



## SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Update on sub-groups

#### Purpose

1. This paper updates the Committee on the work of its sub-groups.

#### Action

2. **The Committee is asked to note the update.**

#### Preparation of the paper

3. The paper was written by Sarah Hutcheon and Des Thompson, and is sponsored by Eileen Stuart.

#### Background

4. Committee sub groups review our work and provide advice from Committee and Expert Panel members on novel, contentious or complex matters. The sub-groups contain at least two Committee members (one of whom chairs the sub-group), two Expert Panel members, and as required additional expertise. A staff member provides the secretariat. Depending on the Terms of Reference, the sub-groups report to the Board, to the Committee, or to members of the Senior Leadership Team.
5. This paper provides an update on proposed/existing sub-groups. **Annex A** is a tracker we shall use for updating progress.

#### Existing sub-groups

6. The work of the Foveran sub-group was significant in scope and detail, and was commended by the Protected Areas Committee and Board.
7. We have received formal commendation from the CBD Secretariat regarding work, which was quality assured by the genetics sub-group and included contributions from several expert panel members.

#### New Sub-groups

8. Currently, no sub-groups proposed.

#### Contact:

Des Thompson [Des.thompson@nature.scot](mailto:Des.thompson@nature.scot)

## Annex A. Committee Sub-group tracker.

March 2021

<b>SAC Sub-group</b>	<b>Task set</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Date set up</b>	<b>Progress update</b>	<b>How advice has been used</b>
Monitoring and Surveillance	Advise on existing and proposed approaches	Ruth Mitchell (chair), Jerry Wilson, Sarah Woodin, Phil Boulcott, James Pearce-Higgins, Andy Nisbet, Beth Scott	March 2019	Work complete. Report submitted to Committee, September 2020	NatureScot staff are developing an implementation plan for taking forward the recommendations from the report.
Aichi Reporting	QA of the Scottish reports	Bob Furness (chair), Ruth Mitchell, Jerry Wilson, Aileen Mill	Sept 2017	Commented on revised 2019 report	2019 Aichi report has been published. Summary 2020 report will be published in March.
MPA	Report to PAC as requested on consultations	Bob Furness, Aileen Mill, Ben Wilson, Beth Scott	2013	Not met in 2020	
Genetics	Advise staff on development of novel genetics framework	Josephine Pemberton, Pete Hollingsworth, Richard Ennos, Rob Ogden	March 2019	Reviewed Aichi target 13 reporting in April 2020	Advice was used to assure Aichi Reporting subgroup of robustness of Target 13 reporting. Work has been commended by CBD.
Foveran	Request for advice from the PAC on the denotification of Foveran Links SSSI	Martin Price (Chair), Ruth Mitchell, Sarah Woodin, Chris Ellis, Pat Doody	5/20	Work complete. Report submitted to the Protected Areas Committee.	The report from the sub group was used by the PAC to inform their decision on the partial denotification of Foveran Links.