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New Council members welcomed to English Nature

A legal consultant, a University Principal lecturer in ecology and leisure management and a former Regional Director of the National Trust have been appointed to the Council of English Nature, the Government's independent wildlife and conservation advisor.

The three-year appointments of Ms Sarah Burton, Mrs Lynn Crowe and Mr Christopher Pennell were confirmed by the Minister for Nature Conservation and Fisheries, Ben Bradshaw. Terms will commence on 1 April 2005, apart from Mr Pennell who will start on 1 May 2005 due to current commitments. The appointments will run until 31 March 2008.

Sir Martin Doughty, Chair, English Nature, said: "It is a pleasure to welcome Sarah Burton, Lynn Crowe and Christopher Pennell to the Council of English Nature and I look forward to working with them over the next three years. Moving English Nature into Natural England in 2007 will be an incredibly important time for Council Members. Anne Kelaart and Tom Burke will be leaving us at the end of March and I would like to thank them for their important contribution to our work over the years."

Four other serving Council members, Dr Mike Moser, Mr Stephen Hockman, Mr Douglas Hulyer and Mr Hugh van Cutsem, whose appointments were due to end on 31 March 2005 have also been re-appointed to the Council for a further term of three years. In addition, Dr Moser's appointment as Deputy Chair has been extended to cover the same period.