

The Bracken Control Group

The non-approval of Asulam for registration under EC Regulation 1107/2009 in September 2011 acted as a final trigger for the formation of a Bracken Control Group. This had been under consideration for some time, but the loss of the main bracken control agent highlighted the need for better coordination between the different bracken control interests. The Group is supported by the full spectrum of interests in bracken control, including: the manufacturer of Asulam, distributors of asulam products, government agencies, non-government organisations, contractors and representatives of landowner, land manager, farming and forestry organisations.

Sector representatives have been identified for the main interest groups and these people are listed at Annex B below. Their names are also listed on the home page of the Group's website: www.brackencontrol.co.uk.

Newsletters are used to communicate with a growing audience from all parts of the UK. In addition, the key messages contained in the Newsletters have been circulated through the communications with members & staff of supporting organisations. Newsletters can be viewed on the News page of the website.

In 2012, a briefing was sent to Ministers in all UK administrations. Direct Ministerial support was received from Defra and the Scottish Government. Some of the correspondence can be viewed on the documents page of the website.

Bracken Control Group – Sector Representatives

The following people have volunteered to represent the interests of their sector:

Sector	Representatives
Landowners and representative organisations	George Winn-Darley, Moorland Association (North Yorkshire) Fraser McAuley, Country Land & Business Association (London) Tim Baynes, Scottish Land & Estates (Edinburgh)
National Parks	TBA (Lake District) Toby Small (Brecon Beacons)
Farmers and representative organisations	Andrew Midgley, NFUS (Edinburgh) Dafydd Jarrett, NFU Cymru (Gwynedd) Phil Stocker, National Sheep Association (Worcestershire)
Commoners & graziers	John Thorley, Pastoral Alliance (Worcestershire) Arnold Lancaster, Commoner (Lake District)
Crofters	Alan Andrews, Crofter (Sutherland)
Distributors of Asulam	Graham Cranna, Agrii (Perth)
Bracken contractor (ground based)	Gerald Babcock (Cornwall)
Aerial Applicators (helicopter contractor)	Ian Innes, PDG Helicopters (Inverness)
Forestry	Ian Willoughby, Forestry Commission (Surrey) Colin Palmer, Confor (Herefordshire)
Government Agencies	Alastair Burn, Natural England (Peterborough)
Water Company	Jaqueline Tait, Scottish Water (Edinburgh)
Regulation & re-registration	Alastair Leake, Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust (Leicestershire) Andy Evans, SRUC (Perthshire)
Historic Environment	Sandy Gerrard (Devon) Thomas Gledhill, Historic England (Northumberland)
Other users	Duncan Glen, Landmarc (Wiltshire & UK)
Health information	Prof Roy Brown, R&D Applied Biology (North Yorks)
Technical adviser	Roderick Robinson, Landward Consultancy (North Yorks)