University of Cambridge
Ecological Advisory Panel
Terms of Reference

The Ecological Advisory Panel is a sub-committee of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Committee providing strategic oversight of the University’s commitment to biodiversity and ecosystems.

Organisation
The organisational arrangements are as follows:

- The panel is chaired by a member of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Committee.
- The panel reports to the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Committee.
- The secretary of the panel is a member of the Environment and Energy section of Estate Management.
- The panel meets at least three times per year.
- The unconfirmed minutes of the meetings will be circulated to the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Committee and the Transport Working Group.
- Each nominated representative will serve for a period of three years. There is no limit to how many terms a member may serve.
- The panel may invite non-members to attend a meeting to report on or discuss specific matters.

Membership
The EAP consists of the following members:

- A member of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Committee (Chair)
- Up to four University members with expertise in biodiversity and ecosystems
- Up to two external members with expertise in biodiversity and ecosystems, who are likely to be members of the Cambridge Conservation Forum/Cambridge Conservation Initiative
- Up to one student representative who is on a relevant course or a member of a relevant student society.

Members are proposed by the Chair in discussion with existing members, to be confirmed by the ESSC.

Officers in attendance:
- Head of Environment and Energy
- Rural Surveyor
The terms of reference are to:

- provide strategic oversight of the University’s commitment to biodiversity and ecosystems embodied in its Environmental Sustainability Policy and Strategy
- oversee the development, implementation and periodic review of the University’s Biodiversity Action Plan
- monitor and evaluate progress in conserving and enhancing biodiversity on the University estate including progress with implementing the Biodiversity Action Plan and review any significant changes to the baseline assessment
- make recommendations in relation to resource requirements for the implementation of the Biodiversity Action Plan and other biodiversity interventions
- provide advice to relevant University Committees and groups on biodiversity matters
- undertake horizon scanning, identifying opportunities to work in partnership, and/or engage the University and wider community in the importance of conserving and enhancing biodiversity
- act as ambassadors for biodiversity matters at the University.

Current membership

Members of Ecological Advisory Panel:

- Dr Mike Maunder (Chair), Executive Director, Cambridge Conservation Initiative
- Prof Andrew Balmford, Conservation Science, Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge
- Dr Lynn Dicks, Department of Zoology
- Prof Brian Eversham, CEO, The Wildlife Trust BCN
- Dr Chantal Helm, Higher Education and Research Impact Co-ordinator, Cambridge University Botanic Garden
- Kate Howlett, Student Representative (PhD student working in Environmental Education field)
- Dr Chris Sandbrook, Senior Lecturer and Director of the Masters in Conservation Leadership Department of Geography, University of Cambridge
- Cecile Thiaucourt, Student Representative (Veterinary medicine undergraduate)
- Dr Edgar Turner, Curator of Insects, University Museum of Zoology

Environment & Energy section staff:

- Sam Buckton, Biodiversity Assistant
- Joanna Chamberlain, Head of Environment and Energy
• Rachel Steward, Environmental Manager (secretary)

Wider Estates Division staff:
• Peter Wilderspin, Rural Surveyor