

Arb panel discussion with WG Chris Worker Aug 2011

From: ian miller [mailto:ianoceans@yahoo.co.uk]
Sent: 31 August 2011 12:57
To: Worker, Chris (ESH - ECM)
Subject: Arbitration panel potential participants

Attention: Chris Worker

Swyddog Polisi Cadwraeth Natur - Nature Conservation Policy Officer
Llywodraeth Cymru - Welsh Government
Rhodfa Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3UR

Re.: Potential arbitration panel members

Dear Chris,

Thanks for the update you have just sent. On the topic of arbitration:

You'll be aware that it was agreed at a meeting with CCW's Head of Science, David Parker, that Science Review arbitration should proceed via a panel of three experts with appropriate scientific backgrounds plus a chair also with an appropriate background. These should all be as best can be judged impartial and independent and with suitable scientific 'credibility' and 'stature'.

I understand it is currently unclear how things will proceed or whether arbitration will still be needed on specific topics or generally following WG and Wales' Chief Scientific Officer's review of the documentation you have just received from us (and earlier from CCW). Just in case you have not already received these suggestions I enclose the following:-

. Prof. Read:

While researching a Forestry Commission report about climate change and forest mitigation - Combating Climate Change - a role for UK forests; the Carbon Code - I came across the following. The group who compiled the independent report was led by a Prof. David Read, Sheffield Uni.; Prof. of Plant Sciences & Vice President of the Royal Society.

His profile indicates that although I came across him in relation to a forest related topic he's actually a plant ecologist with (amongst other things) an interest in nutrient and water relationships in plant communities including dune ecology.

A glaring omission from the possible candidates for the panel so far is anyone with an overview of forestry. Prof. Read has obvious expertise regarding dune plant ecology and therefore will have an understanding of the issues related to the Warren slack plant communities, how to properly assess habitat condition, but also an understanding of forests. He could well make an ideal panel chair. He has the right background but also a background as a government advisor of appropriate 'stature' and credibility.

Prof. Sir David Read - profile:

<http://www.shef.ac.uk/aps/staff/acadstaff/read.html>

[Combating Climate Change report from the gov. website:](#)

[FO=1159966&Action=Book&ProductID=9780114973513&From=SearchResults](#)

. Charles Stratford CEH, Wallingford

When CCW were required to review the research that supported their arguments concerning forest 'impact' on hydrology of the Warren (2006) Charles Stratford led the CEH and BGS team that carried out that review. My impression was that the work was impartial and of a high scientific standard. Having the appropriate background and good knowledge of the Newborough Warren science and apparent impartiality as well as a track record in an advisory role to CCW/WG would suggest that he could make a suitable expert panel member.

He was contacted by Martin Hollingham and has provided a CV that may help inform any subsequent arbitration expert search.

. Prof. Roger Cooper:

Current Wales Woodland Strategy Advisory Panel [2007 - present]

Has worked in the forestry sector for 40 years and started his career in New Zealand where he worked as an economist for the New Zealand Forest Service. In 1972 he moved to the School of Agricultural and Forest Sciences at the University of Wales, Bangor where he was Head of School from 1997-2004 and retired in 2004. Teaching and research interests include UK and European forest policy, forest products marketing and economics, international trade in forest products and. In 2005 he coordinated the establishment of the Leadership Group of the Wales Forest Business Partnership and currently serving as a member; chairs the Interpretation Panel of UKWAS.

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