

Regional Representative: Volunteer Role Profile

Could I fulfil this role?

For incoming Regional Representatives we welcome:

- good written communication and organisational skills, often working to deadlines;
- enthusiasm about local bird monitoring, including familiarity with a selection of BTO surveys;
- a basic ability with computers and software;
- being part of your local birding scene, with an understanding of species in your area.

I'm ready, what's my objective?

BTO involves over 40,000 volunteers in its survey work across 125 mapped regions within the UK. The data collected by these volunteers chart population trends and movements of hundreds of bird species. Our volunteers are amazing, and we need your help to coordinate them!

Regional Representatives (RRs) are local leaders for BTO in one of these regions. You would be a main point of contact for BTO members and volunteers, assist with recruitment of volunteer surveyors and, crucially, become involved in organising and coordinating selected BTO surveys at a local level (depending on available support). This role is part of a wider Regional Network of BTO volunteers, making a big impact for birds, science, and people.

Supporting the BTO

- Supporting, enabling, and communicating with volunteers, increasing their motivation.
- Increasing survey coverage for more robust data to better understand bird populations.
- Reviewing incoming survey results.
- Building relationships with local bird and wildlife clubs, ensuring BTO is well represented.

Rewarding for you

- Meet more people, locally and nationally, with a shared passion for birds.
- Discover and learn with us as we find patterns and trends in bird populations.
- Watch our maps update as survey coverage increases (thanks to your efforts).
- Be a bigger part of our BTO family.
- Make a real difference to bird conservation.

What is the expected commitment?

This varies depending on any additional tasks taken on. An average of one day per month is likely for core work. You'll also be invited to attend at least one in-person and one online meeting (via Zoom) per year with other Regional Network volunteers and BTO staff.

Essential tasks

- Welcome and communicate with BTO members and volunteers via a (minimum annual) **locally tailored newsletter**, providing feedback from surveys, news and stories to all of the supporters within your region. Staff will support you with this initially.
- To **organise and coordinate BTO surveys at a local level** through the network of BTO volunteers in your region, ensuring data are promptly entered online, or survey forms are returned for collation. This function will be delivered alongside any volunteer Regional Organisers in your region.
- Recruit new volunteers to **increase survey coverage**.
- To **liaise with local bird clubs** (or similar) and other voluntary BTO representatives in the region.
- To **act as the first point of contact** for local BTO-related enquiries via email, which can be forwarded onto staff when required.

Optional extras

- Recruit BTO members as opportunities arise; periodically host, with BTO support, a local conference and attend others around your region; provide local training/mentoring opportunities; give talks on BTO work.
- While all these tasks can be fulfilled by one RR, many regions adopt a team approach. Depending on volunteer coverage, the RR may be ably supported by one or more of the following:
 - **Regional/Local Organiser**: coordinator of a particular survey within a BTO region.
 - **Regional Ambassador**: engagement volunteer promoting BTO locally.

How will BTO support me in my role?

We offer a **one-to-one induction** (or in a small group, depending on demand) online for all new RRs, plus many digital resources will be available to you. Specific BTO staff will be **available for questions and enquiries when needed**, too. You'll never be without help.

Sounds amazing! How do I apply?

Browse Regional Representative vacancies on the [Regional Network webpage](#). Email info@bto.org to enquire about a role.

“Thank you for taking the time to read about this exciting and crucial role. We hope to hear from you about it very soon.” – BTO Survey and Engagement Teams