

The NI Environment Link Brexit Coalition (NBC)*

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soon to be re-branded

Outline

- ▶ The eNGO sector reaction to the result
- ▶ Why we've come together
- ▶ Our workstreams and structure
- ▶ How we link with other groups
- ▶ What we've achieved so far
- ▶ The gaps - getting involved



Post Referendum

NI

- Briefing to NI Assembly Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
- Representation on Brexit Consultative Committee - set up by DAERA and DfE (ongoing committee)

UK

- Environment Links UK Conference in Cardiff with IEN Sept 16
- Submission to House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee Sept 16
- Briefing to the British Irish Parliamentary Assembly Oct 16
- Lots of engagement ELUK and Greener UK

North/ South

- Representation on All-Island Civic Dialogue on Brexit
- Sent briefing requests to other Dail Committees
- JC on Communications, Climate Action and Environment
- JC on European Union Affairs

Why we've come together

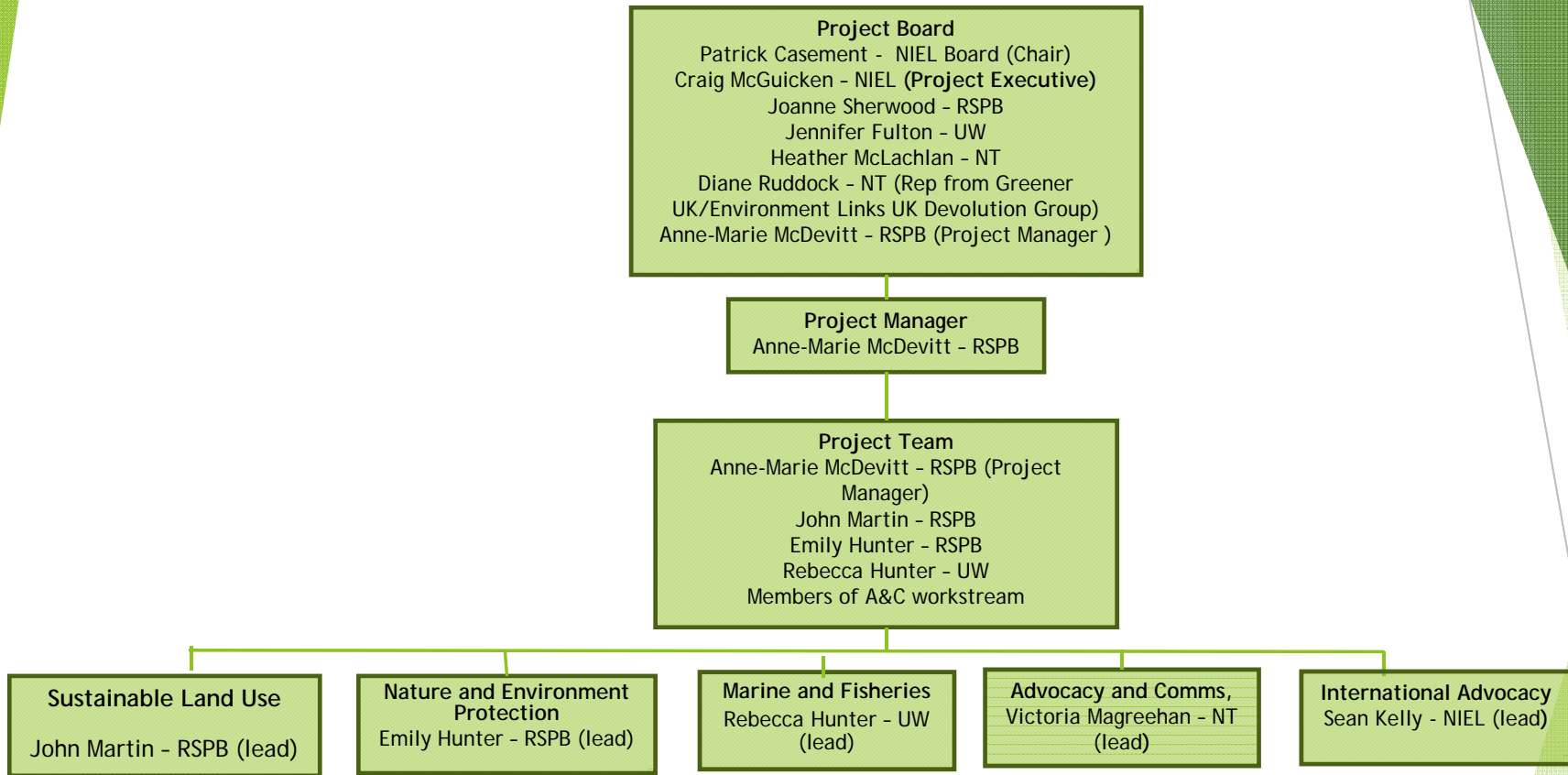
- Big issue
- Requires knowledge - technical, policy, advocacy, legal
- Limited resources
- Some organisations have expertise in some areas, others taking on staff
- Risk and opportunity
- Need to speak with one voice
- Requires strong links in all directions - eNGOs in the RoI, EU, Westminster (directly and through ELUK and Greener UK)

NIEL membership



Our workstreams

- ▶ **Sustainable land-use** - to develop a new sustainable land-use policy in coalition with others and to advocate this to government.
- ▶ **Nature and Environmental Protection** - to ensure that existing levels of protection for nature and the environment are maintained/enhanced
- ▶ **Marine and Fisheries** - to develop a new sustainable fisheries policy and designate an ecologically coherent and well managed network of protected areas at sea
- ▶ **Funding** - to ensure that the levels of investment in the environment provided pre-Brexit, is continued.



Other groups and how they link to the NIEL Brexit Project

NI

- ▶ NIEL Transition group - update to wider NIEL membership
- ▶ DAERA groups (trade and agriculture, **marine and fisheries**, environment, **rural society**)
- ▶ Ongoing discussions with Ulster Farmers' Union, NI Food and Drink etc

RoI/EU

- ▶ Environmental Pillar/IEN via the Intl Advocacy group

UK

- ▶ Reps on Greener UK/ELUK Devolution Group and ELUK Brexit Nature Coalition

What we've achieved so far

- ▶ Organisational structure in place - balance between this and getting on with the doing
- ▶ Workstreams up and running - clear ToR and 3Os for these, developing briefings
- ▶ Input into DAERA's key asks papers on trade and agriculture via the Brexit Consultative Committee and on environment via the Environment group
- ▶ Presentation to the NI Affairs Committee at Westminster on implications of Brexit for NI's environment Apr 17
- ▶ Joint presentation with Environmental Pillar to Dail Joint Committee on the Good Friday Agreement June 17
- ▶ NBC/ Environmental Pillar All-Island conference on Brexit and the environment (16th June)
- ▶ This event

What's coming up

- ▶ Developing our advocacy and communications - including re-branding and our public-facing side
- ▶ A joint delegation of the NIEL Brexit Coalition (NBC)/ Environmental Pillar meeting with the European Commission Taskforce on Article 50 negotiations, on 26th September to discuss our environmental concerns. Meetings are also arranged with other key institutions and organisational representatives during the visit.
- ▶ A conference on 'Brexit, Agriculture and the Environment' at CAFRE, Greenmount on 29th September where we plan to "launch" the NBC's current position on a future agriculture policy

The gaps - getting involved

- This is the start
- Next few talks will cover the workstreams in more detail
- Think about how you might like to be involved