



FLOWW Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables (FLOWW) group exists to foster good relations between the fishing and offshore renewable energy sectors (existing and future) and to encourage safe working practices and ongoing liaison and collaboration between both industries.

Objectives

- To discuss, agree and disseminate best practice relevant to the purpose of the group.
- To provide a forum for Government bodies, The Crown Estate, Crown Estate Scotland, developers, fisheries and wider stakeholders to discuss and to take forward a range of offshore renewable energy and fisheries-related issues.
- To provide horizon scanning and identify areas of challenges and work ahead and to seek, through member collaboration, how these will be prioritised and taken forward in an action plan. The current priorities are floating offshore wind, fisheries data, and assessment methodologies and EIAs.

Membership

- Membership of FLOWW should aim to be balanced and ensure that stakeholder representatives have a mandate from each sector represented.
- Membership is open to representatives of sectors and organisations relevant to the purpose of FLOWW and on a non-commercial basis, that demonstrate a commitment to contribute actively to the purpose of the group.
- Nominations for new members will be reviewed by the Steering Group. Members are expected to attend meetings regularly and contribute to the work of the group; inactive members will be removed from the list.
- An up-to-date list of members will be maintained by the Secretariat, meeting GDPR requirements.
- Members may propose topics for discussion, prepare topic papers where required, sit on topic-specific working groups and, where necessary, are expected to commit to ensuring activities are completed.
- No member will be excluded where they have a valid contribution to make and wish to be involved. The outputs from working groups will ultimately be signed off by the main FLOWW membership and on advice from the FLOWW Steering Group.

Governance

- The FLOWW Steering Group will ensure that FLOWW maintains momentum and action going forward on behalf of members and in line with the purpose and objectives of FLOWW.
- The FLOWW Steering Group will be made up of representatives of key member organisations, aiming for balanced representation across fisheries, offshore wind, government, and other key stakeholders, with the option to change representatives every two years. The Steering Group membership comprises:
 - Government representatives (e.g. DEFRA, MMO, Devolved Governments)
 - The Crown Estate
 - Crown Estate Scotland
 - 2 x developer representatives (selected and agreed by developer members)
 - 2 x fisheries representatives (selected and agreed by fisheries members)
 - FLOWW Chair
 - FLOWW Secretariat

- The FLOWW Steering Group will be supported by the Secretariat (currently run through ABPmer), which will coordinate the group, arrange meetings, circulate meeting papers at least one week before, and follow-up on actions and ensure it works effectively.
- The FLOWW Secretariat and FLOWW Steering Group activities are supported financially by The Crown Estate, based on the annual budget available. Additional financial support from other organisations can be considered and approved by the Steering Group.

Meetings

- The FLOWW members will aim to meet three times a year, with one of these to be in person.
- The FLOWW Steering Group, and supporting subject matter *ad hoc* working groups, may meet more regularly.
- Members are expected to work collaboratively, respecting different views and perspectives. Transparency and fairness are the foundation of the work the group endeavours to deliver.
- Meeting notes will be taken and circulated to members, actions will be highlighted and followed up in conjunction with the Secretariat.

Review of ToRs

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed every two years at the face-to-face meeting, or as requested by the Steering Group.

Date signed off by the Steering Group: 13 March 2026