



THIRD QUARTER MONITORING REPORT 2009-10

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JNCC SUPPORT CO. BOARD

THIRD QUARTER MONITORING REPORT 2009-10

Paper by Wendy Dalton and David Burton

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides information on progress against targets for the period to 31st December 2009 and the financial position of the JNCC Support Co. for the period to 28th March 2010. The full-year position of performance against targets will be reported to the Board in June.
- 1.2 The paper reflects decisions made by the Executive Management Board (EMB) on performance and financial matters at their meetings on 10th February and 10th March 2010.
- 1.3 **EMB invites the Board to note the report.**

2. Progress against key performance indicators (Annex 1)

- 2.1 Twenty five of the suite of 44 key performance indicators (KPIs) were completed or on track at the end of December. Additional action was required to bring 15 KPIs back on track to avoid risk of falling behind.

3. Financial out-turn (Annex 2)

- 3.1 In December, EMB reported to the Board that, as at the 30th September 2009, there was an over-allocation of £126k against a budget of £7763k. EMB considered this to be a satisfactory position.
- 3.2 EMB last reviewed the financial position at the end of February once decisions taken on the 31th December, 2009 outturn had been implemented. The February outturn is attached at annex 2.
- 3.3 The outturn shows an anticipated figure of £99k underspend against the Grant-In-Aid settlement. Whilst this is within permitted tolerances (2% of GIA - £155k), EMB brought forward two small amounts of expenditure from next year's budget reducing the underspend to £80k. This sum will increase JNCC's reserves to a satisfactory level.

Annex 1. Key performance indicators

Table 1. Key

Rating	Key
5	Target completed or in advance of target
4	Target on track at present with no apparent risk of falling behind
3	Target not at risk but additional action is required to either bring them back on track or avoid risk of project falling behind in future
2	Currently not on track with a significant risk of failure to complete. Action required
1	Target severely behind schedule with no possibility of meeting the overall aim
D	Target postponed, cancelled or subsumed by another target (Please explain in comments)

Table 2. Progress against KPIs

No	Programme	KPI	Q1	Q2	Q3	Cumulative comments on performance Q3
1	Global Advice	<p>Provide evidence-based scientific support to Government with respect to priority multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), seeking to take a thematic approach across agreements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide input to meetings of MEAs, in particular the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in January 2010, preparatory meetings for the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in October 2010, and technical meetings of the Convention on Migratory Species and the Ramsar Convention; 	4	4	4	<p>JNCC has continued to provide scientific support to Government on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), with increasing effort and EC meetings during Q3, on preparations for the CITES Conference of the Parties in March 2010. Preparations for the 10th Convention on Biological Diversity Conference of Parties started through advice to Defra on first draft papers and the post-2010 target framework. Ongoing support on other agreements has been maintained.</p> <p>In Q3 we advised on 4,921 licence</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> in spring 2009, organise for key stakeholders an event to provide feedback from recent MEA Conferences of the Parties and to identify emerging issues and actions the UK may need to take to address these; provide, to agreed service standards, high-quality advice to Animal Health on approximately 20,000 CITES licence consultations per annum. 				<p>applications with a cumulative total of 15,839 so far this year (an increase of 2,872 by this stage on the previous year); this is despite the introduction of a new charging regime on 1 April 2009. All applications have been returned within agreed service standards.</p> <p>The MEA event was held in late May and was well attended and successful. Follow up to the conference is now underway with the aim of developing the UK approach to MEAs on key themes to form the basis of a similar workshop in Brussels in June 2010.</p>
2	Global Advice	Define JNCC's role in relation to biodiversity aspects of international forest and timber policy, and begin to develop advice to Government.	4	4	3	<p>A workshop was held between JNCC staff and contractors. A draft report has now been received and reviewed. Recommendations will form the basis of a Joint Committee paper in June 2010.</p>
3	Overseas Territories	<p>Provide advice to Overseas Territory governments, UK Government and others on key nature conservation issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> by June 2009, prepare a draft UK Government strategy to support the work of Overseas Territories governments on biodiversity conservation in the Territories for the 	4	4	3	<p>The UK government strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the Overseas Territories is now complete. The first interdepartmental meeting took place on 29 September with JNCC providing the secretariat role. JNCC also presented an overview of its own programme and</p>

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		<p>consideration of the Inter-Departmental Ministerial Group on Ecosystems and Biodiversity (IDMGEB), and contribute to implementation of the strategy as appropriate;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by December 2009, develop practical advice on adaptation to climate change within one region/Territory (to be extended to other Territories as demand requires by December 2010); • develop a costed action plan to address priority issues relating to non-native species in the Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies. 				<p>future plans which was endorsed by the group. JNCC is in the early stages of planning for the meeting which will be held in April 2010.</p> <p>Work related to adaptation on climate change has not progressed due in part to the demand of other Overseas Territory priorities (in particular the need to spend additional resources made available to Defra) and also in part due to limited engagement by relevant Territories.</p> <p>A costed action plan on invasive alien species will be completed Q4. JNCC has reached an agreement with Cayman Islands Department of Environment to act as a regional focal point. This focal point is being used to manage Defra funds for work on invasive alien species and also apply for EU funding.</p>
4	Overseas Territories	Facilitate with the UK science community a programme to address Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies research priorities.	4	4	4	The steering group for this work met in September to agree a 3-year forward programme. Planning for the next meeting of the steering group is now complete.
5	Overseas Territories	Provide advice, prepare guidance and arrange training to governments of the Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies and others on funding sources for nature conservation projects.	4	4	4	A training package to assist Overseas Territories to make applications for funding is available and has been trialled in St Helena and the Falklands. An

No	Programme	KPI	Q1	Q2	Q3	Cumulative comments on performance Q3
						application for EU funding (1.6m euros) has been made to support invasive alien species projects in the Caribbean. The first stage was successful and the final application is in preparation for submission in Q4.
6	UK's Global Impact	Publish an annual overview of the links between UK (and devolved) economies and global biodiversity impacts, and thematic reports on trade in forest and food products, foreign direct investment and biofuels.	3	4	3	The Overseas Territories work continues to take priority. The scope and nature of the Global Impacts reports will be adjusted to accommodate time available for this work.
7	UK's Global Impact	Maintain a website providing Government and other users with global trade and investment statistics and summary information on biodiversity in priority countries, and by March 2010 transfer selected content to the main JNCC website.	4	4	4	The project website has been progressively updated. The number of users visiting the website is being monitored to assess interest in particular subject areas. We have been informed that the project site must be closed by the end of 2010 to comply with UK Government streamlining of websites. Selected components will need to be transferred to the JNCC website and options for doing this are under consideration. The most likely option is to focus effort on key international strategic themes.
8	European Intelligence and Advice	Ensure that intelligence on priority EU policy areas affecting nature conservation (climate change, energy, land use and maritime) is effectively disseminated to the country conservation bodies and other key stakeholders, including through online systems.	4	4	4	A new website for the European Intelligence Service (EIS) is up and running. An online forward look information product for the UK Nature and Landscape Office has been

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						developed and is mostly in place. A paper was prepared for the September Committee meeting giving a provisional forward look for the Spanish, Belgian and Hungarian presidencies and a more in depth paper is being prepared for the March 2010 Committee meeting.
9	European Intelligence and Advice	Analyse the work programme and priorities of the new European Commission and Parliament to assess implications for the work of JNCC and the country conservation bodies beyond 2009.	3	3	3	We are unlikely to deliver fully on this KPI until Q4 when the new Commission will be in place and a work programme agreed. Information gathering is still underway, and the situation is becoming clearer with the appointment of new Commissioners and Presidency Forward Looks published.
10	European Intelligence and Advice	Provide advice on emerging EU policy developments linked to the budget review and stocktaking of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy, in particular for agriculture, territorial cohesion, energy and transport.	3	4	4	Cross-agency advice has been provided to government on sustainability criteria for biofuels for comitology process. Work on defining criteria for highly biodiverse grasslands continues. In other areas progress is slow because of the uncertainties in the EU institutions. Response was provided to the consultation on successor to the Lisbon Strategy and potential to integrate with the Sustainable Development Strategy. Full delivery of target in Q4.
11	European Intelligence and	Through links with the European Topic Centre for Biodiversity, support analyses for streamlining and	4	4	4	A considerable contribution has been made to the governance of biodiversity

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	Advice	harmonising future EU biodiversity policy (including reporting on the nature Directives, development of post-2010 targets for nature conservation and the use of Streamlining European 2010 Biodiversity Indicators).				issues under the EU Coordination Group for Biodiversity and Nature, including providing briefings, advice and attendance at meetings. Overall complementarities of EU biodiversity governance at UK level are being assessed. Information has been disseminated to the country conservation bodies on the EU position on post-2010 biodiversity targets and a seminar is planned for Q4.
12	Sustainability Advice	By August 2009, work with the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, IUCN and other international partners to develop a policy/decision-makers guide to the ecosystem approach.	2	D	D	Due to changes in staffing this KPI will not be achieved this financial year. However, it will be possible to resume this work when the team is back up to full complement, expected in 2010.
13	Sustainability Advice	Provide technical input to the UK National Ecosystem Assessment and international initiatives such as the European Environment Agency's EURECA (European Ecosystem Assessment) project and further work under the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, in particular to ensure synergies between the projects.	4	4	4	On the National Ecosystem Assessment, JNCC has engaged with the World Conservation Monitoring Centre to identify and mobilise data. Communication with the country conservation bodies has been facilitated through the establishment of an inter-agency group to co-ordinate engagement and provide a more consistent UK overview. Work to make key biodiversity data sources available to authors has been completed. JNCC, along with the British Ecological Society, organised a joint workshop on the

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						<p>National Ecosystem Assessment in support of the Biodiversity Research Advisory Group in December.</p> <p>EURECA work has been on hold while the European Environment Agency concentrates on their State of the Environment Report. This is likely to pick up in 2010.</p>
14	Sustainability Advice	Contribute advice on environmental economics and ecosystem goods and services to The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity project (TEEB) through direct advice to the TEEB team and through Defra (final outputs to be produced by October 2010).	4	4	4	<p>Working with Defra, JNCC is contributing to the development of the TEEB work. This work will increase towards the end of this financial year and during the spring of 2010 as material is prepared for the Convention on Biological Diversity Conference of the Parties in 2010.</p> <p>JNCC is supporting Defra in the organisation of an international workshop linking TEEB with discussions on post-2010 targets, to be co-hosted by the UK and Brazil in January 2010.</p>
15	Conservation Advice	By June 2009, complete a review of JNCC's future role in setting UK-wide standards, in collaboration with the country conservation bodies and Government.	5	5	5	<p>The KPI has been met following approval of papers at June and September Joint Committee meetings.</p> <p>Further work on marine common standards is planned for 2010/11.</p>
16	Conservation Advice	Make substantial progress towards a review of the UK's terrestrial SPA network.	3	4	4	Following agreement of the specification for the phase one scientific support

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						contract, this has been awarded to BTO. A further SPA Scientific Working group meeting was held on 20th October.
17	Conservation Advice	Assess the need for revision of the guidance for selection of biological Sites/ Areas of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs/ASSIs), and agree a work plan for any revisions required.	4	4	4	JNCC and Natural England submitted evidence to the House of Commons Innovation, Universities, Science and Skills (IUSS) Committee on the need for review of biological SSSI guidelines. The Government response to the IUSS report committed JNCC to publish a timetable for review of Sections A and B of the guidelines by December 2010. The Chief Scientists' Group agreed to establish an inter-agency group to co-ordinate the review and the first meeting of the group was held in November. A workplan and timetable have been signed off by Defra and the country conservation bodies. The next meeting of the inter-agency group is scheduled for late January. The announcement of levels of SSSIs in England to be carried out by Professor J Lawton will affect the timetable for this work.
18	Conservation Advice	Complete the preparation of written text for a further four volumes of the Geological Conservation Review series.	4	4	5	Text for three volumes is on schedule for publication by March 2010 (Arthropods, Minerals England & Wales, Marine Devonian), subject to additional allocation of funds for printing. Furthermore, one additional volume

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						(Dalradian) is likely to be progressed to proof stage by March 2010.
19	Marine Management Advice	Ensure that 95% of requests for statutory advice on offshore industries are responded fully to within the relevant consultation period.	3	4	4	The risk of being unable to provide the level of ornithological advice needed to inform appropriate assessment requirements of Crown Estate`s Round 3 zonal agreements (reported in Q1 and Q2) has been addressed with the recruitment of a new post in Q3.
20	Marine Management Advice	<p>Provide advice on offshore marine protected areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by seven months after Governmental go-ahead is given, report to Defra on the second public consultation on offshore Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). Consult and report on a third tranche of offshore sites, including Impact Assessment for each site; • develop and communicate conservation objectives and Operations Advice on offshore SACs and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) as they are recommended to Government and within 12 months of their notification to the European Commission; • in co-operation with the country conservation bodies, develop and communicate guidance for the development of conservation objectives and advice on Marine Conservation Zones/Marine Protected Areas. 	3	2	2	<p>There are still major delays caused in part by difficulties over Dogger Bank and harbour porpoises. The consultation on the second tranche of sites will be completed in this financial year, but the report probably will not be. Preparations for the third tranche of site consultations are in hand (some sites delayed from second tranche).</p> <p>Conservation objectives and operations advice delayed consequentially (and by gaps in staffing).</p> <p>Work on coordinating the approach to conservation objectives is underway but will not lead to guidance this financial year.</p>
21	Marine	By September 2009, start to implement an inter-	4	4	3	A joint response to the European

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	Management Advice	agency influencing strategy for the 2012 review of the Common Fisheries Policy.				Commission's CFP consultation was submitted to the Commission, Defra and Scottish Government in December. Very little other work has been done or will be possible on this due to diversion of resources to the various marine protected area projects.
22	Marine Management Advice	Provide specialist advice to the UK Government and devolved administrations to support their proposals for new legislation to achieve sustainable use of the UK seas, and assess the implications of the legislative proposals for UK's international commitments for marine biodiversity.	4	4	4	Advice has been provided to both Defra and the Scottish Government. In both cases the advice seems to have accepted and been useful. Advice reflects the priorities of the respective administrations. The UK Marine and Coastal Access Act is now in existence, and progress is good on the Scottish Marine Bill.
23	Marine Mapping and Ecosystem Assessment	Contribute to implementation of the OSPAR Convention and the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive, particularly to support regional implementation of the biodiversity assessment and monitoring requirements of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.	3	3	3	Limited reactive advice was provided to Defra and OSPAR due to time restraints, except preparation of Task Group 1 guidance on biodiversity. Integration with UK biodiversity surveillance programme and developments at OSPAR level are being progressed. An additional Defra Defra-funded post to focus on achievement of this KPI was recruited in Q3.
24	Marine Mapping and Ecosystem Assessment	Provide an updated broad-scale habitat map for UK waters, based on newly-available physical datasets and improved modelling techniques.	4	4	4	Data layers from a Defra contract have now been delivered (but with two months delay). Staff have spent a large part of this quarter investigating anomalies in

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						some of the data layers, in discussions with the contractors. The KPI will be met by March 2010.
25	Marine Mapping and Ecosystem Assessment	Acquire, develop or obtain access to data sets on human uses of the marine environment.	3	3	2	The scope of this target will be reduced because of a dependency on a Defra contract that will not deliver until March/April 2010 (originally expected Nov/Dec 2009). Progress has however been made with scoping work, and we have started to explore how we can use these datasets within the Marine Surveillance programme, in order to prioritise need.
26	Marine Protected Areas	<p>Progress work to recommend to Government a series of offshore Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), in parallel with work by the country conservation bodies in inshore waters, to fulfil Habitats Directive obligations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recommend to Government two additional offshore SACs based on survey data obtained in 2007/08; • complete new survey and analysis of potential sites in offshore waters to enable the identification of a set of offshore SACs. 	4 ¹	4	4	<p>Two sites (Inner Dowsing, Race Bank and North Ridge; Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton) have been recommended to Government. Pisces Reef site proposal on track for completion in Q4.</p> <p>Offshore survey has been completed albeit encountering some technical problems that extended the duration of the work. Excellent results were obtained and the reporting process is on schedule.</p> <p>Additional analysis work was required in</p>

¹ This KPI was erroneously reported as a 5 at the end of quarter 1. It should have been scored as a 4.

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						Q3 on the Dogger Bank site proposal and is having a significant effect on progressing other sites
27	Marine Protected Areas	<p>Recommend to government a series of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) in offshore waters, in conjunction with parallel work by the country conservation bodies in inshore waters (based upon survey and analyses by JNCC), to fulfil Birds Directive objections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete analysis of ESAS “offshore” data in support of possible SPA identification and advise stakeholders of results; • complete survey and analyses for a further 10 inshore areas of search for potential SPAs; • establish area/colony-specific research and survey aimed at identifying marine SPAs for breeding terns; • complete analysis of breeding red-throated diver data in support of possible SPA identification and advise stakeholders of results; • identify a provisional network of marine SPAs in UK waters. 	3	3	3	<p>31 existing seabird colony SPAs have been extended into the marine environment following our advice to Scottish Government and these were formally submitted to the European Commission in Q3.</p> <p>The ‘offshore’ strand of work was subject to five peer reviews. The referees’ comments have been addressed and presentations were given to Chief Scientists Group in October 2009.</p> <p>The inshore survey programme is almost complete and will probably be so after next winter season (2009/10). Analyses for at least 10 inshore areas are still on schedule to be completed this financial year. Informal consultation has begun on the Outer Thames and Liverpool Bay pSPAs.</p> <p>Fieldwork for year 1 of the revised tern work has been completed with promising results. Interim analyses of the data have been completed and an interim report written and disseminated.</p>

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						<p>Future meetings and further analyses of breeding red-throated diver data are planned in Q4;</p> <p>Coherence of the network of SPAs will emerge only towards the end of the programme of work. Much of the work is still dependent on attracting funding from the relevant agencies. While we have been successful in this to date future funding is not guaranteed.</p>
28	Marine Protected Areas	<p>Deliver the milestones relevant to JNCC in 2009/10 of the Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) project plan agreed by the UK Governments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work in partnership with Natural England to establish and progress four regional Marine Conservation Zone projects to engage stakeholders in recommending an ecologically coherent England MPA network; • finalise ecological guidance and provide to England MCZ regional projects to enable them to identify MCZs that satisfy UK MPA objectives; • establish and progress a stakeholder advisory group to facilitate the engagement of national and international stakeholders in the England MCZ project; • in partnership with Scottish Government and 	3	3	2	<p>Stakeholder aspects of the MCZ work is behind schedule due to recruitment delays - this is a cause for concern. We are developing plans to mitigate the risk and deliver the key requirements for the MCZ Regional Projects.</p> <p>Work on the Ecological Network Guidance remains on track according to the revised timeline but there is a risk that we cannot complete on schedule if there are significant comments returned from peer review.</p> <p>There have been difficulties in agreeing the Terms of Reference for the National Stakeholders Forum across government and JNCC are committing further time to</p>

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		SNH, establish and progress a Scottish Marine Protected Area Project to recommend MPAs in Scottish offshore waters.				<p>the work in Q4 to bring the work back on schedule.</p> <p>The Scottish MPA Project is progressing well with the Scottish MPA team making big strides in pushing the work forward. Whilst the Marine (Scotland) Bill is passing through the Scottish Parliamentary process we are pushing forward on preparatory tasks, and collaborating with SNH on research contracts that will underpin future MPA work.</p>
29	Marine Surveillance and Monitoring	Initiate developmental work, in a joint project with all other country conservation bodies, that will define options for an operational monitoring programme for marine habitats, birds, cetaceans and other marine features that will meet UK statutory and policy requirements in an integrated manner.	3	3	3	As expected, expanding the programme to include all waters is taking time as new agencies need to be brought onboard, and a substantial rewrite of the business case has been needed. Ensuring agencies have sufficient resources to be part of the programme is critical, as without them there is a risk they will become detached, leaving an impression of this being a JNCC initiative, which it cannot be if it is to succeed. Additional planning work has also been required on two possible expansions to the Programme that governments wish to consider; monitoring of all protected sites and of most other biodiversity. This has hampered progress in some areas.

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						Recruitment is also proving problematic.
30	Surveillance and Monitoring	By May 2009, provide updated long, medium and short-term trends for selected bird, butterfly and mammal species using data up to the end of 2008, and by February 2010 improve the online mechanisms for accessing trend information and data for breeding seabirds, plants and an invertebrate group.	4	4	4	Trends for bird, butterfly and mammal species using data from 2008 have been published via their respective schemes during the period April 2009 (mammals) to January 2010 (butterflies). Improvements in the butterfly monitoring scheme made this year will mean that publication of the 2009 data should be achievable by May 2010. Pilot versions of online seabird and grasshopper/cricket (Orthoptera) reporting were reviewed in November and work is underway to modify the pilots ready for publication.
31	Surveillance and Monitoring	By March 2010, provide advice on cost-effective, innovative and integrated approaches to surveillance and monitoring of biodiversity for evaluation of key pressures and to inform policy development including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasive non-native species • Climate change impacts • Atmospheric pollution • Emerging threats • Land use/land cover change 	4	4	4	Climate change impacts advice will be based on results of the Defra-funded Biodiversity Impacts of Climate Change Observation Network project which is managed by JNCC. Advice has been given through the GB Non-native Species Information Portal project board on how to establish rapid access to non-native species data making best use of the National Biodiversity Network (NBN). A JNCC, Defra, CCW and SNH funding partnership has been established, and has

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						<p>commissioned research to test whether existing surveillance on atmospheric pollution is sufficient to meet policy needs.</p> <p>A paper is in preparation for Joint Committee on the evidence of pressures on biodiversity which will also identify where we need to adjust the strategy to pick up pressures in future.</p> <p>A collaborative research project has been started between the British Trust for Ornithology and the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, using the research components of our surveillance partnerships with each, to identify research questions around landscape-scale conservation and how observational data can complement models with empirical data.</p>
32	Surveillance and Monitoring	<p>By October 2009 establish the Terrestrial Biodiversity Surveillance Strategy Implementation Group (TBSSIG) to co-ordinate surveillance between the agencies and with other partners as a contribution to the Environmental Observation Framework.</p> <p>By March 2010, provide an assessment of country agency and JNCC plans to address requirements under</p>	3	4	3	<p>A preliminary meeting of agency representatives for TBSSIG was held in October to review remaining barriers to bringing agencies and other partners into a single process. A second agency only meeting is booked for February.</p> <p>Interim assessment of Habitats Directive</p>

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		Article 11 and 17 of the Habitats Directive for monitoring, surveillance and reporting.				surveillance and gaps has been completed and papers delivered to the Four Countries Group, the UK Biodiversity Partnership Standing Committee and Chief Scientists. Progress in reviewing country and JNCC plans is delayed as it is not clear how far the agencies have progressed and we will need to change priorities in the last quarter to make sure we have enough staff resources to complete the work.
33	Surveillance and Monitoring	Complete a review of the bird surveillance portfolio of the programme and identify requirements for further alignment with the surveillance strategy.	3	4	4	The main JNCC/BTO bird monitoring partnership has been reviewed against JNCC and stakeholder objectives for its future agreed at the Chief Scientists in November. Negotiations have matched these with BTO objectives and the themes and work plans agreed to deliver them. A draft contract is ready for final stakeholder comment and a business case drafted for Defra approval. The goose and swan monitoring has been reviewed and aligned with strategy and the Goose Science Advisory Group Scotland priorities for goose and swan data.
34	Surveillance and Monitoring	Identify a suite of existing initiatives (including global best practice, European projects and country-level work) that can be used to determine whether remote	3	3	4	Advice delivered to Defra on a range of projects that affect the future of land use and land cover data sets at the European

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		sensing and other new approaches can provide a cost-effective way of assessing the extent and condition of priority habitats.				<p>scale. Liaison has been established with the network of European Nature Conservation Agencies work and the EBONE research project to influence the agenda of a European seminar looking at Earth observation applications to biodiversity.</p> <p>A project proposal has been developed and is out for consultation with agencies and Defra, and an allocation has been made in Defra's biodiversity, land and people research programme to support this aspect of the strategy development.</p>
35	Access to Information	<p>By March 2011, ensure that there are no significant technological barriers to efficient data capture and exchange of biodiversity data across the voluntary sector in the UK. By March 2010:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review how the current suite of tools and guidance are supporting the flow and quality of data about biodiversity within the UK and develop an action plan (agreed across the country conservation bodies) for how it can be improved; • pilot a trial of data exchange and verification between a national scheme and a selection of local record centres; • extend the capability of the National Biodiversity Network to meet basic 	3	3	4	<p>Review of validation tool is complete and a revised version is due for release in March. Another tool has been developed that builds the rule sets that this validation tool uses. We are now developing a package containing the validation tool and documentation for roll out by the end of the financial year.</p> <p>Pilot to look at issues with data exchange is underway with the Botanical Society of the British Isles.</p> <p>Initial specification for habitat data drawn up and a first suite of functionality will be rolled out by the end of the</p>

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		requirements for the exchange and use of habitat data.				financial year.
36	Access to Information	Review the barriers to the flow of biodiversity data across Europe and identify any generic action needed to address this, focusing on the potential reuse of tools and standards developed within the UK.	3	3	3	Meeting booked with the other European nodes of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) to look at action required across Europe. We have contributed to the European Biodiversity Data Centre strategy and particularly the forward plan. Still need to do a bit more work to consolidate review work that has been done to identify further action required.
37	Access to information	Restructure the JNCC website to reflect the JNCC's refreshed strategy and establish a reliable on-going editorial process to maintain its currency.	3	3	3	There is still reasonable risk around getting this KPI delivered. Approximately 50% of the required text exists - the next step is to draw up a detailed plan around what is needed, by who and when. The editorial contract is not yet in place but is drafted and has been circulated to the potential contractors (so can run relatively quickly). Corporate redesign is under way and again the contract to apply this to the website is drafted.
38	Policy-relevant Information and Reporting	Provide information that integrates research results, surveillance and monitoring data and published materials to assist JNCC, country conservation bodies and others to meet their biodiversity evidence requirements:	4	4	4	The authoring, advice and support to the Charting Progress 2 partnership is on track. JNCC contributed to the timely web and

No	Programme	KPI	Q1	Q2	Q3	Cumulative comments on performance Q3
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contribute to Charting Progress 2 by providing lead authorship of key chapters by May 2010, using this as an opportunity to develop better methodologies for habitat assessments and to improve the availability and accessibility of marine information; • support the Defra publication of UK 2010 biodiversity indicators in May 2009 and their further development and update in 2010; • provide evidence in the form of targeted reports and web-based data and information to support JNCC's and country conservation bodies' advice on invasive alien species, climate change, land use (including Common Agricultural Policy reform), pollution and emerging threats to biodiversity; • by September 2009, compile evidence and produce a report to support country implementation of priority habitat and species action plans, to assist reporting on the outcome of biodiversity actions, and to start the process of agreeing how to measure success. 				<p>hard copy publication of 'UK Biodiversity Indicators in Your Pocket' in May 2009. JNCC supported an international workshop organised by the World Conservation Monitoring Centre to consider the global indicator framework post-2010.</p> <p>A ministerial briefing on the impacts of the non-native invasive fungal disease <i>Phytophthora</i> has been produced and a research specification prepared and let by Defra. Web material and a leaflet have been produced to communicate the issue more widely.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Impacts of Climate Change Observation Network (BiCCOnet) project is starting to produce results on the impacts of climate change on species.</p> <p>Work on land use has been dropped.</p> <p>Work on pollution is covered by a target in another programme (Surveillance and Monitoring).</p> <p>On request by BRIG, six baseline data reports have been produced for each of the UK BAP priority species and habitats.</p> <p>A Joint committee paper on the pressures</p>

No	Programme	KPI	Q1	Q2	Q3	Cumulative comments on performance Q3
						(threats) facing biodiversity is in production.
39	Policy-relevant Information and Reporting	<p>Contribute to the establishment of a more effective science-policy interface for international biodiversity decision taking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop and promote an overarching strategy and view of how existing international science initiatives fit together; • contribute to and influence international surveillance and monitoring initiatives such as the Global Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO-BON); • influence the design of international reports and assessments that feed science and evidence into decision-taking processes, including follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment; • participate in the development and work of international science bodies and platforms such as the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystems Services. 	4	4	4	<p>JNCC led the UK delegation at the 2nd multi-stakeholder meeting of the International Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Nairobi and has been working with Defra on follow-up activities.</p> <p>JNCC also attended a European research meeting on the idea of a network of knowledge. A paper on the international science policy interface and JNCC's strategy for engagement was agreed by Committee in December 2009.</p> <p>The UK Fourth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was well received, and has been used by the CBD secretariat as a model for regional capacity building workshops in Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe. Advice was provided to Defra in relation to the CBD consultation on Global Biodiversity Outlook 3.</p> <p>JNCC attended the European Platform for Biodiversity and Research Strategy (EPBRS) meeting hosted by the Swedish</p>

No	Programme	KPI	Q1	Q2	Q3	Cumulative comments on performance Q3
						EU Presidency and agreed recommendations needed for post-2010 targets in Europe, and a EPBRS consultation paper on a European Biodiversity Research Strategy.
40	Policy-relevant Information and Reporting	<p>Identify the most effective options for undertaking research to meet the needs of JNCC, and nature conservation more broadly, and start to influence research funding bodies and researchers accordingly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by July 2009, provide an effective interface with the Living with Environmental Change (LWEC) research programme; • develop and implement a system for capturing emerging research priorities; • engage with international and European biodiversity research programmes, in particular Biodiversa and European framework programmes. 	4	4	3	<p>Some influence has been achieved through the Biodiversity Research Advisory Group (BRAG) and via the Rural Economy and Land Use Programme (RELU). The National Ecosystem Assessment project JNCC is engaging with is classified as an LWEC contribution. Further work has not been possible because of increased European engagement but will be picked up again in Q4 to complete the KPI.</p> <p>Work was undertaken to contribute to Defra's R&D review and work programme, including suggestions on priority UK research. Emerging research priorities are kept under continued review through the activities of the Biodiversity Research Advisory Group (BRAG) JNCC also contributed to the review of the Environment Research Funders' Forum.</p> <p>JNCC contributed to the preparation of a new strategy for the European Platform</p>

No	Programme	KPI	Q1	Q2	Q3	Cumulative comments on performance Q3
						for Biodiversity Research Strategy. JNCC has taken an active role in shaping and participating in the next tender for the continuation of Biodiversa (Biodiversa 2), which was substantially completed in Q3. JNCC provided advice to Defra on engagement with the EU Net-BIOME project.
41	Governance and Corporate Services	Review the Governance and Support Services programme, identify priority actions to further improve its efficiency and effectiveness, and prepare a timetable for implementation	2	3	3	The review has been completed and an action plan will be drawn up in Q4. It has been recognised that we need to benchmark the services and ensure that the current provision of services are at the appropriate level. Issues identified include enhancement of IT systems, eliminating unnecessary procedures, and collaborative working.
42	Governance and Corporate Services	Deploy a new information management system for unstructured records that incorporates the creation of a new electronic directory structure that better reflects the functions of the JNCC, a new set of policies and guidelines that assist staff in the management of electronic documents through their lifecycle, and a new search engine that facilitates the searching of both the old and new directory structures	3	3	3	In December, the company Board endorsed revisions to the original KPI, recognising that a full migration strategy would not be appropriate since the effort required in staff time would outweigh the benefits to staff. The Project Initiation Document has been approved, specialist suppliers contracted, and first level of workshops organised. Success in this KPI depends on the full involvement of managers in other sections to assist with the file plan design. Some managers have found it difficult to give this work the

No	Programme	KPI	Q1	Q2	Q3	Cumulative comments on performance Q3
						priority that it requires.
43	Governance and Corporate Services	By June 2009, implement changes to JNCC's governance arrangements in line with the strategy review and by March 2010 align JNCC work programmes with the new strategy.	4	4	4	Revisions to the package of corporate governance documentation were completed in June. A review of programme structure has been undertaken but only minimal changes have been planned as a result. Through the business planning process which began in early summer work programmes will continue to be aligned with the strategy.
44	Governance and Corporate Services	Implement a structured approach to stakeholder relationship management and to the communication of key advice and information arising from JNCC's work programmes.	3	3	3	A structured approach to stakeholder relationship management will be piloted in the marine area where this is considered to be of particular importance. This work is still at an early stage, and meetings with stakeholders who have implemented similar programmes have been planned. A scoping document and plans for a workshop are in progress, but their completion this financial year will depend on other work priorities.

Annex 2 Financial Out-turn

Programme title	Full year budget 2009/10 as at 28/2/2010	Estimated net spend to year end	Variance over/(under) budget	%age of budget utilised
Global Advice	42,400	40,334	(2,066)	95.1%
Overseas Territories & Crown Dependencies	48,850	48,087	(763)	98.4%
UK's Global Impact	15,000	15,764	764	105.1%
European Intelligence & Advice	156,500	152,622	(3,878)	97.5%
Sustainability Advice	77,000	60,558	(16,442)	78.6%
Marine Management Advice	70,065	43,249	(26,816)	61.7%
Marine Mapping & Ecosystem Assessment	38,904	51,247	12,343	131.7%
Marine Protected Areas	601,879	572,487	(29,392)	95.1%
Marine Surveillance	15,178	(18,079)	(33,257)	-119.1%
Conservation Advice	201,300	213,970	12,670	106.3%
Surveillance & Monitoring	1,112,688	1,105,756	(6,932)	99.4%
Access to Information	96,500	103,958	7,458	107.7%
Policy Relevant Information	13,100	13,080	(20)	99.8%
Governance & Corporate Services	951,960	945,619	(6,341)	99.3%
Salaries	4,313,532	4,314,546	1,014	100.0%
Total	7,754,856	7,663,198	(91,658)	98.8%
GIA	7,763,000	7,763,000		
Over/(under)-allocation	(8,144)	(99,802)		