

<p>2.3 <u>Sustainability statement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been considerable debate by e-mail on this. There are many fundamental questions to address before the Group can progress in full. As above for the Aims & Objectives, key parties to come together to work up and agree the Sustainability statement & detail on 5 February. • Meet at Fishmongers (or ZSL) Fri 5 February. David to organise. 	DB
<p>2.4 <u>Relationship between major stakeholders</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no major conflicts or issues listed between different interests. It was recognised that we have a common interest to seek sustainable eel populations at whole ecosystem level (ie. to benefit wildlife, communities and commercial interests) • Some, esp. Govt agencies (EA, Cefas & AFBNI) are used to playing a balancing act between what can be perceived as conflicting interests and priorities • Commercial fishermen obviously have a vested interest, but are also dependent on a sustainable eel population. Derek Evans to seek to persuade LNFC to attend in future. • Angling interests were content with working within the broad objectives. • Conservation interests: must protect the species and enable sustainable fishing • The chairman stated that: any conflicts should be openly raised and people should not be embarrassed to do so. 	DE All
<p>2.5 <u>Concept and formation of 5 functional teams</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All agreed. 	
<p>2.6 <u>Leadership and membership of those teams</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading: membership & plan as per slides agreed • Creating the resources (funding initially). Contributions from some organisations had been offered already. Andrew reported that the European Fisheries Fund would see the Group as viable, particularly on presentation of a plan. Water Cos. May be a source of income. We feel the £10k target is achievable. AK to work with Andy Don to apply to Fisheries Challenge Fund • Developing messages & positions: agreed. Include DB, MA, Pat Close of Lough Neagh Fishermens Co-operative (via DE). HS will circulate response to byelaw consultation • Supporting Eel Management Plans (these will provide a blue-print for management of the Eel as a whole): Agreed: Heidi to lead – plus need Rivers Trusts (Alistair Maltby? Via MO), someone from NI. MA to invite others as appropriate, add Janina Gray, Mark Owen, Derek Evans • Communicating messages & positions: Agreed, but Chetal leaving Defra, add Tom Fort, Matt Gollock, an EA person (HS to advise). Website: Peter Wood’s office to assist. All to send a 1 – 2 sentence resume for each member for the website. Website will be low – cost, but may wish to enhance over time. • Chairs of those meeting to organise those meetings to best suit membership • Resourcing: agreed - members to be supported by employers where possible, those not supported able to claim expenses from SEG, subject to budget 	AK, AD DE, DB HS MO MA AK HS All Team Leads All
<p>2.7 <u>Decision making process</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed. This is to enable progress between quarterly meetings. 	
<p>2.8 <u>Meeting plan for the year</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed – quarterly • Telecons can be used if necessary 	
<p>3. <u>Update on Eel matters - political, scientific, commercial and fishing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heidi – the Statutory Instrument proposed by the EA is due to come into place this 	

<p>Friday (if no objections)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French season so far – difficult to assess – there has been little fishing due to the cold weather • Greenpeace & WWF has been successful at dismantling the commercial fishery in Germany and Holland – many business are likely to fold this year. Dutch supermarket will stop selling eel. If this continues, the whole commercial fishery in Europe may collapse (WWF says eating an eel is like eating a Panda sandwich!). MO declared that his salary is funded by WWF – but he has no remit for Europe • ICES latest – Brian Knights will send a website link to David Bunt to circulate 	<p>BK</p>
<p>4. Notes of last meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed that these were an accurate record. • Any outstanding actions to be progressed where relevant 	<p>All</p>
<p>5. Next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting of group to agree purpose, aims, objectives & sustainability statements will be on Friday 5 February. Those involved to note date. To be held at Fishmongers (PK to advise) or Zoological Society London (ZSL) as back-up (MG) • Next full meeting will be on Friday 16 April – at either Fishmongers or ZSL. All to note in diaries. David to arrange in liaison with Paul and Matt. Alternating between Fishmongers and ZSL was identified to be a good share of resources. At Derek’s invitation, it was agreed that a meeting at Lough Neagh in the future would be educational as well as a change • Everyone agreed that the telecon worked well given the circumstances, and could be used again if and when necessary (eg. urgent or short meetings where travel is restrictive or unnecessary) • Andrew thanked everyone for their positive input 	<p>All PK, MG All DB</p>