**Appointment of CRN Officers**

**Officers**

The current officer posts within CRN are as follows:

1. Chair
2. Vice Chair
3. Budget Officer
4. Events Officer
5. Communications Officer
6. Research Officer

The Secretariat services are currently provided by Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland through a Service Level Agreement.

Only full member organisations representatives can be appointed to hold officer positions. However, the process for appointing/nominating these officers has been relatively ad-hoc and generally an office is held by the same individual until they wish to step down and then someone else is asked to fill the void.

Going forward it is suggested that each office post is held for a period of 2 years and then is up for re-appointment. It is proposed that we build this process into the January meeting on a biennial basis.

We need to consider if we still need the same officer posts. Given that we now only hold 1 event per year – perhaps the events officer post could be amalgamated with the communications officer.

**RECOMMENDATION 1:**

**CRN holds a biennial meeting in January 2014 and at that stage re-appoints the member office bearers but not the chair.**

**Chair**

The current chair is Jo Burgon and it was agreed by the members that there would be value in having an independent voluntary chair with a modest budget for expenses. Again there has been no process for the appointment of a voluntary chair but it is suggested that the following process be followed:

1. Nominations for the post of voluntary independent chair can be made by any full member organisation at a biennial meeting of the network with a short summary of why the nominated individual would be appropriate for the role.
2. The nominee must have agreed in principle to the nomination.
3. The full and support members will review the nominations and will elect the chair.
4. The position of chair will be held for a period of 2 years following appointment.
5. The budget for the chair will be agreed for the period of the 2 years at this time.
6. The position can only be held for a maximum of 3 terms (i.e. 6 years)
7. It is proposed that this appointment process takes place on alternative years to the election of the other officers and ensures a level of consistency in the network.

**RECOMMENDATION 2:**

**At the meeting in January 2015 nominations for Chair will be provided and a new chair will be appointed or the existing one retained for a further term.**