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## 1A Competent Experts Experience and Qualifications

### 1A.1 Introduction

- 1 To ensure the completeness and quality of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report, Table 1A.1 below identifies the relevant qualification and expertise of all the competent experts involved in its compilation.

**Table 1A.1: Competent Experts Experience and Qualifications**

Discipline	Consultant	Company	Experience
Planning	Simon Herriot	Savills Ltd.	<p>Simon is a qualified town planner with 20 years of experience of work in local government and private practice. Since 2002, Simon has worked in the planning consultancy sector servicing clients throughout the UK on a wide range of planning projects. He has contributed to and managed numerous EIAs and is active across all elements of the planning spectrum from initial site feasibility studies and development plan submissions through to the submission of planning applications and appeals.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BSc (Hons) Town and Regional Planning</li> <li>• MRTPI</li> </ul>
Stakeholder Engagement	Ross Laird	Grayling	<p>Ross has some 20 years' industry experience in communications and public affairs. Ross is an expert in planning and regulatory issues having engaged in community planning and large scale development issues for a wide range of clients, including Vattenfall, ASDA, Network Rail, McCarthy &amp; Stone, Edinburgh Rugby and many others. He regularly provides training services and advice to infrastructure organisations such as Network Rail, Sustrans, National Grid and EDF Renewables.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MA</li> <li>• DipCAM</li> <li>• MIPR</li> </ul>

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Natural Fish and Shellfish	Jane Lancaster	Natural Power Consultants	<p>Jane is a marine biologist with over 20 years' experience, specialising in fisheries and benthic ecology, and has published numerous reports, papers and two books on marine ecology. She has a PhD in the ecological impacts of fishing and spent 15 years carrying out offshore surveys (with over 7000 hours of sea time). Jane has worked in consultancy since 2001, and managed numerous projects related to offshore wind and tidal EIA chapters, benthic and fisheries surveys, marine mammal mitigation, MPA assessments, stock assessments and preparation of SAC, and fisheries management plans. Prior to working in consultancy Jane worked as a fisheries officer and fisheries biologist.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BSc (Hons) Marine biology</li> <li>• MSc Environmental and Pollution and control</li> <li>• PhD Ecological impacts of beam trawling.</li> </ul>
	Stuart McCallum	Natural Power Consultants	<p>Stuart is a Senior Marine Ecologist, specialising in the assessment of impacts on marine ecology, primarily benthic habitats and fish populations. Stuart has managed a number of large scale environmental monitoring and impact assessment projects in the marine and coastal environment, and has acted as the lead benthic and natural fish ecology advisor to a number of projects and clients.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BSc (Hons) Marine zoology</li> <li>• MSc International marine environmental consultancy</li> </ul>

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Noise Modelling	Dr. Nathan Merchant	Cefas	<p>Nathan is the Principal Scientist and Team Leader for the Cefas Noise and Bioacoustics team and joined Cefas in 2014. Prior to this, he worked as a postdoctoral scholar in the Parks Bioacoustics Lab at Syracuse University in upstate New York. He received his PhD (on underwater noise from shipping) from the Department of Physics at the University of Bath and holds an MSc in Acoustics and Music Technology from the University of Edinburgh, and a BSc (Hons) in Physics and Astronomy from Durham University.</p> <p>Nathan is responsible for providing scientific advice on underwater noise to the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), and oversees the provision of noise-related technical advice to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and Natural Resources Wales (NRW). He is co-chair of the OSPAR Intersessional Correspondence Group on noise which provides scientific coordination for the North-East Atlantic nations and is a member of the European Technical Group on Noise (TG Noise) which advises on the implementation of Descriptor 11 of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). He is a reviewer for over 20 academic journals and funding councils and is an Associate Editor for the journal Remote Sensing in Ecology and Conservation.</p> <p>Nathan has delivered a wide range of projects on measurement, modelling, and impact assessment of underwater noise and implications for environmental policy. His work has been published in leading scientific journals in the fields of acoustics, ecology, conservation, and marine pollution.</p> <p>Example projects include underwater noise assessments as part of EIAs for offshore wind farms in Scotland and the new nuclear builds at Hinkley Point C and Sizewell C.</p>

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	Dr. Adrian Farcas	Cefas	<p>Adrian has a PhD in Applied Mathematics from the University of Leeds on the numerical modelling of inverse problems. Between 2004 and 2013 he carried out research on modelling physical flow processes in porous rocks at the University of Cambridge BP Institute. He is now an Ecosystem Modeller at Cefas where he has been responsible for developing modelling methodologies for the management of multispecies fisheries, coastal hydrodynamics processes and the geospatial mapping of underwater noise.</p> <p>Adrian has worked on various governmental and commercial underwater noise modelling projects, and has published several scientific papers on this work, including a well-cited overview of noise modelling for EIA [Farcas, A., Thompson, P. M., &amp; Merchant, N. D. (2016). Underwater noise modelling for environmental impact assessment. <i>Environmental Impact Assessment Review</i>, 57, 114-122].</p>

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Marine Mammals	Kate Grellier	Natural Power Consultants	<p>Kate has a marine mammal research and consultancy background spanning 25 years. Since joining Natural Power in 2012, Kate has worked on a variety of offshore projects (wind farms, interconnectors and tidal energy projects) from designing pre-consent baseline/ site characterisation surveys to conducting EPS Risk Assessments for decommissioning and everything in between. Her expertise includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessing site feasibility/ mapping constraints</li> <li>• Designing, planning, executing and analysing data from marine mammal surveys (visual, passive acoustic, boat-based, land-based, aerial and static) and providing technical reports</li> <li>• Preparing marine mammal EIA Report chapters and appendices, HRA Reports, EPS and Marine Licence applications and supporting documents</li> <li>• Stakeholder consultation</li> <li>• Consent compliance including monitoring and mitigation work</li> </ul> <p>Prior to joining Natural Power, Kate was part of the team at SMRU Consulting. She has also undertaken research on cetaceans and pinnipeds, both in the UK and overseas.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PhD (University of St Andrews, 2006)</li> <li>• MSc by research (University of Aberdeen, 2000)</li> <li>• BSc (Hons) (University of Essex, 1993)</li> </ul>

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	Nancy McLean	Natural Power Consultants	<p>Nancy has led teams responsible for delivery of consent management and EIA co-ordination for offshore developments in the UK. She has extensive experience of delivering large, complex projects with interacting impacts within the offshore sector. Nancy undertook the role of lead EIA co-ordinator for ICOL during the compilation of the existing ES. She worked extensively with ICOL team to ensure that risks of significant impact identified within the EIA process were mitigated as much as possible through iterations of Design Envelope and embedded mitigation. Nancy also worked to that the Shadow Appropriate Assessments to inform the HRA process were consistency developed and worded. Also of particular relevance to this project, Nancy represented ICOL, leading the marine mammal consent management process for the Inch Cape offshore wind farms. She managed the impact assessment and consultation process to achieve a clean bill of health with regards to marine mammals for both (and cumulative) projects at the EIA, HRA and EPS level. This process involved working extensively with academics and world experts on marine mammals in order to build stakeholder and Determining Authority confidence in the assessment conclusions (Thompson PM, Hastie GD, Nedwell J, Barham R, Brookes KL, Cordes LS, Bailey H, McLean N: Framework for assessing impacts of pile-driving noise from offshore wind farm construction on a harbour seal population. Environ Impact Assess Rev 2013, 43:73–85). She has been particularly successful at building positive relationships with stakeholders and regulators, and represented the industry on the marine mammal working group of SpORRan.</p>
Ornithology	Murray Grant	Royal Haskoning DHV	<p>Murray is the Principal Ornithologist at Royal HaskoningDHV, where he co-ordinates and leads their ornithology services. Murray has over 25 years' experience as an applied ornithologist. He has a science background and expertise in HRA and EIA gained from leading and managing a wide range of projects</p>

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			<p>concerned with assessing the ornithological impacts of (primarily) renewables developments, both offshore and onshore. He has worked on the Inch Cape Wind Farm since 2012, inputting to the Original Development EIA, and subsequently providing a wide range of technical support, including in the period immediately prior to the original consent, and during the subsequent judicial review (JR) and appeal process.</p> <p>His work involves close engagement with regulators and their advisors, as well as undertaking a range of technical tasks. This includes work to inform industry guidance and participation in project steering groups for Marine Scotland Science commissioned research to inform assessments for offshore wind farms. His recent work has included the provision of technical support and advice to inform the implications of potential marine SPAs for offshore wind farm developments in the Greater Wash and in Scotland, and advice and reporting on post-consent ornithological monitoring to fulfil licencing requirements for offshore wind farms in eastern England. He also recently provided extensive technical support and acted as Expert Witness for the Strathy South wind farm public local inquiry (PLI), which like the Forth and Tay JR focussed on the determination of adverse effects on the integrity of SPAs.</p> <p>Murray has expertise in survey and experimental design, statistical analysis and modelling techniques, as well as considerable experience in writing and critically reviewing scientific and technical reports. He has published widely in the peer reviewed scientific literature, is a contributory author for several books on ornithology and ecology, and has supervised several PhD theses. He previously worked for RSPB as Principal Conservation Scientist leading on RSPB's UK upland research.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PhD- University of Durham</li> <li>• BSc Hons (2.1) in Ecological Science.</li> </ul>



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	Ross McGregor	HiDef & BioConsult SH	<p>Ross joined the HiDef team in November 2016, as an Associate Director. Ross comes from a strong research background including five years as a post-doctoral research faculty studying endangered species. During his time working for SNH, he provided statutory advice on marine renewables projects for offshore wind and tidal developers, including Inch Cape. He moved to become a Senior Consultant at Natural Power, where he provided support to Inch Cape as an external peer reviewer for the Original Development EIA. He also undertook the Appropriate Assessments required for the cable land fall. Ross also provided expert advice, along with Dr Murray Grant, for the recent Judicial Review and the current JR appeal. Ross has represented clients on both Regional Advisory ornithology sub-groups for post-construction monitoring in Scotland. Ross has an in-depth knowledge of Habitats Regulations Appraisals including ECJ judgements, national case law and national and EC guidance and is currently an invited expert on three Marine Scotland Project Steering Groups.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PhD- Zoology, University of St. Andrews</li> <li>• BSc Hons in Ecology</li> </ul>

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	Francis Daunt	Centre for Ecology & Hydrology	<p>Francis Daunt is a Principal Scientific Officer at the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology. He joined CEH in 2001 after completing a PhD at the University of Glasgow. He has 20 years' experience of research into seabird population ecology. He leads CEH's long term seabird study on the Isle of May, one of the longest running and most comprehensive of its kind in the world. His main research interest is in understanding the impacts of anthropogenic change on seabird populations, in particular climate change, marine renewables and fisheries. His approach is to gain a detailed understanding of the intrinsic and extrinsic drivers of individual behaviour and physiology that determine demographic parameters. He is also interested in understanding the extent to which seabird behaviour and demography can be employed as indicators of marine environmental change. The outcome of this research is being used in decision-making on marine renewable developments. He has led numerous projects on the effects of marine renewables on seabirds funded by Scottish Government, Innovate UK, MMO, SNCBs, NGOs and the renewables industry. His research has also informed marine designations (e.g. SPAs, fishery closures). He is Group Leader of the Ecological and Socio-Ecological Interactions Group at CEH, comprising eight research staff and eight PhD students. He has published &gt;110 peer-reviewed scientific papers and &gt;50 contract reports. He won the Marsh Award for Ornithology in 2014.</p>

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Seascape, Landscape and Visual	Lindsay Guthrie	SLR Consulting	<p>Lindsey has over 30 years’ professional experience in the public and private sector in both the UK and overseas. She has specialised in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and in particular, landscape and visual impact assessment (LVIA). Principal relevant projects include management of EIAs for several wind farm developments, and provision of specialist LVIA input to many onshore and offshore wind farm developments throughout the UK, including single turbine developments as well as large scale wind farms consisting of over 70 turbines. Lindsey has also managed part of SLR’s Landscape Team</p> <p>carrying out the LVIA for National Grid’s North West Coast Connections project and prepared and presented evidence at over 15 public inquiries into wind farm developments and prepared Written Submissions for three Appeals.</p> <p>Provided policy advice in respect of the environmental impacts of on and offshore wind farm development to the Environment and Heritage Service in Northern Ireland and managed the landscape and seascape assessment for the Strategic Assessment of Offshore Windfarms for the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). Lindsey has also managed other large multi-disciplinary EIAs, and provided specialist LVIA and landscape design input to contaminated land and waste management projects and prepared and presented evidence at several public inquiries.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MA (Hons) Geography</li> <li>• MPhil Landscape Architecture CMLI</li> </ul>

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Cultural Heritage & Marine Archaeology	Dr Andy Bicket	Wessex Archaeology	<p>Andrew undertook much of the existing onshore and offshore elements of the cultural heritage assessments supporting the Consented Offshore Wind Farm and Consented OnTW. Andrew is an experienced geoarchaeologist and marine archaeological consultant whose role includes the management and provision of specialist archaeological and geoarchaeological services, and consultation for the full range of maritime heritage projects whether they are located in freshwater, coastal, inter-tidal and marine contexts.</p> <p>Andrew has specialist knowledge of varied marine legislation and planning across Scotland and the UK as a whole relating to the historic environment. This has been demonstrated through the delivery of consultancy to a number of large scale developments in Scotland and across the UK over the last 8 years; including onshore and offshore wind farms, aggregate dredging (including MAREA), wave and tidal, pipeline and cable projects.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BSc (Hons) Environmental Archaeology</li> <li>• MA (with Distinction) in Archaeology Research</li> <li>• PhD Geography</li> <li>• Associate Member of the Institute of Archaeologists (AlfA)</li> <li>• Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland</li> </ul>
Commercial Fisheries	Jane Lancaster	Natural Power Consultants	See Natural Fish and Shellfish section.

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	Giles Alcock	Natural Power Consultants	<p>Giles is a Senior Marine Ecologist, specializing on impacts to marine and migratory fish. He has worked within the marine sector for over 11 years in both the public and private sector. During this time he has managed a number of large projects including offshore wind and coastal NSIP's.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HND Fishery Management and Aquaculture Science</li> </ul>
Shipping and Navigation	Sam Westwood	Anatec Limited	<p>Sam has nearly 20 years' experience within the maritime industry dealing with port &amp; vessel operations and offshore installations. Her career started as a Deck Officer Cadet and after completing her NVQ in Merchant Vessel Operations, she went on to gain a BSc. in Shipping Operations, NEBOSH General Certificate in Health &amp; Safety and a Diploma in Small Craft Surveying (specialising in commercial craft). Sam has since developed maritime experience through a variety of roles within the industry including ship operations in Rotterdam and Vessel Traffic Services in Southampton whilst continuing to study at a post graduate level. Whilst working for the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) within the Navigation Safety Branch, Sam gained a unique understanding of marine spatial planning including assessment of offshore developments and their impacts on marine navigation.</p> <p>Since joining the marine consultancy industry, Sam has been actively involved in numerous offshore renewable projects as well other offshore developments from both marine operations and QHSE aspects. Sam has extensive experience in both pre and post consent developments including providing marine guidance to developers. Involvement to date includes acting as a marine navigation advisor for offshore developments including navigation risk reviews, hazard workshops, and site design and stakeholder management.</p>

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Military and Civil Aviation	Stewart Heald	Osprey Consulting Services Ltd.	<p>Stewart joined Osprey CSL in 2011 after a 34 year career in all disciplines of military Air Traffic Control (ATC) and possesses a wealth of operational ATC experience. Subject Matter Expert who has experience in the independent assessment of potential technical impact of wind turbine developments on aviation stakeholders and equipment including radar, navigation beacons and communication links. Experienced in identification of aviation stakeholders and completing operational impact assessments on potential for developments to affect ATC and Air Defence radar systems. He has completed Safety Assessments of proposed renewable energy developments in relation to air traffic service provider operations including completion of aviation related Environmental Statements for the past 6 years. These functions have included the analysis of potential for wind energy developments to affect airfield-safeguarding criteria including obstacle limitation surfaces. Stewart, as Project Manager, has most recently successfully completed delivery of an Airspace Change Process for the mitigation of two offshore wind farms against MoD radar systems and is presently working on stakeholder advice and guidance on changes to airspace operations, on and offshore and the airspace change.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member of the Chartered Management Institute</li> <li>• Joint Air Traffic Controllers Course</li> </ul>

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Socio-Economics	Marie Adkins	Natural Power Consultants	<p>Marie has over 5 years' experience in the planning and development consultancy sector and has contributed to and coordinated on various EIAs as well as being active on other elements of the planning and development process from initial site feasibility studies through to the submission of planning applications and appeals on a wide range of developments. Marie has also carried out a number of Socio-Economic Assessments, both for onshore and offshore developments.</p> <p>Qualifications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MSc Applied Carbon Management</li> <li>• PIEMA</li> </ul>