

Role Description and Application Information

Scottish Forum on Natural Capital: Leadership Group Member (youth)

The Scottish Forum on Natural Capital is seeking a new youth representative (**aged under 30**) to join its Leadership Group. This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of a national initiative working to place nature and natural capital at the heart of decision-making in Scotland.

About Us

We are a uniquely broad network of collaborative communities of practice, bringing natural capital into mainstream decision-making.

The Scottish Forum on Natural Capital (the Forum) brings together public, private and voluntary sector organisations to protect, value and rebuild Scotland's natural capital. We enable businesses and policymakers to better understand our dependence and impact on nature, and that protection and enhancement of Scotland's natural wealth is a viable option, providing economic opportunities and benefits for the whole of society.

The Leadership Group is made up of senior representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors. The Secretariat is provided by a small team at the Scottish Wildlife Trust. See the [list of current Leadership Group members](#). The initiative is currently funded by The Scottish Wildlife Trust, public sector and foundation grants, and voluntary donations from members.

We aim to create impact by informing policy, fostering innovation and catalysing action. Our vision is for a Scotland in which all parts of society including businesses, NGOs, public bodies and communities recognise our reliance and impact on natural capital, and where leadership drives action to protect, value and rebuild our natural assets, both here and beyond Scotland's borders. Review our [Route to Impact, and Vision and Strategy](#). _

Who We're Looking For

The successful candidates will ideally have one or more of the following:

- An interest of or interest in the Scottish political and policy context
- A sectoral and/or international perspective on sustainability/ nature and biodiversity/ climate change
- A proactive attitude and readiness to contribute ideas and help shape strategic direction
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills, including the ability to engage with a range of stakeholders

We want to make sure our Leadership Group includes a range of experiences and viewpoints, and we especially welcome applications from young people who may not see themselves represented in typical leadership spaces.

Recruitment Timetable

July 2025	Expressions of interest and applications open
31 August 2025	Applications close
September/October 2025	Selection and interviews

The Role

Strategic direction

The Leadership Group can provide a horizon scanning perspective to inform the broader direction of travel, highlighting new issues for network members to be aware of and explore in relation to impact and responsibilities across sectors. The Leadership group will help to provide focus on key areas.

High-level representation

Leadership Group members can provide an ambassadorial role, representing the network at high level.

Leadership oversight of the hubs

Our suite of subgroups ([the hubs](#)) model encourages self-forming groups to pursue ideas out with our central control. An important role of the Leadership Group is to retain oversight of independently developing activities and provide advice and judgement to ensure approaches continue to resonate with our vision and values.

Please review the group's Terms of Reference [here](#) for full details of the role requirement.

The Commitment

The commitment involves two, 2-hour meetings per year (UK time zone), plus the preparation and actions for these. At the discretion of the Leadership Group member, other work can be pursued in your area of interest and expertise.

Remuneration

The position of Leadership Group Member is without remuneration, although reasonable out of pocket expenses for travelling to meetings may be claimed.

Location

The role can be delivered solely by remote working, with in-person attendance at the Scottish Wildlife Trust main office is based in Leith, Edinburgh, welcome and encouraged particularly for Leadership Group hybrid meetings.

Appointment Process and How to Apply

If you would like to apply, please send your CV accompanied by a short cover letter detailing your reasons for applying and what you can bring to the initiative to scottishforum@scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk.

New Leadership Group members will be appointed by the Scottish Wildlife Trust Secretariat, assisted by members of the existing Leadership Group.

We welcome applications from as broad a spectrum of applicants as possible and are especially keen to attract applications from groups that tend to be under-represented on Leadership Groups and Boards. Newly appointed members of the Leadership Group will be invited to the next meeting and will be given a formal induction by senior staff prior to this. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us, we look forward to hearing from you.

Leadership Group Member Role Description

In addition to the group member role requirements outlined above for horizon scanning, high-level representation and leadership oversight of the hubs, the responsibilities for group members also include:

- Contribute to the strategic direction of the Forum's to realise the vision of a Scotland in which all parts of society including businesses, NGOs, public bodies and communities recognise our reliance and impact on natural capital, and where leadership drives action to protect, value and rebuild our natural assets, both here and beyond Scotland's borders.
- Contribute to meetings of the Leadership Group (and ad hoc sub committees as required) bringing own expertise and knowledge to the decision-making process, supporting collective ownership of decisions in the best, long-term interests of the Forum and commit to implement assigned actions.
- Contribute to sustaining constructive relationships with the Leadership Group members, secretariat and hub representatives.

Person Specification for Youth Leadership Group member

- Must be under 30 years of age
- An ability to communicate a passion and commitment for natural capital approaches and nature-based solutions.
- Experience being involved in youth groups, campaigns, volunteering, or local initiatives
- A consultative, transparent and consensual style
- Experience of external representation, delivering presentations and managing stakeholders
- Strong communication and influencing skills at all levels and across a wide range of stakeholders.

Desirable

- Knowledge and understanding of nature finance and associated current issues.
- An interest in the Scottish political and policy context, particularly in areas relating to the environment, nature, climate change, or sustainable development

- Experience or perspectives from a particular sector (e.g. farming, finance, education, community work, science, arts, business, or activism)