

Terms of Reference (ToR) for EOWDC Scientific Research & Monitoring Panel

Group Title – EOWDC Scientific Research & Monitoring Panel (“the Panel”)

Objectives of the EOWDC Panel

- Provide a cooperative base from which to share environmental R&D information relating to offshore wind farms, including responsibility for canvassing within own organisations
- Provide a cooperative base for identifying priorities for environmental R&D to shortlist critical areas of research and to evaluate R&D proposals
- Provide a cooperative base for steering the delivery of environmental R&D projects at the EOWDC
- To provide strategic advice on enhanced stakeholder engagement
- To coordinate and lead consultations with project working groups

Objectives of the EOWDC Working Groups

- To identify critical priority issues to take forward through discussions with the EOWDC Scientific Monitoring Panel
- To develop scopes for research projects through discussions with the EOWDC Scientific Monitoring Panel
- To support the technical evaluation of the R&D proposals and to disseminate environmental R&D results within their organisations
- Following acceptance of the initial set up of members, the group will have voting rights as to additional members or replacements due to staff changes if required

The Panel will report to – the Scottish Ministers

“**Lead Member**” – those members selected and appointed to the Panel by Scottish Ministers at the inception stage owing to their key role in the development of offshore wind projects/the EOWDC and/or expertise in a key area of environmental research. All lead members are required to provide confirmation of their commitment to membership of the Panel in order to discharge Condition 15 of the Section 36 Consent.

Participants:

Eg Representatives from:	
Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)	Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)
Marine Scotland Science (MSS)	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)
Local Authorities (LA)	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
Association of Salmon Fishery Boards (ASFB)	Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDOS)

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Aberdeen Offshore Wind Farm Limited (AOWFL)	Marine Scotland Licensing and Operations Team (MS-LOT)
Key academics: Prof Paul Thompson (University of Aberdeen) Dr David Lusseau (University of Aberdeen) Others?	

“Discretionary/Guest Member” – those members who, upon establishment of the Panel, are voted in by Lead Members for a defined period in order to advise/provide input on a particular area of activity

Eg Representatives from:	
SMRU	National Physics Laboratory
Scottish Renewables	
Other individuals:	
Prof Victor Humphrey (University of Southampton)	Ben Wilson (SAMS)

“Correspondence member”– those members who have a vested interest in the outputs of the EOWDC but who are not required to advise programme activities directly on a regular basis. Included on distribution lists for outputs, meeting minutes and to provide comment where applicable

Eg Representatives from:	
Northern Lighthouse Board	Aberdeen Harbour Board
Marine & Coastguard Agency	

“Establishment Phase” – initial phase of the Panel’s activities when, lead by the Establishment Phase Chairperson, Lead Members will further define the role, governance and objectives of the Panel, scope priority research areas and establish specialist EOWDC Working Groups. Research outputs will not be produced during the Establishment Phase.

“Establishment Phase Chairperson” – a Chairperson appointed by Scottish Ministers to manage the Establishment Phase activities

“Operational Phase” – the phase following the Establishment Phase during which EOWDC Working Groups become functional and research outputs are produced, reported and disseminated

“Operational Phase Chairperson” – a Chairperson appointed by the Lead Members to manage the activities and outputs of Operational Phase

“EOWDC Working Groups” – specialist groups responsible for the execution of research programmes within a particular subject area eg birds, marine mammals, noise. Working Groups will build on the initial scoping of priority research areas conducted by the Panel in the Establishment Phase by defining the remit of individual research programmes, managing project activities and

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reporting outputs to the Panel and wider scientific community. Working Groups will report to the EOWDC Scientific Monitoring Panel.

Meeting frequency:

It is anticipated that the EOWDC Scientific Monitoring Panel will meet at least twice a year.

It is anticipated that the EOWDC Working Groups will meet a minimum of twice a year but up to quarterly.

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