



The ninety-ninth meeting of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee to be held at 0900 hours on 12 June 2014, at Monkstone House, Peterborough, PE1 1JY

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

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Joint Nature Conservation Committee

End of year performance report for 2013/14

Paper by Tracey Quince and Sarah Harrison

1. Performance against priority performance measures (Annex 1)

- 1.1. Milestones have been devised for each priority performance measure (PPM) to help manage delivery by identifying stages when key elements will be delivered. A summary of the milestone achievements for quarters 1, 2 and 3 can be found in one column in the table in Annex 1, with a separate column for quarter 4. RAG assessments for quarters 1, 2 and 3 are provided, with an end of year assessment in the final column of the table.
- 1.2. Of the 25 PPMs for 2014/15, 10 were fully achieved and a further 14 made substantial progress with completion expected in early 2014/15. Notable achievements for the year included the following:
 - i. Through long-established partnerships with non-governmental organisations, utilising the efforts of volunteer recorders, we provided updated information on biodiversity status and trends across the UK.
 - ii. We released an improved version of the National Biodiversity Network Gateway, which provides access to over 90,000 species records in the UK.
 - iii. We submitted draft advice to Governments on options for monitoring cetaceans in UK waters.
 - iv. We commissioned research to develop biodiversity indicators for the Marine Strategy Framework directive.
 - v. We held a workshop with participants from across the UK and other countries in north-west Europe to share knowledge on the impacts of nitrogen deposition on Natura 2000 sites and discuss mitigation measures.
 - vi. We submitted UK reports on implementation of the Birds and Habitats Directives to the European Commission, and completed the 5th national UK report to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
 - vii. We provided technical support to Marine Scotland during the public consultation on Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas in offshore Scottish waters, and made information on potential sites available on the JNCC website.
 - viii. We provided scientific advice to Defra to support the designation of a first tranche of Marine Conservation Zones (which included five offshore sites), and advised on the selection of sites for a second tranche of MCZs.
 - ix. To support completion of a UK series of marine Special Protection Areas by 2015, we finalised advice to the country conservation bodies on large terns, little terns, red-throated divers, shag, and Balearic shearwater in inshore waters, and provided initial advice on the identification of offshore sites.

- x. We provided advice on oil and gas, aggregates and renewables throughout UK offshore waters.
 - xi. We put in place a new evidence quality assurance policy, to ensure that we can be confident about the quality of the evidence we use to underpin our advice to governments.
- 1.3. One PPM (1.3 Development of options for marine biodiversity monitoring) made limited progress in 2014/15. Delays were caused by the inherent challenges involved in research and development work, diversion of staff time to other marine priorities (in particular identification of SPAs), and difficulties in securing timely input from project partners. One of the PPM milestones was completed, one milestone is expected to be delivered in early 2014/15, and two milestones are expected to be delivered later in 2014/15.
- 1.4. Where problems in PPM delivery were experienced in 2013/14, staff shortfalls were frequently identified as a cause. A major factor has been a very high rate of internal staff turnover, caused in part by government restrictions on external recruitment. This has caused a high level of vacancies (approximately 9% of staff complement was unfilled throughout the year) and additional management input to staff recruitment, induction and training. Inevitably this has had an impact on performance.

2. Financial reporting (Annex 2)

- 2.1. Annex 2a contains the financial outturn for the end of year.
- 2.2. The report shows an underspend for the year against budget of just over £120k, which represents 1% of the overall budget. The main cause of the underspend is slippage in the completion of contracts in a number of areas, none of which was individually material. Another contributory factor was £46k worth of work on Marine Conservation Zones against the Cefas partnership which could not be carried out in 2013/14 and so is carried forward as a prepayment at the request of Cefas. The full amount of grant-in-aid was drawn down for the year.

Annex 1. PPM performance for 2013/14

RAG assessments for priority performance measures for 2013/14 Q1-Q3

PPM Ratings Qtrs1-3	Definition	What is required from the EMB
Green	Good. Delivery is on track. PPM is where it is expected to be.	No action.
Amber/Green	Mixed. Some aspects require attention and some aspects are good. Medium-high impact risks have materialised which are under control.	EMB to note.
Amber/Red	Problematic. Substantial attention required, with some aspects needing urgent action if PPM is to deliver. High impact risks have materialised which are increasingly difficult to mitigate.	EMB to review and provide steer.
Red	Highly problematic. Requires urgent decisive action. High impact risks have materialised.	EMB to intervene and decide course of action to be taken.

RAG assessments for priority performance measures for 2013/14 Q4

RAG Status	Definition
Green	Target achieved or exceeded.
Amber	Substantial progress made with full achievement of target anticipated early in 2014/15.
Red	Limited progress against target.

Programme	PPM	PPM description	Milestones due in Quarters 1-3	Progress against milestones in Q1-Q3	Milestones due in Quarter 4	Progress against milestones in Quarter 4	PPM RAG Status			
							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Surveillance and Monitoring	1.1	Publish updated trends and their likely causes for seabirds, breeding birds, wintering wetland birds, bats, butterflies and a range of invertebrates	<p>a) Provide online updates of national and regional trends for selected seabird species.(Q1)</p> <p>b) Publish trends at UK, country and regional level for all UK bat species with sufficient data, and report ecological interpretation of the trends. (Q1)</p> <p>c) Establish a process for delivery of trend statistics for at least 10 species groups (likely to include ground beetles, bees, dragonflies and mosses). (Q2)</p> <p>d) Publish 1) trends of non-breeding waterbird populations together with an examination of the likely underlying drivers of trend; 2) status and trends in population size and breeding success of non-breeding goose and swan populations; and 3) a national report summarising submitted records of rare breeding birds. (All Q2)</p> <p>e) Publish Bird Trends report, incorporating trend data and interpretation of results for breeding birds from the National Ringing Scheme, Constant Effort Sites, Breeding Bird Survey and Nest Record Scheme (Q3).</p>	<p>a) Milestone completed in Q2.</p> <p>b) Milestone completed in Q1.</p> <p>c) Preliminary report produced and paper in preparation in Q2.</p> <p>d) Milestone complete (1 and 2 in Q2 and 3 in Q3).</p>	f) Publish on-line trends for selected butterfly species, including butterfly biodiversity indicator updates for England, Scotland and the UK.	<p>c) Milestone completed. Paper prepared, forming the basis of a process for delivery of trend statistics.</p> <p>e) Milestone completed. BirdTrends published in February.</p> <p>f) Milestone completed. Butterfly trends published in March.</p>	A/G	G	A/G	G
Surveillance and	1.2	Produce frameworks that	a) Develop options to implement monitoring strategies for linking species to broad and priority	a) Milestone completed in Q3. Paper has been written and submitted to a journal.	e) Produce full feasibility assessment of utilising high-resolution satellite data to	e) The report has been produced in a draft format, but it requires more input	A/G	A/G	G	A

Programme	PPM	PPM description	Milestones due in Quarters 1-3	Progress against milestones in Q1-Q3	Milestones due in Quarter 4	Progress against milestones in Quarter 4	PPM RAG Status			
							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Monitoring		will help countries within the UK use remote sensing data to meet mapping requirements for habitats and ecosystem services, detect change and measure condition.	habitats. (Q1) b) Publish final report on the joint Defra and JNCC project assessing the use of Earth Observation methods in habitat mapping and condition assessment. (Q1) c) Publish assessment of possible countryside change detection methods using remote sensing data and products for use in analysing gross change in the countryside. (Q2) d) Facilitate a joint workshop with Ordnance Survey for users across the environmental sector to explore the use of OS MasterMap data for assessment of change in the countryside. (Q3)	b) Milestone completed in Q3. Report now available on the JNCC website. c) Milestone completed in Q3. Report now available on the JNCC website. d) This workshop has not been organised as Ordnance Survey wanted to focus on updating aspects of their work instead. It is hoped that this can be progressed in 2014/15.	measure change in ecological land cover and recommendations for progressing this work and how it can inform detailed habitat mapping.	before it is ready to be published.				
Marine Monitoring and Ecosystem Mapping	1.3	Complete advice to governments for options for monitoring cetaceans and seabirds and make significant progress towards fit-for-purpose site and wider environment monitoring options	a) With the country conservation bodies, complete a review of current inshore SAC monitoring, including an assessment of strengths and weaknesses and an exploration of alternatives. (Q1) b) Let contract on survey protocols for monitoring abundance and distribution of seabirds in inshore and offshore UK waters. (Q2) c) Submit draft advice to Governments on options for monitoring cetaceans. (Q3)	a) Work is substantially complete, but requires extra work in Q1 of 2014/15 to resolve country conservation body comments and complete report. b) Delayed in Q3 with agreement from Programme Board. Seabird survey protocols contract specification is under development and is due to be let in April 2014 and to report in Q1 of 2014/15. Slower progress is due to research nature of work, ongoing staff shortages and difficulties getting appropriate input and interaction with the country conservation bodies in a timely fashion due to different priorities and resources in the different agencies. c) Milestone completed. Cetaceans options report submitted to Chief Scientists Group and Programme Board in January and February 2014 respectively.	d) Report on outcome of seabird survey protocols contract.	d) Delayed in Q3 with agreement from Programme Board. Slower progress is due to research nature of work, ongoing staff shortages and difficulties getting appropriate input and interaction with the country conservation bodies in a timely fashion due to different priorities and resources in the different agencies.	A/G	A/G	A/G	R
Marine Monitoring and Ecosystem Mapping	1.4	Produce consolidated UK seabed habitat maps from survey data and updated predictive models, in partnership data providers and map users	a) Publish executive summary of EUSeaMap final report.(Q1) b) Plan JNCC's contribution to EUSeaMap2/EMODnet project.(Q1) c) Publish online timetable for updates of seabed habitat mapping products. (Q2) d) Draft deep-sea habitats section for the Marine Habitats Classification for Britain and Ireland. (Q3)	a) Delayed to 2014/15 because of other work compressed into Q4 (e.g. milestones d and e).	e) Publish updated combined seabed habitat map for the English inshore and offshore area (using data from survey and modelled data).	b) Milestone completed in Q4. c) Milestone completed in Q4. d) Deep-sea classification revision is substantially complete with external peer review planned for Q1 in 2014/15. e) Milestone completed in Q4. Work on this PPM progressed well but with some delays due to project Manager secondment to Defra in Q3 and promotion in Q4, and the late start of EUSeaMap 2 contract partnership.	G	A/G	A/R	A
Marine Monitoring and Ecosystem Mapping	1.5	Update habitat sensitivity matrix and produce integrated priority pressure data layers needed to develop effective monitoring	a) Develop JNCC work plan for the Steering Group on Spatial Data Collation on Activities and Pressures. (Q1) b) Progress development of pressure 'benchmarks' or sensitivity assessments for new habitat features. (Q2) c) Publish priority pressure data layers for UK-wide abrasion and extraction pressures, plus		e) Host workshop through the Steering Group on Spatial Data Collation on Activities and Pressures to peer review updated habitat sensitivity matrix.	a) Milestone completed in Q4. b) Substantially completed sensitivity assessments for new habitat features. Contracts completed and results to be assimilated into habitat sensitivity matrix in Q1 in 2014/15. c) Substantially completed. d) Work on the sensitivity matrix has	G	G	A/G	A

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							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
			<p>accompanying methods papers. (Q3)</p> <p>d) Update and improve habitat sensitivity matrix. (Q3)</p>			<p>progressed well but is slightly behind schedule and was not completed by the end of 2014/15.</p> <p>e) Delayed until matrix is updated in 2014/15.</p> <p>Progress on milestones b) c) and d) is slightly behind schedule due to staff not being in post earlier in the year and delays covering Project Manager post due to two failures of recruitment.</p>				
Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	2.1	<p>Support Defra to achieve a pragmatic evidence-based approach to the Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), facilitate efficient engagement by the UK biodiversity science and policy communities, and provide information and advice to support implementation of the ecosystem approach across the UK</p>	<p>a) Establish a Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Task Force under the Living With Environmental Change programme, and plan JNCC support and contribution to the Task Force (including milestones for subsequent quarters). (Q1)</p> <p>b) Develop a collaborative programme of work to assist implementation of the ecosystem approach in countries within the UK by identifying best practice and agreeing guiding principles.(Q1)</p> <p>c) Establish an inter-agency task and finish group to oversee the implementation of nitrogen deposition assessment in site-level reporting and agree a work programme for the group. (NB: milestone moved to PPM 2.2, milestone dd) (Q1)</p> <p>d) Hold IPBES event for UK stakeholders to consult on work programme development needs identified by the first Plenary. (Q2)</p> <p>e) Communicate the outcome of the Ecosystem Service Spatial Framework follow-on work. (Q2)</p> <p>f) Contribute to conclusions of UK NEA follow-on projects. (Q2)</p> <p>g) Contribute to European Commission led work on mapping and assessment of ecosystems and services. (Q2)</p> <p>h) Respond to IPBES secretariat consultations and hold UK consultations on the same issues.(Q3)</p> <p>i) Provide input on IPBES issues to the 17th meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice. (Q3)</p>	<p>a) Task force established in Q1. First meeting took place and work plans for all three work streams were developed in Q2.</p> <p>b) Interagency meeting held to discuss ongoing country initiatives to implement the ecosystem approach and to identify how JNCC might help support this work. A final collaborative programme of work has yet to be agreed.</p> <p>c) See PPM 2.2, milestone dd.</p> <p>d) Milestone completed in Q2.</p> <p>e) An interagency and stakeholder meeting has been held to discuss the project outcomes. A report will be published on the JNCC website in early June 2014.</p> <p>f) Milestone completed in Q2.</p> <p>g) Milestone completed in Q2 but Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services (MAES) project ongoing.</p> <p>h) Consultation on IPBES secretariat papers for second plenary meeting in December undertaken..</p> <p>i) Event held earlier in the year provided information on scientific and technical needs for the Convention on Biological Diversity.</p>	<p>j) Support Defra at the second Plenary of IPBES.</p> <p>k) Develop UK response to IPBES work programme agreed at IPBES Plenary in December 2013.</p> <p>l) Work with country conservation bodies and government administrations to assess what further research or tools are necessary for implementation of an ecosystem approach / ecosystem services framework, building on research conducted in 2013.</p>	<p>j) Contributed to IPBES 2 through roles on UK delegation.</p> <p>k) Responded to IPBES secretariat requests for expert nominations. Further requests in relation to work programme expected through 2014.</p> <p>l) Liaison with the country conservation bodies has continued, seeking to combine agency needs with outcomes from National Ecosystem Assessment follow-on and Living with Environmental Change proposals.</p>	G	A/G	G	G
Biodiversity Information and Advice	2.2	<p>Support implementation of the UK Biodiversity Framework and country environment strategies within the UK, by making links with international</p>	<p>a) Publish revision of Part 1 of the SSSI Guidelines on the JNCC website. (Q1)</p> <p>b) Establish, and start to implement the process for prioritised revision of Part 2 of the SSSI guidelines. Develop milestones for subsequent quarters. (Q1)</p> <p>c) Quality assure red lists submitted to JNCC for some fungi groups, some beetle families and molluscs, and incorporate results into the JNCC designations spreadsheet. Where appropriate,</p>	<p>a) Milestone completed in Q3.</p> <p>b) Milestone completed in Q3.</p> <p>c) Quality assurance of new fungi and beetle Red lists on JNCC website in Q2.</p> <p>d) The implementation plan was reported to October 2013 Four Countries Group meeting. Completion of milestone is dependent on engagement by the few outstanding work stream leads.</p> <p>dd) Inter agency task and finish group</p>	<p>j) Submit second annual report for the implementation plan for the UK Biodiversity Framework to the Four Countries Biodiversity Group.</p> <p>k) Submit 5th National UK report to the Convention on Biological Diversity.</p>	<p>c) Red list for molluscs quality assured, and will be published on JNCC website in Q1 of 2014/15.</p> <p>d) Milestone completed.</p> <p>f) Draft recommendations signed off by Joint Committee in March, ahead of submission to Defra and the devolved administrations.</p> <p>g) Reported under PPM 3.6.</p> <p>j) Milestone included in error.</p>	A/G	A/G	A/G	A

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							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
		and European commitments (including EU Directives, the EU Biodiversity Strategy and the global Aichi targets), facilitating and contributing to common country approaches and solutions, and publishing UK Biodiversity Indicators.	publish the lists on the JNCC website. (Q1) d) Confirm milestones, identify actors and define responsibilities for implementation of the UK Biodiversity Framework. (Q1) dd) Establish an inter-agency task and finish group to oversee the implementation of nitrogen deposition assessment in site-level reporting and agree a work programme for the group. (Q1) e) Finalise the contract to provide information needed to apply statutory suspension of hunting certain birds during extreme winter weather (Q2) f) Through the an inter-agency group, agree recommendations for the 6th quinquennial review of Schedules 5 and 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, and submit to Defra and devolved administrations. (Q3) g) Prepare consultation draft of 5th National UK report to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and start consultation process. (Q3) h) Publish UK Biodiversity Indicators on the JNCC website. (Q3) i) Publish the UK Biodiversity Framework implementation plan and its first report on JNCC's website. (Q3)	established in June 2013. At the first meeting the group agreed the work programme. e) The Met Office contract was finalised in Q2 and takes effect from the beginning of November 2013 until the end of February 2014. f) Draft recommendations approved by the country conservation bodies in Q3, ahead of submission to the Joint Committee. h) Milestone completed in Q3. Indicators published in October 2013. i) Milestone completed in Q3. Implementation plan published in December 2013.		k) Reported under PPM 3.6.				
Access to Information	2.3	Provide support and advice to facilitate the population and use of the National Biodiversity Network (NBN), undertake technical development of the NBN gateway, and develop interpretation tools for the analysis of biological recording data	a) Review the emerging suite of NBN web services with key users as a means of delivering dynamic access to data available through the Gateway database, and establish a roadmap for their release. (Q1) b) Develop automated routines to provide access to modelling species distributions. (Q2) c) Implement an improved set of mechanisms and processes for assuring the quality of data. (Q3)	a) Draft developer documentation for the web services was produced in Q1 and supplied to an initial pool of external developers for comment. b) Good progress with substantial development of the Species Presence/Absence R Trends Analyses (SPARTA) package during Q2 (working with the Biological Records Centre). Some adjustments are required to the package that accesses NBN to include log ins and use of secure data transfer. c) The work on quality assurance has been delayed due to issues encountered around the rollout of Gateway V, exacerbated by problems agreeing funding for this project. It is hoped that this will be delivered in Q4.	d) Establish a simple data discovery and download portal onto the Gateway database and transfer the Gateway website to the NBN Trust.	c) Work on including mechanisms to allow quality flagging of records on the NBN Gateway has begun by our development partners in CEH. Completion will be in Q1 of 2014/15. d) Very good progress. Gateway V has been released along with documentation for the web services. There are some stability issues that are still being addressed. Additionally the SPARTA tool is ready for release. The transfer of the Gateway website to the NBN Trust will be completed once the outstanding stability issues have been resolved. There are no plans to deprecate the download functionality of the site and thus no requirement to create a separate download portal.	G	G	A/G	A
Marine Ecosystem Assessment and Advice	2.4	Provide technical expertise and advice to support implementation of the biodiversity and noise aspects of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the	a) Develop a draft work programme for discussion with Contracting Parties for those MSFD common biodiversity indicators the UK has committed to lead or partner in their development in OSPAR. Further milestones to be added as required.(Q1) b) Ensure UK input to EU guidance on the two noise indicators by end of May. (Q1) c) Commission research to develop indicators on seabirds, benthic habitats and cetaceans.(Q2) d) Advise Defra on the public consultation on monitoring programmes for MSFD Descriptors 1,	a) Milestone completed in Q1. b) Milestone completed in Q1. c) Milestone completed in Q2. d) Milestone completed in Q2. f) Milestone almost complete; contribution to OSPAR's Biological Diversity Committee expected by beginning of Q4	g) Report on the results of the commissioned research to develop indicators on seabirds, benthic habitats and cetaceans. h) As appropriate, respond to the public consultation on biodiversity monitoring for MSFD Article 11. Undertake post-consultation amendments and complete reporting forms as required by Defra. i) Work in partnership with other Contracting Parties to enable OSPAR's COBAM to provide information on the	e) JNCC has been proactive in pushing forward progress on indicators on benthic habitats (hosting a development workshop), marine mammals (chairing an international group) and seabirds (influencing the process of selection of indicators for operationalising). This has given UK significant regional influence on the process. f) Milestone completed. g) JNCC was technical advisor to the	G	G	A/G	A

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							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
		OSPAR Convention strategic plan, including through research and development to fill gaps in the targets and indicators, and the provision of advice during the development of, and consultation on, the monitoring programme and Programmes of Measures	4 and 6 under Article 11 of the Directive. (Q2) e) In collaboration with OSPAR contracting parties, develop, and where possible complete technical specifications (e.g. definitions, metrics etc) for the operationalisation of OSPAR common biodiversity indicators. (Q3) f) In agreement with other contracting party specialists provide a report on progress towards the development of candidate indicators and an associated timetable for their operationalisation (to be submitted to OSPAR's Biological Diversity Committee in February 2014). (Q3)		monitoring requirements for the adopted OSPAR common biodiversity indicators in order to directly support the development of coordinated monitoring programmes by Contracting Parties. j) Produce a noise register for the UK that has stakeholder support enabling data flows, manages data in a form suitable for policy implementation and development and is accessible to users.	seabird bycatch project. This has been deferred to 2014/15 to enable other unplanned but high priority work to be conducted. The contractors of the cetacean bycatch project withdrew prior to their completion and late in Q4 so have not delivered. The four benthic habitats contracts on MSFD indicators have been delivered. h) The consultation on MSFD Article 11 has been delayed and will not end until April. i) JNCC has supplied data on UK monitoring when required as part of COBAMs international co-ordination of marine biodiversity monitoring. j) In Q2, in order to make progress in challenging circumstances, JNCC developed two alternative options for the Noise Registry Database. However, the Steering Group did not meet to discuss these options until late in Q3. Further delays were then encountered in order to gain exemption from the UK Government restrictions on website development. The build has been deferred until 2014/15.				
Marine Ecosystem Assessment and Advice	2.5	Provide technical expertise and advice and undertake the research and development required to deliver methods for robust and streamlined marine biodiversity assessments.	a) Undertake a rapid analysis of opportunities to streamline assessments in 2013/14. Further milestones will be developed if appropriate. (Q1) b) Receive final report from contractor on use of expert judgement in marine biodiversity assessments. (Q1) c) Agree a multi-year work programme with the country conservation bodies that has ambition to streamline assessments. (Q2) d) Complete recommendation report for undertaking marine baseline assessments and deliver to the European Topic Centre on Inland, Coastal and Marine Waters. (Q3)	b) Milestone completed in Q1. d) Milestone completed in Q3.	e) Publish as a JNCC research report the methods and results for the assessment of structure and function of Annex I Reefs and Annex I Sandbanks in UK offshore waters.	a) Milestone delayed from Q1 but opportunities to streamline assessments have been identified in project targets for 2014/15. In addition, during Q3 a contract was let to examine how aggregation methods can help to streamline marine biodiversity assessments between different obligations and requirements. Work has also been initiated to identify data system requirements for making operational assessments of biodiversity indicators. c) Milestone remains delayed and was not delivered by the end of 2013/14. e) Milestone slightly delayed until Q1 of 2014/15 as awaiting Programme Leader review.	A/G	A/G	A/G	A
European Intelligence and Advice	3.1	Provide coordinated input of UK expertise to the EU Common Implementation Framework, dealing with reporting on directives, indicators,	a) Scope and plan an EU workshop on nitrogen deposition. (Q1) b) Specify milestones to describe JNCC's work in relation to the Common Implementation Framework and participation in EU working group activities. (Q1) c) Determine whether and how to improve the assessment and reporting of the impacts to biodiversity of implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive. (Q2)	a) Milestone completed in Q1. b) Milestone completed in Q1. c) Contract let to BTO in Q2 to carry out initial analysis and draft report under review with Defra/DECC to develop key messages for UK in Q3. Future work and process to be determined but first analysis has been very useful. d) Good progress made with this work in Q3. Plan for updating the Natura Standard	g) Deliver an EU workshop on nitrogen deposition. h) Make progress on completing the first phase of the agreed plan to update the Natura 2000 standard data form. i) Summarise evidence requirements of EU Directives and the EU Biodiversity Strategy and determine likely responsibilities for delivering those requirements.	d) Milestone completed. g) Milestone completed in Q4. Workshop delivered and workshop report will be disseminated in April 2014. h) Milestone completed in Q4. Work required to update the Standard Data Form has been identified and a plan of work discussed by the country nature conservation bodies and Defra for both	G	A/G	G	G

Programme	PPM	PPM description	Milestones due in Quarters 1-3	Progress against milestones in Q1-Q3	Milestones due in Quarter 4	Progress against milestones in Quarter 4	PPM RAG Status			
							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
		ecosystems, non-native species, plant health, and other priority European issues.	<p>d) Develop a plan (agreed with Governments and country conservation bodies) for the updating of Natura 2000 Standard Data Form information. (Q2)</p> <p>e) Maintain overview of ongoing work in the Common Implementation Framework working groups and provide quarterly summary report of activities. (Q3)</p> <p>f) Support Defra engagement with the CIF working groups, particularly in relation to EU Biodiversity Strategy targets one and two. (Q3)</p>	<p>Forms continues to be considered and developed and the level of work scoped.</p> <p>e) Good working relationship established with Defra. First detailed summary of working groups' activities completed in Q3.</p> <p>f) Coordinated JNCC input to briefing for Nature, Marine and Water Directors meeting in December, CGBN in September, and Habitats and Ornithology Committee meetings in October. EUBS Target 1: provided briefings to Defra and attended meeting in Brussels to agree approach. EUBS Target 2: JNCC attended Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services working group in September to assess progress.</p>		<p>terrestrial and marine sites. This work will continue into 2014/15.</p> <p>i) Evidence requirements have been summarised for a range of EU initiatives including: a risk-based approach for UK native plant species that is compatible with both the current and emergent EU Plant Health Regimes; measuring biodiversity loss relating to air pollution under Article 8 of the National Emissions Ceilings Directive; assessing population trends for relevant Habitats Directive species; marine biodiversity assessments for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive; surveillance needs in the new Invasive Alien Species Regulation. Identification of evidence gaps for EU initiatives will continue into 2014.</p>				
European Intelligence and Advice	3.2	Take forward the relevant recommendations from the Habitats and Wild Birds Directives Implementation Review Report.	<p>a) Prepare an overview of the effectiveness of JNCC input to the Review and identify any outstanding issues. Produce milestones for subsequent quarters if further work is needed. (Q1)</p> <p>b) Re measure 19: Investigate with Defra how the data available through the NBN can be packaged and exposed to ensure maximal use within whatever systems emerge from the Review. (Q2)</p> <p>c) Re measure 13: Assist NE to finalise and publish the high-level generic evidence standards, and continue to respond to requests for specialist inputs in the receptor-specific guidance. (Q2)</p> <p>d) Assist Natural England to finalise and publish the receptor-specific guidance relevant to JNCC operational requirements. (Q3)</p>	<p>a) Milestone completed in Q3. Summary of JNCC input sent to Defra.</p> <p>b) The website outputs from the Habitats Directives Implementation review (HDIR) have been subsumed into the wider Smarter Environmental Regulation Review (SERR) initiative and this has affected our ability to liaise with Defra concerning links to NBN. We will pursue this work further in Q3.</p> <p>c) Milestone completed in Q2. Specialist input provided for both sets of guidance. The final outcome for this measure of the HDIR is being affected by the wider SERR initiative and is likely to impact on the Q3 milestone.</p> <p>d) Receptor-specific guidance finalised but not published. JNCC application of the guidance is yet to be agreed internally.</p>	No milestones for quarter 4.	<p>b) Milestone completed as far as possible given issues with publishing detailed information on the gov.uk website.</p> <p>d) Receptor-specific guidance finalised but not published by Natural England.</p> <p>Any outstanding work has been incorporated into JNCC's business plan for 2014/15. A summary of JNCC's input to the Review has been provided to Defra.</p>	A/G	A/G	G	G
European Intelligence and Advice	3.3	In support of Habitats Directive reporting, produce conservation status assessments of 77 habitats and 91 species, and a general report; in support of Birds Directive reporting, coordinate production of the UK report.	<p>a) Birds Directive report: complete the draft of pressures, threats, conservation measures and other non-distributional aspects. (Q1)</p> <p>b) Habitats Directive report: Complete revisions to the General Report, UK assessments and associated documentation. (Q1)</p> <p>c) Birds Directive report: circulate final draft to Chief Scientists Group for comment/sign-off. (Q2)</p> <p>d) Habitats Directive report: Complete country conservation body and JNCC sign-off process and initiate government sign-off and submission process. (Q2)</p> <p>e) Birds Directive report: Complete UK sign off and submit report to the Commission. (Q3)</p> <p>f) Habitats Directive report: Respond to queries relating to the General Report and UK</p>	<p>a) Milestone completed in Q1.</p> <p>b) Milestone achieved for metropolitan UK in Q1.</p> <p>c) Milestone completed in Q2.</p> <p>d) Milestone completed in Q2. First submission of Article 17 report carried out and queries relating to the Report being considered in advance of the second and first submission.</p> <p>e) Article 12 metropolitan report ready for submission but delays in government sign off mean submission will be delayed until January 2014. Final submission is expected to be within the EU deadline. Gibraltar report also delayed until January 2014.</p> <p>f) Milestone completed in Q3. Second</p>	<p>g) Birds Directive report: Respond to queries relating to the report from the Commission.</p> <p>h) Initiate a process to evaluate the latest Habitats and Birds Directives reporting round, highlighting lessons learned and identifying potential solutions.</p>	<p>g) Milestone completed in Q4. The Birds Directive UK Article 12 Report was first submitted on 21 January 2014 and following comments from the Commission the report has been submitted for the second and final time.</p> <p>h) Milestone completed in Q4. An initial meeting was held with the country nature conservation bodies in February 2014 to initiate a process of planning for the next reporting round for Article 17, agree country body and JNCC responsibilities, evidence requirements and ways to improve the status of habitats and species across the UK. This work will continue into</p>	G	G	G	G

Programme	PPM	PPM description	Milestones due in Quarters 1-3	Progress against milestones in Q1-Q3	Milestones due in Quarter 4	Progress against milestones in Quarter 4	PPM RAG Status			
							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
			assessments from the European Topic Centre. (Q3)	submission of the Article 17 report carried out to deadline and report now available on the JNCC website.		2014.				
Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies	3.4	Support implementation of the UK Overseas Territories Biodiversity Strategy by helping Territories to develop approaches to environmental mainstreaming and green economy.	<p>a) Submit initial lionfish impacts report to UK Government. (Q1)</p> <p>b) In collaboration with the FCO initiate two Green Economy projects in the Caribbean/Western Atlantic region. (Q1)</p> <p>c) Provide financial support for at least three small projects in the Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies. (Q2)</p> <p>d) Submit final lionfish impacts report to UK Government. (Q3)</p> <p>e) Complete two Green Economy projects in the Caribbean/ Western Atlantic region. (Q3)</p>	<p>a) Lionfish work completed in Q2.</p> <p>b) Slow progress in Bermuda/Cayman on Green Economy projects due to waiting on political decisions.</p> <p>c) Milestone completed in Q2. Support for three projects agreed through competitive tender.</p> <p>d) Lionfish work completed and reports submitted to Government and published on the JNCC website.</p>	<p>f) Provide financial support for a total of six small projects in the Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies during the year.</p> <p>g) Complete marine framework report, which will identify marine conservation priorities in the Overseas Territories based on consultations with Governments and NGOs.</p>	<p>e) The expected Green Economy projects were delayed pending decisions by the governments concerned, and were initiated late in the financial year. At year end the Turks and Caicos and Bermuda have decided to proceed and planning for the work has begun. Cayman has declined. Discussions in progress with FCO on timing and funding with work to begin in 2014/15.</p> <p>f) Only three, not six, projects were supported during the year due to switching funds to other work areas.</p> <p>g) Work on the marine framework has been suspended pending discussions on priorities and working arrangements with governments and NGOs.</p>	G	G	A/G	A
Global Advice	3.5	Provide technical input to meetings of the subsidiary bodies to the Convention of Biological Diversity, the Convention on Migratory Species and relevant daughter agreements and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, and provide advice to support the Darwin Initiative	<p>a) Lead for the UK, with RBG Kew, at 64th meeting of EU CITES Scientific Review Group (Q1)</p> <p>b) Contribute to the first sift of projects for the 20th round of applications to the Darwin Initiative. (Q2)</p> <p>c) Lead for UK, with RBG Kew, at 65th meeting of EU CITES Scientific Review Group. (Q2)</p> <p>d) Contribute to preparations for and UK delegations to the 17th meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Convention on Migratory Species Scientific Council. (Q3)</p> <p>e) Lead for the UK, with RBG Kew, at 66th meeting of EU CITES Scientific Review Group. (Q3)</p>	<p>a) Milestone completed in Q1. JNCC attended and led on fauna issues at 64th EU CITES Scientific Review Group meeting. Support provided to other Conventions as required.</p> <p>b) Milestone completed in Q2.</p> <p>c) Milestone completed in Q2. JNCC attended and led on fauna issues at 65th EU CITES Scientific Review Group meeting.</p> <p>d) Milestone completed in Q3.</p> <p>e) Milestone completed in Q3.</p>	<p>f) Lead for the UK, with RBG Kew, at 67th meeting of EU CITES Scientific Review Group.</p> <p>g) Contribute to the final sift of projects for the 20th round of applications to the Darwin Initiative, and to its scoping and challenge.</p>	<p>f) Milestone completed in Q4.</p> <p>g) Milestone completed in Q4.</p>	G	G	G	G
Global Advice	3.6	Coordinate the production of the 5 th national report under the Convention for Biological Diversity, to review progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and	<p>a) Initiate reporting process and request information from stakeholders. (Q2)</p> <p>b) Collate and edit information to produce a consultation draft. (Q3)</p>	<p>a) Milestone completed in Q2. Report initiated and data collection process started.</p> <p>b) The consultation draft was produced in Q3 and consultation process initiated by end of Q3.</p>	<p>c) Finalise report following consultation and submit to Government for approval and submission to the Convention on Biological Diversity secretariat.</p> <p>d) Submit 5th National UK report to the Convention on Biological Diversity.</p>	<p>c) Significant changes required as a result of changes in requirement from Defra, therefore work is running behind schedule, which has been agreed with the CBD National Focal Point.</p> <p>d) Milestone is dependent on completion of milestone c). Submission of report delayed until April 2014.</p>	G	G	A/G	A

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							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
		progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.								
Marine Protected Areas	4.1	Provide technical support to Marine Scotland in public consultation and designation of Nature Conservation MPAs	<p>a) Deliver offshore Nature Conservation MPA proposal packages to Marine Scotland to support the Sustainability Appraisal, Impact Assessment and public consultation. (Q1)</p> <p>b) Provide technical support to Marine Scotland during the consultation on offshore Nature Conservation MPAs. (Q2 and Q3)</p> <p>c) Disseminate information to promote greater public understanding of offshore Nature Conservation MPA features. (Q2)</p> <p>d) Provide a public access gateway to the evidence used to identify Nature Conservation MPAs. (Q2)</p> <p>e) Review proposal documentation following completion of the consultation and delivery of additional evidence. (Q3)</p>	<p>a) Milestone completed in Q1. All offshore site documentation completed, signed off through the MPA Sub Group and supplied to Marine Scotland. Provided technical comment and advice on Marine Scotland's consultation documents. Planned a series of stakeholder events during the summer consultation.</p> <p>b) Milestone completed in Q2.</p> <p>c) Milestone completed in Q2.</p> <p>d) Milestone not completed, mainly due to delays with recruitment and the additional level of support requested by Marine Scotland for consideration of consultation responses. It is likely that this milestone will now not be completed until 2014/15.</p> <p>e) Milestone not completed. This will hopefully be achieved in Q4.</p>	<p>f) Provide technical support to Marine Scotland to progress discussions with stakeholders on the management measures required for Nature Conservation MPAs for those proposals Scottish ministers are minded to designate.</p> <p>g) Following delivery of processed data, review documentation for proposals surveyed in 2013/14.</p>	<p>d) Evidence used to identify the possible MPAs was made available during the consultation via the data confidence assessments on the web. Further access for Scottish MPA evidence will be considered alongside access to evidence for other offshore UK MPAs.</p> <p>e) and g) Milestones completed. Documentation updated to take account of consultation responses including advice to Marine Scotland on boundary changes proposed by stakeholders. Survey data has been processed and considered in the pMPA review.</p> <p>f) Milestone completed.</p>	G	A/G	A/G	G
Marine Protected Areas	4.2	Provide technical support to Defra in designation of a first tranche of Marine Conservation Zones, and selection of sites for a second tranche.	<p>a) Provide scientific advice to Defra to support their report on the consultation for the first tranche of MCZs. (Q1)</p> <p>b) Revise the evidence assessment for the features in MCZs to be designated in Tranche 1. (Q1)</p> <p>c) Provide scientific support to Defra in their designation work on the first tranche of MCZs. (Q2)</p> <p>d) Ensure advice provided to Defra in Q1 is externally published in report format. (Q3)</p> <p>e) Complete a review of the progress towards UK MPA network obligations to provide advice to Defra on a second tranche of MCZs.(Q3)</p>	<p>a) Milestone completed in Q1. JNCC's advice on Tranche 1 MCZs was completed on schedule.</p> <p>b) Milestone completed in Q1. We also contributed technical support through post-consultation analysis, development of legal instruments for MCZs and collaborated with Natural England to support Defra's thinking about final site assessment ahead of designation.</p> <p>c) Milestone completed in Q2. JNCC staff attended numerous meetings to discuss evidence on sites and provided technical assistance in the preparation of material for designation. JNCC contributed to discussions on the legal text of the designation orders.</p> <p>d) Milestone completed in Q3. JNCC advice on Tranche 1 sites published on day of MCZ designations announcement.</p> <p>e) Milestone completed in Q3. A comprehensive review of the existing MPA network has been completed so that "big" gaps in the Defra MPA network can be identified.</p>	<p>f) Provide technical support to Defra to assist with the selection of sites for a second tranche of MCZs.</p>	<p>f) Milestone completed in Q4. JNCC continued to provide support to Defra during pre-consultation ahead of tranche 2.</p>	G	G	G	G
Marine Protected Areas	4.3	Improve the evidence base for offshore Marine Protected Areas (SACs, Marine Conservation	<p>a) Undertake a survey of offshore recommended MCZs on RV Cefas Endeavour. (Q1)</p> <p>b) Make arrangements for a deep-water survey to the NW of Scotland, and a survey of Scottish sites on RV Scotia. (Q1)</p> <p>c) Establish contracts to analyse data collected</p>	<p>a) Milestone exceeded in Q1. Two surveys for MCZ site verification undertaken.</p> <p>b) Milestone completed in Q1 but successful outcome not achieved. EU tender process run to timetable in Q1 for deepwater survey. It was not possible to</p>	<p>n) Quality assure outputs from data analysis.</p> <p>o) Ingest and archive 2013/14 Q1 survey data.</p> <p>p) Review structure of SAC information system and upload information for a</p>	<p>i) Milestone not completed.</p> <p>j) Data for five (out of 20) SACs has been published externally on the JNCC UK MPA interactive map.</p> <p>n) Milestone completed in Q4. Internal quality assurance of outputs from data</p>	A/G	A/G	A/G	A

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							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
		Zones and nature conservation MPAs in Scottish waters), making evidence available through public portals.	<p>on SAC survey in March 2013. (Q1)</p> <p>d) Develop a structure and agree broad content of a SAC information system. (Q1)</p> <p>e) Undertake deep-water survey off NW Scotland, and a survey of Scottish sites on RV Scotia. (Q2)</p> <p>f) Identify recommendations for 2014/15 survey in Scottish offshore waters.(Q2)</p> <p>g) Establish a contract to develop a web-mapping element of a SAC information system (Q2)</p> <p>h) Establish contracts to analyse survey data collected in Q2. (Q3)</p> <p>i) Upload evidence supporting the designation of the first tranche of MCZs onto the JNCC web-mapper. (Q3)</p> <p>j) Prepare and upload data for offshore SACs onto the JNCC web-mapper. (Q3)</p> <p>k) Complete upload of information for five SACs into the SAC information system and complete customer review. (Q3)</p> <p>l) Ingest and archive data from 2012/13 Q4 surveys. (Q3)</p> <p>m) Subject to budget discussions, agree offshore survey programme for 2014-15, including vessel bookings and resource allocations.(Q3)</p>	<p>proceed with the deepwater survey as insufficient funds were available to cover tendered costs</p> <p>c) Milestone completed in Q1. Contracts established to analyse data from Wight Barfleur/Basurelle SAC management survey (through Cefas partnership).</p> <p>d) Milestone completed in Q1. Developed structure for a SAC information system and held discussions with staff from other programmes to review their plans.</p> <p>e) Deepwater survey was cancelled in Q1 and an alternative plan agreed. Survey on RV Scotia was completed, collecting more data than originally planned due to clement conditions.</p> <p>f) Milestone completed in Q2. A series of potential survey options were identified for 2014/15 and reviewed by the Programme Board.</p> <p>g) An initial contract has concluded and has suggested some improvements to the system. However, staff resources for the remainder of the year were reallocated to higher priority work, so any further work has been postponed.</p> <p>h) Milestone completed in Q3.</p> <p>i) Milestone not completed. MCZ data is yet to be incorporated into the web mapper.</p> <p>j) Milestone not completed. Data for the first five SACs have been prepared and uploaded onto the internal version of the web mapper and should be published, externally in Q4.</p> <p>k) See commentary on milestone p.</p> <p>l) See commentary on milestone o.</p> <p>m) Survey programme for 2014/15 is being agreed.</p>	<p>further five SACs</p> <p>q) Complete publication of 2012/13 survey reports on the JNCC website.</p>	<p>analysis of March 2013 survey, additional work undertaken by BGS on Braemar/Scanner Pockmarks and Pobie Bank survey is complete. External quality assurance has delivered. Results from contract will be used internally to complete quality assurance of deepwater datasets in Q1 of 2014/15.</p> <p>o) Milestone largely complete: Significant volumes of data (17 MCZ surveys and four SAC/SMPA surveys from 2012/13 and 2013/14) have been ingested, quality assured and archived. Other contracts have been successfully completed to archive benthic survey data into Marine Recorder. High level discussions have been held in order to develop a streamlined process for the submission of MCZ data to the Data Archive Centres.</p> <p>p) During Q3 work in the MPA programme was reprioritised to direct staff towards MCZ and SMPA advice. The Site Information Centre work suffered as a result of this. By 31 March 2014 the first five Site Information Centres were completed and published externally on the JNCC website. The customer review and continued roll out of the other SICs will happen in 2014/15.</p> <p>q) Milestone not complete: Due to staff shortages, little headway was made making final survey reports available on the JNCC website. Many of the reports are now at a stage where they are suitable to be uploaded, and this will be tackled in the first half of 2014/15.</p>				
Marine Protected Areas	4.4	To contribute to the objectives of the Birds Directive, including the aim of identifying and where possible classifying the UK series of marine SPAs by 2015, undertake data analysis to support identification of	<p>a) Determine with the country conservation bodies how to apply SPA selection criteria to concentrations of birds analysed from European Seabirds at Sea data (ESAS). (Q1)</p> <p>b) Finalise analysis and produce reports identifying concentrations of red throated diver, little gull and shag, and provide advice on boundary options in England and Scotland. (Q1)</p> <p>c) Review milestones for Q1-3 and amend as necessary. (Q1)</p> <p>d) Support SNH through provision of boundaries and advice so that an indicative network of marine SPAs can be included in the Scottish MPA consultation. (Q2)</p>	<p>a) Milestone completed in Q2. It was not possible to fully complete the work as NRW were not able to progress their contribution until 2015/16.</p> <p>b) Milestone completed in Q1.</p> <p>c) Milestone completed in Q1. JNCC revised the whole programme to meet the requirements of customers.</p> <p>d) Milestone completed in Q2.</p> <p>e) Milestone completed in Q2.</p> <p>f) Milestone completed in Q3.</p> <p>g) Milestone not completed. Scottish boundary options have been delivered, English boundary options delayed until Q4</p>	<p>i) Determine with governments and Joint Committee the contribution of possible SPAs beyond 12 nautical miles to the 2015 target.</p>	<p>g) Majority of reports were available by the end of the year, but there was some delay for reports at two English locations which has affected Natural England's delivery timetable.</p> <p>h) Milestone completed in Q4.</p> <p>i) Initial advice on offshore identification has been delivered to Scottish Government and Defra and we are presently updating this advice based on corroborative evidence. External peer review of reports is ongoing, with some reviews received and other reports out to review.</p>	G	A/G	A/G	A

Programme	PPM	PPM description	Milestones due in Quarters 1-3	Progress against milestones in Q1-Q3	Milestones due in Quarter 4	Progress against milestones in Quarter 4	PPM RAG Status				
							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
		potential sites.	<p>e) Revise models for identifying foraging areas of larger terns and provide Natural England with an indicative boundary for Cocquet Island SPA. (Q2)</p> <p>f) Provide a report on methods and boundary options for larger terns. (Q3)</p> <p>g) Provide boundary options for Scottish and selected English duck, grebe and diver concentrations. (Q3)</p> <p>h) Analyse little tern data and provide boundary options (Q3)</p>	<p>due to internal staff moves combined with a general shortage of available staff resource. It is hoped these will be delivered in Q4.</p> <p>h) Milestone not completed. Little tern final report due to be delivered in January 2014.</p>							
Offshore Industries Advice	5.1	Respond fully to requests for advice on oil and gas, aggregates and marine renewables within the agreed consultation period.	<p>a) Oil and gas: Respond fully to 95% of requests for advice on oil and gas within the relevant consultation period. (Q1)</p> <p>b) Aggregates and renewables: develop milestones for Q2, 3 and 4. (Q2)</p> <p>c) Oil and gas: Respond fully to 95% of requests for advice on oil and gas within the relevant consultation period. (Q2)</p> <p>d) Renewables: Jointly with SNH, submit advice on current applications within Moray Firth Round Three offshore windfarm zone. (Q2)</p> <p>e) Renewables; Subject to agreement on legal representation, ensure representation of relevant issues at the public examination for the East Anglia One offshore windfarm application. (Q2)</p> <p>f) Renewables; Subject to Joint Committee approval and Defra legal advice, make significant progress towards the transfer of English offshore renewables casework to Natural England. (Q2)</p> <p>g) Aggregates: Contribute to strategic initiatives including the Regulators Advisory Group and Marine Aggregate Sustainability Forum and engage in the development of the Cefas-led Similar Sediment Regional Monitoring Programme (Q2)</p> <p>h) Aggregates: Respond fully and in a timely fashion to requests for advice on aggregate licence applications. (Q2)</p> <p>i) Oil and gas: Respond fully to 95% of requests for advice on oil and gas within the relevant consultation period. (Q3)</p> <p>j) Oil and Gas - Make significant progress towards developing a formal written procedure to supplement and enhance existing QA processes.(Q3)</p> <p>k) Renewables; Jointly with SNH, submit advice on current applications within Firth of Forth Round Three offshore windfarm zone. (Q3)</p> <p>l) Renewables; Subject to Joint Committee approval and Defra legal advice, complete the transfer of English offshore renewables casework to Natural England. (Q3)</p> <p>m) Renewables; Working with the SNCBs and regulators, develop a work programme for</p>	<p>a) Milestone almost complete in Q1. Responded fully to 92% of requests for advice within relevant consultation period. Slightly under target due to other work pressures, particularly renewables casework.</p> <p>b) Milestone completed in Q1.</p> <p>c) Milestone completed in Q2. Responded fully to 97% of requests for advice within the relevant consultation period.</p> <p>d) Milestone completed in Q2. Moray Firth joint advice submitted to agreed deadline.</p> <p>e) Milestone completed in Q2. Representation made at East Anglia One hearings.</p> <p>f) Milestone ongoing. Significant progress made towards handing over casework to Natural England, though formal delegation not approved until Q3.</p> <p>g) Milestone completed in Q2. Attended RAG meetings (one including a Similar Sediment programme update) and one MASF meeting in Q2 and responded to RAG sandeel and herring regional assessments to the agreed deadline.</p> <p>h) Milestone completed in Q2. Responded fully to 100% of requests for advice within the relevant consultation period.</p> <p>i) Milestone almost completed. Responded fully to 93.7% of requests on time.</p> <p>j) Milestone not completed. No progress on this milestone this quarter due to the delay in the delegation of English renewables casework to Natural England, which meant that JNCC retained responsibility for casework for longer than expected. This, combined with the complexities of managing the hand-over, has meant that there was no capacity to make progress with the QA work.</p> <p>m) Milestone not completed. Limited progress made due to other priorities.</p> <p>n) Milestone completed in Q3. Two</p>	<p>p) Oil and gas: Respond fully to 95% of requests for advice on oil and gas within the relevant consultation period.</p> <p>q) Oil and Gas: Complete the development of a formal written Quality Assurance procedure and commence implementation.</p> <p>r) Renewables; Provide additional support to Marine Scotland post-submission of formal advice and post-consent as required.</p> <p>s) Aggregates: Contribute to strategic initiatives including the Regulators Advisory Group and Marine Aggregate Sustainability Forum, and engage in the development of the Cefas-led Similar Sediment Regional Monitoring Programme.</p> <p>t) Aggregates: Respond fully and in a timely fashion to requests for advice on aggregates licence applications.</p>	<p>k) Milestone completed in Q4.</p> <p>l) Milestone completed in Q4.</p> <p>p) Milestone completed in Q4.</p> <p>q) Milestone not achieved. Deferred to 2014/5.</p> <p>r) Milestone achieved as applicable (no post-consent advice required in Q4).</p> <p>s) Milestone completed in Q4.</p> <p>t) Milestone almost completed in Q4 89% of responses for the quarter were on time.</p>	A/G	A/G	A/R	A	

Programme	PPM	PPM description	Milestones due in Quarters 1-3	Progress against milestones in Q1-Q3	Milestones due in Quarter 4	Progress against milestones in Quarter 4	PPM RAG Status			
							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
			strategic renewables work. (Q3) n) Aggregates: Contribute to strategic initiatives including the Regulators Advisory Group and Marine Aggregate Sustainability Forum, and engage in the development of the Cefas-led Similar Sediment Regional Monitoring Programme. (Q3) o) Aggregates: Respond fully and in a timely fashion to requests for advice on aggregate licence applications. (Q3)	Regional Authority Group meetings were attended during the quarter as well as a Marine Aggregates Sustainability Forum meeting at which JNCC presented a business case for future research. o) Milestone completed in Q3. 100% response rate.						
Fisheries, Species and MPA Conservation Advice	5.2	Provide conservation advice on offshore Marine Conservation Zones and Scottish Nature Conservation MPAs to meet the requirements of Marine Acts within timetables agreed by relevant administrations	a) Milestones will be set once governments have concluded their considerations as to JNCC's role, and timings are clear. (Q1) No milestones set for Q2 and Q3.	a) Progress towards achievement of PPM reasonably good but no milestones were set during the year.	No milestones set.	Good progress made on the highest priority work, but a timetable for conservation advice not yet agreed with governments (see also PPM 5.3). Conservation advice has been provided to support the delivery of a range of marine priorities, including MCZ Tranche 1 advice, English renewables casework, the development of fisheries measures in offshore SACs, and delivering the Habitats Directive Implementation Review recommendations Measures 13 and 14 with Natural England.	A/G	A/G	A/G	G
Fisheries, Species and MPA Conservation Advice	5.3	Provide advice on fisheries measures for offshore Special Areas of Conservation.	a) Milestones will be set once governments have concluded their considerations as to JNCC's role, and timings are clear. No milestones set for Q2 or Q3	a) Milestones not yet set. We are working to the draft work plan but governance still not yet settled. To develop measures for sites, JNCC is supporting regulators in exploring and developing solutions for stakeholder engagement, developing documents aimed at future regional workshops that bring together offshore domestic and European marine sites under a single consultation mechanism. There is also a need to plan continuously so that the process, which is differentially advanced in the countries of the UK and is affected by different timescales, can still be progressed.	No milestones set.	Options papers all completed, but a timetable for fisheries measures not yet agreed with governments (see also PPM 5.2).	A/G	A/G	A/G	A
Governance and Corporate Services	6.1	Consolidate the organisation after a period of rapid growth, focusing on development of staff, HR strategy, and information management	a) Continue to build leadership and management skills including providing 360 degree feedback for senior management, clarifying required management standards and establishing solutions to any capacity issues. (Q1) b) Begin implementation of a core training plan for all new staff with additional core modules for new line managers and new project managers.(Q2) c) Establish a new metadata catalogue within JNCC and ensure this is populated with those data sources being actively used, managed and published by JNCC.(Q3)	a) Milestone completed in Q4 - when a leadership course was provided in place of 360 degree feedback. b) Completed in Q4 when roll out of the core training plan began. c) Good progress has been made including development of the tool and partial population of the catalogue but release is delayed until Q2 of 2014/15 due to higher priority work.	No milestones.	No milestones in Q4.	A/R	A/G	A/G	A
Governance and Corporate	6.2	Take forward any agreed actions arising	a) Develop an action plan for implementing agreed recommendations from the Triennial	a) Milestone completed in Q3. b) Milestone completed in Q3.	d) Undertake scenario planning, consultation and implementation planning	d) Milestone no longer applicable as Defra and the devolved administrations have not asked JNCC to plan beyond	G	A/G	A/G	G

Programme	PPM	PPM description	Milestones due in Quarters 1-3	Progress against milestones in Q1-Q3	Milestones due in Quarter 4	Progress against milestones in Quarter 4	PPM RAG Status			
							Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Services		from JNCC's Triennial Review, the Civil Service Reform Plan and other Government policy decisions.	Review. b) Develop and implement a structured approach to stakeholder management to ensure that any changes are supported by effective communications. (Q3) c) Begin preparatory work to enable shared services options to be compared to in-house provision, including establishing a trial service desk in IT services. (Q3)	c) Milestone completed in Q3.	for the new Spending Review period.	2014/15.				

Annex 2a. Financial out-turn for 2013/14

JNCC SUPPORT CO - OUTTURN REPORT 2013/14					
Programme title		12 MONTHS TO MARCH 2014			
		Full year budget	Net actuals plus commitments plus earmarks	Variance over/(under) budget	
Surveillance & Monitoring	100	1,131,919	1,130,861	(1,058)	
Marine Monitoring and Ecosystem Mapping	072	517,000	507,285	(9,715)	
Access to Information	110	114,500	118,206	3,706	
Biodiversity Information & Advice	063	130,402	133,488	3,086	
Marine Ecosystem Assessment and Advice	070	241,036	235,801	(5,235)	
Global Advice and Overseas Territories	030	120,000	146,271	26,271	
European Intelligence and Advice	050	101,313	105,604	4,291	
Marine Protected Areas	071	859,088	810,196	(48,892)	
Offshore Industries Advice	065	57,825	44,146	(13,679)	
Fisheries, Species and MPA Conservation Advice	074	225,521	220,283	(5,238)	
Governance and Corporate Services	130	1,010,620	1,020,173	9,553	
Salaries	200	6,105,089	6,016,070	(89,019)	
Non-cash Budget Adjustments		(4,313)	0	4,313	
Total		10,610,000	10,488,385	(121,615)	

Annex 2b. Actuals by funding stream

Programme	Q4 revised budget (£k)	Actuals (£k)	Variance between actuals and revised budget		GIA funding stream (£k)		
			(£k)	%	UK Co-ordination	Defra Reserved	Defra Marine
Surveillance and Monitoring	1,131.9	1,130.9	-1.1	0%	1,130.9	0.0	0.0
Marine Monitoring and Ecosystem Mapping	517.0	507.3	-9.7	-2%	25.4	0.0	481.9
Access to Information	114.5	118.2	3.7	3%	107.6	0.0	10.6
Biodiversity Information and Advice	130.4	133.5	3.1	2%	81.4	52.1	0.0
Marine Ecosystem Assessment and Advice	241.0	235.8	-5.2	-2%	0.0	0.0	235.8
Global Advice	120.0	146.3	26.3	22%	0.0	146.3	0.0
European Intelligence and Advice	101.3	105.6	4.3	4%	49.6	56.0	0.0
Marine Protected Areas	859.0	810.2	-48.8	-6%	0.0	0.0	810.2
Offshore Industries Advice	57.8	44.1	-13.7	-24%	0.0	44.1	0.0
Fisheries, Species and MPA Conservation Advice	225.5	220.3	-5.2	-2%	0.0	220.3	0.0
Governance and Corporate Services	1,010.8	1,020.4	9.6	1%	795.9	40.8	183.7
Non-cash budget adjustments	-4.2	0.0	4.2		0.0	0.0	0.0
Total direct costs	4,505.0	4,472.6	-32.6	-1%	2,190.8	559.5	1,722.2
Salaries	6,105.0	6,016.1	-89.0	-1%	2,725.1	1,051.6	2,239.1
Total net expenditure	10,610.0	10,488.6	-121.6	-1%	4,915.9	1,611.1	3,961.3
Less GIA receivable	10,610.0				4,842.0	1,544.0	4,224.0
Surplus of GIA over net spend	0.0				-73.9	-67.1	262.7