House of Commons
Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Environmental Audit Committees

Pre-appointment hearing with the Government’s preferred candidate for Chair of Natural England


Report, together with formal minutes relating to the report

Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 26 February 2019
The Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee

The Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and associated public bodies.

Current membership

Neil Parish MP (Conservative, Tiverton and Honiton) (Chair)
Alan Brown MP (Scottish National Party, Kilmarnock and Loudoun)
John Grogan MP (Labour, Keighley)
Dr Caroline Johnson MP (Conservative, Sleaford and North Hykeham)
Kerry McCarthy MP (Labour, Bristol East)
Sandy Martin MP (Labour, Ipswich)
Mrs Sheryll Murray MP (Conservative, South East Cornwall)
David Simpson MP (Democratic Unionist Party, Upper Bann)
Angela Smith MP (Independent, Penistone and Stocksbridge)
Julian Sturdy MP (Conservative, York Outer)

Powers

The Committee is one of the departmental select committees, the powers of which are set out in House of Commons Standing Orders, principally in SO No 152. These are available on the Internet via www.parliament.uk.

Publications

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Committee reports are published on the Committee's website at www.parliament.uk/efracom and in print by Order of the House.

Evidence relating to this report is published on the inquiry publications page of the Committee’s website.

Committee staff

The current staff of the Committee are Philip Aylett (Committee Clerk), Sian Woodward (Committee Clerk), Ben Street (Second Clerk), Xameerah Malik (Senior Committee Specialist), Andy French (Committee Specialist), Noah Belser (Committee Researcher), James Hockaday (Senior Committee Assistant), Ian Blair (Committee Assistant), Annabel Russell (Committee Assistant) and Joe Williams (Media Officer).

Contacts

All correspondence should be addressed to the Clerk of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. The telephone number for general enquiries is 020 7219 7341; the Committee’s email address is efracom@parliament.uk.

You can follow the Committee on Twitter using @CommonsEFRA.
Environmental Audit Committee

The Environmental Audit Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to consider to what extent the policies and programmes of government departments and non-departmental public bodies contribute to environmental protection and sustainable development; to audit their performance against such targets as may be set for them by Her Majesty’s Ministers; and to report thereon to the House.

Current membership

Mary Creagh MP (Labour, Wakefield) (Chair)
Colin Clark MP (Conservative, Gordon)
Dr Thérèse Coffey MP (Conservative, Suffolk Coastal)
Alex Cunningham MP, (Labour, Stockton North)
Geraint Davies MP (Labour (Co-op), Swansea West)
Mr Philip Dunne MP (Conservative, Ludlow)
Zac Goldsmith MP (Conservative, Richmond Park)
Mr Robert Goodwill MP (Conservative, Scarborough and Whitby)
James Gray MP (Conservative, North Wiltshire)
Caroline Lucas MP (Green Party, Brighton, Pavilion)
Kerry McCarthy MP (Labour, Bristol East)
Anna McMorrin MP (Labour, Cardiff North)
John McNally MP (Scottish National Party, Falkirk)
Dr Matthew Offord MP (Conservative, Hendon)
Dr Dan Poulter MP (Conservative, Central Suffolk and North Ipswich)
Alex Sobel MP (Labour (Co-op), Leeds North West)

Powers

The constitution and powers are set out in House of Commons Standing Orders, principally in SO No 152A. These are available on the internet via www.parliament.uk.

Publications

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Evidence relating to this report is published on the inquiry publications page of the Committee’s website.

Committee staff

The current staff of the Committee are Lloyd Owen (Clerk), Leoni Kurt (Second Clerk), Ruth Cahir (Committee Specialist), Laura Grant (Committee Specialist), Laura Scott (Committee Specialist), Jonathan Wright (Senior Committee Assistant), Baris Tufekci (Committee Assistant), Anne Peacock (Media Officer) and Simon Horswell (Media Officer).

Contacts

All correspondence should be addressed to the Clerk of the Environmental Audit Committee, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. The telephone number for general enquiries is 020 7219 8890; the Committee’s email address is eacom@parliament.uk.

You can follow the Committee on Twitter using @CommonsEAC.
Contents

Summary .................................................. 3

1 Recruitment Campaign .......................... 5
   Job specification .................................. 5
   Launch of campaign and selection process .... 5
   Selection of preferred candidate .................. 6

2 Pre-appointment hearing ......................... 7

Conclusions and recommendations .......... 9

Appendix 1: Questionnaire ..................... 10

Appendix 2: Campaign information .......... 13

Appendix 3: Declaration of relevant interests ... 15

Appendix 4: Tony Juniper CV ..................... 17

Formal minutes ........................................ 19

Witness .................................................. 21

Published written evidence ..................... 21
Summary

Following the conclusion of the hearing, we are satisfied that the recruitment campaign and Tony Juniper’s selection as the Government’s preferred candidate were in accordance with the Governance Code on Public Appointments, and that Mr Juniper is a suitable candidate for this position. We are pleased to approve Mr Juniper’s appointment as Chair of Natural England with the caveat that, for the duration of his service, he refrains from engaging in political activity and divests his interests in the Robertsbridge Group.
1 Recruitment Campaign

Job specification

1. The previous Chair of Natural England, Andrew Sells, announced on 15 July 2018 his intention to resign from his position in early 2019 after seven years in the role. The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, notified us on 2 August 2018, ahead of launching the campaign for Mr Sells’ successor, and provided an opportunity for the Committees to comment on the essential criteria, person specification and role specification. We made no changes to the proposed criteria for the job description but we are disappointed that the opportunity for comment was presented during the long Summer Recess rather than while the House was in session, as is in-keeping with Cabinet Office guidance on public appointments. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs should ensure that job specifications for public appointments are regularly updated so they can be provided to Parliament at short notice and at the most appropriate opportunity rather than during periods of recess.

Launch of campaign and selection process

2. The campaign was launched on 23 August 2018 and was initially scheduled to close on 20 September 2018. However, the advert was extended by an additional four days “to allow potential candidates the best opportunity to apply”. Aside from its listing on the Centre for Public Appointments website, the job was advertised in the Guardian and the Sunday Times and on online job sites. Some candidates were approached directly and diversity networks were notified of the vacancy as part of the broader advertising strategy. The briefing pack for applicants issued by Defra for the campaign makes clear the process’ commitment to equal opportunities, particularly for those from minority backgrounds or who have a disability.

3. The position attracted 33 applicants, of whom 61 per cent identified as male and 36 per cent identified as female. The disparity was greater amongst the seven candidates selected for interview, of whom 71 per cent identified as male and 29 per cent identified as female. A similar trend is apparent for the criteria of ethnicity. Ninety-one per cent of applicants identified as white whilst six per cent of applicants identified as an ethnic minority. Every candidate selected for interview identified as white. None of the applicants disclosed a disability.

4. The commitment to advertising the role of Chair of Natural England widely to encourage as broad a range of applicants as possible is commendable, as is Defra’s commitment to a transparent and equal recruitment process. However, the diversity statistics for applicants and interviewees indicate the continued prevalence of white male candidates over those from other backgrounds. Defra should learn lessons from this recruitment process and aim to conduct future campaigns in a manner

1 See Appendix 2
2 Appointment of the Chair of Natural England, Briefing pack for applicants, accessed 20 February 2019
3 In each case (gender, ethnicity and disability) three per cent of applicants did not disclose their diversity data. Each applicant selected for interview disclosed data for each criterion. See Appendix 2
more conducive to attracting a diverse range of applicants. This could involve further broadening the advertisement of the position and providing multiple platforms for submission of applications.

Selection of preferred candidate

5. The Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee was notified by Michael Gove on 6 February 2019 that Tony Juniper had been selected as the Government’s preferred candidate for Chair of Natural England. In accordance with guidance issued by the Cabinet Office, we arranged to conduct a pre-appointment hearing with Mr Juniper to assess his suitability for public office and the recruitment process’ compliance with the Governance Code on Public Appointments. Given the interest the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Environmental Audit Committees each have in the work of Natural England and the suitability of its Chair, we chose to conduct this hearing jointly.
2 Pre-appointment hearing

6. To assess Mr Juniper’s suitability for public appointment, we scheduled a pre-appointment hearing with him on 26 February 2019. Prior to the session, Mr Juniper provided written answers to questions on possible conflicts of interest, additional commitments and motivation for application as well as his views on key areas of Natural England’s work. These matters were further elucidated during the hearing.

7. We thought it important to examine Mr Juniper’s impression of the recruitment process, specifically whether it had been a transparent and fair competition. Mr Juniper described first seeing an announcement of Andrew Sells’ retirement on Twitter during the summer of 2018 and being encouraged to apply by others within the sector. He categorically stated that the Secretary of State had not encouraged his application. Mr Juniper described the recruitment process, which involved an application, interview, phone interview and a final selection with the Secretary of State, as fair and thorough and based on competence rather than personality.

8. Mr Juniper’s personal motivation for applying for the role was discussed in some detail and he described Natural England as operating at a time of “exciting change” in nature conservation. Mr Juniper noted the benefit of his experience as both an environmental campaigner and as the director of organisations with an environmental focus over the past three decades. We questioned Mr Juniper on whether expectations of the Chair of Natural England ran counter to his method of influencing the environmental agenda through campaign work. Mr Juniper provided an assurance that appointment to this position would see him “leave campaigning behind”.

9. Further questioning explored Mr Juniper’s impartiality and prior and current relationship with UK political parties. Mr Juniper stood in the 2010 General Election as a Green Party candidate but has had minimal involvement since then and had no significant donations or party activity within the last five years to declare. When questioned on whether he would continue as a member of the Green Party, Mr Juniper commented that he relinquished his party membership during his tenure as Executive Director of Friends of the Earth between 2003 and 2008, and that appointment as Chair of Natural England might offer an opportunity to similarly review his relationship with the Green Party.

10. Finally, we questioned Mr Juniper on his additional commitments and professional relationships with senior figures in Defra. The position of Chair of Natural England was advertised as two days per week, so does not preclude additional responsibilities, however it is important that other roles or relationships do not constitute a conflict of interest. Mr Juniper stated his intention to resign from his positions with WWF UK and the Wildlife Trusts upon appointment as Chair of Natural England given the clear conflict of interest which would otherwise be presented. When questioned on his role with the Robertsbridge
Group, Mr Juniper stated that he would consider either resignation or to only offer advice to companies with no conflicting interest. Mr Juniper stated that, despite additional commitments, Natural England would be his primary focus.\textsuperscript{11}

11. On the basis of the pre-appointment hearing and information provided to us prior to the session we are satisfied that Mr Juniper’s recruitment as Chair of Natural England has been properly conducted according to the Governance Code on Public Appointments. We are further satisfied that Mr Juniper is an appropriate candidate for this public position and are pleased to endorse his appointment. This endorsement is caveated. Mr Juniper noted that his appointment as Chair of Natural England might offer an opportunity to review his status as a Green Party member. We agree. Mr Juniper should ensure that, for the duration of his tenure, he refrains from engaging in political activity to demonstrate his commitment to upholding the highest standards of political impartiality. We welcome Mr Juniper’s offer that he divests his interests in the Robertsbridge Group and recommend that he does so.
Conclusions and recommendations

Recruitment Campaign

1. We made no changes to the proposed criteria for the job description but we are disappointed that the opportunity for comment was presented during the long Summer Recess rather than while the House was in session, as is in-keeping with Cabinet Office guidance on public appointments. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs should ensure that job specifications for public appointments are regularly updated so they can be provided to Parliament at short notice and at the most appropriate opportunity rather than during periods of recess. (Paragraph 1)

2. The commitment to advertising the role of Chair of Natural England widely to encourage as broad a range of applicants as possible is commendable, as is Defra’s commitment to a transparent and equal recruitment process. However, the diversity statistics for applicants and interviewees indicate the continued prevalence of white male candidates over those from other backgrounds. Defra should learn lessons from this recruitment process and aim to conduct future campaigns in a manner more conducive to attracting a diverse range of applicants. This could involve further broadening the advertisement of the position and providing multiple platforms for submission of applications. (Paragraph 4)

Pre-appointment hearing

3. On the basis of the pre-appointment hearing and information provided to us prior to the session we are satisfied that Mr Juniper’s recruitment as Chair of Natural England has been properly conducted according to the Governance Code on Public Appointments. We are further satisfied that Mr Juniper is an appropriate candidate for this public position and are pleased to endorse his appointment. This endorsement is caveated. Mr Juniper noted that his appointment as Chair of Natural England might offer an opportunity to review his status as a Green Party member. We agree. Mr Juniper should ensure that, for the duration of his tenure, he refrains from engaging in political activity to demonstrate his commitment to upholding the highest standards of political impartiality. We welcome Mr Juniper’s offer that he divests his interests in the Robertsbridge Group and recommend that he does so. (Paragraph 11)
Appendix 1: Questionnaire

1. Why did you decide to apply for the position of Chair of Natural England? How long do you intend to serve in the role?

I have devoted my professional and personal life to the conservation of the natural environment. I have worked as an advocate, scientist, campaigner, writer, business advisor and as a lecturer. I would like to use my considerable experience gleaned over nearly 35 years of activity to continue with my contribution to conservation. The role of chair at Natural England is a platform from which that contribution could be very considerable, not least because all of the changes taking place at the moment. I would hope to serve in the role for two terms of three years (six).

2. Do you foresee any conflicts of interest, or potential conflicts of interest, arising as a result of other professional commitments, political activities, personal connections, or any other activities?

The main potential conflicts are my roles with WWF (where I am the Executive Director for Advocacy and Campaigns) and the Wildlife Trusts (where I hold the honorary role of President). I will resign from both of these. In my employment contract with WWF I have a three-month notice period (which will be triggered if my appointment with Natural England is confirmed, and at which point I will endeavour to negotiate with WWF a reduction in this period). I would expect to depart from the Wildlife Trusts at the same time as I leave WWF and begin with Natural England.

I am not presently involved with any party-political activities (my only recent activity with the Green Party was to provide a foreword to a book about the work of Green MEPs) and don’t expect to engage in any during the foreseeable future.

I am also a member of The Prince of Wales’s Small Environment Group, which as the name suggests is a group of environmental experts that provides ad hoc advice to HRH on topical questions. We generally meet just once a year and are loosely facilitated by the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL). It has no decision-making capability, budget or anything else. I would intend to continue to be a member of this group.

3. Do you have any professional commitments you intend to maintain during your term of office? If so, how do you intend to divide your time between your responsibilities with Natural England and these other commitments?

I intend to maintain my role as a Fellow with the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL). I would expect this to continue more or less as now, at about two or three days per month. I would also expect to take on some public speaking roles on sustainability and environmental themes (as I do now) and to be paid for some of these. There might be a couple of these per month. I would also be interested in taking on some advisory work with companies (where there is no conflict of interest with Natural England). This might be one day per week on average and likely be (in part at least) via the private sector consultancy group of which I was a co-founder in 2010.

4. How has your experience to date prepared you for the role of Chair of Natural England?
I have been involved with nature conservation and the protection and enhancement of the natural environment for a long time and proved myself as an influential and visible strategic leader, developing clear vision and purpose, in turn helping to deliver major impact.

My work has involved inspiring, leading and constructively challenging teams, helping them to achieve strategic clarity and from there to operational delivery. My success in this kind of work has in part relied on effective team building, creating the trust and common purpose needed to lever bigger impacts from budgets and people than would be the case when such conditions are absent.

I have spent a lot of time seeking to find constructive ways forward among different interest groups, where possible seeking to find consensus (or at least minimum conflict) between them. I developed and tested my collaborative approach through, among other things, my roles as Vice Chair of Friends of the Earth International and as an advisor to HRH The Prince of Wales.

Given my many years of experience I would also bring an unusually strong understanding of the environmental situation that prevails across the country, having been involved, one way or the other, with nearly all of the main conservation and environmental questions—from water resources management to land use planning and from climate change to the legal regime protecting key sites, and many other subjects besides.

I can also demonstrate what might be called a stakeholder led approach to conservation. For example, in working as an advisor to major companies I sought to develop business-based propositions for delivering on environmental goals. For example, I have advised water companies on catchment management opportunities in securing clean water provision, worked with global multinationals to protect forests for reasons of water security and initiated a new programme with Heathrow Airport. As a result, the latter company is now investing in the recovery of English peatlands as part of their new carbon reduction plan. I would hope to bring such innovations with the private sector closer to the work of Natural England.

5. In which areas of Natural England’s work is your knowledge and experience weakest?

I am sketchy on the schemes that allocate funds to farmers and other land interests and it has been some time since I spent time looking at the technical aspects regarding the designation and protection of SSSIs. I have also not worked in great depth with the planning system in its current form.

6. What changes in the relationship between Natural England and Defra do you envisage over the next five years?

The relationship between Natural England and DEFRA will need to deepen and broaden during the coming few years. This is not least because of the need for Natural England to be a key partner in the delivery of several new areas of policy. These include the 25 Year Environment Plan, the new Environmental Land Management
Scheme (ELMS), new measures to achieve net gains for nature arising from development projects and the new provisions that will arise from the Environment Bill presently going through its Parliamentary stages (including how Natural England will work with the proposed new Office for Environmental Protection).

7. How do you foresee the regulatory role of Natural England changing over the next five years?

I would expect there to be some considerable change during the coming years. This is likely to arise from the policy areas mentioned in 6, but also others, including because of circumstances arising from the UK’s departure from the European Union. In relation to that subject it has been stated that environmental standards would either be maintained or elevated post-Brexit, thereby suggesting the need for changes to delivery and regulatory capacity.

I would, however, like to register the extent to which the changing role of Natural England is not simply regulatory in nature. The major changes envisaged for conservation, including via the ELMS, net gain, the proposed nature recovery network and approaches based on natural capital, require more than simply the implementation or enforcement of specific regulatory codes, but more importantly convening, consensus-building and action at the level of landscapes (rather than individual farms or particular protected areas). To be successful in these wider regards will require Natural England to adopt new strategies that complement and which are additional (and complementary) to its core statutory roles.
## Appendix 2: Campaign information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campaign Launch Date</th>
<th>23 August 2018.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campaign Closing Date</td>
<td>24 September 2018 (advert closure)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reason for any changes in timetable to that originally published**

The original closing date of 20 September was extended by four days to allow potential candidates the best opportunity to apply. This extension did not alter the rest of the timetable and all candidates who had applied or we were aware were considering applying were made aware of the extension. Information was also updated on the Cabinet Office website.

Interviews were held on 29 October, 31 October and 8 November. Natural England’s Chief Executive resigned and left the organisation on 9 November. The Panel considered that this represented a material change of circumstances which candidates were not aware of in advance. Candidates therefore attended short supplementary interviews to ensure they were aware of the change in circumstances. This necessitated a change in the published dates for the ministerial meeting, broad timeline for an announcement and pre-appointment scrutiny hearing. Candidates were kept informed of these changes.

**Advertising strategy**

The post was advertised at £546 per day (£141,960 prorata) with an expected time requirement of 104 days per annum or 2 days a week. The post was advertised in the Sunday Times and Guardian online jobs sites for four weeks. The total cost of this advertising was £750 plus VAT. It was also placed online on the Centre for Public Appointments website. Awareness of the vacancy was spread through a wide array of networks. This included using social media and contacting diversity networks.

Some potential candidates were directly approached and made aware of the vacancy.

**Advisory Assessment Panel**

- Panel Chair: Clare Moriarty (Permanent Secretary, Defra)
- Elizabeth Buchanan (Non-Executive Director, Defra)
- Dame Fiona Reynolds (Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge)
- Senior Independent Panel Member: Lord Bew (Queens University, Belfast)

**Number of applicants**

33

**Number of candidates invited to interview**

7

**Number of candidates found appointable**

4. 1 candidate withdrew before the Ministerial meetings.
Diversity data

**Table A: Gender**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percent Male</th>
<th>Percent Female</th>
<th>Percent Identify another way</th>
<th>Percent Not declared</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicants</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortlist</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table B: Ethnicity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percent White</th>
<th>Percent Ethnic minority</th>
<th>Percent Not declared</th>
<th>Percent Not declared</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicants</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortlist</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table C: Disability**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Disabled</th>
<th>Non-disabled</th>
<th>Percent Not declared</th>
<th>Not declared</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicants</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortlist</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(applicants invited to interview)
Appendix 3: Declaration of relevant interests

**Tony Juniper – preferred candidate**

Part 1: Conflicts of Interest

If you have any interests that might be relevant to the work of the ALB, and which could lead to a real or perceived conflict of interest if you were to be appointed, please provide brief details below.

Do you consider yourself to have a real or perceived conflict of interest in relation to the role you are applying for?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>![ ]</td>
<td>[X]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If yes, please give brief details below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am the Executive Director for Advocacy and Campaigns at WWF. Should I be appointed to the role of chair at Natural England, I would resign from this role.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am also currently President of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts. This organisation takes policy positions that relate closely to the work of Natural England. I would very likely need to resign from this position should I be appointed into this role.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am a shareholder with a small sustainability consultancy group called Robertsbridge. Since joining WWF I have avoided taking on any work with this body so as to avoid any perceived conflict of interest with my current role there. Should I be appointed to be chair at Natural England I would avoid any advisory work that might be perceived to raise any conflict of interest questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am a Fellow with the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership and intend to continue with that role, providing lectures and other expert input to the work of the Institute.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am a member of the Prince of Wales’s ‘Small Environment Group’. This informal group of environmental thinkers, practitioners and leaders generally meets once a year and has ad-hoc exchanges via email in relation to matters of environmental concern.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Part 2: Conduct

If there is anything relevant to your suitability as a public appointee – for example any criminal convictions, bankruptcy or anything which could impact on public confidence on your suitability, please provide brief details below.

No  X  Yes  

If yes, please give brief details below:

Part 3: Political Activity

Significant political activity is defined as being employed by a political party, holding significant office in a party, standing as a candidate for a party in an election, having publicly spoken on behalf of a political party or having made significant donations or loans to a party. Significant loans and donations are those of a size which are reported to the Electoral Commission, in line with a central party’s reporting threshold.

Have you undertaken any political activity for a political party in the past five years?

No  X  Yes  

If yes, please indicate the activity undertaken and for which party/parties.

Held office/employment  
Public speaking  
Stood for election  
Made donations to a party  

Any other political activity (if so, please specify)  

I was a candidate for the Green Party in the 2010 General Election but have not been active since.

Party/Parties  
Member of the Green Party
Appendix 4: Tony Juniper CV

Tony Juniper CBE

Career

Jan 2018 to present – Executive Director for Advocacy and Campaigns, WWF-UK

July 2008 to Jan 2018 – Independent environmentalist, sustainability adviser and writer


Education, Qualifications, Honours and Awards

2017: Appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in Queen’s Birthday Honours List for services to conservation.
2016: Declared Professor of Practice, University of Wales Trinity St David.


2013: Awarded two Honorary Doctor of Science Degrees (by the Universities of Bristol and Plymouth). Recipient of Chromy Award from the Conscience Institute, Monaco. Declared Honorary Fellow Society for the Environment.


Published Work

Formal minutes

Tuesday 26 February

The Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee and the Environmental Audit Committee met concurrently, pursuant to Standing Order No. 137A.

Members present:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee</th>
<th>Environmental Audit Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Grogan</td>
<td>Neil Parish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Caroline Johnson</td>
<td>Mary Creagh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kerry McCarthy</td>
<td>Mr Robert Goodwill</td>
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<td>Mrs Sheryll Murray</td>
<td>David Simpson</td>
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<td>Alex Cunningham</td>
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<td>Caroline Lucas</td>
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<td>Angela Smith</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr Philip Dunne</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kerry McCarthy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Julian Sturdy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zac Goldsmith</td>
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Neil Parish was called to the Chair, in accordance with Standing Order No.137A (1)(d).

Draft Report (Pre-appointment hearing with the Government’s preferred candidate for Chair of Natural England) proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

Ordered, That the draft Report be considered concurrently, in accordance with Standing Order No. 137A (1)(c).

Ordered, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 11 read and agreed to.

Papers was appended to the Report as Appendices 1 to 4.

Summary agreed to.

[Adjourned to a day and time to be fixed by the Chair.

Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee

Members present:

Neil Parish, in the Chair

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>John Grogan</th>
<th>David Simpson</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Caroline Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kerry McCarthy</td>
<td>Julian Sturdy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Sheryll Murray</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Angela Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to the Committee’s pre-appointment hearing with the Government’s preferred candidate for Chair of Natural England as a member of The Wildlife Trusts and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.
Draft Report (Pre-appointment hearing with the Government’s preferred candidate for Chair of Natural England) proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

Resolved, That the draft Report prepared by the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee and the Environmental Audit Committee be the Twelfth Report to the House.

Ordered, That the provisions of Standing Order No. 137A(2) be applied to the Report.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 134.

[The Committee adjourned until Wednesday 27 February 9.15am]

Environmental Audit Committee

Members present:
Mary Creagh, in the Chair
Alex Cunningham  Mr Robert Goodwill
Mr Philip Dunne  Caroline Lucas
Zac Goldsmith  Kerry McCarthy

Draft Report (Pre-appointment hearing with the Government’s preferred candidate for Chair of Natural England) proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

Resolved, That the draft Report prepared by the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee and the Environmental Audit Committee be the Seventeenth Report to the House.

Ordered, That the provisions of Standing Order No. 137A(2) be applied to the Report.

Ordered, That Neil Parish make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 134.

[The Committee adjourned until Wednesday 27 February 10am]
Witness

The following witnesses gave evidence. Transcripts can be viewed on the inquiry publications page of the Committee’s websites.

Wednesday 26 February 2019

Tony Juniper, the Government’s preferred candidate for Chair of Natural England  Q1–88

Published written evidence

The following written evidence was received and can be viewed on the inquiry publications page of the Committee’s website.

1 Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (PAN0001)