembly for Wales, as well as the UK government. The involvement of the Environment and Heritage Service, an agency of the Department of the Environment (Northern Ireland), allows us to adopt a consistent approach across the United Kingdom, wherever this is appropriate.

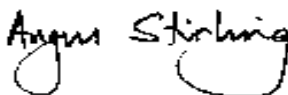
The JNCC's special responsibilities contribute to maintaining and enriching biological diversity, enhancing geological features and sustaining natural systems. They are principally to:

- advise Ministers on the development and implementation of policies for, or affecting, nature conservation in Great Britain or internationally;
- provide advice and disseminate knowledge to anyone about nature conservation affecting Great Britain and internationally;
- establish common standards throughout Great Britain for the monitoring of nature conservation, and for research into nature conservation and the analysis of the results;
- commission or support research which the Committee considers relevant to the special functions.

Staff from the three country agencies work on behalf of the Committee, either through assignment to a central Support Unit, through inter-agency groups or short-term projects, or by acting as a lead agency on particular topics.

This is the JNCC's 11<sup>th</sup> Corporate Plan. It sets out our objectives and planned activities for a period that is certain to see major changes in the way we are organised and managed, as a result of the Quinquennial Review carried out last year by DEFRA ([www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)). At the time of writing it is still not clear what these changes will be in detail, although they are likely to be fundamental. Facing these challenges, meeting the growing expectations of our customer groups, maintaining our position at the vanguard of conservation science and focusing with greater clarity on our strategic goals all place burgeoning demands on our expert and extremely dedicated staff. Nonetheless, we are committed to providing a high quality service to our two principal customer groups – the UK Government and devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales, and the country agencies. We pride ourselves on delivering sound scientific advice, reliable, accessible data, user-friendly information, and accurate, timely reporting.

We shall not cease to strive to make the vital, positive contribution to the quality and effectiveness of nature conservation in the UK that our stakeholders have come to expect from us. The present Corporate Plan is designed to fulfil that purpose in the forthcoming year.



Sir Angus Stirling,  
Chairman, Joint Nature Conservation Committee  
1<sup>st</sup> April 2002

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## Executive summary

### 1. Strategic goals

In 2000 the JNCC agreed a statement of strategic direction, in consultation with many of its key partners and customers. The priorities in this plan for 2002-2006 have been guided by that statement. The statement will itself need to be refined, in the light of the Quinquennial Review (QQR) of the JNCC and discussions with Government departments and devolved administrations. However, the main themes are likely to remain as:

- a) furthering nature conservation in a European context;
- b) influencing resource uses that impact on nature conservation;
- c) responding to environmental change;
- d) providing international and UK level advice;
- e) fostering good practice in biodiversity and earth heritage conservation.

In order to deliver the above, the JNCC will need to develop further the following two areas:

- f) providing nature conservation information;
- g) influencing nature conservation research.

### 2. Customer focus

We intend to further sharpen our customer focus over the next four years, to ensure that our work continues to meet the needs of the UK government, the devolved administrations of Scotland and Wales, the country agencies and, if agreed under the QQR, Northern Ireland.

### 3. Links

To achieve maximum nature conservation gains we will explore the synergies between our seven work programmes and work in an integrated way within the Support Unit and with our partners. We will do this by:

- better information sharing, including optimising information sharing through the NBN and other data exchange mechanisms,
- designing surveillance and monitoring tools to serve several purposes,
- harmonising biodiversity reporting requirements,
- designing reporting tools to meet several needs,
- rationalising reporting timetables,
- exploring ways of linking the implementation programmes of the many international agreements and European Directives etc.

### 4. Impacts of the Quinquennial Review

Our work in 2002/03 particularly, and over the next four years, will be set against a background of change, as a result of the conclusions of the QQR. At this time, when the final outcome of the review is still unknown, assessment of the full impacts of these changes is difficult. However, we will begin to reflect the spirit of any agreed changes in our working practices as soon as this is possible. One aspect that we shall wish to pursue with Government is the need to develop a long-term strategic view of UK nature conservation in the European and global contexts.

### 5. Review of 2001/02

The Quinquennial Review (QQR) of JNCC, undertaken by DEFRA, formed a backdrop to all of our activities during 2001/02. The Stage 1 report was published in March 2001 and was discussed at length by the Joint Committee at its June meeting. The consensus view of Committee was that JNCC should continue to deliver the special functions on behalf of the country agencies, and should not be reconstituted as a separate non-departmental public body (NDPB). This view was communicated to DEFRA. In the light of this, and other consultation responses, DEFRA decided that Stage 2 of the review process (which commenced in September 2001) should examine how the existing arrangements should be enhanced. The Stage 2 report was published in January 2002, and proposed various changes to existing practices, including funding and staffing arrangements,

corporate planning processes, and the role of independent Committee members. These proposals are currently being considered by the QQR Steering Group, and we look forward to the implementation of new arrangements in 2002/03.

JNCC staff were heavily involved in Stage 2 of the QQR, and contributed a substantial amount of information to aid the review officer in his work. Although there is no doubt that this effort was worthwhile, it inevitably impacted on other work areas. Work plans were also disrupted in various ways by the foot and mouth epidemic, staff shortages in key areas, and the increased demand from Government for advice (in particular, on international obligations and marine conservation issues). These pressures were managed by frequent reassessment of priorities during the year.

Despite the difficulties, we achieved significant progress across a wide range of work programmes during 2001/02. Noteworthy achievements were made in the following areas.

- In support of the CITES Convention, we responded to over 24,000 CITES licence consultations (a significant increase on 2000/01), and contributed to conservation initiatives on Caribbean turtles and coral reefs. We also continued to provide high-quality advice to Government in support of other international Conventions, in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Bonn Convention (and its subsidiary Agreements), and the OSPAR Convention.
- In liaison with the country agencies, we facilitated the development of the Natura 2000 site series in the UK. We published a comprehensive review of the UK SPA list (covering 243 sites), and helped to establish an ongoing review process. We substantially completed formal submission of the UK list of terrestrial and inshore marine SACs to the CEC, and prepared detailed supporting documentation.
- Working on a repayment basis, we provided advice to DEFRA on the selection of SACs and SPAs beyond territorial waters. A comprehensive report was compiled, which contained lists of relevant habitats and species in the UK's offshore waters, definitions of habitat types, advice on the application of site selection criteria, and collated details of available data. This will form the basis of further work over the next two years to draw up proposals for offshore Natura 2000 sites.
- We worked closely with the country agencies to influence reform of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) by organising technical workshops and co-ordinating a joint agency response to the CEC's Green Paper on the CFP.
- We upgraded the JNCC website to enhance the dissemination of biodiversity data and nature conservation advice. We also maintained and developed the UK CITES, UK CBD Clearing House Mechanism, and UK Biodiversity Group websites.
- We continued to make a major contribution to the NBN through the development of an internet gateway for biodiversity information and through partnership initiatives with other organisations. As part of our efforts in this area, we helped to provide access to a range of datasets through the gateway, including Seabirds 2000 data, dragonfly and butterfly data for GB, and selected habitat datasets.
- In January 2002, we appointed a member of staff to work in Brussels, sharing office space with the Institute for European Environmental Policy. This will enable us to forge closer links with key European organisations and institutions, and to provide a more effective data gathering service for the country agencies.
- Over the course of the year, we set up a working group to address issues arising from the staff satisfaction survey undertaken in 2000, and later established a Staff Association to represent the views of staff in the QQR process. We also successfully initiated measures to reduce the high levels of staff turnover experienced in previous years.

## **6. Highlights of work planned for 2002/03**

Throughout the text, an asterisk (\*) denotes an area of work that is, or contributes to, a key target. These targets, whilst furthering the objectives of the broad work programme within which they fall, also contribute to higher-level, cross-cutting objectives that may link several programmes. These higher-level objectives and their component key targets are listed in Chapter 8 High-level objectives and key targets.

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[To be added before publication]

## Chapter 1 Global conservation advice

### 1. Summary

In 2002/03, and throughout the next four years, JNCC will continue to provide scientific and technical support to UK delegations attending meetings of relevant international and EC conservation instruments (see Table 1). Our aim will be to maintain the effectiveness of negotiations and the reputation of the UK for high-quality scientific input to these conventions and agreements. We will provide technical and scientific advice to government at relevant UK-level meetings relating to these and other international instruments, such as meetings to prepare or agree position papers. In addition, we will continue to support, where appropriate, the implementation of these agreements at a practical level, including contributing to the work of their technical committees, by writing, editing or contributing to statutory reporting requirements, by contributing to the development of UK policy, and by the provision of scientific advice on applications for CITES permits. We will also seek to improve our ability to influence the direction of European nature conservation policy and practice to the benefit of UK biodiversity and Earth heritage. Most of the work under this programme supports the strategic themes of “furthering nature conservation in a European context” and “providing international and UK level advice”.

### 2. Ongoing work includes

Support to government on:

- 2.1. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), including contributing to effective implementation by the UK of all Articles of CBD, acting as UK Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) focal point, and monitoring progress of CBD implementation; \*
- 2.2. Bonn Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) (including preparation for and attendance at CoP7) and all its relevant subsidiary Agreements; \*
- 2.3. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), in our role as Scientific Authority (Fauna), including preparation for and attendance at CoP12 and providing on-line advice to DEFRA; \*
- 2.4. Ramsar Convention on the Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance, including preparation for and attendance at CoP8; \*
- 2.5. World Heritage Convention, including assisting UNESCO/IUCN to develop the role of earth heritage sites in the World Heritage List; \*
- 2.6. Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, including assisting in policy formulation on earth heritage conservation at a European level;
- 2.7. Oslo and Paris Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the north-east Atlantic (OSPAR); \*
- 2.8. the development and implementation of conservation initiatives and conventions in the UK Overseas Territories. \*

### 3. Developing strands

- 3.1. Develop more effective means of influencing EU nature conservation policy, legislation and practice, including through our Brussels representation, and aid integration between global, European and UK agreements and initiatives; \*
- 3.2. track the development of global, EU and UK policies on sustainable development and place our international and UK nature conservation advice within that context;
- 3.3. contribute to the work of Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF), where relevant to UK interests;
- 3.4. provide the Secretariat for the UK Committee of IUCN ([www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org)).

Table 1 Significant meetings under international agreements, requiring JNCC support, 2002-2006

AGREEMENT	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
<b>Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</b>	CoP6 (April) Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)	SBSTTA	SBSTTA	CoP7 SBSTTA
<b>Ramsar Convention</b>	2 Standing Committees CoP8 (November)	2 Standing Committees	Standing Committee(s)	Standing Committee(s) CoP9
<b>Bonn Convention</b>	Scientific Council CoP7 (September)	Scientific Council	Scientific Council CoP8	Scientific Council
<b>Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS)</b>	Scientific Committee and Bureau	Scientific Committee and Bureau	MoP	Scientific Committee and Bureau
<b>Albatross and petrel Agreement</b>	MoP	Advisory Committee	Advisory Committee	Advisory Committee
<b>Agreement on Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)</b>	Advisory Committee (Spring 2002)	Advisory Committee (Spring 2003) MoP	Advisory Committee (Spring 2004)	Advisory Committee
<b>Bats in Europe Agreement</b>	Advisory Committee	Advisory Committee MoP	Advisory Committee	Advisory Committee
<b>African/Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)</b>	MoP2 (September)			MoP3?
<b>Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Indian Ocean Turtles (MOU IOT)</b>	Meeting of signatory States Advisory Committee	Meeting of signatory States Advisory Committee	Meeting of signatory States Advisory Committee	Meeting of signatory States Advisory Committee
<b>Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)</b>	Animals Committee (April) CoP12 (November )	Animals Committee	Animals Committee	Animals Committee CoP13
<b>EC CITES Scientific Review Group</b>	3 times per year	3 times per year	3 times per year	3 times per year
<b>World Heritage Convention</b>	Bureau meeting (April) Committee (June)	Bureau meeting (April) Committee (June)	Bureau meeting (April) Committee (June)	Bureau meeting (April) Committee (June)
<b>Bern Convention</b>	Standing Committee (December)	Standing Committee (December)	Standing Committee (December)	Standing Committee (December)
<b>EC Habitats Directive Habitats Committee Scientific Working Group</b>	Biannual Biannual	Biannual Biannual	Biannual Biannual	Biannual Biannual
<b>EC Birds Directive Ornis Committee Scientific Working Group</b>	Biannual Biannual	Biannual Biannual	Biannual Biannual	Biannual Biannual
<b>International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES)</b>	Science meeting (September/October)	Science meeting (September/October)	Science meeting (September/October)	Science meeting (September/October)
<b>Oslo and Paris Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the north-east Atlantic (OSPAR) Biodiversity Committee</b>	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual

Note: an asterisk \* in the text denotes work in support of a key target; shading indicates targets affected by adjustments to the work programme (as described in JNCC 02 P04).

<b>AGREEMENT</b>	<b>2002/03</b>	<b>2003/04</b>	<b>2004/05</b>	<b>2005/06</b>
<b>Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)</b>	CAFF IX Management meeting/ working groups?	Management meeting/ working groups?	CAFF X Management meeting/ working groups?	Management meeting/ working groups?
<b>European Environment Agency (EEA) – European Topic Centre for Nature Protection and Biodiversity (ETC/NPB)</b>	National Reference Centre Board meeting	National Reference Centre Board meeting	National Reference Centre Board meeting	National Reference Centre Board meeting

## Chapter 2 Conservation advice - sites

### 1. Summary

The JNCC will continue to advise on the conservation of European habitats and species of conservation importance, through the use of the EC Habitats and Birds Directives. We will continue the process of co-ordinating the selection of Natura 2000 sites in the UK, especially in relation to offshore marine Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs), and compiling summary documentation. We will also advise on the protection of wetlands of international importance through the designation of sites under the Ramsar Convention. The programme of work to complete the Geological Conservation Review (GCR) will continue during the period. Most of the work under this programme supports the strategic themes of “furthering nature conservation in a European context”, “providing international and UK level advice” and “fostering good practice in biodiversity and earth heritage conservation”.

### 2. Ongoing work includes

- 2.1. completing the submission to the CEC of an agreed list of UK SACs, aiming to resolve any outstanding issues, such as site selection for harbour porpoise; \*
- 2.2. identification of offshore Natura 2000 sites, in consultation with stakeholders and the CEC; \*
- 2.3. ensuring that there is an agreed process for monitoring and reporting on SACs and SPAs across the UK (for further details see Chapter 5);
- 2.4. working with the country agencies, Government departments and administrations, the CEC and other Member States to achieve an agreed interpretation of ‘favourable conservation status’ and to influence the process of monitoring and reporting on SACs and SPAs in the European Union; \*
- 2.5. completing a systematic and targeted review of the Ramsar site series and working with the country agencies to implement required changes;
- 2.6. completing publication of the GCR series by 2003/04.

### 3. Developing strands

- 3.1. Integrate protection and management of SACs into wider environment measures, by considering how Article 10 of the Habitats Directive could best be applied in the UK, focusing on the role of habitat corridors and ‘stepping stone’ habitats in ecosystem management (linked with 3.1 of Chapter 3);
- 3.2. ensure that protection of SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites is taken into account when developing ecosystem management approaches (under CBD) and river basin management plans (under the Water Framework Directive);
- 3.3. consider the need for amendments to the UK SPA series (e.g. as new survey data become available) and initiate a review of the site list in 2005/06;
- 3.4. develop draft selection criteria and subsequently prepare a list of possible marine SPAs, and continue to develop work on offshore Natura sites (SACs and SPAs), including influencing thinking in other EU member states;
- 3.5. continue work under OSPAR to implement commitments on offshore protected areas.

## Chapter 3 Conservation advice - species

### 1. Summary

The JNCC will continue to focus its species advice on supporting the development and implementation of international conventions and treaties, enabling accurate conclusions to be reached about the condition of the UK nature conservation resource, and informing environmental decision making. Work on individual species, especially those recognised as ‘indicator species’ for the health of particular habitats, taxonomic groups or ecosystems, informs action to safeguard biodiversity more generally (see also Chapter 4 Conservation advice - the wider environment). JNCC species advice is based upon the detailed survey, surveillance and monitoring programmes described under Chapter 5 Survey and monitoring. Work described in Chapter 3 mainly supports the strategic themes of “fostering good practice in biodiversity and earth heritage conservation”, “providing international and UK level advice” and “furthering nature conservation in a European context”.

### 2. Ongoing work includes

- 2.1. advising Government on the implementation of the EC Birds Directive, including helping to convene a UK Technical Group and attending Ornithological Committee and its Scientific Working Group;
- 2.2. continuing to advise Government and agencies on the introduction of Severe Weather Orders for protection of birds during harsh winter weather;
- 2.3. bringing into operation a single agreed process to assess the conservation status of UK species, ensuring that the process is both efficient and transparent;
- 2.4. developing policy advice to Government in relation to non-native species and biological translocations. \*

### 3. Developing strands

- 3.1. Advise Government on the role of wider measures to support the conservation of species listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive, and in relation to species listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive and of migratory bird species (linked with 3.1 of Chapter 2);
- 3.2. assist the implementation of Species Action Plans (SAPs), in particular through delivery of better information on the status and requirements of priority species;
- 3.3. place the information on species status in a European context (via improved contacts with key European information sources) and use it to inform international reporting obligations;
- 3.4. undertake a review of Schedule 4 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (birds to be registered and ringed if kept in captivity) and make recommendations to Government.

## Chapter 4 Conservation advice - the wider environment

### 1. Summary

This is a very significant area of work for the JNCC that is growing in extent and relevance. The work covers consideration of human activities such as farming, fishing, transport and mineral abstraction and their consequences for nature conservation. Widespread impacts include climate change, air pollution, declines in water quality and quantity, and losses of biodiversity due to agricultural intensification and unsustainable fishing practices. A key objective is to integrate the conservation of special sites and protected species with the conservation of the environment as a whole, and to develop approaches for the management of ecosystems (at a range of scales) which will help deliver sustainable development. Similar approaches are being developed elsewhere in the world and the JNCC aims to learn from these initiatives. The programme supports all the JNCC's strategic goals, but especially the themes of "responding to environmental change", "influencing resource uses that impact on nature conservation" and "fostering good practice in biodiversity and earth heritage conservation". Much of this work is delivered through inter-agency groups (e.g. Lead Co-ordination Networks) and Lead Agency working arrangements.

### 2. Ongoing work includes

- 2.1. through the inter-agency Land Use Policy Group (LUPG), providing technical support and advice on land use policy, focusing on the European context for UK policies, e.g. reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), and linking policy development to specific objectives for the UK countryside via an integrated list of rural targets and indicators;
- 2.2. through advice to Government and European partners, promoting reform of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) to enable sustainable fisheries; \*
- 2.3. helping Government develop and implement a UK marine nature conservation strategy; \*
- 2.4. advising Government and industry in relation to offshore oil and gas exploration and production, and the extraction of other minerals or the deposit of waste; \*
- 2.5. advising Government on issues relating to reducing damage and disturbance from shipping and from marine accidents and oil and chemical spills;
- 2.6. providing advice on the impacts of air pollution on nature conservation interests in the UK, and inputting to the development of research programmes;
- 2.7. providing advice on the impacts of pesticides and toxic chemicals on nature conservation interests in the UK;
- 2.8. providing advice on the potential effects of biotechnology on UK biodiversity and, particularly, the introduction in the UK of genetically modified organisms (GMOs); \*
- 2.9. working on understanding climate change and its implications for nature conservation, both terrestrial and marine, in the UK and its Overseas Territories; and ensuring that climate change considerations are integrated into policy, and that resulting practice focuses on the management and protection of statutory sites and the delivery of BAP targets; \*
- 2.10. assisting implementation of Habitat Action Plans (HAPs) through participation in the work of HAP steering groups and umbrella groups;
- 2.11. completing the review of gaps in the series of BAP priority habitats, and co-ordinating the production of new HAPs, if required by the UK Targets Group;
- 2.12. assessing the results of Countryside Survey 2000 and using them to promote effective habitat and species conservation measures across the UK;
- 2.13. promoting the importance of soil science in conservation, including within national soil strategies and the thematic strategy on soils protection under the 6<sup>th</sup> Environmental Action Programme; \*
- 2.14. contributing to the IUCN Parks for Life programme.

### 3. Developing strands

- 3.1. Consider ways in which the CBD's ecosystem approach might be applied in the UK, and develop practical advice on its application; \*

- 3.2. assess how biodiversity indicators relate to sustainable development and begin to define standards for biodiversity indicators; consider other work on indicators, e.g. that undertaken by EEA and OECD, within these standards; \*
- 3.3. support the UK biodiversity partnership in improving its understanding of large-scale influences on biodiversity and in determining responses, as a contribution to improving implementation of the CBD in the UK (Chapter 1) and drawing on the information collected and delivered by the UK Biodiversity website (Chapter 6);
- 3.4. provide advice on technical issues relating to the Water Framework Directive, such as the status of fresh and marine waters, freshwater typology and reference conditions; \*
- 3.5. ensure that appropriate links are made between work on the Water Framework Directive and that to support the EC Habitats and Birds Directives, the Ramsar Convention and UK BAP;
- 3.6. support implementation of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive, both on land and at sea; carry out, on a repayment basis, a programme of strategic offshore survey to support Strategic Environmental Assessment being undertaken within the UK 'Designated Area' seas by Government; \*
- 3.7. develop stakeholder relationships with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and with Government in relation to shipping issues, including on expected future review of MEHRAs and on methodologies for assessing the sensitivity of coastal areas to shipping impacts.

## Chapter 5 Survey and monitoring

### 1. Summary

Survey and monitoring is needed to underpin all the JNCC's strategic themes and work programmes. The programme provides information on which conservation advice, priorities and action can be based. This will be achieved by improving and integrating ongoing monitoring and surveillance schemes (e.g. for birds), designing and implementing new schemes (e.g. for mammals), and developing new tools (e.g. indicators and standards). Over the next four years the programme will continue to concentrate on completing the guidance necessary for monitoring the condition of designated sites, enhancing habitat surveillance schemes, improving bird schemes, and designing and implementing new schemes for mammals and plants. We will also start to identify and fill gaps in biodiversity surveillance and develop examples of best practice, standards and indicators.

### 2. Ongoing work includes

- 2.1. maintaining and improving surveillance programmes for birds, including breeding birds, wetland birds, rare birds and seabirds;
- 2.2. continuing to monitor pollutant levels in selected bird species;
- 2.3. designing and implementing a general terrestrial mammal surveillance programme, and reviewing the existing bats surveillance programme; \*
- 2.4. continuing cetaceans monitoring;
- 2.5. improving butterfly and moth surveillance programmes;
- 2.6. implementing surveillance programmes for threatened, common and lower plants; \*
- 2.7. developing and implementing a system for monitoring designated interest features on SSSIs, SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites, in close collaboration with the country agencies, environment agencies and the National Marine Monitoring Programme; \*
- 2.8. with key partners, refining broad habitats surveillance programmes (e.g. through development of future Countryside Surveys) and contributing to European habitat mapping and status assessment initiatives; \*
- 2.9. maintaining common standards in the use of habitat classifications, including the National Vegetation Classification (NVC), and providing input to the development of European classification systems such as the European Nature Information System (EUNIS).

### 3. Developing strands

- 3.1. Facilitate the creation of habitat inventories through the development of standards and identification of best practice, and promote their use in surveillance and monitoring programmes for terrestrial, freshwater and marine Annex 1 habitats and BAP priority habitats; \*
- 3.2. develop and implement a standardised system for monitoring activities preventing designated interest features from contributing towards 'favourable conservation status';
- 3.3. improve the integration of UK species surveillance and monitoring schemes in order to present a more effective overview of the changing status of species in the UK;
- 3.4. develop linkages between protected species, habitats and designated site monitoring to obtain a better overview of the status of UK biodiversity;
- 3.5. design a monitoring programme to cover offshore sites, and begin to implement it; advise Government on surveillance methods appropriate for the UK 'Designated Area'; \*
- 3.6. undertake seabed resource mapping for UK territorial seas; \*
- 3.7. design a programme for the surveillance of Annex II and BAP priority species and consider how best to implement a surveillance programme for other species listed on the Annexes of the Habitats Directive;
- 3.8. improve surveillance of reptiles and amphibians;
- 3.9. develop surveillance programmes for dragonflies and, in collaboration with the environment agencies, fish (from 2003 on);
- 3.10. further develop the work under Chapter 4 on biodiversity indicators, to examine their potential for use as surveillance tools;

Note: an asterisk \* in the text denotes work in support of a key target; shading indicates targets affected by adjustments to the work programme (as described in JNCC 02 P04).

- 3.11. enhance the mammal surveillance programme by continuing DEFRA's winter transect work, on a repayment basis.

## Chapter 6 Knowledge management

### 1. Summary

This is a major programme that we will develop further over the next four years, in line with our statement of strategic direction. It aims to improve the collection, collation, integration, presentation and use of information on biodiversity and relevant human activity, to support conservation decision taking and policy development at international, national and local levels. Over the next four years, we will further improve the software for recording and collating data, make available JNCC's biodiversity datasets through the National Biodiversity Network (NBN), support others in making available their relevant data through the NBN, maintain national statistics on matters relevant to nature conservation, provide information for national and international reporting purposes, and disseminate information to support nature conservation in the UK and elsewhere. We will also identify priorities for research relevant to nature conservation and promote these with research funders and institutions. The programme supports all five of JNCC's strategic themes.

### 2. Ongoing work includes

- 2.1. promoting the use of standards, and the Recorder 2000 software tool, to help collate, hold and exchange species survey and monitoring data, and assessing the potential to extend the use of these standards and the Recorder tool for habitat data;
- 2.2. contributing to the development of the NBN ([www.nbn.org.uk](http://www.nbn.org.uk)), especially the development of a critical mass of accessible information available through the NBN gateway ([www.searchNBN.net](http://www.searchNBN.net)), and providing advice on how partners could benefit from contributing to or using the NBN; \*
- 2.3. collating and disseminating information on the status of species and habitats of conservation concern, including those that are BAP priorities or are listed under EC Directives;
- 2.4. continuing to advise Government on how further to harmonise UK reporting effort;
- 2.5. maintaining the JNCC, UKBAP ([www.ukbap.org.uk](http://www.ukbap.org.uk)), CBD Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) ([www.chm.org.uk](http://www.chm.org.uk)) and CITES ([www.ukcites.gov.uk](http://www.ukcites.gov.uk)) websites, and developing them as a key way of disseminating information on biodiversity and earth heritage matters and of promoting good practice in their conservation and sustainable use, both within the UK and internationally; \*
- 2.6. disseminating the products from JNCC's work and raising awareness by influencing and promoting key aspects of the work more generally, using the most appropriate communications medium, including paper publishing and the internet. \*

### 3. Developing strands

- 3.1. Maintain UK statistics on protected areas, habitats and species, and on trends relating to them, to meet cross-cutting reporting needs, drawing on the range of monitoring and surveillance programmes, in collaboration with the country agencies and other statutory and NGO partners;
- 3.2. advise Government on the development of its national and sectoral biodiversity-related statistics and indicators and their European context; \*
- 3.3. facilitate and co-ordinate biodiversity research in partnership with DEFRA and in support of the Biodiversity Research Working Group; \*
- 3.4. prepare JNCC habitat databases and inventories for future access through the NBN and determine where partnerships with other major sectoral information sources will help meet habitat conservation information needs;
- 3.5. increase the transfer of conservation skills to conservation practitioners and policy makers, including those in UK Overseas Territories.

## Chapter 7 Services

### 1. Summary

In 2002-03 the JNCC will be beginning to implement the outcomes of DEFRA's Quinquennial Review (QQR) of the JNCC. This is likely to require the JNCC to make considerable changes to personnel, business, financial and office management arrangements while ensuring that sound systems and good practice are maintained, and that strategic development is continued. Work under this programme is essential to delivery of all the JNCC's strategic goals.

### 2. Ongoing work includes

- 2.1. ensuring that the JNCC has an agreed strategic direction and a corporate plan that deliver clear nature conservation gains; and, in particular, bringing UK Government and the devolved administrations' views more fully into the development of JNCC strategy; \*
- 2.2. continuing to develop corporate governance and operating policies and practices, ensuring that they reflect best practice in delivering public services;
- 2.3. ensuring that we recruit staff who have the right competencies, and enabling all staff to develop new competencies, to deliver the organisation's objectives;
- 2.4. developing and maintaining effective mechanisms for recruiting, deploying and managing staff, and reducing staff turnover to no more than 15% by the end of 2002/03; \*
- 2.5. through internal and NAO audit, ensuring that financial management systems are operated within legal requirements and are adequately maintained and that funds are safeguarded;
- 2.6. enabling the JNCC to create, manage and use information efficiently and exchange it with partners, by providing a reliable and regularly updated IT network, office tools, corporate systems and internet links;
- 2.7. ensuring that all JNCC employees have a safe environment in which to work;
- 2.8. initiating an environmental management system to reduce the undesirable environmental impacts of operating the JNCC. \*

### 3. Developing strands

- 3.1. Enable effective implementation of the QQR recommendations; \*
- 3.2. implement changes to staff management systems, policies and practices following the QQR, and in particular, transfer staff to a single set of terms and conditions or any alternative changes;
- 3.3. implement changes to financial management systems, policies and procedures following the QQR, in particular if the JNCC becomes a body corporate;
- 3.4. fully establish a corporate records management policy and install an electronic records management system that meet business needs and comply with Modernising Government and Public Record Office requirements.

## Chapter 8 High-level objectives and key targets for 2002/03

No.	Objective name	Target	Corporate plan programme(s)
1	International agreements	<p>Provide scientific advice and technical support to UK Government, devolved administrations and the country agencies on international obligations sufficient to maintain the effectiveness of negotiations and the reputation of the UK for high-quality scientific input. In particular, advise on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), including contributing to effective implementation by the UK of all Articles of CBD, acting as UK Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) focal point, and monitoring progress of CBD implementation;</li> <li>• Bonn Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) (including preparation for and attendance at CoP7) and all its relevant subsidiary Agreements;</li> <li>• Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), in our role as Scientific Authority (Fauna), including preparation for and attendance at CoP12 and providing on-line advice to DEFRA;</li> <li>• Ramsar Convention on the Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance, including preparation for and attendance at CoP8;</li> <li>• World Heritage Convention, including assisting UNESCO/IUCN to develop the role of earth heritage sites in the World Heritage List;</li> <li>• Oslo and Paris Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the north-east Atlantic (OSPAR);</li> <li>• the development and implementation of conservation initiatives and conventions in the UK Overseas Territories.</li> </ul>	1. Global conservation advice
2	Nature conservation in a European context	<p>Develop more effective means of influencing EU nature conservation policy, legislation and practice, including through our Brussels representation, and aid integration between global, European and UK agreements and initiatives; specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• complete submission to the CEC of an agreed list of UK SACs, aiming to resolve any outstanding issues, such as site selection for harbour porpoise;</li> <li>• identify offshore Natura 2000 sites, in consultation with stakeholders and the CEC;</li> <li>• work with the country agencies, Government administrations, the CEC and other Member States, to achieve an agreed interpretation of 'favourable conservation status' and to influence the process of monitoring and reporting on SACs and SPAs in the European Union;</li> <li>• provide advice on technical issues relating to the Water Framework Directive, such as the status of fresh and marine waters, freshwater typology and reference conditions.</li> </ul>	<p>1. Global conservation advice</p> <p>2. Conservation advice - sites</p> <p>4. Conservation advice - the wider environment</p>

No.	Objective name	Target	Corporate plan programme(s)
3	Biodiversity and earth heritage conservation best practice	<p>Increase JNCC's contribution to improving biodiversity and earth heritage conservation in the UK. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• help Government develop and implement a UK marine nature conservation strategy;</li> <li>• assess how biodiversity indicators relate to sustainable development and begin to define standards for biodiversity indicators; consider other work on indicators e.g. that undertaken by EEA and OECD, within these standards;</li> <li>• advise Government on the development of its national and sectoral biodiversity-related statistics and indicators and their European context;</li> <li>• promote the importance of soil science in conservation, including within national soil strategies and the thematic strategy on soils protection under the 6<sup>th</sup> Environmental Action Programme;</li> <li>• consider ways in which the CBD's ecosystem approach might be applied in the UK, and develop practical advice on its application.</li> </ul>	<p>4. Conservation advice - the wider environment</p> <p>6. Knowledge management</p>
4	Sustainable use of natural resources	<p>Provide information and advice on the implications for nature conservation of resource use policies; specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop policy advice to Government in relation to non-native species and biological translocations;</li> <li>• through advice to Government and European partners, promote reform of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) to enable sustainable fisheries;</li> <li>• advise Government and industry in relation to offshore oil and gas exploration and production, and the extraction of other minerals or the deposit of waste;</li> <li>• provide advice on the potential effects of biotechnology on UK biodiversity and, particularly, the introduction in the UK of genetically modified organisms (GMOs);</li> <li>• support implementation of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive, both on land and at sea; carry out, on a repayment basis, a programme of strategic offshore survey to support Strategic Environmental Assessment being undertaken within the UK 'Designated Area' seas by Government.</li> </ul>	<p>3. Conservation advice - species</p> <p>4. Conservation advice - the wider environment</p>
5	Environmental change	<p>Develop our role in interpreting information to identify and assess the effects of wide-scale environmental change on nature conservation in the UK. Work in partnership to contribute to further research and information exchange. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• work on understanding climate change and its implications for nature conservation, both terrestrial and marine, in the UK and its Overseas Territories, and ensure that climate change considerations are integrated into policy, and that resulting practice focuses on the management and protection of statutory sites and the delivery of BAP targets.</li> </ul>	<p>4. Conservation advice - the wider environment</p>

No.	Objective name	Target	Corporate plan programme(s)
6	Biological surveillance, monitoring and research	<p>Monitor changes in the status of species and habitats in order to identify and interpret trends, and support research to establish causes and potential ameliorative actions. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• design and implement a general terrestrial mammal surveillance programme, and review the existing bats surveillance programme;</li> <li>• develop and implement a system for monitoring designated interest features on SSSIs, SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites, in close collaboration with the country agencies, environment agencies and the National Marine Monitoring Programme;</li> <li>• with key partners, refine broad habitats surveillance programmes, (e.g. through development of future Countryside Surveys) and contribute to European habitat mapping and status assessment initiatives;</li> <li>• implement surveillance programmes for threatened, common and lower plants;</li> <li>• facilitate the creation of habitat inventories through the development of standards and identification of best practice, and promote their use in surveillance and monitoring programmes for terrestrial, freshwater and marine Annex 1 habitats and BAP priority habitats;</li> <li>• undertake seabed resource mapping for UK territorial seas;</li> <li>• design a monitoring programme to cover offshore sites, and begin to implement it; advise Government on surveillance methods appropriate for the UK 'Designated Area';</li> <li>• facilitate and co-ordinate biodiversity research in partnership with DEFRA and in support of the Biodiversity Research Working Group.</li> </ul>	<p>5. Survey and monitoring</p> <p>6. Knowledge management</p>
7	Using biological information	<p>Develop further the collation and management of nature conservation information in order to underpin provision of advice and enable more effective and extensive use of the information resource. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contribute to the development of the NBN, especially the development of a critical mass of accessible information available through the NBN gateway, and provide advice on how partners could benefit from contributing to or using the NBN;</li> <li>• maintain the JNCC, UKBAP, CBD Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) and CITES websites, and develop them as a key way of disseminating information on biodiversity and earth heritage matters and of promoting good practice in their conservation and sustainable use, both within the UK and internationally;</li> <li>• disseminate the products from JNCC's work, and raise awareness by influencing and promoting key aspects of the work more generally, using the most appropriate communications medium, including paper publishing and the internet.</li> </ul>	6. Knowledge management

<b>No.</b>	<b>Objective name</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Corporate plan programme(s)</b>
8	Managing the JNCC and implementing effective working methods	<p>Continue to develop good practice and better ways of working to ensure that the JNCC has the resources it needs to fulfil its evolving role, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure that the JNCC has an agreed strategic direction and a corporate plan that deliver clear nature conservation gains; and, in particular, bring UK Government and the devolved administrations' views more fully into the development of JNCC strategy;</li> <li>• develop and maintain effective mechanisms for recruiting, deploying and managing staff, and reduce staff turnover to no more than 15% by the end of 2002/03;</li> <li>• initiate an environmental management system to reduce undesirable environmental impacts of operating the JNCC;</li> <li>• enable effective implementation of the QQR recommendations.</li> </ul>	7. Services

## Chapter 9 Resources

This chapter summarises the expenditure and income required to deliver the programme of work set out in the plan.

**Table 1 Planned expenditure by programme**

Programme	2000/01 expenditure	2001/02 estimated	2002/03 planned	2003/04 planned	2004/05 planned	2005/06 planned
1. Global conservation advice		120,127	176,000	206,000	246,000	296,000
2. Conservation advice - sites		81,900	102,000	110,000	120,000	120,000
3. Conservation advice - species		27,400	27,000	27,000	27,000	27,000
4. Conservation advice - the wider environment		200,500	243,500	273,000	313,000	363,000
5. Survey and monitoring		1,094,224	1,104,000	1,204,000	1,404,000	1,704,000
6. Knowledge management		297,400	248,000	298,000	373,000	473,000
7. Services		671,832	798,000	828,000	868,000	918,000
Salaries		2,157,769	2,401,500	2,633,000	2,763,000	2,839,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,124,000</b>	<b>4,654,152</b>	<b>5,100,000</b>	<b>5,579,000</b>	<b>6,114,000</b>	<b>6,740,000</b>

### Notes

- In addition to the proposed programme costs for 2002/03 it is estimated that £250,000 will be required to implement the outcomes of the Quinquennial Review of the JNCC.
- DTI and DEFRA have requested that the JNCC undertake three pieces of work: strategic offshore survey costing £90,000 per annum, a regional seas pilot project costing £220,000 in 2002/03, and mammals winter transect survey costing £80,000 per annum. It is anticipated that the funding for these projects will be received in addition to the Grant in Aid.
- Forward projection of programme budgets is difficult to estimate until the recommendations of the Quinquennial Review are known and implementation is fully costed. Work is continuing to refine the figures for planned expenditure from 2003/04 onwards, and will be presented to the March meeting of the Joint Committee.

**Table 2 Planned expenditure by parliamentary head**

	Programme							Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
A1 Salaries	265,271	215,560	53,724	379,058	379,889	295,543	812,455	<b>2,401,500</b>
A2 Administration	46,600	19,000	1,000	74,000	59,000	7,000	767,000	<b>973,600</b>
D Publicity	0	8,000	2,000	2,000	0	18,000	0	<b>30,000</b>
E Contracts	146,400	95,000	24,000	297,500	1,040,000	281,000	0	<b>1,883,900</b>
H Capital	0	0	0	5,000	5,000	7,000	42,000	<b>59,000</b>
Y Receipts	17,000	20,000	0	135,000	0	65,000	11,000	<b>248,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>441,271</b>	<b>317,560</b>	<b>80,724</b>	<b>622,558</b>	<b>1,483,889</b>	<b>543,543</b>	<b>1,610,455</b>	<b>5,100,000</b>

**Table 3 Efficiency**

The following table describes some of the key actions undertaken in 2001/02 or planned for 2002/03 to improve efficiency, and the actual or anticipated benefits we expect to derive from them. The emphasis continues to be on measures that will improve effectiveness.

<b>Principle efficiency technique</b>	<b>Main activities</b>	<b>Benefits gained to date</b>	<b>Anticipated future benefits</b>
Procurement	Introduction of corporate charge card	Better deals on travel etc gained through purchasing via internet	Reduction in admin overhead and greater access to more economic markets
	Investigate increasing use of Government Framework Agreements	-	Cost and admin savings
IT investment	Improvement to electronic communications within the JNCC	Improved communications internally and externally	Ongoing
	Installation of a video link with Aberdeen office	Improved communications and reduced travel costs	Further reductions in travel costs
	Provision of internet access for all staff	Provision of access to JNCC services electronically, improved/more efficient access to data and information, and improved cost-effectiveness of disseminating data	Ongoing
Office services	Review office layout and space resource requirements	All new staff members accommodated within existing space	Optimum use of space available and avoidance of need to move to larger premises
Environmental audit	Audit of Peterborough and Aberdeen offices undertaken during 2001/02	Increased awareness of areas where savings could be made	More efficient use of resources
Process/structure review	Develop Human Resources Management approaches/practices	Reduction in staff turnover, development of corporate competencies and increase in staff satisfaction leading to improved business results	Ongoing

## Annex 1 Performance against 2001/02 key and corporate targets

### Key targets and performance in 2001/02

1. *Provide scientific and technical support to UK negotiators for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Bonn Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Ramsar Convention on the Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance, the World Heritage Convention, the Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Natural Habitats and Species and any subsidiary Agreements, and the Oslo and Paris Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the north-east Atlantic (OSPAR), sufficient to maintain the effectiveness of negotiations and the reputation of the UK for high-quality scientific input to international conventions.*

#### Target achieved

Top-level scientific support has been provided throughout the year to UK Government departments.

- We supported DEFRA at the annual Bern Convention Standing Committee meeting in Strasbourg.
- We supported DEFRA at the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in Montreal.
- We provided scientific support for the implementation of the CITES Convention, and in particular:
  - i. supported the UK delegation to the CITES range state dialogue meeting in Mexico on Caribbean hawksbill turtles;
  - ii. represented the UK at a meeting in Jakarta on the international coral trade (JNCC chairs the CITES Animals Committee coral working group);
  - iii. represented the UK at the 17<sup>th</sup> CITES Animals Committee (JNCC is the alternate representative for the CEC on the Committee);
  - iv. published the revised checklists of CITES protected species and, with CITES secretariat, distributed them to CITES signatories;
  - v. represented the UK at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) technical consultation, in Namibia, on the application of CITES criteria to commercially fished species; also attended a meeting in Bremen of the FAO COFI sub-committee on fish trade, dealing with CITES issues.
- We supported implementation of CMS and subsidiary Agreements, including:
  - i. with SNH, hosting the CMS Scientific Council meeting in Edinburgh;
  - ii. chairing the Agreement on Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS) advisory committee meeting, co-chairing a meeting on the Baltic harbour porpoise recovery plan, and representing ASCOBANS at a CEC meeting on harbour porpoise bycatch;
  - iii. drafting the UK implementation plan for the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), and attending the Technical Committee meeting in France;
  - iv. providing scientific support to Government in respect of the MoU on Indian Ocean turtles; a conservation and management plan has been agreed.
- We provided support to UK implementation of the OSPAR Convention, particularly in relation to the work of its Biodiversity Commission. This included:
  - i. participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop on Marine Protected Areas, in Sweden, at which guidelines for the identification and selection of marine protected areas were adopted;
  - ii. participation in a workshop to agree priority species and habitats for protection under OSPAR Annex V;
  - iii. participation in a workshop on Ecological Quality Objectives for the North Sea.
- We made presentations on UK implementation of the Ramsar Convention at the pan-European Ramsar meeting in Slovenia, supported DEFRA at the Standing Committee meeting, and continued to act as the UK focal point for the Scientific and Technical Review Panel.
- We supported the UK delegation to the World Heritage Committee bureau meeting.

- We supported the Foreign and Commonwealth Office at the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol Conference of the Parties to the Cartagena Convention.
2. *Further the conservation of species threatened by international trade, as UK CITES Scientific Authority for Animals, by providing on-line advice to DETR on c. 21,000 CITES licence consultations to agreed service standards (95% response within 3 days).*

**Target achieved in part (number of consultations exceeded, but service standards only achieved for 50%)**

- Demand for this service continues to rise. The JNCC responded to requests for advice on more than 24,000 import and (re-)export licences and Article 10 certificates in the year, not including re-referrals. However, under-resourcing in terms of both staff and computer equipment, together with persistent software problems, has meant that the service standard was achievable for only 50% of enquiries. DEFRA has now provided additional resources and hardware, and is investigating how it can resolve the software problems, with JNCC advice, by 2004.
  - JNCC has agreed to act as Scientific Authority to the British Indian Ocean Territory.
3. *Under the EC Habitats and Birds Directives, assist the conservation of European habitats and species of conservation importance by continuing the process of selecting, documenting and submitting to the CEC the list of Natura 2000 sites in the UK; specifically:*
- *identify possible marine SACs between 12 and 200 nautical miles from UK shores and advise government;*
  - *prepare draft selection guidelines and identify possible marine SPAs out to the 200 nautical mile limit;*
  - *publish a review of the proposed UK list of terrestrial, freshwater and intertidal SPAs and supporting research;*
  - *coordinate amendments to the UK SAC list as part of the moderation process and publish an account of the revised UK SAC series.*

**Target achieved (as revised)**

At DEFRA's request the target was revised, replacing the first two bullet points with the following:

“Provide information to enable the identification of marine SACs and SPAs between 12 and 200 nautical miles from UK shores.”

- In relation to offshore SACs and SPAs, we:
  - i. identified habitats and species occurring in the UK offshore area;
  - ii. agreed interpretations for relevant Annex I habitats;
  - iii. considered site selection criteria, and advised on further work needed to refine them;
  - iv. collated biological data on relevant habitats and species;
  - v. gave presentations at two international meetings, to influence thinking in other EU Member States;
  - vi. prepared a comprehensive report on work carried out during the year.
- In relation to SPAs, we:
  - i. published the review of the UK SPA list;
  - ii. helped establish the SPA Scientific Group, which has held two meetings with extensive JNCC support;
  - iii. carried out two at-sea surveys to help assessment of seabird use of waters adjacent to colonies.
- In relation to the UK SAC site list, we:
  - i. substantially completed submission of the UK candidate SAC list to the CEC for discussion at the next Atlantic Biogeographic Region meeting (currently scheduled for June 2002);

- ii. collated summary data on the UK site list, including assessments of the representation of each Annex I habitat and Annex II species within the site series;
- iii. worked closely with the country agencies to prepare further advice to Government on degraded raised bog sites;
- iv. prepared a draft of the 2<sup>nd</sup> (revised) edition of the report detailing the UK SAC selection process, and issued this for consultation to Government and country agencies.

4. *Ensure that the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 safeguards the UK plant and animal species whose effective conservation depends on statutory protection by working with the country agencies to review existing protected animals and plants on Schedules 5 and 8 of the Act, to determine whether they should be retained there and whether further species should be included, and submit the review to Government by autumn 2001.*

**Target 95% achieved**

- Externally-imposed delays at the start of the year proved impossible to correct. However, the review completed its JNCC and external consultation stages by the end of the year, for submission to Government early in 2002/03.

5. *To allow accurate conclusions to be reached about the condition of the UK nature conservation resource and to inform environmental decision making, establish, publish and bring into operation a single agreed process to assess the conservation status of UK species, ensuring that the process is both efficient and transparent.*

**Target 50% achieved**

- Preliminary work has been undertaken to develop a single agreed process for assessing species conservation status. JNCC has adopted the IUCN red data criteria published in 2001 and will adapt them for use in GB or the UK. Criteria to select species of conservation concern (SoCC) are already established and will be applied consistently to all taxa.
- Two expert groups have been set up to trial the various parts of the species status assessment process:
  - i. The vascular plants expert group has used data from the Vascular Plant Red Data Book and from the forthcoming Atlas 2000 to assess likely changes to the SoCC plant list.
  - ii. The ornithological expert group has used data from several sources to derive a birds of conservation concern list which will be used to develop a UK Red List and to update the SoCC list in 2005.
- Groups representing other taxa have been invited to participate in the species status assessment programme, and preparatory meetings have taken place.

6. *Improve safeguards to marine habitats and species in UK waters that are threatened by unsustainable fisheries activities by influencing the 2002 review of the EC Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) by submitting a joint country conservation agency response to the CFP Green Paper and holding a workshop to influence wider views in Europe.*

**Target achieved**

- A joint response to the CEC's Green Paper was submitted on behalf of JNCC and the country agencies.
- We conducted a workshop in Brussels in May that brought together advisors and researchers on nature conservation/environment and fisheries from across Europe. An agreed statement from this meeting was presented to the CEC at a wide public meeting, held by the Commission, in July.
- We co-sponsored a workshop organised by the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP) in Brussels on environmental aspects of the CFP, allowing discussion of fisheries issues with both DG Environment and DG Fisheries.

- We continued to work within ICES, OSPAR and the North Sea conference process to establish Ecosystem Quality Objectives. A report on the UK's performance against the agreements and objectives adopted at the last two North Sea Conferences was drafted for DEFRA.
- Two meetings on the interaction between marine predators (including fishermen) and fish stocks were attended.
- JNCC attended the first meeting of ICES' Advisory Committee on Ecosystems in September and drafted advice on both small cetacean bycatch and Ecosystem Quality Objectives, now submitted to the CEC and OSPAR respectively. We also attended a specialist group in December to provide the CEC with advice on small cetacean bycatch in all European waters. A JNCC report on marine turtle bycatch in the UK was published in September.
- A JNCC staff member was appointed chair of the ICES study group on cold water corals to provide advice on fisheries impacts, and a report was drafted and submitted to the CEC.

7. *Help to conserve UK biodiversity by publishing interpretative material on BAP habitats; specifically:*

- *publish the interpretation manual for BAP broad habitats, including descriptions of coastal and marine BAP broad habitats, agreed working definitions of all BAP priority habitats and correspondences with other habitat classifications, for use by country agencies and other BAP partners.*

**Target 75% achieved**

- Definitions of all BAP priority habitats (including correspondence with other habitat classifications) were discussed with key stakeholders, and draft habitat accounts were issued for consultation.
- Detailed accounts of terrestrial, freshwater and coastal broad habitats were prepared for publication in the interpretation manual; preparation of marine habitat accounts has been delayed because of staff shortages.
- Publication of the interpretation manual will take place during the first half of 2002/03.

8. *Assist site management and protection for the benefit of nature conservation by producing UK-wide guidance for country conservation agencies on setting and assessing conservation objectives for habitat, species and Earth science interest features on statutory sites (SSSIs, ASSIs and Ramsar sites and, in the sense used in the Habitats Directive, for SPAs and SACs). (Assessment will be limited by the extent to which on-site testing can be arranged, in view of the foot and mouth outbreak).*

**Target 90% achieved**

- Fourteen inter-agency working groups have made substantial progress towards preparing UK monitoring guidance for the full range of interest features on designated sites. The work was co-ordinated by the Inter-Agency Monitoring Group, which met several times over the year, and agreed approaches to the monitoring of species interest features on statutory sites, and the incorporation of local distinctiveness into conservation objectives.
- Completion of the guidance was delayed by the complexity of the task, and the need to discuss and resolve different perspectives between agencies and between specialist groups. Field testing of the guidance was severely constrained by the foot and mouth outbreak.
- Different sections of the guidance are at varying stages of completeness:
  - i. a final draft of guidance for woodlands, lowland heathlands and earth science features has been submitted to country agencies for approval;
  - ii. drafts of guidance for uplands, lowland grasslands, coastal habitats, lowland wetlands, freshwater features (in part), marine features (in part), mammals, birds, herptiles, and vascular plants have been received by JNCC; these will be edited and quality-assured before being submitted to country agencies for approval early in 2002/03;
  - iii. work on invertebrates, non-vascular plants, complex marine features, and some freshwater features is ongoing; it is anticipated that guidance will be completed during 2002/03.

9. *Further the conservation of British terrestrial mammals by enabling changes in their distribution and population status to be detected, highlighting the need for action; specifically:*

- *maintain a national surveillance network for British bats, in partnership with the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT);*
- *set up pilot scheme(s) for a national surveillance network for other British mammals, in partnership with the People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) and others. (Fieldwork may be suspended or reduced by the foot and mouth outbreak).*

**Target achieved**

- During 2001/02 we established a partnership with the BCT to manage the National Bat Monitoring Programme, which has proceeded very successfully, despite the problems caused by the foot and mouth epidemic:
  - i. the Programme has continued to run a number of existing surveys in 2001/02, including colony counts of two pipistrelle species, lesser horseshoe bats (England), serotine bats, and Natterer's bats; a pilot colony count for brown long-eared bats was also undertaken;
  - ii. field surveys on noctule, serotine, pipistrelle and Daubenton's bats were conducted, although these were substantially affected by access to land restrictions caused by the foot and mouth epidemic;
  - iii. we encouraged the BCT to seek partnerships with other organisations, which has resulted in a contract with the Environment Agency looking at bats as indicator species and assessing bat presence in relation to River Habitat survey data. Environment Agency participation is likely to be long-term and could lead to a three-way partnership with BCT and JNCC from 2003 onwards.
- In relation to the surveillance and monitoring of other mammals, JNCC:
  - i. established a Mammal Surveillance and Monitoring Interim Working Group, which includes representatives from the majority of the mammal community, and which has the remit of steering the setting-up of the UK mammal surveillance network;
  - ii. established a potential co-ordinating centre for the network in London at the headquarters of the PTES, the BCT and The Mammal Society, and provided funding for a full-time co-ordinator to take the network forward to the implementation phase;
  - iii. established a five-year draft plan for setting up the network, including the introduction of new pilot surveys to cover different species;
  - iv. provided advice to DEFRA on the pilot of a Winter Sightings and Sign Transect Survey, conducted by the British Trust for Ornithology and The Mammal Society in 2001/02 and continuing into 2002/03. A Steering Committee has been set up to guide the pilot survey, which will become an integral part of the mammal network from 2003 onwards;
  - v. established a pilot survey looking at the relationship between mammal road kills and abundance in the wild, in partnership with Royal Holloway University and PTES. The aim of the pilot is to see if this method could be used to assess population trends for a number of species.

10. *Provide information to underpin the conservation of seabirds and their breeding colonies in the UK and in Ireland; specifically:*

- *complete (as far as possible, given the foot and mouth outbreak) the Seabird 2000 census of all breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland;*
- *complete inputting of data to the database and commence analysis.*

**Target achieved (allowing for delays imposed by foot and mouth)**

- The foot and mouth outbreak caused the postponement of some census work. This will be completed in 2002/03, with external funding.
- Data entry has been completed and analysis commenced.

11. *Publicise and disseminate nature conservation advice and information to environmental policy makers and practitioners efficiently and effectively for the benefit of nature conservation by developing the websites that JNCC hosts on its own behalf or for others as effective and attractive communication tools; specifically:*

- *manage the UK CITES website;*
- *develop the UK Biodiversity Group website;*
- *host the UK CBD Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) website;*
- *upgrade the JNCC website as a communications tool.*

**Target achieved**

- JNCC updated the UK CITES website monthly. It receives thousands of visits every month, mainly from Europe and North America.
- The UK Biodiversity Group Website was updated regularly, and underwent development as a resource for the new country biodiversity groups and for on-line biodiversity reporting; it too it receives thousands of visits every month.
- The UK CBD CHM website was reviewed, to facilitate linkage to the NBN and UK Biodiversity Group websites, and additional content was commissioned.
- Upgrading of the JNCC website was commenced, with the aim of delivering a phased programme of improvements.

12. *As partners in the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) Trust, which enables the collection, collation and dissemination of biodiversity information to members to common standards through an internet gateway, contribute to the development of the NBN overall so that it meets the biodiversity information needs of the country agencies, government and NBN data contributors and users; (priorities for data access may be reviewed as the year progresses in the light of the effects of the foot and mouth outbreak on long-term surveillance and monitoring contracts):*

- *provide access to JNCC's Cetaceans, Seabird 2000 and Seabirds at Sea datasets;*
- *provide access to selected datasets co-owned by the JNCC, including WeBS;*
- *provide access to selected habitat datasets, including the JNCC's standing waters database and rivers database;*
- *develop software to enable searches of NBN datasets to be undertaken on a geographical area basis;*
- *supervise access to key DETR biodiversity datasets in collaboration with the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH);*
- *continue to advise on and promote the NBN with key partners.*

**Target achieved (as revised)**

Targets for providing access to habitat and species datasets were amended during the course of the year to reflect the changing priorities of JNCC and partner organisations.

- Access to Seabird 2000 data was provided through the NBN gateway, and web-based mapping was prepared for cetaceans data.
- We provided project management and quality assurance support to WeBs to allow them to make a consolidated database available for NBN gateway access in 2002/03; the Biological Records Centre delivered access to GB dragonfly and butterfly data through the gateway (datasets co-owned by JNCC).
- Access was provided to all-Wales Phase I habitat data and SW England trial BAP priority habitats data. We commenced a review of the status of other habitats databases, including rivers and standing waters.
- We scoped how the gateway will deliver geographical services to the Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) and CCW internal systems, which will be a model for many others, and produced an operational prototype.

- In partnership with CEH, we developed a system of user registration and access controls to allow owners of datasets to manage who can use their data and what they can do with it.
- We supervised access to key DEFRA biodiversity datasets, in collaboration with CEH.
- Considerable JNCC input of effort has resulted in an increasing number of key bodies using the NBN and providing access to their own datasets; in particular, JNCC support enabled launches of the NBN in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; JNCC support to EHS will facilitate the future use of Ordnance Survey Northern Ireland map data.

*13. Strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of UK and international nature conservation by providing full, accurate and timely information to the DETR Review Officer to facilitate Stage 2 of the Quinquennial Review (QQR) of the JNCC's role, finances and management.*

**Target achieved**

- The final Stage 2 QQR report was published on both the JNCC and DEFRA websites in January 2002. The report included submissions from the Support Unit management and from the Support Unit Staff Association, and the reviewer thanked and complimented the JNCC for these submissions.
- The Joint Committee have discussed the report and forwarded their formal response for consideration as part of the next phase of implementation.
- The Support Unit have prepared a draft action plan for the implementation phase, at the request of the Steering Group.

**Corporate targets and performance in 2001/02**

1. *Develop the scope and effectiveness of UK influence on EU nature conservation policy, legislation and practice, and spread information about the EU and nature conservation to the country agencies and others by cultivating links and developing dialogue with the European Environment Agency and its topic centres (especially the European Topic Centre for Nature Protection and Biodiversity (ETC/NPB)), CEC Directorates General and other EU Member States; specifically:*

- *act as UK National Reference Centre for the ETC/NPB;*
- *promote UK views on Natura 2000 site monitoring and favourable conservation status assessment with the ETC/NPB, CEC DG Environment and other Member States' governments.*

**Target achieved**

JNCC Brussels Office was opened during the year to facilitate European liaison and influencing.

2. *Help to secure integrated international effort for the conservation of albatross and petrels by advising the DETR on a new agreement on the species' conservation, under the Bonn Convention.*

**Target achieved**

The agreement was signed in June 2001.

3. *Further the conservation of nationally and internationally important Earth science sites by providing a full justification for their selection as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), through publishing eight volumes of the Geological Conservation Review (GCR) series (if the foot and mouth outbreak permits site access to enable text completion).*

**Target 65% achieved**

Three volumes were published within the year, and another three are in press.

4. *Further the conservation of Britain's important populations of wintering waterfowl and breeding birds; specifically:*

- *through our contract with the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT), substantially complete the rationalisation of waterfowl surveillance areas with designated site boundaries;*
- *in collaboration with the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), commence publication of an annual statement of trends in British breeding bird populations and their probable causes;*
- *with the BTO, set up a website giving a summary of current knowledge of the effects of land use and climate change on common breeding bird populations;*
- *update and publish definitive lists of population sizes for British birds, co-ordinating the work of the Avian Population Estimates Panel.*

**Target 75% achieved**

Collaborative work with BTO was completed; other work is ongoing.

5. *Further the conservation of marine habitats and species through statutory consultation processes and informally by advising government departments, the hydrocarbons industry and others on the impacts of existing and proposed non-fisheries industrial activities in UK waters, specifically in relation to:*

- *c. 35 Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs);*
- *c. 300 EIA dispensations;*
- *c. 30 oil spill contingency plans;*
- *c. 40 solid waste disposal licences;*
- *c. 120 seismic survey applications;*

- *c. 30 other consultations.*

**Target exceeded**

This is a growth area of advice.

6. *Inform land use policy development in the UK to ensure that the needs of nature conservation are given due consideration by drawing up an integrated list of rural targets and indicators, in partnership with the statutory conservation, environment and countryside agencies, and having regard to the longer-term implications of the foot and mouth disease outbreak and the public response to it.*

**Target achieved (as revised)**

A detailed report on existing rural targets and indicators was completed by IEEP in August. LUPG decided that the conclusions and implications of the report required further consideration before deciding what additional work should be undertaken.

7. *Contribute to wider knowledge and understanding of the UK's marine nature conservation resource and help secure its long-term future; specifically:*
  - *publish the marine biotope classification for inshore waters of Britain and Ireland, by end 2001/02;*
  - *complete publication of the 15-volume Marine Nature Conservation Review area summary series, with the production of three volumes relating to Scottish sealochs.*

**Target 95% achieved**

Staff shortages caused delays. Publication is now due in early 2002/03.

8. *Aid management and protection of UK statutory sites for nature conservation by producing a revised edition of the Air Pollution Handbook as an interactive database for the statutory country conservation agencies, detailing the effects of air pollution on the natural environment, describing monitoring protocols and including case studies relating to the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) Directive and the Natura 2000 Review of Consents.*

**Target achieved**

A working database was completed by CEH. Further development will be undertaken in 2002/03.

9. *Contribute to safeguarding the aquatic environment in the UK and its associated habitats and biodiversity by providing advice on technical issues relating to the EC Water Framework Directive, and contributing to the work of inter-agency groups covering freshwaters and estuarine/coastal waters; specifically:*
  - *organise a workshop on tools available in the UK for defining reference conditions, developing typologies and defining levels of ecological status for freshwaters;*
  - *contribute to the work of the UK Technical Advisory Group as required.*

**Target achieved**

Liaison between inter-agency groups has been improved by the creation of a JNCC post to co-ordinate technical input to the implementation of the Directive.

10. *Assist biodiversity conservation in the UK, especially under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP), by formulating common standards and developing and testing practical surveillance and monitoring methodologies (as far as practicable, given the limitations on fieldwork consequent on the foot and mouth disease outbreak); specifically:*
  - *develop methodologies for monitoring BAP priority habitats across the UK, using lowland grasslands as a pilot study;*

- *work with the country agencies and other relevant organisations to develop common standards for habitat inventories, focusing on BAP priority habitats;*
- *formulate future monitoring and surveillance strategies for BAP plants;*
- *explore ways to fill one of the many gaps in the current provision of species surveillance by making best use of existing information and guiding future biological recording practice, the chosen methodology to serve as a 'best practice' example for filling other surveillance gaps for which this approach is appropriate.*

**Target 50% achieved**

Progress was impeded by staff shortages and the foot and mouth outbreak. Work will continue in 2002/03.

11. *Help to ensure effective implementation in the UK of international nature conservation Conventions, Directives and Agreements by contributing to statutory nature conservation reporting obligations; especially:*

- *edit the EC Habitats Directive Report (by September 2001);*
- *contribute to the CBD implementation report (by May 2001);*
- *edit the Ramsar Convention Triennial Implementation Report (by February 2002).*

**Target achieved**

In addition, work commenced on the Bonn Convention implementation report, due in April 2002.

12. *Inform policy and decision-making about the offshore marine environment and thereby secure the conservation of marine mammals using UK waters by publishing an atlas of cetacean distribution for the seas around north-west Europe.*

**Target 95% achieved**

Work on the atlas is substantially complete and it will be published in 2002/03.

13. *To enable the JNCC to meet its business needs and the employment-related needs of its staff, ensure sound management of JNCC's human resources; specifically:*

- *develop and implement approaches to reduce the level of staff turnover and its adverse effects on business delivery;*
- *initiate action to address issues arising from the 2<sup>nd</sup> staff satisfaction survey.*

**Target achieved**

Staff turnover was reduced to 11% by year end. Issues arising from the staff satisfaction survey were addressed by a working group.

14. *Implement greener working practices in both of the JNCC's offices, in accordance with the guidelines given by DETR; specifically:*

- *benchmark the organisation in terms of environmental management;*
- *devise an environmental management policy.*

**Target 50% achieved**

The Peterborough and Aberdeen offices have been subjected to an environmental audit. An environmental management system, and benchmarking, will be developed in 2002/03 using the results of this audit.

15. *Achieve an effective focus for JNCC's work on nature conservation over the next 10 years by completing the strategic review, and finalise and publish the JNCC's strategy for 2001-2012 by December 2001.*

**Target postponed**

The JNCC Quinquennial Review process has taken priority. The target will be pursued in 2002/03.

## Annex 2 Glossary

<b>A</b>		IEEP	Institute for European Environmental Policy
ACCOBAMS	Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area	IPPC	Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
AEWA	African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement	IT	Information technology
ASCOBANS	Agreement on Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas	IUCN	The World Conservation Union
<b>B</b>		<b>J</b>	
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan	JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
BCT	Bat Conservation Trust	<b>L</b>	
Bern Convention	Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats	LUPG	Land Use Policy Group
Bonn Convention	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals	<b>M</b>	
BTO	British Trust for Ornithology	MEHRAs	Marine Environmental High Risk Areas
<b>C</b>		MoP	Meeting of Parties
CAFF	Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna	<b>N</b>	
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy	Natura 2000	Sites of importance for nature conservation in the EU – SPAs and SACs
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	NBN	National Biodiversity Network
CCW	Countryside Council for Wales	NGO	Non-governmental organisation
CEC	Commission for the European Communities	NVC	National Vegetation Classification
CEH	Centre for Ecology and Hydrology	<b>O</b>	
CFP	Common Fisheries Policy	OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
CHM	Clearing House Mechanism	OSPAR	Convention on the protection of the marine environment of the north-east Atlantic, also known as Oslo and Paris Convention
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species	<b>P</b>	
CMS	Convention on Migratory Species (Bonn Convention)	PTES	People's Trust for Endangered Species
CoP	Conference of Parties	<b>Q</b>	
<b>D</b>		QQR	Quinquennial Review
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	<b>S</b>	
DTI	Department of Trade and Industry	SAC	Special Area of Conservation under the Habitats Directive
<b>E</b>		SAP	Species Action Plan
EEA	European Environment Agency	SBSTTA	Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive
ETC/NPB	European Topic Centre for Nature Protection and Biodiversity	SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
EU	European Union	SPA	Special Protection Area under the Birds Directive
EUNIS	European Nature Information System	SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
<b>G</b>		<b>U</b>	
GCR	Geological Conservation Review	UNESCO	United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
GMOs	Genetically modified organisms	<b>W</b>	
<b>H</b>		WeBS	Wetland Bird Survey
HAP	Habitat Action Plan	WWT	Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust
<b>I</b>			
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Seas		

## Annex 3 JNCC lead contacts

The table lists JNCC main contacts for work described in this plan, including relevant Lead Co-ordination Network and Lead Agency contacts in the country agencies. All four-figure phone numbers shown are Peterborough direct lines and are preceded by +44 (0)1733 86. Our Aberdeen office has no switchboard and all 01224 numbers shown are direct lines to the named contacts. The switchboard number at our Peterborough Office is +44 (0)1733 562626. Email addresses are [firstname.surname@jncc.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@jncc.gov.uk) (for example, [lawrence.way@jncc.gov.uk](mailto:lawrence.way@jncc.gov.uk)).

Topic	Lead contact in JNCC	Phone number(s)
Air Pollution	Simon Bareham (CCW)	01248 385500
Audit	Tracey Quince	6876
Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats	Steve Gibson	6815
Biodiversity reporting	James Williams	6868
Birds	David Stroud	6810
Common Agricultural Policy reform	Marcus Yeo	6852
Common Fisheries Policy reform	Mark Tasker	01224 655701/ 07971 078441 (mobile)
CITES (policy)	Vin Fleming	6870
CITES (licensing)	Alison Littlewood	6814
Climate change	Ian Hepburn	6867
Coastal habitats	Tony Weighell	6902
Common standards for site selection and monitoring	Paul Rose/ Marcus Yeo	6859/6852
Conservation of Arctic Flora & Fauna (CAFF)	Vin Fleming	6870
Convention on Biological Diversity (including Clearing House Mechanism)	Paul Rose	6859
(Bonn) Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)	Colin Galbraith (SNH) – Chair of Scientific Council	<a href="mailto:colin.galbraith@snh.gov.uk">colin.galbraith@snh.gov.uk</a>
CMS – African Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)	David Stroud	6810
CMS – Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe	Jessa Battersby	6808
CMS – Agreement on the Conservation of the Cetaceans of the Black and Mediterranean Seas (ACCOBAMS)	Mark Tasker	01224 655701/ 07971 078441 (mobile)
CMS – Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)	Mark Tasker	01224 655701/ 07971 078441 (mobile)
CMS – Agreement on the conservation of albatrosses and petrels	Mark Tasker	01224 655701/ 07971 078441 (mobile)
CMS – Memorandum of Understanding on Indian Ocean Turtles	Alison Littlewood	6814
Countryside Survey 2000	Marcus Yeo	6852
Earth science information	Tony Weighell	6902
EC Water Framework Directive	Diana Mortimer	6857
European influencing – JNCC Brussels office	David Morgan	+32 2 732 4004/4234
JNCC Peterborough office	Steve Gibson	6815
Finance and procurement	Sue Bennett	6896
Fisheries	Barry Haynes	6836
Freshwater habitats and species	Phil Boon (SNH)	0131 554 9797
GCR sites and publications	Neil Ellis	6906
GMOs	Brian Johnson (EN)	01823 283211
Habitat information	Marcus Yeo	6852
International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)	Mark Tasker	01224 655701/ 07971 078441 (mobile)
Information technology (IT)	Lawrence Way	6860
International co-ordination	Steve Gibson	6815
International policy	Vin Fleming	6870
International designations information	Marcus Yeo	6852
International Waterbird Census	David Stroud	6810

IUCN UK Committee (Secretariat)	Claire Coles	6829
JNCC Committee	Lissie Wright	6897
JNCC management	Deryck Steer	6900
JNCC office services	Sue Bennett	6896
Land use policy	Marcus Yeo	6852
Landscape management	Tony Weighell	6902
Lepidoptera	Ian McLean	6813
Lowland grasslands	Tim Blackstock (CCW)	01248 385500
Lowland heathlands	Isabel Alonso (EN)	01733 455000
Lowland wetlands	Roger Meade (EN)	01733 455000
Mammals	Jessa Battersby	6808
Marine advice	Mark Tasker	01224 655701/ 07971 078441 (mobile)
Marine species – mobile and wide-ranging	Mark Tasker	01224 655701/ 07971 078441 (mobile)
Marine species – nationally rare and scare	David Connor	6837
Marine species – non-native	David Connor	6837
Marine species – sessile	David Connor	6837
Modernising Government	Lynsey Bigger	6856
National Biodiversity Network (NBN)	Lawrence Way	6860
Natura 2000 – landward sites	Marcus Yeo	6852
Natura 2000 – offshore sites	Mark Tasker	01224 655701/ 07971 078441 (mobile)
Ornis Committee meetings	David Stroud	6810
OSPAR Convention	Mark Tasker	01224 655701/ 07971 078441 (mobile)
Overseas Territories	Vin Fleming	6870
Plants	Ian McLean	6813
Personnel	Sue McQueen	6869
Pesticides	Alastair Burn (EN)	01733 455000
Publications and public relations	Trudi Harris	6839
Quinquennial Review of JNCC	Keith Little	44 (0)1733 562626
Quinquennial Review of W & C Act schedules	Ian McLean	6813
Ramsar Convention	David Stroud/ Marcus Yeo	6810/ 6852
Recorder 2000	Stuart Ball	6864
Risk management	Lynsey Bigger	6856
Seabird 2000	Ian Mitchell	01224 655717
Seabirds and cetaceans (including Falklands & Faroes)	Jim Reid	01224 655702
Soils	Tony Weighell	6902
Species advice – general	Ian McLean	6813
Species of Conservation Concern	Deborah Procter	6809
Species status	Deborah Procter	6809
Toxic chemicals	Alastair Burn (EN)	01733 455000
Translocations/non-native species (non-marine)	Ian McLean	6813
UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP)	Paul Rose/ Marcus Yeo	6859 6852
Uplands	Des Thompson (SNH)	0131 554 9797
Websites	Trudi Harris/ Lawrence Way	6839 6860
World Heritage Convention	Tony Weighell	6902
Woodlands	Keith Kirby (EN)	01733 455000

## **Annex 4 Index**

[To be added before publication]

## Annex 5 JNCC service standards

In all our relations with others, we will follow the requirements of the law and relevant non-statutory Codes of Practice. In addition, we will observe the standards set out below.

### Access

- Our offices, at Monkstone House, Peterborough, and Dunnet House, Aberdeen, are open to visitors from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. (4.30 p.m. on Fridays).
- Our Peterborough telephone switchboard is open from 8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. (4.30 on Fridays). Outside those hours and on public holidays, please leave any message on our answer phone. All Peterborough-based staff can also be reached on direct lines. Please ask the switchboard for the number you need, for future use. Staff at Aberdeen have direct lines only, backed up by answer phones (no switchboard).
- Please be aware that our staff can work flexible hours between 7.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m., so the person you want to speak to may not be available when you ring or visit, unless they are expecting your call. We will always get back to you as soon as we can. Our core working hours are 9.30 to 12.00 and 2.00-3.30 daily.

### Courtesy

- We will answer your phone calls promptly and politely, giving our own name, or our name plus the name of the section.
- If we cannot answer your phone call in person, it will be diverted to another member of staff, or to an answer phone. Our answer phones will be checked frequently and someone will follow up your message promptly. If we cannot check the answer phone for messages and follow them up within one working day, the recorded message will tell you who to ring if your enquiry is urgent.
- When we meet people from outside the JNCC, we will dress considerately and wear name badges.
- We will reply politely to your letters, emails and faxes (if you want a reply) within the deadlines you set, if we can. We will let you know as soon as possible if we can't, and agree a different date with you. If you don't set a deadline, we will reply as soon as we can within 20 working days.

### Helpfulness

- Our replies to your letters, faxes, emails and phone calls will be complete and accurate, to the best of our ability.

- We will pay our bills by the due date if you invoice us correctly, or will let you know promptly if there will be any delay, and why.
- We will despatch copies of JNCC reports that you order from us within ten working days of receipt of your payment, or acknowledge your order, explaining any delay.
- We will despatch copies of free publications that you request from us within ten working days of receipt of your request, or acknowledge your request, explaining any delay.
- Our book distributors, NHBS Ltd, will despatch books you order from them within five working days of receipt of your order and payment, or acknowledge your order, explaining any delay. They will charge your credit card (if that is how you choose to pay) only when they have despatched your books.
- We will respond to 95% of requests for advice from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) in relation to licences under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) within three working days of receipt of the request.
- We will respond to 95% of consultations from the Department of Trade and Industry on Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) in relation to applications for oil and gas exploration and extraction licences, EIA dispensations and oil spill contingency plans within the set deadlines, or acknowledge receipt and explain any delay.

### Feedback

- We will keep track of how well we are meeting our service standards and publish a statistical summary each year in our Annual Report.
- We welcome your suggestions to help us provide excellent service.
- We will review our service standards annually and revise them if necessary.
- If you feel we have not given you the level of service you expected, please write first to the person you dealt with. If they cannot resolve the matter to your satisfaction within 10 working days, please write to Lynsey Bigger, Business Manager. If she cannot resolve the matter to your satisfaction within 10 working days, you may wish, as a last resort, to take the matter to your Member of Parliament or the Information Commissioner.

## Annex 6 The Joint Nature Conservation Committee

### Members (as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2002)

Sir Angus Stirling	Chairman, JNCC
Professor David Ingram	Independent
Professor Bill Heal	Independent
Professor Jan Pentreath	Independent
Dr John Faulkner	Environment and Heritage Service (Northern Ireland)
<i>Appointment pending</i>	Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside (Northern Ireland)
Mr Ewen Cameron DL	The Countryside Agency
Mr John Lloyd Jones OBE	Countryside Council for Wales
Professor Lynda Warren	Countryside Council for Wales
Sir Martin Doughty	English Nature
Dr Michael Moser	English Nature
Dr John Markland OBE	Scottish Natural Heritage
Mr Michael Scott	Scottish Natural Heritage

## Annex 7 Contact details

<b>JNCC</b>	Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Monkstone House, City Road, Peterborough PE1 1JY	Tel: 01733 562626 Fax: 01733 555948 Website: <a href="http://www.jncc.gov.uk">http://www.jncc.gov.uk</a> e-mail: firstname.surname@jncc.gov.uk
<b>JNCC Seabirds and Cetaceans; Marine Advice</b>	Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Dunnet House, 7 Thistle Place, Aberdeen AB10 1UZ	Tel: 01224 655702 (Seabirds & Cetaceans) Tel: 01224 655704 (Marine advice) Fax: 01224 621488 Website: <a href="http://www.jncc.gov.uk">http://www.jncc.gov.uk</a> e-mail: firstname.surname@jncc.gov.uk
<b>CCW</b>	Countryside Council for Wales, Plas Penrhos, Ffordd Penrhos, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2LQ	Tel: 01248 385500 Fax: 01248 355782 Website: <a href="http://www.ccw.gov.uk">http://www.ccw.gov.uk</a>
<b>English Nature</b>	English Nature, Northminster House, Northminster, Peterborough PE1 1UA	Tel: 01733 455000 Fax: 01733 568834 Website: <a href="http://www.english-nature.org.uk">http://www.english-nature.org.uk</a>
<b>SNH Headquarters</b>	Scottish Natural Heritage, 12 Hope Terrace, Edinburgh EH9 2AS	Tel: 0131 447 4784 Fax: 0131 446 2279 Website: <a href="http://www.snh.org.uk">http://www.snh.org.uk</a>
<b>SNH Research &amp; Advisory Services Directorate</b>	Scottish Natural Heritage, 2 Anderson Place, Bonnington Bond, Edinburgh EH6 5NP	Tel: 0131 554 9797 Fax: 0131 446 2405 Website: <a href="http://www.snh.org.uk">http://www.snh.org.uk</a>
<b>The Countryside Agency</b>	The Countryside Agency, John Dower House, Crescent Place, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL50 3RA	Tel: 01242 521381 Fax: 01242 226027 Website: <a href="http://www.countryside.gov.uk">http://www.countryside.gov.uk</a>
<b>Environment &amp; Heritage Service (Northern Ireland)</b>	Environment & Heritage Service (Northern Ireland), Commonwealth House 35 Castle Street, Belfast BT1 1GU	Tel: 01232 251477 Fax: 01232 546660 Website: <a href="http://www.ehsni.gov.uk/">http://www.ehsni.gov.uk/</a>
<b>Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside</b>	CNCC 5-33 Hill Street Belfast BT1 2LA Northern Ireland	Tel: 02890 543076 Fax: 02890 543111 e-mail: Secretariat-HillSt@doeni.gov.uk