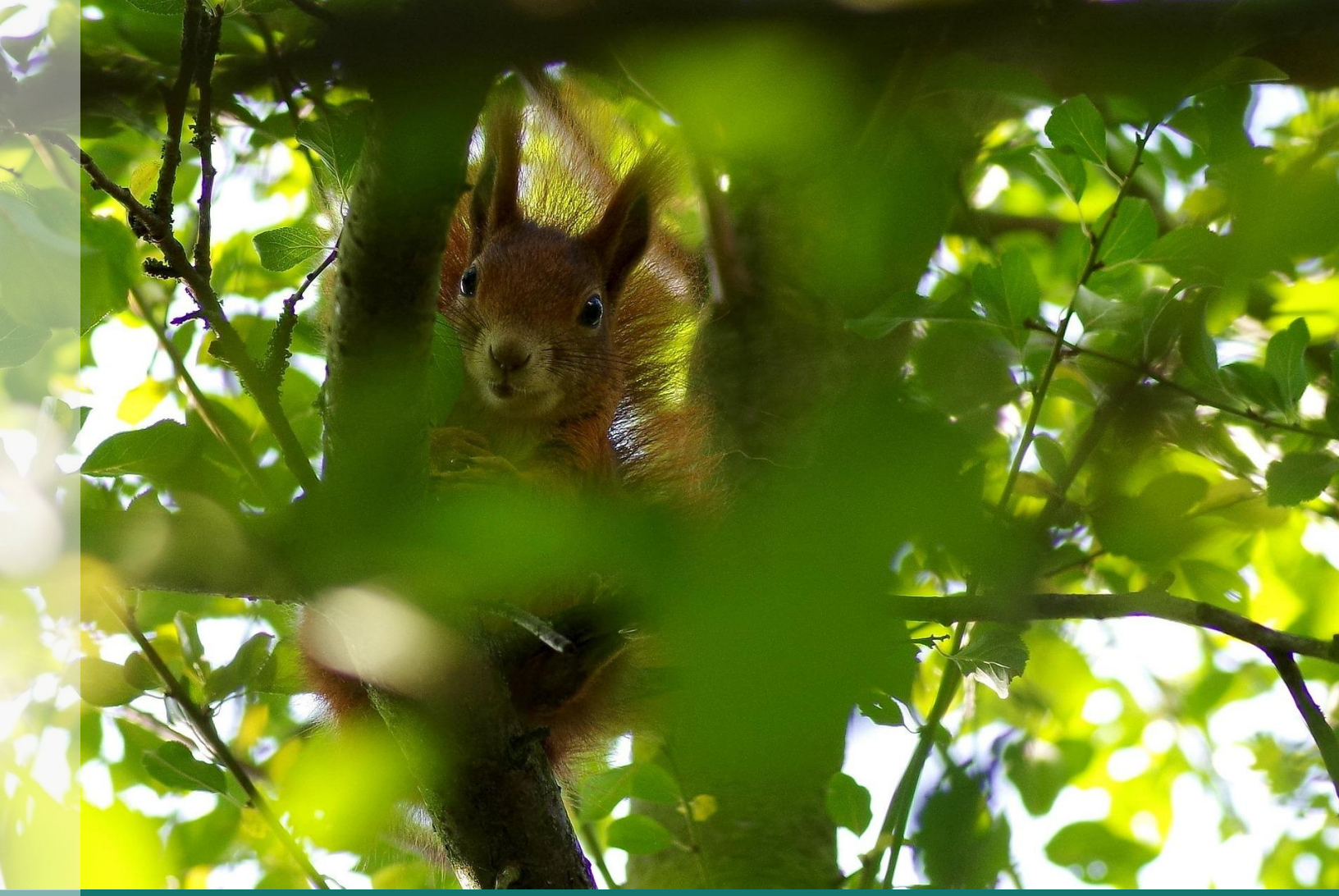

NIEL Annual Report 2025-26

November 2026

Northern Ireland environment link

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Glossary of Terms

AFBI – Agri Food and Biosciences Institute
CAFRE – College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise
CAP – Climate Action Plan
CCC- Climate Change Committee
CHANGE – Collaborative Horizons for All-Island Nature & Governance Enhancement
CMAP – Coastal Monitoring and Adaptation Planning
CORE – Cross-border Opportunities for a Resilient Environment
CPD – Continuing Professional Development
CRESI – Covid Recovery Employment & Skills Initiative
DAERA – Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
DEFRA – Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs
DfI – Department for Infrastructure
ELUK – Environment Links UK
ENGO – Environmental Non-Government Organisation
ESDF – Education for Sustainable Development Forum
FHR – Finance & Human Resources Committee
FWTF – Freshwater Task Force
IEN – Irish Environmental Network
IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
MACC – Maximising Adaptation to Climate Change
MPA – Marine Protected Area
NAP – Nutrients Action Programme
NEP – Nature and Environmental Policy Group
NGO – Non-Governmental Organisation
NICCAP – NI Climate Change Adaptation Programme
NIEA – Northern Ireland Environment Agency
NIEL – Northern Ireland Environment Link
NIMTF – NI Marine Task Force
NRS – Nature Recovery Strategy
OCED – Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OEP – Office for Environmental Protection
P2R – Pathways 2 Resilience
PBCAN – Public Body Climate Action Network
QUB – Queens University Belfast
RSPB – Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SAP – Sustainable Agriculture Policy Working Group
SEUPB – Special EU Programs Body
SuDS – Sustainable Drainage Systems
TALX – Transboundary Adaptation Learning Exchange
UKRI – UK Research and Innovation
WGs – Working Groups

Overview

Northern Ireland Environment Link (NIEL) is the forum and networking body for organisations interested in the environment of NI. It assists members to develop views on issues affecting the environment and to inform and influence policy and practice which impacts on the natural and built environment. Our 50 Full Members (environmental NGOs) represent 190,000 individuals, attract 1.5m visitors per annum and have an annual turnover of over £65m in NI. NIEL also has 57 NGO, Associate, Corporate and Individual Supporters with an interest in the environment. NIEL's Vision is for 'a valued, resilient, healthy environment'.

Board		
Chair	Danielle McCormick (Independent)	
Vice Chair	Peter McEvoy (Ulster Wildlife)	
Hon. Treasurer	Paul Gibbons (Independent)	
Co Secretary	Max Bryant	
Trustees	Declan Allison (Friends of the Earth)	
	Paul Armstrong (Woodland Trust)	
	Karen Kerr (Queen's University Belfast)	
	Victoria Magreehan (National Trust)	
	Lana Moore (Action Renewables)	*Joined April 2025*
	Eric Randall (Live Here Love Here)	
	Darren Rice (Mourne Gullion Strangford)	
	Sharon Thompson (RSPB)	*Joined Dec 2025*
	Josh Watts (Innovate Social)	

Staff	
Amy Bell – Climate NI & Climate Services Manager	
Max Bryant – Chief Executive Officer	
Malachy Campbell – Senior Policy Officer	
Jack Crone – Climate Officer	
Siân Doherty – Climate Officer	*Resigned Aug 2025*
Jack Farrar – Climate Assistant	*Joined Oct 2025*
Beth Frazer – Area Lead Education for Sustainable Development	
Michelle Grimes – Nourish NI Support Officer	*Resigned Aug 2025*
Sophie Hughes – Climate Assistant	*Resigned Aug 2025*
Aoife Jackson – CHANGE Administrative Officer	
Stephen Jones – Climate NI & Climate Services Manager	
Sean Kelly – Head of Development & Environmental Projects	
Siobhán Keogh – Climate Resilience Researcher	
Kerry Melville – Operations Manager / Nourish NI Co-ordinator	*Resigned Aug 2025*
Gregory McChesney – Climate Assistant	*Joined Oct 2025*
Mike McClure – Area Lead for Landscapes	
Jane McCullough – Climate NI Manager	
Connor McLean – Policy, Communications and IT Officer	
Bróna McNeill – Area Lead for Freshwater	
Mariarina Michailidou – Climate Officer	*Joined Dec 2025*
Jill Montgomery – Area Lead for Agriculture	
Leah O'Neill – Historic Environment Policy and Projects Officer	*Resigned April 2025*
Keira Russell – Climate Assistant	*Resigned July 2025*
Deborah Shields – Finance Manager	
Tom Thorpe – Historic Environment Policy and Projects Officer	*Resigned Aug 2025*

A View from NIEL



In my second year as Chair at NIEL, I have witnessed firsthand the extraordinary commitment, knowledge and determination that exists across our environmental sector. We continue to operate in challenging and uncertain times, with growing pressures on our natural environment, public finances and the organisations working tirelessly to protect and restore the world around us. Yet, despite these challenges, there is much to be positive about, and I am delighted to share some of that progress through this year's Annual Report.

The environmental challenges facing NI remain significant. From the continuing decline in biodiversity and water quality to the increasingly evident impacts of climate change, the need for meaningful action has never been greater. At a time when political and financial pressures can so easily divert attention elsewhere, we must continue to make the case that a healthy, resilient environment is not a luxury, but an essential foundation for our economy, our communities and our collective wellbeing.

For NIEL, this has also been a year of considerable organisational change. We have undertaken a significant restructuring process, designed to strengthen our foundations, better align our resources with our strategic priorities and ensure that we are equipped to meet the opportunities and challenges ahead. Change of this nature is rarely straightforward, and I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Max, our Board and everyone involved for their dedication, professionalism and commitment throughout the process. With our new structure now embedded and working well, we are in a strong position to deliver on our core objectives and support the wider environmental sector into the future.

What makes this year's achievements particularly noteworthy is that, alongside this period of transition, the team has continued to deliver an impressive programme of work. From championing cleaner water and sustainable agriculture to strengthening environmental governance, supporting climate resilience and advocating for nature recovery, NIEL has continued to demonstrate the value of a strong, informed and collective voice. The successful development of new cross-border initiatives, including the CHANGE and CORE projects, alongside our expanding partnerships and ongoing policy engagement, reflects both the ambition of the organisation and the strength of collaboration to deliver meaningful and tangible positive change.

I would also like to acknowledge the continued dedication of our staff, alongside the invaluable support of our members, partners and funders. The breadth of knowledge, expertise and commitment across these groups is fundamental to NIEL's success. It is through these relationships, and our shared determination to make a difference, that we can continue to influence policy, strengthen collaboration and, importantly, turn ambition into meaningful action.

We have demonstrated over the past year, that despite challenges, we can continue to make a positive difference through our collective efforts. We should also never underestimate the value of individual action. I would encourage everyone reading this report to consider what they can do, however small, to help protect and restore our natural environment. Every contribution matters, and it is through our continued commitment and shared efforts that we can achieve lasting change.

Finally, I would like to thank Max, the entire NIEL team, my fellow Board members and our wider membership for their continued commitment and support. It is a privilege to work alongside such passionate and knowledgeable people, and I look forward to building on the progress we have made as we continue working towards our shared vision of a valued, resilient and healthy environment.



Danielle McCormick, NIEL Chair



It gives me great pleasure to present Northern Ireland Environment Link's annual report for 2025-26. The report reflects our ambition and increasing relevance in shaping the vital discussions and actions around the environmental challenges that continue to face the sector and is a testament to the hard work and dedication of my team, the NIEL Board and our member organisations.

Last year I commented on the many issues that impact us as a society and organisation, and it is fair to say that these have not diminished since. Issues relating to climate change are becoming more acute; nature remains in crisis; clean water continues to decline all whilst the international political situation remains unstable and financial and political pressures are driving the focus away from the needs of our environment. In this context NIEL continues to drive for meaningful action and change; efforts, contributions and impacts which are outlined in this report. Our work in areas such as helping to develop the Nutrient Action Programme and a Land Use Framework for NI; highlighting the need for clean water through our 'Step Up for Clean Water Campaign'; and outlining sectoral positions for landscapes and sustainable agriculture reflect our goals and ambitions of being more focussed, impactful and externally facing.

As part of our strategic ambitions, NIEL has undertaken a structural review to ensure that the team and organisation can achieve our goals and deliver real outcomes for the sector. Any change of this nature is unsettling for all involved and I would like to thank my team and the Board for their engagement with the process. We are now in a better position as an organisation to deliver for our members.

The scope of this ambition and impact is highlighted by the number of projects and outputs that we deliver across both the NIEL and CNI teams. Our successful bid for PEACEPLUS cross-border funding, delivered by the Special EU Programmes Body, for our CHANGE and CORE cross-border projects shows the effectiveness of NIEL's partnership working and collaborative approach. Our North-South and East-West working remains a real strength as we manage the on-going divergence of environmental law and policy.

None of what we achieve would be possible without the support of the team, our Board, funders and members and I would like to thank them all for their significant contribution. At a time when funding and resource within the sector is under enormous pressure the ongoing support from our members is testament to the commitment that they give to NIEL, this is evident through their contributions to our Board, committees, working groups and their input to our consultation process; this, Environment Week and other activities illustrate how much more effective we are when we work together. No doubt the next 12 months will remain hugely challenging but together we can continue to make a real difference. Thank you for your continued commitment and support.



Max Bryant, NIEL Chief Executive

Introduction

This annual report details the activities and initiatives delivered by NIEL in accordance with the organisation's purposes for public benefit:

- Advance and promote for the public benefit environmental conservation, protection, improvement and sustainability in NI.
- Raise awareness of environmental issues by providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and promoting a collective voice on environmental matters.
- Advance the education of all sections of the public in environmental and ecological sciences.

The Board of Directors have had due regard to Charity Commission guidance in the preparation of this report.

Strategic Aim 1: Environmental Policy & Advocacy

Advance the conservation, management and access of the environment through development of relevant policy and advocacy

Environmental Governance in Northern Ireland



With our natural environment continuing to suffer from ongoing Climate, Biodiversity and Water quality emergencies we wrote to the NI Executive expressing concern that much needs to be done if we are to meet our environmental obligations and commitments. We urged the Executive to take urgent action to progress approval of the NI Green Growth Strategy; Establishment of a Just Transition Commission; Creation of an Independent Environmental Protection Agency; and Progression of the Fisheries and Water Environment Bill.

NIEL met regularly throughout the year with the Office for Environmental Protection in NI, where we continued to raise issues of concern and share our position on key environmental issues such as the NAP, Lough Neagh and Environmental Governance.

As the outworking's of Brexit continue to have implications for our natural environment we have continued to liaise with senior UK, Irish and EU officials in terms of the possible impact for NI and to strive for the best possible outcomes for our environment. As a member of the Ad-Hoc Group for North-South and East-West Cooperation and the NI Civic Working Group on the Protocol, we have continued to raise environmental issues regarding the NI/Ireland Protocol and more recently the Windsor Framework.

Environmental Co-operation: The North-South & East-West Dimension



After many years working in partnership with our Link colleagues in England, Scotland, Wales and the Republic of Ireland, this year saw the introduction of a two key environmental projects to put this cooperation on a more formal footing. Thanks to support from the PEACEPLUS Programme, February 2026 saw the commencement of two exciting projects namely the CHANGE & CORE projects.

The Collaborative Horizons for All-Island Nature and Governance Enhancement (CHANGE) Project is a 3-year project that will rebuild and future-proof cross-border, North-South and East-West, environmental governance structures through inclusive, evidence based, and participatory processes. It will identify and mitigate the growing impact of post-Brexit regulatory divergence on environmental protection, and lay the foundation for a more coherent, transparent, and cooperative policy environment across the island of Ireland and United Kingdom.

Meanwhile, the Cross-border Opportunities for a Resilient Environment (CORE) Project is a cross-border initiative designed to enhance environmental governance and resilience in response to the challenges posed by Brexit. Delivered in partnership with IEN and NIEL, it fosters collaboration, knowledge exchange, and capacity-building among environmental organisations, public agencies, and communities across Ireland and Northern Ireland.

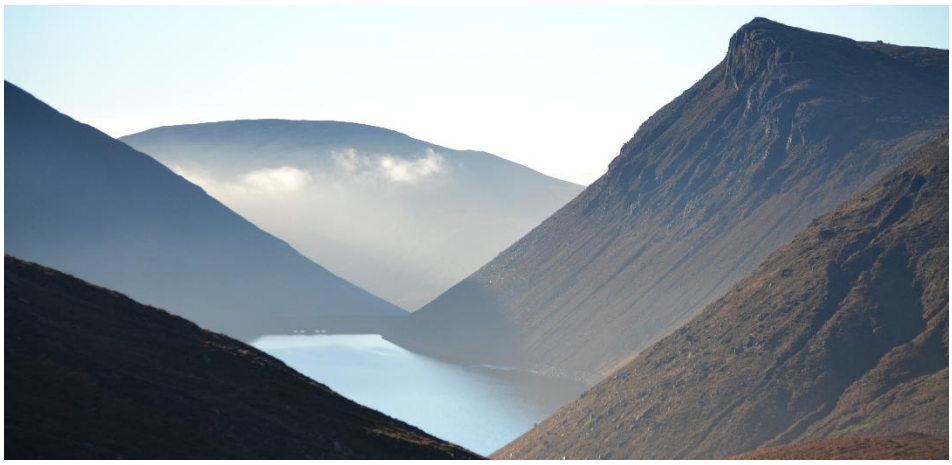
DAERA Stakeholder Engagement

NIEL continued to have regular meetings with DAERA officials within the Department's Environment, Marine and Fisheries Group, Climate Change Science & Innovation Group and NIEA and played a key part in departmental stakeholder meetings covering issues such as 30by30, Farming with Nature, Lough Neagh, Wildfires and the Nutrients Action Programme as well as providing sectoral input into DAERA's Agricultural Policy Stakeholder Group.

Landscapes NI



During 2025, Landscapes NI continued to strengthen its role as the collective voice for landscape management organisations across Northern Ireland. Building on the launch of the Landscape Manifesto in 2024, the network engaged directly with DAERA officials and the Minister to advance work towards a new landscape strategy and associated legislative review, as per the Environment Improvement Plan targets. It was positive that during the year NI Environment Agency staff worked closely with Landscapes NI members on the development of their internal "Landscapes Action Plan" taking on most of the suggestions and additions provided by the network.



A key achievement during the year was the development of the five Landscapes NI Manifesto Position Papers for **infrastructure development**, **sustainable and regenerative tourism**, **nature recovery and the UK 30x30 commitment**, **trees and woodlands**, and **access to nature**. These papers were developed through working groups involving members and external experts and provide an evidence-based framework for the future strategy. Landscapes NI also responded to five government consultations, ensuring that landscape perspectives were represented across issues including climate action, nature recovery and sustainable agriculture.

The network expanded its engagement and learning activities through a study visit to the **Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere**, a programme of nine training courses attended by 98 participants, and the second annual Landscapes NI Conference, which involved 72 delegates from across Ireland, Great Britain and Europe.

An important new development was the establishment of the Landscapes Youth NI Forum, bringing together young people from youth ranger and ambassador programmes within member organisations. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the EUROPARC Atlantic Isles section to apply for UK Connect funds to expand the youth programme and build knowledge and capacity with our young people.

Landscapes NI further strengthened collaboration with the National Landscapes Association and contributed to showcasing nature recovery and green finance opportunities through the "**Your Natural Partner**" initiative.

Public awareness continued to grow, with more than 2,100 new website users and a stakeholder survey receiving 383 responses, a 52% increase on the previous year. A full report on the findings is **available here**.

Environmental Policy Consultations & NIEL Statements

NIEL responded to a wide range of policy consultations throughout the year:

Consultation	Organisation	Submitted
NIEL response to OEP Questionnaire on the Implementation of Environmental Law	OEP	4th April 2025
NI Freshwater Taskforce response to Living with Water in Derry~Londonderry	DFI	7th April 2025
NIEL response to Environment and Nature Restoration Bill	Private Member Bill	1st May 2025
NIEL response to Nutrients Action Programme 2026-2029	DAERA	24th July 2025
Sustainable Agriculture Policy Working Group response to Nutrients Action Programme 2026-2029	DAERA	24th July 2025
NIEL response to draft 3rd NI Climate Change Adaptation Programme	DAERA	4th August 2025
NIEL Statement on the Principles of Co-design	n/a	26th August 2025
NIEL response to Climate Action Plan 2023-2027	DAERA	8th October 2025
NIEL Statement on the Ulster Farmers' Union vote of no confidence in DAERA	n/a	31st October 2025
NIEL response to the Fisheries and Water Environment Bill	DAERA	6th November 2025
NI Freshwater Taskforce and NI Marine Taskforce response to Fisheries and Water Environment Bill	DAERA	6th November 2025
NIEL Statement on the Review of Environmental Governance	n/a	12th November 2026
NIEL response to NI's 4th Carbon Budget 2038-2042	DAERA	17th November 2026
NIEL Letter to the Executive Office RE Environmental Progress in NI	TEO	10th December 2025
NI Freshwater Taskforce and NI Marine Taskforce response to Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in New Housing Developments	DFI	19th December 2025
NI Freshwater Taskforce and NI Marine Taskforce response to 4th Cycle River Basin Management Plan	DFI	3rd January 2026
NIEL Statement on Regulations to Establish a Just Transition Commission for Climate Change	n/a	5th February 2026
NIEL Statement on UN Special Rapporteur Statement	n/a	23rd February 2026

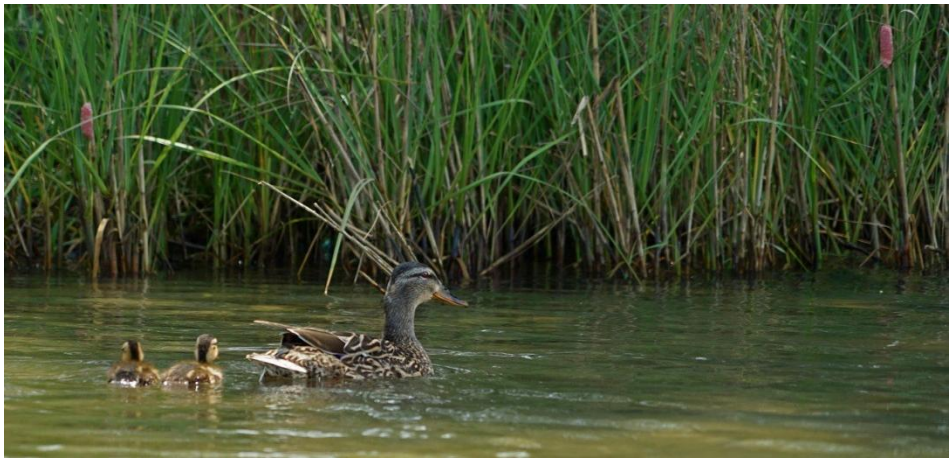
Strategic Aim 2: Partnership & Collaboration

Advance collaboration within and beyond the Environmental NGO sector

Task Forces & Working Groups (WGs)

We continue to encourage members to engage with Task Forces/Working Groups that are relevant to their own work areas – if you are interested in participating in any of these groups, please contact **Christopher McAteer**.

Freshwater Task Force (FWTF)



FWTF is a representative body of eNGOs working together under the NIEL umbrella. FWTF Members include: Ulster Wildlife, RSPB, The Rivers Trust, Ulster Angling Federation, National Trust, Woodland Trust, Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, Friends of the Earth, Surfers Against Sewage, NI Marine Task Force and Sustainable Water Action Network. FWTF aims to protect and improve NI's freshwater ecosystems through collaborative action, research, and advocacy.

FWTF secretariat and members of both FWTF and SAP spent a significant amount of the past year engaged in the revised Nutrients Action Programme (NAP) proposals, both through the technical working group and task and finish group. FWTF subsequently made a substantive response to the new proposals during the consultation phase.

Policy and advocacy work also progressed significantly during the year. FWTF developed position papers on key issues, including nature-based solutions and river barriers, providing evidence-based recommendations to support improved freshwater policy and management.

Public engagement and communications activity expanded throughout the year, particularly with the launch of the Step Up for Clean Water campaign. Multiple MLAs signed the pledge accompanying the campaign. Wider efforts focused on increasing awareness of freshwater challenges, encouraging wider stakeholder participation and strengthening support for action to protect and restore Northern Ireland's rivers, lakes and wetlands.

Nature & Environmental Protection Group (NEP)



The main focuses for NEP were responding to the draft Nature Recovery Strategy (NRS) that was consulted on by DAERA in the spring of 2026 and contributing to the Environment Links UK (ELUK) report on progress towards 30by30.

The NRS replaces the defunct Biodiversity Strategy to provide a plan to turn the tide on biodiversity loss in Northern Ireland. NEP developed a consultation response and worked with members to develop their own responses and ensured alignment across the sector.

The **ELUK report** delivered the first UK-wide sectoral-developed progress report on the UK's progress toward protecting and effectively managing 30% of land, freshwater, and seas by 2030. NEP coordinated the Northern Ireland chapter and conducted brand new statistical analysis.

Sustainable Agriculture Policy Working Group (SAPWG)



Discussing nature-based solutions with DAERA Minister Muir at QUB (DAERA)

NIEL's member organisations manage around 315,000 acres of land in Northern Ireland and work with over 3,000 farmers. SAPWG is comprised of experts from leading environmental organisations with a collective vision for a transformed food and farming system through sustainable land management that:

- Ensures nature and biodiversity thrive on our land
- Supports farmers, growers and rural communities towards a fair and resilient future
- Ensures farming and land use tackle the climate emergency
- Provides access to healthy, diverse and affordable local food

SAPWG coordinates and consolidates the views and technical evidence of a diverse range of environmental NGOs into clear, unified policy positions and communications messages. This facilitates focused discussion across the agriculture sector. Building relationships, partnerships and mutual learning opportunities with farmers and other key agri-sector players such as DAERA (including CAFRE and AFBI), membership organisations UFU, NFFN, NIAPA and cooperatives, academic research institutes and industry media, is key to the success of the Working Group.

Agri-environment Policy

2025-26 has seen considerable input to the area of policy development, most notably the Farming with Nature support package and Nutrients Action Programme 2027-30, and consultation including the Nature Recovery Strategy, Just Transition Commission (and Fund for Agriculture), Areas of Natural Constraints scheme, Climate Action Plan 2023-27 and proposed Ammonia Strategy.

SAPWG was also represented on the following regional groups – Agriculture Policy Stakeholder Group, Farming for the Generations Co-Design Group and other CAFRE Advisory Groups, and also the Ammonia Stakeholder Group.

The establishment of the Land Use Working Group and the forthcoming publication of recommendations in the "Land of Plenty?" report, mark an important step in guidance on how our finite piece of land in NI is managed to build future resilience. SAPWG is lobbying for follow-up stakeholder engagement and a multi-functional land use plan to be a priority for DAERA.

Supporting Resilience Farming with Nature



SAP learning about agroforestry with Prof Jim McAdam (Dr Aurélie Aubry, AFBI)

SAPWG members continued to learn and promote understanding of agroecological approaches in the following ways:

- Organised farm visits for the DAERA Minister, policymakers and agriculture stakeholders e.g. demonstrating comfrey swale systems for managing run-off pollution, agroforestry and the viability of nature-rich arable farming.
- Supporting "Fields Good" Regenerative Agriculture Festival at Glenarm which Provides an excellent opportunity for farmers and growers to come together to learn from experts and each other how a sustainable future in agriculture could look in practice.
- Providing an exhibition at CAFRE's Sustainable Upland Livestock and Habitat Management Symposium at Glenwherry Hill Farm Centre.
- Participation in UFU and other panel discussions, and a strong presence at Balmoral Show.
- BBC interviews and coverage online through NIEL's website.



Herbal leys for improved soil health and livestock nutrition (Cormac Dolan, NFFN)

SAPWG contributed to academic learning and research by:

- Facilitating Focus Groups with under-represented voices in the agri sector.
- Input to AFBI Economics Research Branch on DAERA-commissioned afforestation project and Queen's University Belfast (QUB) on the Monetary Value of Sustainable Agriculture Practices.
- Delivering lectures with a regenerative farmer to CAFRE degree students on agriculture policy, environmental challenges, nature-based solutions and whole farm planning.
- Hosting an environment sector exhibition at Sullivan Upper School careers fair for over 600 senior students.
- Participation in Right to Food workshop and Food Strategy briefing, hosted by Food Ethics Council and Ulster University.
- Hosting QUB MSc Sustainable Development student placement to create a database of evidence-based documentation and reports.

SAPWG exists to support the shift towards a more balanced and resilient agricultural system in NI in which farm viability and environmental restoration are supported together. This would create a much stronger link between public funding and public benefit. Our priority actions are:

- A united vision for sustainable agriculture that protects the environment on which it depends and builds resilience.
- Increased commitment to long-term funding for farming systems that deliver environmental outcomes and nature-based solutions, and for farmer-led expert advice.
- A multifunctional Land Use Plan for Northern Ireland.
- A food system that supports diverse local food and fairly rewards farmers.

NI Marine Task Force (NIMTF)



NIMTF were successful in receiving 5-years of continued funding from Esmée Fairbairn Foundation to build upon the Marine Vision (2021 – 2031) and explore greater connections to the wider NI Executive including Health, Education and Communities, alongside the already established relationships with DAERA. The 'Sea Across Society' project continues our work on MPA Management and Sustainable Marine Industries to enhance involvement with the newly established NIMTF Ocean Advocates Network promoting marine environmental policy and empowering society's involvement.

NIMTF welcomed the publication of DAERA's MPA Strategy for Northern Ireland's Inshore Region 2025 – 2030 accompanying the Blue Carbon Action Plan 2025 – 2030 which sets the precedent for improved management of our existing marine protected areas and the associated blue carbon habitats contained within against existing pressures.

NIMTF responded to several consultations, including Draft Budget 2026-2029/30; Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA) for the Offshore Renewable Energy Action Plan (OREAP); Joint FWTF NIMTF response to Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) in New Housing Developments; Timeline and Work Programme for Development of the Fourth Cycle River Basin Management Plan 2028 – 2033; Nature Recovery Strategy; Review on Unlicensed Fishing for Crab and Lobsters; Fisheries, Aquaculture and Water Environment Bill; Draft Noise Industry Action Plan – Round 4; 3rd Climate Change Adaptation Programme (NICCAP3); Nutrients Action Programme 2026 – 2029; Climate Action Plan 2023 – 2027; Plastic Pollution Plan for Northern Ireland; Call for Evidence on Impacts on the Water Environment; Offshore Wind Environmental Compensatory Measures Reforms; Changes to Fees, Exemptions and Self-Service for Marine Licences; and UK Marine Strategy – Part One.

NIMTF have provided evidence individually and as a group at several committee opportunities this year: (i) Infrastructure Committee with Freshwater Task Force on the SuDS in New Housing Bill in February 2026; (ii) AERA Committee for Intertidal Hand-Gathering of Shellfish in February 2026.

Climate Northern Ireland Team



Climate NI Team host Climate Change Committee visit to NI (RSUA)

The Climate NI Team at NIEL progressed into the third year of the Climate NI Programme which began in 2023. The team is extremely grateful for all the collaboration and support from our network. This year we built on existing partnerships, and began some exciting new collaborations, alongside delivery of the Coastal Monitoring and Adaptation Planning project, the Pathways2Resilience project and a programme of Climate Smart Training for the NI Civil Service.

Climate NI Programme

The Climate NI Programme is led by a Steering Group composed of 23 organisations from across academia, business, the community and voluntary sector, and local and central government. In November, the Climate NI Steering Group hosted the Climate Change Committee (CCC); discussions included the Climate Change Risk Assessment and Well-Adapted UK reports. The Climate NI Team delivers a broad programme of work, funded by DAERA, to increase understanding and enable adaptation and mitigation actions in Northern Ireland that can address the climate emergency.

Some key outcomes included:

NI Climate Change Policy and Research Panel

The Climate NI Policy and Research Panel brings together leaders from industry, academia and government to better understand evidence in 13 key sectors identified by the CCC. It began as a pilot but has since been integrated as a key element of the Climate NI Programme, with the first full day workshop held in June 2024.

Climate NI held the third workshop in March 2025 to develop indicators and evidence for adaptation monitoring. Further engagement involved conducting one-to-one interviews with 20 participants across 13 sectors to investigate the current state of evidence for progress on adaptation.

To achieve a more comprehensive understanding of adaptation indicators and evidence for particular sectors, certain panel members highlighted the need for a temporary working group with expanded membership to cover all the required outcomes of that sector. The team held a Working Lands and Seas adaptation working group meeting in November 2025 with 10 participants.

In Spring 2026, the Policy and Research Panel met for the fourth meeting, focussing on two key areas. First, the panel reviewed progress on the development of a climate adaptation monitoring framework for NI. Secondly, along with the DAERA Climate Action Plan (CAP) team, the panel provided feedback on sector-specific engagement needs, as well as on how just transition principles could be embedded within a climate-resilient CAP.

Key outcomes of the panel to date:

- A new structured forum for policymakers to access climate evidence and expertise across all sectors.
- 74 participants engaged across 4 meetings.
- Adaptation indicator spreadsheet developed and shared with DAERA for use in the NI adaptation monitoring framework.
- Expert input into the development of the NICCAP vision and objectives.
- Feedback provided on quantification methodologies for the first NI Climate Action Plan.
- 9 draft policy briefs developed via 3 workshops, 18 research interviews, a working group, and written responses, covering adaptation monitoring indicators in 13 sectoral areas.
- Initial engagement between the CAP2 team and the panel with agreement for the panel to support CAP2 development moving forward.

Supporting Public Body Reporting



Public Body Reporting Celebration Event at Stormont (DAERA)

Climate NI worked closely with DAERA teams to offer support on public body reporting; this included support through the DAERA-led co-design process of the adaptation and mitigation reporting guidance and platform as well as agreeing the support available from Climate NI as part of the work programme.

In May 2025, Climate NI established the Public Body Climate Action Network (PBCAN). This is a peer support network with a membership of 144 members from 44 organisations. The membership is made up of 40 public bodies required to report to DAERA and 4 voluntary reporting organisations. The Climate NI Team provide support to this network by facilitating the secretariat function and working with the network's Chair, Elaine Smith from the Education Authority.

Climate NI provides support to public bodies through a "dual-approach", so alongside the creation of the Public Body Climate Action Network, we updated our climate action planning toolkits – NI Adapts and Net Zero NI. These two toolkits aim to provide a consistent approach to developing climate adaptation and mitigation plans. These toolkits are available on the Climate NI website to allow access to all organisations.

Key outcomes of this work:

- 3 mitigation workshops held as well as an optional mitigation training session
- 3 adaptation workshops held
- Training day on climate adaptation delivered in November 2025
- Completed a baseline maturity assessment with public bodies
- Toolkit section of the Climate NI website received 2,205 views and 5,663 interactions

Event - Preparing Northern Ireland for a Changing Climate

On 20th May 2025, we held an event called 'Preparing Northern Ireland for a Changing Climate', which was designed to build connections between individuals and organisations who are at the heart of delivering actions to address climate change, whilst raising ambition in a way which focuses on vulnerability now and in generations to come. This event was designed to engage people in a variety of ways; these included interactive workshop elements, sharing best practice from practical adaptation case studies and trialling a new methodology with audiences through the Visioning 2025: Net Zero, Climate Resilient Northern Ireland workshop. By combining these elements with updates on relevant policy such as the NICCAP3 and the launch of the Public Body Climate Action Network, we believe this aim was achieved.

This event provided the opportunity to bring together a diverse audience of over 90 stakeholders including representatives from government, business, academia and communities. It demonstrated both the urgency and opportunity for climate adaptation in Northern Ireland. The result of this knowledge-sharing, innovation, and collaboration, was the inclusive engagement and motivation for NI organisations to move forward with the climate agenda.

The Climate NI Team at Northern Ireland Environment Link deliver a range of climate change projects in addition to the Climate NI Programme:

Maximising UK Adaptation to Climate Change (MACC) Hub

The Climate NI Team continued in its senior leadership role in the UK-wide MACC Hub project alongside King's College London, as well as being the lead coordinating partner for NI, working with QUB as lead NI academic partner. This is a £5m programme funded by UKRI and DEFRA, running until November 2027. The Climate NI Team led foundational research across the consortium, to define approaches for "transformation" in climate adaptation (an idea which is supported by the IPCC), and to understand challenges and opportunities which could drive or hinder adaptation progress in the UK. This work included testing of ideas at a major event in February 2026 with over 100 members of the London Climate Ready Partnership at London City Hall. Outputs of this activity will be available later in 2026-27.

A bespoke NI Stakeholder Engagement Plan was developed alongside DAERA and other key partners for the MACC Hub. This focuses primarily on capacity and coordination both for government departments and the 40 public climate reporting bodies in NI through joint workshops on topics such as communicating climate adaptation, as well as through Climate NI-led peer-support groups. This work will be further developed in 2026.

The Climate NI team also encouraged NI-based applications for a MACC Hub community flexible fund. Community Group "Brink!" received one of ten awards to deliver practical action on the ground in Belfast from January 2026.

TalX2 Place Based Climate Action Partnerships



Transboundary Climate Adaptation Forum at Monaghan Peace Campus (Climate NI)

This year, TalX2 has continued activities across its three Living Labs in Belfast, Mayo and Dublin.

In Mayo, three workshops supported the development of the Clew Bay Coastal Partnership and coastal adaptation planning. In Belfast, two workshops were held with Belfast City Council, including a community engagement session with Involve UK. The Living Lab then focused on a pilot SuDS project on Lombard Street, delivering local trader engagement and a stakeholder workshop involving DfI, Belfast City Council and Belfast Healthy Cities. In Dublin, workshops explored co-design and the role of arts and creativity in climate adaptation.

In February, TalX2 hosted the first Shared Ground: Transboundary Climate Adaptation Forum workshop in Monaghan, bringing together stakeholders from across Ireland to discuss the challenges and opportunities faced from climate change impacts on a transboundary basis.

TalX2 also delivered a workshop at the Mary Robinson Climate and Nature Conference and participated in the Greening the City Advisory Group, OECD Public Realm for Sustainable Mobility workshop and Climate Ready Regions Gathering in Edinburgh.

Coastal Monitoring and Adaptation Planning (CMAP) Project



Coastal Monitoring and Adaptation Planning Launch Event at AFBI (Climate NI)

The CMAP project was officially launched on 16th March 2026, along with its sister projects ACCLIMATISE and MOSAIC, marking a €25 million contribution from PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) and focused on strengthening coastal community engagement and climate change resilience on the island of Ireland.

The CMAP project is a €9.6 million initiative designed to help coastal communities, policymakers and environmental stakeholders better understand and act towards the impacts that climate change brings to the coasts. The CMAP project combines monitoring of physical changes, habitats and species with co-developing adaptation plans with local communities.

The work of the Climate NI Team in the CMAP project focuses on co-designing and co-developing a Coastal Community Climate Adaptation Planning Toolkit with coastal communities in three sites – two in Northern Ireland (Cushendun and Dundrum) and one in the Republic of Ireland (Strandhill).

Pathways to Resilience (P2R) Project



Pathways 2 Resilience Workshop (Climate NI)

Climate NI successfully secured funding in partnership with Belfast City Council and Belfast was selected as one of 62 regions in the second cohort of the Pathways2Resilience (P2R) Programme.

P2R is a Horizon Europe-funded programme supporting regions across Europe to strengthen climate adaptation and resilience. The project, running from January 2026 to August 2027, aims to establish pathways towards a more climate-resilient Belfast by improving understanding of climate risks and developing the governance, action and investment frameworks needed to address them. Four key outputs will be produced: a Climate Resilience Baseline Report, Climate Resilience Strategy, Climate Resilience Action Plan and Climate Resilience Investment Plan. During the initial phase, the project has focused on stakeholder engagement, bringing together representatives from local government, academia, infrastructure providers, community organisations and businesses to identify climate risks, adaptation priorities and opportunities for collaboration. These activities will help inform Belfast's long-term approach to climate resilience and adaptation.

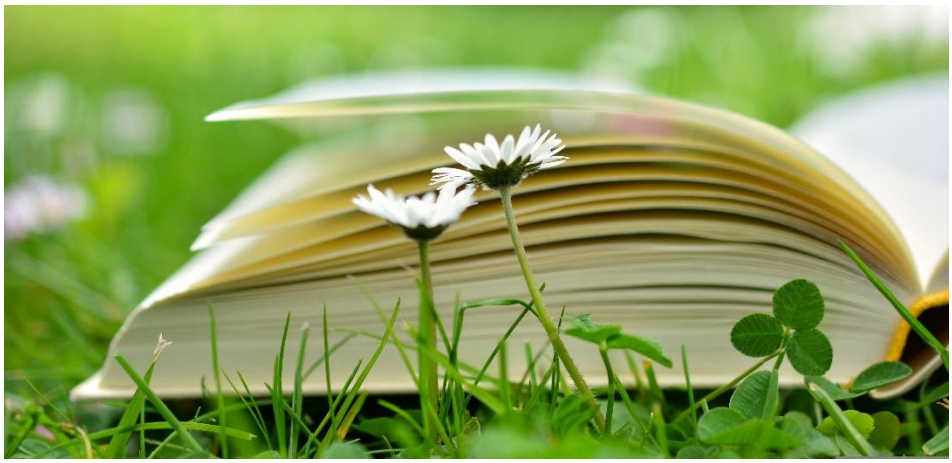
Climate Smart Training for NI Civil Service

In partnership with Live Here Love Here, the Climate NI team has been delivering a climate training course for NICS. Climate Smart Civil Service aims to raise awareness of the impacts of climate change while promoting actions individuals, communities and organisations can take to reduce emissions. This course takes place across two sessions, is available across all NI Civil Service departments and is certified by CPD and the Carbon Literacy Project. To date over 1,200 NICS participants have been trained.

Strategic Aim 3: Membership & Capacity

Increase the capacity and sustainability of the environmental NGO sector in NI

Education for Sustainable Development



Education for Sustainable Development Forum is a network that promotes a coordinated approach with the aim of enhancing the profile of environmental education in the curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

A major focus during 2025-26 was the emerging review of the Northern Ireland Curriculum. ESDF worked to highlight the importance of Education for Sustainable Development and outdoor learning within curriculum reform discussions. This included gathering evidence, research and case studies to support the case for stronger integration of sustainability across education.

During 2025-26, ESDF delivered a strong programme of engagement, training and advocacy to promote Education for Sustainable Development across Northern Ireland. Key highlights included the Creating Connections event at the Belfast Learning Festival in April 2025, a youth focused Hear Our Voices event delivered in partnership with NICCY, collaboration with the Northern Ireland Museums Council and the Natural History Museum, and a series of outdoor learning training opportunities for educators. ESDF also supported the promotion of the myEARTH initiative and continued to build partnerships across the education and environmental sectors.

A major milestone was the delivery of the ESDF Conference 2025 at Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, Oxford Island, which marked 30 years of ESDF and brought together around 50 participants to explore the Northern Ireland Curriculum Review, share good practice in sustainability education and reflect on future opportunities for Education for Sustainable Development. The Forum's work throughout the year strengthened networks, amplified the voice of the sector and contributed to ongoing discussions on embedding sustainability and outdoor learning within education policy and practice.

ESDF social media, newsletter, and website engagement continue to increase month on month, showing steady growth and a widening of our reach within our network. Resources and the work of our network continue to be shared and supported, with more partnership work taking place.

You can read the full ESDF 2025 Annual report **here**.

NIEL Funding 4 the Environment



As part of our commitment to improve the sustainability and resilience of the environment sector, NIEL, with the support of NIEA, has renewed the “NIEL Funding 4 the Environment” database until 2027. NIEL Funding 4 the Environment is hosted by Idox and features the latest information on government, Lottery and charitable funding opportunities. NIEL Funding 4 the Environment is freely accessible to members.

Full Members

Action Renewables
Balinderry Rivers Trust
Belfast Healthy Cities
Belfast Hills Partnership
Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland
British Trust for Ornithology
Buglife
Butterfly Conservation
Carrickfergus Community Cultivators
Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust
Cavehill Conservation Campaign
Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
Community Places
The Conservation Volunteers
Copeland Bird Observatory
Creggan Country Park
EcoSeeds
Field Studies Council
Field Studies Ireland
Friends of the Earth NI
Grass Roots Conservation Group
Green Foundation Ireland
Groundwork NI
Lagan Valley Regional Park
Leave No Trace Ireland
Lecale Conservation
Live Here Love Here
Lough Neagh Partnership
Mountaineering Ireland
Mourne Heritage Trust
National Trust
Nature Friendly Farming Network
Northern Ireland Badger Group
Northern Ireland Forest School Association
The Organic Centre
Outscape
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
S Clarke and Son Memorial Reserve Trust
Save The Moat Save The Sperrins

Strangford Lough and Lecale Partnership
Sustainable Northern Ireland
True Harvest Seeds
Ulster Angling Federation
Ulster Federation of Rambling Clubs
Ulster Wildlife
Walk Wheel Cycle Trust
Waste and Resources Action Programme
Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust
The Woodland Trust

NGO Supporters

Belfast Charitable Society
Belfast Civic Trust
Broughshane Improvement Committee
Carntogher Community Association
Council for British Archaeology
Development Trusts NI
Food, Farming & Countryside Commission
Holywell Trust
Institute for Public Health in Ireland
Jubilee Farm
Lough Erne Heritage
Rare Breeds Survival Trust
Ringhaddy Area Residents
Rural Community Network
St Columb's Park House
Supporting Communities
UK Fruit & Vegetable Coalition
Ulster Archaeological Society

Associate Members (Statutory Bodies)

Delamont Country Park
Energy Saving Trust
Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
The Northern Ireland Housing Executive

Corporate Supporters

JKI Environmental Ltd
Made in Trenbania
RES UK and Ireland

The Weatherbies Ltd

Individual Supporters

Bartolo, Albert
Blair, Anna
Byrne, Eden
Carden, Andy
Carlisle, Juliet Hazel
Casement, Patrick
Christie, Peter
Christie, Sue
Chung, Zoey Violet
Doherty, Siân
Gailey, Luke Thomas
Gallagher, Eugene
Herron, Alastair
Hillcox, Chris
Hood, Isabel
Humphreys, Ian
Kenneally, Eve Louise
Kirk, Natalie
Loughan, Annamarie
MacDonald, Kerry
McCabe, Stephen
McElhinney, Philip
McEvoy, Stephanie
McGovern, Sean
McIlroy, Aideen
McQuaid, Torchia
Metcalfe, Philip
Mullan, James
O'Neill, Leah
Orford, Julian
Pandley, Sandeep Kumar
Robinson, Lorraine
Ruddock, Diane
Scott, Jamie
Spouncer, Celia

Strategic Aim 4: Communications

Communicate effectively with our members, partners, stakeholders and other target audiences.



Social Media

NIEL social media analytics for the 2025-26 period showed a moderate increase in following, with the Facebook page growing from 2,972 followers to 3,219 followers (8.3% increase). X followers decreased from 3,069 to 2,952 (3.8% decrease). NIEL's LinkedIn profile has grown from 777 followers to 1,277 followers this year (64.3% increase).

NIEL Newsletter

The NIEL Newsletter features the latest environmental news, events, funding and job opportunities. The newsletter maintains a very high open rate (42.2%). 10 issues were circulated in 2025-26.

NIEL website

Analytics continue to record interest in the NIEL website, with 90,000 visitors recorded in the April 2025 - March 2026 period. 236,000 total pageviews were recorded between April 2025 - March 2026.

Environmental News, Research and Analysis

NIEL continues to produce a monthly news-sheet entitled Environmental News, Research and Analysis which provides the latest international research information and policy analysis relevant to NI.

Staff Changes

- Leah O'Neill resigned as Historic Environment Policy and Projects Officer in April 2025
- Kiera Russell's contract as Climate Assistant ended in July 2025.
- Tom Thorpe's contract as Historic Environment Policy and Projects Officer ended in August 2025.
- Kerry Melville's contract as Operations Manager / Nourish NI Co-ordinator ended in August 2025.
- Michelle Grimes' contract as Nourish NI Support Officer ended in August 2025.
- Sophie Hughes' contract as Climate Assistant ended in August 2025.
- Siân Doherty's contract as Climate Officer ended in August 2025.
- Gregory McChesney joined as Climate Assistant in October 2025.
- Jack Farrar joined as Climate Assistant in October 2025.
- Mariarina Michailidou joined as Climate Officer in December 2025.

Staff Training

- Media Training (FTWF & NIEL Staff) – 14 April 2026
- Workplace Health and Wellbeing Training (All Staff) – 25 June 2026
- Carbon Literacy Training (3 placement students) – 2026

Funding

NIEL, along with many other environmental NGOs, receive core funding from NIEA's Environment Fund. Esmée Fairbairn Foundation is our other main funder; as well as providing core funding they also supported our work on Landscapes NI and Freshwater.

The CMAP, CORE and CHANGE projects received funding through PEACEPLUS, delivered by the Special EU Programmes Body.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund supported the myEarth project.

The National Lottery Community Fund supported the Good Food For All project.

The Department for Communities provided funding via their Covid Recovery Employment & Skills Initiative for Heritage (CRESI) to support NIEL's engagement with the heritage sector.

Other significant funding came from DAERA for the delivery of the Climate NI programme.

NIEL also received funding from Action Renewables, Innovate UK, the Irish Environmental Protection Agency via TALX2, Kings College London, Sustain and Soil Association.

We are grateful to all our funders for their ongoing support.

Finances and Subscriptions

NIEL is a membership organisation and receives income from subscriptions. The organisation's budget is prepared in December and finalised at the start of the following Financial Year. Accounts are prepared for each meeting of the Finance and Human Resources Committee (FHR), which meets four times per year, in advance of the Board. The financial report is included on all Board Agendas. The end of year accounts are reviewed at the FHR closest to the AGM, and sent out in advance to all Board Members.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors met on the following dates:

- 29th May 2025;
- 28th August 2025;
- 13th November 2025;
- 4th December 2025 (AGM); and
- 19th February 2026

The FHR Sub Committee met on the following dates:

- 6th May 2025;
- 19th August 2025;
- 30th October 2025;
- 5th November 2025; and
- 6th February 2026

Risk Register

The Risk Register is a standing item on the FHR Agenda and reviewed quarterly by the NIEL Board of Directors to ensure that emerging risks that could potentially impact on the organisation are identified and mitigation measures are agreed.

Events

NIEL hosted, co-hosted and participated in a broad range of events throughout the year. A full list of events is available online – **www.nienvironmentlink.org/events**

Event	Location	Date
OEP Briefing for NIEL Members on Freshwater and Terrestrial Protected Sites	Online	3rd April 2025
Creating Connections in Education for Sustainable Development	2 Royal Avenue, Belfast	9th April 2025
Preparing NI for a Changing Climate	The MAC	20th May 2025
Monitoring post-Brexit environmental divergence on the island of Ireland: The role of civil society	Online	23rd June 2025
Briefing on draft Climate Action Plan Consultation for NIEL Members	Online	10th September 2025
NI Environment Week 2025	Various Locations	29th September – 5th October 2025
ESDF Conference 2025	Oxford Island NNR	2nd October 2025
Climate Risk Assessment and Business Continuity Planning Workshop	Online	14th October 2025
Natural Health: The Landscapes NI Conference	Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh	11th November 2025
Climate Change Committee Visit to NI	RSUA Belfast	25th November 2025
Climate Adaptation Training for Public Bodies	CAFRE Greenmount	28th November 2025
NIEL AGM 2025	Window on Wildlife	4th December 2025
Visioning a Climate Resilient Net Zero NI	Boundary Brewery	28th January 2026
eNGO Round Table on Draft Nature Recovery Strategy NI	NIEL Office	27th February 2026

Image Credits



Cover page - Red squirrel (Pixabay)

Pg.7 - Parliament Buildings (Pixabay)

Pg.8 - zoocreative / Hands Across the Divide / CC BY-SA 2.0 (Wikimedia Commons)

Pg.9 - Ballintoy (Pixabay)

Pg.10 - Silent Valley (Mike McClure)

Pg.12 - Freshwater (Pixabay)

Pg.13 - Hedgehog (Pixabay)

Pg.14 - Discussing nature-based solutions with DAERA Minister Muir at QUB (DAERA)

Pg.15 - SAP learning about agroforestry with Prof Jim McAdam (Dr Aurélie Aubry, AFBI)

Pg.16 - Herbal leys for improved soil health and livestock nutrition (Cormac Dolan, NFFN)

Pg.17 - Common seal (Pixabay)

Pg.18 - Climate NI Team host Climate Change Committee visit to NI (RSUA)

Pg.20 - Public Body Reporting Celebration Event at Stormont (DAERA)

Pg.22 - TalX2 Team at Transboundary Workshop (Climate NI)

Pg.23 - Coastal Monitoring and Adaptation Planning Launch Event at AFBI (Climate NI)

Pg.24 - Pathways 2 Resilience Workshop (Climate NI)

Pg.25 - Reading outdoors (Pixabay)

Pg.26 - Piggy bank (Pixabay)

Pg.30 - Social media (Pixabay)

Pg.35 - Eurasian tree sparrow (Pixabay)

Company Registration Number NI034988
HMRC Charity Reference Number XR19598
NI Charities Commission Reference Number NIC101074

A private company limited by guarantee without share capital - exempt from using "limited"

Summary Financial Statement
for the year ended 31st March 2026

Northern Ireland Environment Link

DIRECTORS' STATEMENT
ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The director/trustees present herewith the summary financial statement of Northern Ireland Environment Link for the year ended 31st March 2024 and confirm the following:

- the summary financial statement is only a summary of information derived from the charity's annual accounts;
- the summary financial statement does not contain any additional information derived from the director / trustees' report;
- the full annual accounts, the independent auditor's report and the directors'/trustees' report can be obtained on application to Northern Ireland Environment Link;
- the annual accounts were approved by the Board on 12th November 2026

This directors' statement was approved by the board of director/trustees on 12th November 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Danielle McCormick
Chair - Board of Directors / Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' STATEMENT TO THE MEMBERS OF NORTHERN IRELAND ENVIRONMENT LINK

We have examined the summary financial statement of Northern Ireland Environment Link.

Respective responsibilities of director / trustees and examiner

The director / trustees are responsible for preparing the summary financial statement in accordance with applicable law. Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summary financial statement with the full annual accounts and Director / Trustees' Report, and its compliance with the relevant requirements of Section 427 of the Companies Act 2006 and the regulations made thereunder. We also read the other information contained in the summary financial statement and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summary financial statement.

Basis of opinion

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Opinion

In my opinion the summary financial statement is consistent with the full annual accounts and director / trustees' report of Northern Ireland Environment Link for the year ended 31st March 2025 and complies with the applicable requirements of Section 427 of the Companies Act 2006, and the regulations made thereunder.



———————————

Nigel V Skillen FCA
Diamond & Skillen
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditor
Sinclair House
89/101 Royal Avenue
Belfast
BT1 1FE

19th November 2026

Northern Ireland Environment Link

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31st March 2026

	General Funds *(unrestricted)* £	Restricted funds £	**Totals 2026 £**	Totals 2025 £
Income				
from donations and legacies				
• Donations	314	-	**314**	1,801
• Subscriptions	6,685	-	**6,685**	7,660
• Grants	698,870	309,341	**1,008,211**	625,655
from charitable activities				
• Event and project income	209,172	-	**209,172**	195,083
• Other charitable income	-	-	**0**	42,888
from other activities				
• Sundry income	13,858	-	**13,858**	8,151
• Other servicing and accommodation	-	-	**0**	-
from investments				
• Investment income	833	157	**990**	896
Total income	929,732	309,498	**1,239,230**	882,134
Expenditure				
on raising funds				
• Advertising / PR costs	2,423	-	**2,423**	9,504
on charitable activities				
• Employee costs and expenses	741,908	24,122	**766,030**	689,713
• Premises costs	24,069	-	**24,069**	24,966
• Travel & training costs	13,574	458	**14,032**	12,449
• Administration costs	18,487	-	**18,487**	17,871
• Programme / event costs	100,774	84	**100,858**	72,631
on other items				
• Legal and professional fees	6,007	-	**6,007**	5,035
• Other expenses	7,304	-	**7,304**	6,130
• Depreciation of assets	-	-	**0**	-
Total expenditure	914,546	24,664	**939,210**	838,299
Net income for the year	15,186	284,834	**300,020**	43,835
Transfers				
• Gross transfers between funds	-	-	**0**	-
Net movement in funds for the year	15,186	284,834	**300,020**	43,835
Reconciliation of funds				
• Fund balances b/fwd at 1st April	563,936	10	**563,946**	520,111
Fund balances c/fwd at 31st March	579,122	284,844	**863,966**	563,946

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.
All gains and losses in the year are included above.

Northern Ireland Environment Link

Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)
as at 31st March 2026

	2026 £	2025 £
Non Current Assets		
• Tangible assets	**833**	833
Current Assets		
• Receivables	**96,383**	116,931
• Cash and cash equivalents	**932,177**	495,026
	1,029,393	612,790
Payables: amounts falling due within one year	**(165,397)**	(48,844)
Net assets	**863,996**	563,946
Accumulated funds		
Unrestricted income funds:		
• General funds	**579,122**	563,936
• Other funds	**-**	-
	579,122	563,936
Restricted income funds:		
• CMAP Climate NI	**2,201**	-
• CHANGE PeacePlus SEUPB	**282,633**	-
• Other projects	**10**	10
Total funds	**863,966**	563,946

The summary financial statement was approved by the Board of Directors on 12th November 2026 and signed on their behalf by:





Danielle McCormick
Chair of Director / Trustees

Paul Gibbons
Director/Trustee, Hon Treasurer

Northern Ireland environment link

Northern Ireland Environment Link is funded by

Funded via the Carrier Bag Levy by:

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe

Depairtment o' Fairmin, Environment an' Kintra Matthers

COMMUNITY FUND

Made possible with Heritage Fund

Esmée Fairbairn FOUNDATION

action renewables

my EARTH

UKRI Innovate UK

TalX2
Place-Based Climate Action Partnerships

Department for Communities
An Roinn Pobal
Depairtment fur Commonities
www.communities-ni.gov.uk

PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland
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Northern Ireland Executive