



Scottish Policy Group

Volunteer members

Would you like to make a difference to wildlife and climate by joining the BES? We are looking for up to 5 people to join our volunteer Scottish Policy Group in 2024. This is an exciting opportunity to help shape and direct our policy work in Scotland to support the delivery of our vision for a world where nature and people thrive.

About the Policy Groups

The national policy groups for Wales, Scotland and England support the BES policy team to achieve the BES's strategic ambition of putting ecology at the heart of decision making. The policy team is currently made up of a Senior Policy Manager and three Officers working across Great Britain. They work with agencies, government departments, landowners, environmental NGOs and other key stakeholders to ensure that policy is underpinned by ecological evidence. They are supported in this work by the Policy Committee, chaired by trustee, Professor Rick Stafford. You can find out more about our group, including the terms of reference, on our website via this [link](#).



Key aims of the Policy Groups:

- To support the national policy officers in engaging policymakers and other key stakeholders across Wales, Scotland and England
- To proactively engage policymakers with the latest ecological evidence and to facilitate collaboration with ecology experts
- To upskill the ecological community, developing a network of 'knowledge holders' and facilitating their effective engagement in environmental policy.

Responsibilities of the Scottish Policy Group members:

- Attend the meetings of the group
- Contribute to consultation responses
- Contribute to the organisation of policy events
- Assist BES Staff in the production of briefings or discussions on their key areas of expertise



Who we're looking for:

To achieve an balance of knowledge and skills in our groups, we are especially looking for people who have experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Environmental policy in Scotland at national or local level
- Environmental communication and engagement in policy
- Environmental Law, planning or development

We also hope that you will:

- Have an understanding of the work of the BES
- Be able and keen to represent the BES and our vision and aims.



Reasons to get involved with our policy work:

- Support and training to communicate your ecological research to the relevant policymakers
- Invitations to exclusive networking and policy engagement events
- Develop contacts at the science-policy interface
- Receive dedicated briefings on the latest policy issues
- A forum to exchange ideas and develop novel applied research.

Time involved:

- New members of the Group will be appointed for an initial three years, the maximum length of involvement is two terms.
- Members of the Policy Groups are expected to attend four online meetings a year. If travel is required to travel for SPG activities, the BES will reimburse travel expenses.
- Scottish Policy Group members need to be based in Scotland in order to meet the goals of the Group.
- Meetings will take place between 9-5 within UK (GMT) business hours. Meetings are typically 2 hours and there may be times when 1 hour ad hoc meetings are called for particular projects. Notice will always be given for attendance at meetings.



How to apply:

Please click the green button 'Apply for this job' via our recruitment portal to submit:

- **Your CV** - no more than 2x A4 sides detailing your education, training and work history, as well as any relevant key skills
- **A covering letter** - no more than 1x A4 side answering the following questions:
 1. Why do you wish to join the Scottish BES policy group? (200 words max)
 2. What are your areas of interest and experience in policy? (200 words max)
 3. What would you hope to achieve during your term of 3 years? (200 words max)

We will review your answers as part of your application and we may reach out to ask follow on questions if we need, this may be by email or a telephone/video call. We will confirm applications by the end of March 2024.

- **Your Equality and Diversity information** - this voluntary information helps us to assess the diversity of our recruitment and further improve recruitment processes in future. It has no bearing on the success of your application and is not considering as part of the shortlisting process.

Further information:

We value the diversity and wide range of perspectives that people from different backgrounds bring to their work and to ecology, and we are committed to ensuring all our committees and working groups represent the diversity of our membership. We are especially interested in hearing from early career researchers, experts from under-represented & marginalised ethnicities and organisations other than universities, e.g. charities and environmental NGOs.

Closing date: Please apply by 26 February 2024.

If you have any questions about this role or would like more information, please contact us and we will be happy to answer your questions. If you need a different format in which to apply via, such as email, please contact Katie Weston, Volunteer Officer via email on katiew@britishecologicalsociety.org

