

## **WRITTEN MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS**

#### **Review of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee**

**21 March 2013**

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#### **The Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Natural Environment, Water and Rural Affairs (Richard Benyon)**

Today I am announcing the start of the Triennial Review of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). Triennial Reviews of non-department public bodies are part of the government's commitment to ensuring accountability in public life. The JNCC is a UK body and the Review will be conducted jointly with the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government and the Northern Ireland Assembly. I expect to announce the findings of the Review and recommendations in early summer 2013.

A joint discussion paper is being issued today, inviting responses by 11 April 2013. A copy of this discussion paper, which includes the Terms of Reference for the review, has been placed in the House Libraries.