

Applications for the Chair of the England Species Reintroduction Task Force opens

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has today (Monday 24 January) opened applications for the Chair of the England Species Reintroduction Task Force.

The government committed in the 25 Year Environment Plan to provide opportunities for the reintroduction of formerly native species where there are clear environment and socio-economic benefits.

We have consistently supported the reintroduction of recently lost former native species, when it has been appropriate to do so, such as the large blue butterfly, red kite, and pool frog, which have been successfully reintroduced.

To further support this, the England Species Reintroduction Task Force will provide independent advice on species reintroductions in England.

This technical advisory group will bring together statutory bodies, experts and stakeholders to provide a collective evidence-based view on potential species for conservation translocation and reintroduction in England, as well as promoting good practice aligned to our published Reintroductions Code.

Environment Minister Rebecca Pow said:

“We are absolutely committed to driving forward action to protect nature and improve biodiversity.

“The England Species Reintroductions Task Force will provide important technical advice to Defra on potential species reintroductions in England. This will help support the delivery of our ambitions for nature recovery through the strengthening of the evidence base that underpins the reintroduction of native species.

“I look forward to seeing the work of the Task force and how we can accelerate progress in this area.”

Tony Juniper, Chair of Natural England, said:

“We welcome the formation of the England Species Reintroductions Task Force, as species reintroductions are an important part of Nature recovery. Natural England looks forward to supporting the Task force and its new chair with technical expertise including on licensing as part of our statutory role ”

We are now looking for a chairperson for this Group, initially holding a 3-year term.

The advert for the role can be found online [here](#)

The closing date for applications is 21st February 2022.