



The Crown Estate

Capacity Increase Programme

Compensation Plan

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Document Control

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0.1	NIRAS	NIRAS	TCE	21/11/2025	Skeleton document for comment
1.0	NIRAS	NIRAS	TCE	12/12/2025	Revision following The Crown Estate comments and SGM3. Issued to SG for comment.
1.1	NIRAS	NIRAS	TCE	13/02/2026	Revision following SG review.
2.0	NIRAS	NIRAS	TCE	17/04/2026	Fully drafted document.
3.0	NIRAS	NIRAS	TCE	17/07/2026	Revised following SG agreement on approach.
3.1	NIRAS	NIRAS	TCE	17/07/2026	Revised following SG and PSA Group consultation.
3.2	NIRAS	NIRAS	TCE	25/08/2026	Minor changes following final SG review.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background to the Capacity Increase Programme

- 1.1.1.1** The Crown Estate manage the seabed of England, Wales and Northern Ireland, including rights for marine renewable energy such as offshore wind farms and associated cable infrastructure. The Crown Estate grants seabed rights and undertakes strategic activities to support sectors including offshore wind and is a competent authority for the purposes of the Habitats Regulations.
- 1.1.1.2** The Capacity increase Programme ('CIP'), launched in 2023, aims to increase the capacity of specific and existing offshore wind lease areas in the UK by 4.7 GW. The CIP comprises of seven offshore wind farm projects which have applied for changes to their legal agreements (Agreements for Lease ("AfL") and/or Lease) to increase their generating capacities. The key objectives for the Plan are as follows:
1. Enable increases in offshore wind capacity at sites with existing agreements for lease, grid connection capacity available and a development pathway to 2030, thereby:
 - a. Supporting the Government's critical national priority for provision of new nationally significant offshore wind.
 - b. Mitigating the risk of pre-2030 offshore wind pipeline attrition.
 - c. Helping to achieve the Government targets of 50 GW of offshore wind by 2030 and decarbonisation of power generation by 2035, in the context of the UK's Net Zero target for 2050.
 2. Balance the interests of the environment, other users of the sea, and the commercial needs of the offshore wind industry.
 3. Secure value from seabed leasing so far as it does not compromise/enhances the long-term value of sustainable offshore wind development and ensures equity in The Crown Estate's processes.
 4. Make efficient use of the seabed, recognising its value as a national asset, now and for the long term. Ensuring the unique characteristics of capacity increase projects are used to best advantage and areas already designed for offshore wind are optimised in terms of generation potential.
 5. Enable decisions in a manner that supports The Crown Estate's marine strategy, ensuring opportunities for additional capacity are balanced with the needs of projects already under agreement with The Crown Estate and requirements for delivery of future offshore wind leasing.
- 1.1.1.3** An additional 4 million homes could be powered through the extension to these existing projects, which have been leased through either The Crown Estate's Offshore Wind Leasing Round 3, or The Crown Estate's 2017 Offshore Wind Extensions projects. The projects included within the CIP are:
- Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Extensions (SSDE) – Equinor, China Resources, Masdar;
 - Rampion 2 – Joint venture between: RWE, a Macquarie-led consortium and Enbridge;
 - Five Estuaries – Joint venture between: RWE, a Macquarie-led consortium, ESB and Sumitomo Corporation;
 - North Falls – Joint venture between: SSE Renewables and RWE;
 - Dogger Bank D – Joint venture between: SSE Renewables, & Equinor; and

- Awel y Môr - Stadtwerke München GmbH, Siemens Financial Services, RWE Renewables.

- 1.1.1.4** During the scoping phase of the CIP plan level assessment, Awel y Môr was scoped out of further assessment and was not taken forward to the detailed stage of the CIP Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (The Crown Estate, 2025a). This was because the project met all four tests to allow exclusion from the alone assessment in the plan-level HRA (NIRAS, 2024a), namely:
- The scale and nature of impacts at the higher MW capacity are no greater than those assessed in the previous plan-level HRA, with no risk of new or materially different likely significant effects.
 - The project level HRA methodology and conclusions have been accepted by Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies (SNCBs) or another competent authority, confirming no adverse effect on site integrity, alone or in-combination.
 - There has been no deterioration in the status of any relevant protected site (i.e. no change from 'maintain' to 'recover') since the previous plan level or, where applicable, project level HRA.
 - There have been no new designations, since the previous plan level or (where applicable) project level HRA, that would be relevant.
- 1.1.1.5** As a result, the Awel y Môr project did not require further detailed assessment in the CIP HRA, although it was included in the in-combination assessment. With respect to Awel y Môr, the Appropriate Authority (the Secretary of State acting as Appropriate Authority for the purpose of the Appropriate Assessment) concluded no adverse effect for all sites and features¹. Awel y Môr therefore does not feature further in this Compensation Plan.
- 1.1.1.6** To provide confidence that the adverse effects identified through the CIP Plan level HRA will be appropriately compensated, consistent with the conclusions of project level HRAs and the requirements secured through individual projects DCO decisions, The Crown Estate considers that the Plan must demonstrate that compensatory measures secured through DCO decisions are being delivered and implemented to address the relevant impacts on protected sites. Further detail on the proposed approach to this plan can be found in Section 2.2.

1.2 Project level status

- 1.2.1.1** Projects within the CIP are at varying stages within the Development Consent Order (DCO) Process. *Table 1.1* sets out the current stage of each project. At the time of writing (August 2026), there is one project awaiting submission of an application and therefore without a DCO consent decision – Dogger Bank D.

¹ <https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN010112-001810-Awel%20y%20Mor%20-%20Habitats%20Regulations%20Assessment.pdf>

Table 1.1: DCO Application status of each project included in the CIP (at the time of writing, August 2026)

Project	DCO Stage	DCO Decision	Capacity Increase (total)
Sheringham Shoal & Dudgeon Extensions (combined application)	Post decision	Approved (17/04/24)	281 MW (1 GW)
Rampion 2	Post decision	Approved (04/04/25)	800 MW (1.2 GW)
Five Estuaries	Post decision	Approved (17/12/25)	727 MW (1.08 GW)
North Falls	Post decision	Approved (14/05/26)	396 MW (900 MW)
Dogger Bank D	Expected Application date – June 2027	Expected decision date – by end 2028	(1.5 GW)

- 1.2.1.2 For all projects with a consent decision, the final conclusions from the Appropriate Authority with respect to adverse effect, alone and in-combination, and any associated requirement for project level compensation, can be confirmed.
- 1.2.1.3 As noted above in *Table 1.1*, Dogger Bank D is the only project within the CIP which has not yet submitted an Application and therefore has not yet received a consent decision. It is anticipated that the Application will be submitted in June 2027, with a consent decision anticipated by the end of 2028. Therefore, no project level impacts have been presented within this Compensation Plan for Dogger Bank D. The final project impact(s), including if there is any project level requirement for compensation, will not be confirmed until a DCO Decision is available and associated project level HRA has been undertaken. Once final project level information is confirmed and in the event that a DCO is granted, The Crown Estate will prepare an addendum to this Compensation Plan to ensure that information included for Dogger Bank D is consistent with the approach taken for all projects within the CIP (as set out in Section 7).
- 1.2.1.4 In common with all projects within the CIP, any requirement for compensation at the project level for Dogger Bank D will be addressed through the DCO process. Accordingly, and in-line with all projects within the Plan, no additional residual impacts requiring compensation are expected to arise at the plan level beyond those addressed at project level through the DCO process.

2. Purpose and Structure of this Document

2.1 Purpose and Regulatory Context

- 2.1.1.1** The purpose of this Compensation Plan is to provide the framework through which compensatory measures required for the CIP will be identified, secured, coordinated and delivered, in order to maintain the overall coherence of the UK's National Site Network.
- 2.1.1.2** The requirement for this Compensation Plan arises from the findings of The Crown Estate's plan level Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (The Crown Estate, 2025a) and the Appropriate Assessment within it, informed by the Report to Inform the Appropriate Assessment (Niras, 2025), which concluded that, following the application of mitigation, adverse effects on the integrity (AEOI) of a number of protected sites could not be ruled out. This included impacts to designated features of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs), including but not limited to sandbank habitats and qualifying seabird species arising from both the array areas and the cable routes. For the purposes of the plan level HRA, a Likely Significant Effect (LSE) was assumed to arise where there is the potential presence of an impact pathway resulting from any of the phases of development that may comprise part of the Plan, including pre-construction, construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning.
- 2.1.1.3** In the absence of alternative solutions, and having identified imperative reasons of overriding public interest, The Crown Estate decided to proceed with the CIP in accordance with the derogation provisions of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (SI No. 2017/1012) (as amended) and, the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (SI No. 2017/1013) (as amended prior to The Crown Estate deciding to proceed with the Plan) ("the Habitats Regulations"). In such circumstances, the Habitats Regulations require that all necessary compensatory measures are secured to ensure the overall coherence of the National Site Network is protected.
- 2.1.1.4** The Appropriate Assessment (The Crown Estate, 2025a) considered whether necessary compensation, if required, would be available for likely environmental effects from offshore wind development, including the constituent projects of the CIP. In anticipation that it may have to consider a derogation for the Plan, The Crown Estate asked its technical advisors NIRAS to identify possible compensatory measures for the adverse effects identified in the RIAA. In response, NIRAS produced a technical note including potential compensatory measures for consultation with the EWG in October 2024 (NIRAS, 2024b). This work identified a range of measures to compensate for the impacts identified in the RIAA, without prejudice to the outcome of The Crown Estate's Appropriate Assessment. For habitats, the conclusion was that new, or extensions to existing, Marine Protected Areas could provide sufficient compensation. With respect to seabirds, a number of potential compensation measures were explored within the HRA which collectively were considered to have sufficient capacity.
- 2.1.1.5** The Appropriate Assessment commits The Crown Estate to the development and implementation of a Compensation Plan, which applies to all relevant CIP projects identified as contributing to these effects. The Appropriate Assessment sets out a number of requirements and considerations for this Compensation Plan, intended to ensure that sufficient information is provided on the proposed approach to compensation. These are summarised below:
- Roles and responsibilities of involved parties;
 - The compensation measures;

- Scale and location of proposed compensation;
- Consultation and engagement with stakeholders and relevant scientific experts;
- Delivery mechanism;
- Monitoring and adaptive management; and
- Programme for proposed implementation and delivery.

2.1.1.6 The manner in which these requirements have been addressed within this Compensation Plan is set out throughout the document and summarised in *Table 8.1*. These requirements were established through the Appropriate Assessment and have therefore been used as the basis against which the content and conclusions of the Plan have been developed and reviewed.

2.1.1.7 The approach to delivery of this Compensation Plan reflects the unique characteristics of the CIP. The CIP plan level HRA, and the subsequent development of this compensation plan, occurred whilst the constituent projects have been progressing through the DCO process, on different timescales. As a result, it has not been possible for this Compensation Plan to operate as a predictive mechanism for identifying and delivering compensation ahead of project level consenting. Instead, this Compensation Plan provides a coordinated framework for collating, tracking and evidencing how compensation requirements identified and secured and delivered at project level collectively address the compensation requirements identified through the CIP plan level HRA. This approach reflects the practical realities of the CIP timelines, ensuring that compensation delivery remains aligned with the conclusions of the Appropriate Assessment as well as the conclusions of the Appropriate Authority in relation to each CIP project and the requirements secured through individual project consents.

2.2 Approach to Compensation Delivery

2.2.1.1 Given the nature of the CIP, with constituent projects progressing through the DCO process on different timescales, a structured approach to compensation delivery is and has been required. This Compensation Plan provides the framework through which compensation requirements arising from the CIP are identified, tracked and evidenced, having regard to project level HRAs undertaken by the Appropriate Authority, and associated consent decisions where available.

2.2.1.2 Accordingly, this Compensation Plan, arising from the CIP plan level HRA, has been developed on the basis that project level compensation commitments for the projects identified in *Table 1.1* established via the DCO process, can be relied on to ensure that any necessary compensatory measures are taken to ensure compliance with the Habitats Regulations. The role of this Compensation Plan is therefore not to duplicate project level assessment or establish separate compensation obligations, but to provide a coordinated mechanism for demonstrating how compensation is secured at the project level, simultaneously addressing the requirements identified for the CIP Appropriate Assessment.

2.2.1.3 The approach applied within this Compensation Plan was developed and agreed through consultation with the Steering Group (SG), drawing on input from project developers, government departments and statutory nature conservation bodies. Further detail on the development of the approach is provided in Section 4.

2.3 Structure of this Report

2.3.1.1 The structure of this document is as follows:

- Section 1: Introduction – setting out the background to the CIP and the projects within it;

- Section 2: Purpose and Structure of this Report – why the report is required, what it delivers and overall content of the report;
- Section 3: Stakeholder Engagement – sets out the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved in the development of this Compensation Plan, including summary of consultation undertaken;
- Section 4: Development of the Compensation Plan – sets out how the approach to compensation at a plan level evolved;
- Section 5: Compensation Tracker – sets out the project level conclusions (where known);
- Section 6: Plan Level Requirements – sets out the requirement for compensation at project level where known, how that requirement is being met where known and how that compensation addresses the requirements identified for the CIP, and explains how compensation will be secured, delivered and reported for any project where that requirement is not currently known;
- Section 7: Compensation Delivery Assurance – sets out the arrangements and mechanisms for tracking project level compensation, to confirm plan level requirements are met;
- Section 8: Conclusion of the Compensation Plan – sets out the overarching conclusions;
- Section 9: References;
- Section 10: Signatories;
- Appendix A.1: Dogger Bank D Addendum Information Requirements; and
- Appendix A.2: Capacity Increase Programme Steering Group Terms of Reference.

3. Stakeholder engagement

3.1 Steering Group

3.1.1.1 The Steering Group (SG), for the CIP Compensation Plan was established to oversee the development and implementation of this Compensation Plan, and to agree a coordinated approach to securing compensation measures for the CIP. Further detail on the governance, membership, and operation of the Steering Group is set out in the Terms of Reference (Appendix A.1.). To support effective engagement between member organisations, meetings 2 to 6 of the SG were chaired by an independent facilitator following participant feedback, providing an impartial forum for discussion and ensuring all member organisations had an equal opportunity to contribute to the development of the Compensation Plan. The SG provides a collaborative forum bringing together The Crown Estate, project developers, government departments, and statutory nature conservation bodies.

3.1.1.2 Membership of the SG includes:

- The Crown Estate, with NIRAS as its technical advisor;
- Projects:
 - Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Extensions;
 - Rampion 2;
 - North Falls;
 - Five Estuaries;
 - Dogger Bank D;
- The Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (DESNZ) – ministerial department, responsible for UK energy security²;
- Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) – ministerial department responsible for safeguarding the natural environment³;
- Natural England – the government’s adviser for the natural environment in England⁴; and
- The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) – the public body that advises UK Government and devolved governments on UK-wide and internal nature conservation⁵.

3.1.1.3 In fulfilling its role, the SG provided oversight and technical input into the development of this Compensation Plan, including agreement on the approach and content.

3.1.1.4 SG meetings were used throughout the development of this Compensation Plan to gain input from the expertise within the SG on the approach to this Compensation Plan and to confirm project level information with developers. The meetings are set out in *Table 3.1* below. Meeting minutes and a

² [Department for Energy Security and Net Zero - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/departments/department-for-energy-security-and-net-zero)

³ [Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/departments/department-for-environment-food-and-rural-affairs)

⁴ [About us - Natural England - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/departments/natural-england)

⁵ [Our role | Advisor to Government on Nature Conservation | JNCC](https://www.jncc.gov.uk/about-us)

comments log (containing all SG members' comments on this document) can be made available on request.

Table 3.1: Summary of Consultation undertaken with the Steering Group. SGM = Steering Group Meeting, R = Review period.

Meeting/Review Number	Meeting/Review Dates	Main areas of discussion
SGM1	03/09/2025	SG Kick-off meeting (Prior to NIRAS and the independent chair's involvement with the project), which gave an overview of the CIP Compensation Plan process, including the approach to the Compensation Plan as developed by The Crown Estate.
SGM2	12/11/2025	Introduction of NIRAS to the project and SG, drafting the Compensation Plan to deliver the commitments made at plan level. Introduction of independent chair to the project, to facilitate a collaborative approach to stakeholder engagement. Introduction to the Compensation Tracker.
SGM3	10/12/2025	Introduction to the first draft of the Compensation Plan, including a discussion of alternative approaches to delivery of the Compensation Plan.
R1	15/12/2025 - 09/01/2026	SG review of the first draft of the Compensation Plan_v1.0.
SGM4	20/01/2026	Discussion on comments raised by the SG on the first draft of the Compensation Plan, and introduction to potential delivery scenarios.
SGM5	02/06/2026	Discussion on an updated approach to the Compensation Plan.
R2	20/07/2026 – 31/07/2026	SG review of the second draft of the Compensation Plan_v3.0.
SGM6	10/08/2026	Discussion and approach taken to highlighted comments prior to the issue of the Compensation Plan_v3.1.
R3	17/08/2026	SG final review of the Compensation Plan_v3.1.
Sign off	25/08/2026	SG sign off of finalised Compensation Plan.

3.1.1.5 Following completion of this Compensation Plan, the SG will remain available as a forum that may be reconvened by The Crown Estate, where appropriate, to provide oversight of compensation delivery across the CIP. The SG may be reconvened in exceptional circumstances, subject to agreement from

at least 50% of SG member organisations. Any SG member can raise a potential issue to The Crown Estate in order to propose reconvening the SG. This could include matters relating to strategic compensation measures, opportunities for strategic adaptive management, or other issues affecting multiple projects within the CIP where discussion amongst members could be useful. The SG is not intended to duplicate project level governance, monitoring, adaptive management, nor the decision making processes. Consequently, issues relating solely to an individual project should continue to be addressed through the relevant project level mechanisms (such as project steering groups or DCO processes) and would not normally constitute grounds for reconvening the SG.

- 3.1.1.6 As stated in Section 1.2, an application has not yet been submitted in respect of Dogger Bank D. Should a DCO be granted, an Addendum incorporating the final project level conclusions for Dogger Bank D will be prepared at that time and will be shared with the SG for information and oversight and will be subject to consultation with Dogger Bank D, DESNZ, Defra, Natural England and JNCC. Following consultation, the Addendum will be finalised by The Crown Estate and Dogger Bank D, who will retain responsibility for the final approval of the document. The information required to complete the Addendum is set out in Appendix A.1.

3.2 Protected Sites Assessment Group

- 3.2.1.1 The Crown Estate's derogation case committed to engagement with the Habitats Regulations Assessment Expert Working Group (HRA EWG) during the development of the Compensation Plan. Following approval of the Derogation Case, the HRA EWG was expanded in scope and renamed the Protected Sites Assessment Expert Working Group (PSA EWG). The PSA EWG continues to fulfil the assurance and advisory role originally envisaged for the HRA EWG, supporting The Crown Estate in matters relating to Habitats Regulations Assessments and other protected site assessments. Through technical discussion, and review of methodologies and outputs, the PSA EWG supports The Crown Estate in discharging its responsibilities as a competent authority under the Habitat Regulations. The PSA EWG comprises a broad range of organisations with expertise relevant to marine protected site assessments, including statutory nature conservation bodies, marine planning authorities, government representatives and environmental non-governmental organisations. The constituent members of the PSA EWG are set out below:

- Natural England (NE);
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC);
- Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA);
- Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ);
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW);
- NatureScot;
- Marine Scotland;
- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs of Northern Ireland (DAERA);
- Marine Management Organisation (MMO);
- The Wildlife Trusts; and
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).

- 3.2.1.2 The PSA Group was consulted on v3.0 of this document before finalisation, with comments being considered and incorporated into the final iteration of the document as appropriate. Comments from the PSA Group were recorded in a comments log - detailing how each has been addressed in the plan - and can be made available on request.
- 3.2.1.3 The PSA Group was also engaged, and provided feedback that was given due consideration, during the development of the RIAA, Appropriate Assessment and Derogation Case which committed to this Compensation Plan.

4. Development of the Compensation Plan

4.1 Approach to development

- 4.1.1.1** The development of the approach to this Compensation Plan has been a collaborative process, undertaken through the SG established for the CIP. Since the first SG meeting in September 2025, members have contributed to the development of the Compensation Plan through a series of workshops, meetings and review periods, providing input on the proposed approach, scope, governance arrangements and the information required to demonstrate delivery of compensation measures for the CIP.
- 4.1.1.2** Throughout the development process, the SG considered the requirements identified within The Crown Estate's Appropriate Assessment, the differing stages of progress of constituent projects within the DCO process, and the need for an approach that could be applied consistently across the CIP. The development of the approach was informed by engagement with project developers, government departments and statutory nature conservation bodies through the SG and PSA Group consultation processes described in Section 3.
- 4.1.1.3** In developing the Compensation Plan, the SG considered how compensation requirements identified for the CIP could be addressed in a manner that provides transparency and assurance at the plan level, whilst recognising that the assessment of effects, determination of compensation requirements and securing of compensatory measures occur through project level consenting processes. Through this process, agreement was reached on an approach that utilises project level assessments, consent decisions and compensation commitments as the primary source of evidence for compensation requirements, supported by a plan level framework for coordination, tracking and assurance.
- 4.1.1.4** The approach was agreed by the Steering Group and forms the basis of this Compensation Plan. The agreed approach is described in Section 4.2.

4.2 Approach to Plan Level Compensation

- 4.2.1.1** Following the consultation and engagement described in Sections 3 and 4.1, the Steering Group agreed an approach to plan level compensation that enables compensation requirements identified for the CIP to be coordinated, tracked and evidenced through a consistent framework. This agreed approach forms the basis of the Compensation Plan.
- 4.2.1.2** The overarching principle is that project level HRAs, DCO decisions and associated compensation requirements provide the primary sources of evidence for determining compensation requirements. This recognises that AEOL are assessed most appropriately through project level consenting processes, are subject to extensive consultation and where project-specific environmental information, mitigation measures and impact assessments are available for consideration by the Appropriate Authority.
- 4.2.1.3** The role of this Compensation Plan is not to undertake a further evaluation of effects or independently determine compensation requirements. Instead, it collates, tracks and evidences how compensation requirements identified through project level decisions are secured and delivered across the CIP. This ensures alignment with the conclusions of the Appropriate Authority and avoids duplication of existing regulatory processes.

4.2.1.4 This Compensation Plan adopts a staged approach to compensation delivery, as follows:

- Plan level assessment: The Crown Estate's HRA and Appropriate Assessment identified the potential for AEOL on protected sites and qualifying features, as a result of the CIP. These conclusions established the requirement for a Compensation Plan and the sites and features for which compensation requirements must be considered.
- Project level assessment: each project undertakes a project level HRA through the DCO process, providing the information to inform Appropriate Assessment by the Appropriate Authority which determines whether AEOL can be ruled out, and whether compensation is required.
- Project level securing of compensation: where compensation is required, it is secured through project-specific DCO provisions, including compensation schedules, implementation plans, monitoring requirements and any associated governance arrangements. Compensation may be delivered directly by developers and/or through strategic mechanisms where available.
- Plan level collation and tracking: The Crown Estate records the conclusions of project level assessments and the corresponding compensation requirements through the Compensation Tracker, providing a transparent record of how compensation requirements arising from the CIP are being addressed.
- Implementation and monitoring: compensation measures are implemented, monitored and adaptively managed in accordance with the requirements of the relevant DCO provisions and approved project level documentation.
- Plan level assurance: The Crown Estate obtains and maintains evidence demonstrating that project level compensation has been secured, implemented and continues to meet the requirements of the relevant DCO provisions. The process for providing this assurance is set out in Section 7 of this Compensation Plan.

4.2.1.5 The practical application of the approach is reflected in the structure of this Compensation Plan. Section 5 presents the conclusions of the Appropriate Authority for relevant sites and features across the CIP, whilst Section 6 identifies the associated project level compensation requirements and the measures proposed to deliver them. Section 7 then sets out the arrangements through which delivery of those measures will be monitored and evidenced by The Crown Estate.

4.2.1.6 Compensation required to address impacts arising from the CIP is secured through project level DCO mechanisms. Where project level compensation has been secured, no additional compensation requirement arises at the plan level. This Compensation Plan therefore provides assurance that compensation obligations identified through project level decision-making are collectively sufficient to address the compensation requirements of the CIP and maintain the overall coherence of the UK National Site Network.

5. Compensation Tracker

- 5.1.1.1 A compensation tracker has been used throughout the development of this Compensation Plan, to clearly document Appropriate Authority conclusions with respect to the constituent projects of the CIP (where that information is available). The compensation tracker is an important supporting tool to demonstrate both the conclusions drawn by the Appropriate Authority, and how each of the projects in the CIP will address the requirement for compensation at project level. At each stage of update, the tracker was shared with the SG for review and confirmation.
- 5.1.1.2 The sites and features that were concluded to require compensation at plan level were set out within The Crown Estate's Appropriate Assessment (namely sites and features for which it was not possible to rule out AEOL as a result of the CIP. Therefore, the Compensation Tracker focused on the following sites and features only:
- Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA - Kittiwake, guillemot, razorbill, gannet, seabird assemblage (the latter with respect to the four named species);
 - Dogger Bank SAC - Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time;
 - Margate and Long Sands SAC - Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time;
 - Farne Islands SPA – Guillemot;
 - Alde-Ore Estuary SPA – Lesser black-backed gull;
 - Outer Thames Estuary SPA – Red-throated diver;
 - North Norfolk Coast SPA – Sandwich tern; and
 - Greater Wash SPA – Sandwich tern.
- 5.1.1.3 Although designated as separate features, the North Norfolk Coast SPA and Greater Wash SPA Sandwich tern interests represent different components of the same breeding population, with the North Norfolk Coast SPA protecting breeding colonies and the Greater Wash SPA protecting associated marine foraging habitat (Natural England and JNCC, 2018; JNCC, 2020).
- 5.1.1.4 A summary of the Appropriate Authority's conclusions (where available) at project level is provided in *Table 5.1*. This clearly shows, at project level, the following:
- Where a site and feature has been screened out of assessment at project level and therefore no requirement for compensation exists;
 - Where the conclusion for the site and feature is no AEOL and therefore no requirement for compensation exists;
 - Where AEOL could not be ruled out and therefore a requirement for compensation at project level exists; and
 - Where an AEOL was concluded and therefore a requirement for compensation at project level exists.
- 5.1.1.5 The seabird assemblage feature of Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA is not included separately within *Table 5.1*. This is because any compensation requirement identified for the assemblage is addressed through the species-specific compensation requirements for its constituent qualifying species (kittiwake, guillemot, razorbill and gannet). As no additional compensation measures are required

beyond those identified for the constituent species, the assemblage feature is not presented separately.

- 5.1.1.6 As outlined in Section 1.2, a DCO application for Dogger Bank D has not yet been made a DCO, and final project level conclusions are therefore not available. In the event that an application is made and a DCO is subsequently granted, any future compensation requirements that may be required will be addressed through the project level DCO process and incorporated into this Compensation Plan through a subsequent addendum as detailed in Section 7. No additional compensation requirements are anticipated at the plan level beyond those secured through the relevant project level consenting process.

Table 5.1: Summary of Appropriate Authority Conclusions at Project Level. At the time of publication of this report Dogger Bank D has not achieved a DCO decision, as such, and in line with the approach detailed in this report, a separate addendum will be prepared once this information becomes available.

Designated site	Feature	Appropriate Authority Conclusion				
		SSDE	Rampion 2	Five Estuaries	North Falls	Dogger Bank D
Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA	Kittiwake	AEOI cannot be ruled out	AEOI cannot be ruled out	AEOI cannot be ruled out	AEOI cannot be ruled out	Appropriate Authority conclusion not available. Confirmation of conclusions to be provided to The Crown Estate once available, including confirmation that any compensation (if required at project level) is secured.
	Guillemot	AEOI cannot be ruled out	AEOI cannot be ruled out	AEOI cannot be ruled out	AEOI cannot be ruled out	
	Razorbill	No AEOI	No AEOI	No AEOI	No AEOI	
	Gannet	No AEOI	No AEOI	No AEOI	No AEOI	
Dogger Bank SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	<i>Not screened in for the project</i>	<i>Not screened in for the project</i>	<i>Not screened in for the project</i>	<i>Not screened in for the project</i>	
Margate and Long Sands SAC	Sandbanks which are covered by seawater all the time	<i>Not screened in for the project</i>	<i>Not screened in for the project</i>	AEOI cannot be ruled out	No AEOI	
Farne Islands SPA	Guillemot	No AEOI	AEOI cannot be ruled out	AEOI cannot be ruled out	AEOI cannot be ruled out	
Alde-Ore Estuary SPA	Lesser black-backed gull	No AEOI	No AEOI	AEOI cannot be ruled out	AEOI cannot be ruled out	
Outer Thames Estuary SPA	Red-throated diver	No AEOI	<i>Not screened in for the project</i>	No AEOI	AEOI cannot be ruled out	
North Norfolk Coast SPA	Sandwich tern	AEOI cannot be ruled out	No AEOI	<i>Not screened in for the project</i>	No AEOI	
Greater Wash SPA	Sandwich tern	AEOI cannot be ruled out	No AEOI	<i>Not screened in for the project</i>	<i>Not screened in for the project</i>	

6. Plan Level Requirements

6.1 Basis for Plan Level Compensation

6.1.1.1 The requirement for compensation at the plan level originates from the conclusions of The Crown Estate's Appropriate Assessment, which identified sites and features for which adverse effects on integrity could not be ruled out as a result of the CIP. As described in Section 4, the approach agreed by the SG is for this Compensation Plan is to rely on project level assessments, consent decisions and compensation commitments to address those requirements. This section therefore draws together the project level compensation requirements and associated compensatory measures for the constituent projects of the CIP, providing a consolidated record of the compensation requirements identified through project level assessments and the measures secured to address them.

Requirement for Compensation at Project Level

6.1.1.2 *Table 5.1* clearly identifies the Appropriate Authority conclusions on a project by project basis with respect to the designated sites and features addressed within this Compensation Plan. A summary of project level compensation requirements, including the relevant provisions of the DCO, is provided below. The relevant DCO documents have been sourced as follows:

- SSDE: https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN010109-002390-SADEP%20DCO%20DESNZ%20170424_Redacted.pdf⁶
- Rampion 2: <https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN010117-002453-Development%20Consent%20Order%20as%20Made%20by%20the%20Secretary%20of%20State.pdf>⁶
- Five Estuaries: <https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN010115-002032-DCO%20as%20made%20by%20SoS.pdf>
- North Falls: <https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN010119-001789-Development%20Consent%20Order%20North%20Falls%20Offshore%20Wind%20Farm.pdf>

6.1.1.3 The above DCOs include the requirement for compensation (and how it is secured) at project level. The DCOs demonstrate that at project level, the required compensation is legally secured, subject to Secretary of State approval, and controlled through pre-operation conditions, monitoring, and enforcement mechanisms. Key conditions are summarised per project (where available) below.

6.1.2 SSDE

6.1.2.1 **Securing Mechanism:** Compensation is secured through Part 7, Article 45, which provides that Schedule 17 (Compensation Measures) has effect. Schedule 17 provides detail on compensation measures.

6.1.2.2 **Summary of DCO Compensation Requirements:** The DCO requires compensation to be provided for Sandwich tern, kittiwake and guillemot impacts at the referenced sites through measures approved by

⁶ An amendment was issued subsequently – but no change to the compensation requirements referenced

the Secretary of State and implemented in accordance with agreed compensation documentation. The provisions allow compensation to be delivered either directly by the undertaker or through a strategic compensation mechanism (i.e. the MRF). The DCO also requires appropriate implementation, monitoring, reporting and adaptive management arrangements to demonstrate that compensation is delivered and remains effective over time, by either the project or strategic compensation organisation.

6.1.2.3 **Features with compensatory requirements:**

- Sandwich tern (North Norfolk Coast / Greater Wash SPA);
- Kittiwake (Flamborough & Filey Coast SPA); and
- Guillemot (Flamborough & Filey Coast SPA).

6.1.3 Rampion 2

6.1.3.1 **Securing Mechanism:** Compensation is secured through Part 7, Article 57 (“Compensation measures”), which provides that Schedule 17 (Compensation to protect the coherence of the National Site Network) has effect. Schedule 17 provides detail on compensation measures.

6.1.3.2 **Summary of DCO Compensation Requirements:** The DCO requires compensatory measures to be provided for kittiwake and guillemot impacts at the referenced sites, either through project led delivery or via a strategic compensation mechanism (i.e. the MRF). The approved compensation measures must be implemented and monitored in accordance with Secretary of State-approved implementation and monitoring plans, with reporting and adaptive management applied where necessary to ensure the required compensatory outcomes are achieved, by either the project or strategic compensation organisation.

6.1.3.3 **Features with compensatory requirements:**

- Kittiwake (Flamborough & Filey Coast SPA); and
- Guillemot (Flamborough & Filey Coast SPA / Farne Islands SPA).

6.1.4 Five Estuaries

6.1.4.1 **Securing Mechanism:** Compensation is secured through Part 6, Article 48 (“Compensation”), which provides that Schedule 13 (Compensation to protect the coherence of the National Site Network) has effect. Schedule 13 provides detail on compensation measures.

6.1.4.2 **Summary of DCO Compensation Requirements:** The DCO requires compensatory measures to be provided for lesser black-backed gull, kittiwake, guillemot and benthic habitat impacts. Compensation may be delivered directly by the undertaker or through a strategic compensation mechanism (i.e. the MRF). For each feature requiring compensation, implementation and monitoring arrangements must be approved by the Secretary of State and subsequently implemented, with ongoing monitoring, reporting and adaptive management used to demonstrate delivery and effectiveness by either the project or strategic compensation organisation.

6.1.4.3 **Features with compensatory requirements:**

- Lesser black backed gull (Alde-Ore Estuary SPA);
- Kittiwake (Flamborough & Filey Coast SPA);

- Guillemot (Flamborough & Filey Coast SPA / Farne Islands SPA); and
- Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time (Margate and Long Sands SAC).

6.1.5 North Falls

6.1.5.1 **Securing Mechanism:** Compensation is secured through Part 7, Article 50 (Compensation Provisions) which provides that Schedule 15 (compensation to protect the coherence of the national site network) has effect. Schedule 15 provides detail on compensation measures.

6.1.5.2 **Summary of DCO Compensation Requirements:** The DCO requires compensatory measures to be provided for lesser black-backed gull, kittiwake, guillemot and red-throated diver. Compensation may be delivered through project-specific measures or strategic compensation mechanisms (i.e. the MRF). The DCO requires approved implementation and monitoring plans to be prepared and delivered by either the project or strategic compensation organisation, together with associated monitoring, reporting and adaptive management measures to ensure compensation objectives are achieved and maintained.

6.1.5.3 **Features with compensatory requirements:**

- Lesser black backed gull (Alde-Ore Estuary SPA);
- Kittiwake (Flamborough & Filey Coast SPA);
- Guillemot (Flamborough & Filey Coast SPA / Farne Islands SPA); and
- Red-throated diver (Outer Thames Estuary SPA).

6.2 **Current Status of Project Level Compensation**

6.2.1.1 As set out in *Table 5.1*, the Appropriate Authority has identified, on a project-by-project basis, those sites and features for which adverse effects on integrity cannot be ruled out and for which compensatory measures are therefore required. Section 6 further confirms how these requirements are secured through project level DCO provisions. Building on that information, this section provides the current status of project level compensation, at the time of the preparation of this report, drawing together publicly available information on the measures that have been proposed, the associated geographic location and the key reference.

6.2.1.2 In accordance with the overarching approach to this Compensation Plan, project level assessments, decisions and certified documents form the primary source of evidence for defining both the requirement for, and nature of, compensatory measures. The purpose of this section is to demonstrate that compensation measures are available and, where required, being developed, progressed or secured through the DCO process. This section therefore focuses on collating that information in a consistent and transparent manner across all projects within the CIP.

6.2.1.3 The following tables (*Table 6.1* to *Table 6.4*) provide a structured summary of proposed compensation measures for each project, at the time of this reports' preparation, presenting the relevant site and feature, the measure proposed, the location of delivery, and the associated source documentation (for example, compensation plans and compensation implementation and monitoring plans). The information is derived from the project level documentation produced through the DCO process and is not the result of discussions undertaken with the SG for this Plan. As projects continue to progress through implementation, further information relating to compensation delivery, monitoring, adaptive management and effectiveness may become available. Such updates will be captured through the

Compensation Delivery Assurance process described in Section 7, rather than through continual revision of this section.

6.2.2 SSDE

Table 6.1: Summary of current compensation measures proposed by SSDE at the point of consent. Further details on measures, location and adaptive management can be found in the referenced document.

Site	Feature	Measure	Location Options	Document Link
Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA	Kittiwake	Nest site improvements to enhance breeding success (project-led measure)	Gateshead	5.5.3 Appendix 3 - Kittiwake Compensation Document
		Construction of new artificial nesting structure(s) (collaborative/alternative measure)	Potential offshore/onshore sites (location subject to collaboration)	
	Guillemot	Fisheries bycatch reduction measures	Southwest England	5.5.4 Appendix 4 - Guillemot & Compensation Document - Rev E
		Predator eradication from a breeding colony	Location subject to collaboration	
North Norfolk Coast & Greater Wash SPA	Sandwich tern	Nesting habitat improvements and restoration of lost breeding range	Scar Point, Loch Ryan	5.5.2 Appendix 2 - Sandwich Tern Compensation Document - Rev B
		Improved breeding success at SPA sites other than North Norfolk Coast	Farne Islands SPA or Foulness SPA	
		Predator management (secondary measure ⁷)	Blakeney Point	

6.2.3 Rampion 2

Table 6.2: Summary of current compensation measures proposed by Rampion 2. Further details on measures, location and adaptive management can be found in the referenced document.

Site	Feature	Measure	Location Options	Document Link
	Kittiwake	Provision of artificial nesting structure (ANS) spaces through	Gateshead	8.64 - Kittiwake Implementation

⁷ Supported by National Trust and Natural England as a 'secondary measure' alongside the nesting habitat improvements and restoration of lost breeding range

Site	Feature	Measure	Location Options	Document Link
Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA		collaboration with existing onshore infrastructure		and Monitoring Plan - Rev B
		Marine Recovery Fund (MRF) - financial contribution into a strategic measure	Strategic (location not yet defined)	
Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA / Farne Islands SPA	Guillemot	Reduction of recreational disturbance (e.g. signage, wardening, access restrictions, seasonal controls)	South-west England colonies (final locations to be confirmed)	8.89 - Guillemot and Razorbill Implementation and Monitoring Plan - Rev B
		Marine Recovery Fund (MRF) - financial contribution into a strategic measure	Strategic (location not yet defined)	

6.2.4 Five Estuaries

Table 6.3: Summary of current compensation measures proposed by Five Estuaries. Further details on measures, location and adaptive management can be found in the referenced document.

Site	Feature	Measure	Location Options	Document Link
Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA	Kittiwake	Marine Recovery Fund (MRF) - financial contribution into a strategic measure	Strategic (location not yet defined)	Volume 5, Report 5.7: Kittiwake Implementation and Monitoring Plan - Rev F
		A compensation measure not utilising the Gateshead kittiwake tower	Location not yet defined	
		Provision of artificial nesting structure (ANS) spaces through collaboration with existing onshore infrastructure	Gateshead	
Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA / Farne Islands SPA	Guillemot	Reduction of recreational disturbance (wardening, signage, visitor management, education, stakeholder engagement)	South-west England colonies (final sites to be confirmed; small number of shortlisted locations)	Volume 5, Report 5.8: Guillemot & Razorbill Implementation and Monitoring Plan - Rev F
		Marine Recovery Fund (MRF) - financial contribution into a strategic measure	Strategic (location not yet defined)	
Alde-Ore Estuary SPA	Lesser Black-	Predator exclusion fencing, monitoring and control & habitat restoration/management	Orford Ness (AOE SPA)	Volume 5, Report 5.6: Lesser black-backed gull

Site	Feature	Measure	Location Options	Document Link
	backed gull	Predator monitoring and eradication & habitat management	Outer Trial Bank (OTB)	implementation and monitoring plan - Rev E
Margate and Long Sands SAC	Sandbanks (Annex 1 feature)	SAC extension (strategic compensation)	Strategic (Defra-led; location to be defined through MPA designation/extension programme)	Volume 5, Report 5.1: Benthic Compensation Strategy Roadmap - Rev D
		Anthropogenic pressure removal	Southern North Sea	
		Non like for like compensation – seagrass bed habitat creation/restoration	Location not yet defined	

6.2.5 North Falls

Table 6.4: Summary of current compensation measures proposed by North Falls. Further details on measures, location and adaptive management can be found in the referenced document.

Site	Feature	Measure	Location Options	Document Link
Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA	Kittiwake	Provision of artificial nesting structure (ANS) spaces through collaboration with existing onshore infrastructure	Gateshead	HRA Annex 4A - Outline Kittiwake Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan - Rev 3
		Contribution to a strategic fund	Strategic (location not yet defined)	
	Guillemot	Management measures at south west breeding colonies	Colonies to be decided post consent from shortlist of sites in Cornwall and Devon	HRA Annex 5A - Outline Guillemot and Razorbill Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan - Rev 3
		Collaborative and strategic compensation	Colonies to be decided post consent from shortlist of sites in Cornwall and Devon	
Farne Islands SPA	Guillemot	Management measures at south west breeding colonies	Colonies to be decided post consent from shortlist of sites in Cornwall and Devon	
		Collaborative and strategic compensation	Location not yet defined	

Site	Feature	Measure	Location Options	Document Link
Alde-Ore Estuary SPA	Lesser black-backed gull	Predator exclusion (fencing around 'safe area'), and grassland management.	Gedgrave Marshes	HRA Annex 2A - Outline LBBG Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan - Rev 5
		Predator control (lethal control of rats)	Outer Trial Bank	
		Habitat management (planting, grassland cutting and/or scrub clearance). Further complimentary measures could be considered if required.	Gedgrave Marshes or Outer Trial Bank	
		Collaborative and strategic compensation	Location not yet defined	
Outer Thames Estuary SPA	Red-throated diver	Provision of breeding enhancement	Preferred location in Scotland	HRA Annex 3A - Outline Red-Throated Diver Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan – Rev 3
		Collaborative and strategic compensation	Location not yet defined	

6.3 Dogger Bank D

6.3.1.1 As outlined in Section 1.2, a DCO application for Dogger Bank D has not yet been submitted, and final project level conclusions are therefore not available. In the event that an application is made and a DCO subsequently granted, any future compensation requirements that may be required will be addressed through the project level DCO process and incorporated into this Compensation Plan through a subsequent addendum as detailed in Appendix A.1, to be completed post-consent. In line with the agreed approach to this Compensation Plan and as set out for the other CIP projects in Sections 6.1 and 6.2, no additional compensation requirements are anticipated at the plan level beyond those secured through the relevant project level consenting process.

7. Compensation Delivery Assurance

- 7.1.1.1** In order to provide assurance that the plan level commitments for compensation, as detailed in Section 4.2, are met, The Crown Estate will be responsible for maintaining an audit trail of project level documentation confirming that compensation has been secured through project level consenting processes, in accordance with relevant DCO condition(s).
- 7.1.1.2** The purpose of this process is not to duplicate existing project level governance, monitoring or approval processes. Instead, The Crown Estate will rely on documentation prepared and approved through the relevant DCO process. Projects should provide copies of finalised public documents and associated Secretary of State approval letter(s) (where applicable) relating to project compensation plans, their implementation, amendment, and ultimate discharge. It is acknowledged that individual projects may discharge compensation related DCO condition(s) at project level and/or via the Marine Recovery Fund. Documentation should be submitted electronically to the following shared inbox: CIPCompensationPlan@thecrownestate.co.uk.
- 7.1.1.3** Documentation should only be provided when finalised compensation-related approvals are obtained. The Crown Estate will retain these records to maintain an auditable record of compensation delivery for the CIP. Where approved compensation measures are subsequently amended, projects should provide the updated, approved, documentation and relevant approval decision to the shared inbox once agreement has been reached through the relevant DCO process. Similarly, confirmation of final discharge of relevant consent conditions will be provided.
- 7.1.1.4** The information held by The Crown Estate will be limited to documentation already produced as part of project level consenting, implementation and approval processes. The intention is to provide assurance that compensation requirements for the CIP continue to be secured and delivered without creating additional reporting obligations beyond those already required through the DCO process at project level.

8. Conclusion

- 8.1.1.1 The approach to this Compensation Plan, as set out in Section 4, is that compensation requirements identified at plan level will be addressed through compensation secured via project level consenting processes. Consistent with the conclusions of project level HRAs and the requirements secured through individual project DCO decisions, no additional compensation, beyond that secured at project level will therefore be required to maintain the overall coherence of the UK's National Site Network. This Plan provides the framework through which those compensation requirements are coordinated, tracked and evidenced for the CIP projects.
- 8.1.1.2 All impacts requiring compensation will therefore be addressed at the project level. With respect to the proposed for Dogger Bank D DCO application:
- If the Appropriate Authority concludes (or cannot rule out) an adverse effect for any protected site/feature but decides to grant consent for Dogger Bank D in reliance on a derogation, it will be a legal requirement to secure compensation for any adverse effect through the provisions of the DCO.
 - If the Appropriate Authority decides to grant consent for Dogger Bank D but concludes no adverse effect for any protected site/feature alone and in-combination, there will be no legal requirement to secure compensation through the provisions of the DCO.
- 8.1.1.3 At the point in time a DCO decision is made for Dogger Bank D, Appendix A.1 will be updated to capture the relevant conclusions and information from that decision.
- 8.1.1.4 With respect to this Compensation Plan, the relevant compensation requirements are identified in Section 2.1. *Table 8.1* sets out how these requirements will be addressed, with progress towards delivery evidence in accordance with Section 7. Delivery of the required compensation will be tracked and evidenced in accordance with the process described in Section 6.1.

Table 8.1: Delivery of Plan level Compensation Requirements

Requirement	How has this been addressed	Where in This Report
Roles and responsibilities of involved parties	As defined in the agreed Terms of Reference.	Appendix A.2
The compensation measures	As defined in project level reporting, with current status of this identified.	Section 6.2
Scale and location of proposed compensation measures		
Consultation and engagement with stakeholders and relevant scientific experts	Undertaken via consultation with the Steering Group, the Protected Sites Assessment Group and government departments.	Section 3 Section 4.1

Requirement	How has this been addressed	Where in This Report
Delivery mechanism and funding agreements	As defined at project level. Including relevant DCO condition and project level reporting.	Section 6.1 and 6.2
Commercial agreements (if required)		
Monitoring and adaptive management		
Programme for proposed implementation and delivery		

9. References

The Crown Estate (2025a), Record of HRA Capacity Increases Programme. Available at: <https://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/our-business/marine/capacity-increase-programme>. Accessed June 2026.

DESNZ (2025) The Crown Estate's Capacity Increase Programme: Habitats Regulation Assessment – decision letter. Available at: <https://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/our-business/marine/capacity-increase-programme>. Accessed June 2026.

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) (2020) Greater Wash SPA. Available at: <https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/greater-wash-spa/>. Accessed August 2026).

Natural England and Joint Nature Conservation Committee (2018) Greater Wash SPA: Classification Citation Version 2.2. Available at: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/natural-england-marine/greater-wash-potential-special-protection-area-com/results/greaterwashclassificationcitationv2.2.pdf>. Accessed August 2026.

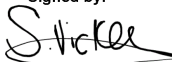
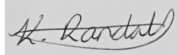
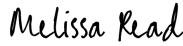
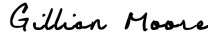
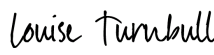
NIRAS (2024a), Capacity Increase Programme - Scoping Report, Available at: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/f52b591a7a5147a89871825ec868ac52/>. Accessed July 2026.

NIRAS (2024b), Capacity Increase Programme – Advice for Derogation Case and Compensation Note, Available at: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/ed5ade26061d4353982448dc74368c66/>. Accessed July 2026

NIRAS (2025), Capacity Increase Programme – RIAA, Available at: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/7c6bad8d37d6452cb06a5dbcf03b2e77>. Accessed July 2026.

10. Signatories

10.1.1.1 The below signatories, all members of the Capacity Increase Plan Compensation Plan Steering Group, confirm that this Compensation Plan has been developed in accordance with the agreed Terms of Reference for the Steering Group.

Organisation / Project	Named Signatory	Signature	Date
The Crown Estate (Chair)	Sion Roberts	Signed by:  FFE1DD5ADE7C4D4...	01 September 2026
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)	Sophie Vickery	Signed by:  DB50AD4C4FAF447...	02 September 2026
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)	Mohamed Omar	Signed by:  2A5A61EBD344426...	04 September 2026
Natural England	Martin Kerby	Signed by:  45274C0E79394A1...	02 September 2026
The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)	Karema Randall	Signed by:  ABFD91A724884F4...	04 September 2026
Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Extensions Project	Melissa Read	Signed by:  584300D7DD4A4A4...	02 September 2026
Rampion 2	Gillian Moore	Signed by:  A44AEA926A55427...	02 September 2026
North Falls	Andy Paine	Signed by:  341AADD128D04A5...	09 September 2026
Five Estuaries	Kieran Somers	Signed by:  3CEBFCABEC18444...	03 September 2026
Dogger Bank D	Louise Turnbull	Signed by:  B4334C379AC1423...	04 September 2026

A.1. Dogger Bank D Addendum Information Requirements

- 10.1.1.2 At the time of finalisation of the Capacity Increase Programme (CIP) Compensation Plan, Dogger Bank D had not yet secured a Development Consent Order (DCO) decision and therefore the final Appropriate Authority conclusions, and any subsequent project level compensation requirements and associated compensation measures were not available for inclusion within the main Compensation Plan. As a result, Dogger Bank D is the only CIP project for which the information presented in Sections 5 and 6 of the Compensation Plan could not be completed.
- 10.1.1.3 This appendix has therefore been prepared as a template for the future Dogger Bank D Addendum. In the event that an application is submitted and a DCO is subsequently granted, the information requested within this appendix should be completed using the final project level HRA conclusions, DCO requirements and compensation documentation available at that time. The completed appendix will then form the Dogger Bank D Addendum to the Compensation Plan.
- 10.1.1.4 The structure of this appendix mirrors the relevant sections of the Compensation Plan, specifically the Compensation Tracker (Section 5), Basis for Plan Level Compensation (Section 6.1) and Current Status of Project Level Compensation (Section 6.2). This approach ensures that Dogger Bank D is considered and reported in a manner consistent with the other CIP projects.
- 10.1.1.5 The purpose of the completed Addendum is not to establish any new compensation requirements or undertake any additional assessment beyond that required through the project level consenting process. Rather, it provides a mechanism for incorporating the final Dogger Bank D information into the Compensation Plan so that all projects included within the CIP are documented using a common structure and a comparable level of detail. The ongoing assurance process for Dogger Bank D will mirror that used for other projects, as set out in Section A.2.4 of this addendum and Section 7 of the Compensation Plan.

A.1.1. Compensation Tracker

- 10.1.1.6 This section reflects the information required for Section 5 of the CIP Compensation Plan.

Information to be provided:

- 10.1.1.7 A summary of the Appropriate Authority's final conclusion for each designated site(s) and feature(s) identified in The Crown Estates Appropriate Assessment and listed in table A.1.1.
- 10.1.1.8 In line with Table 5.1 of the CIP Compensation Plan, the Appropriate Authority's conclusion should be summarised as either:
- AEOL,
 - AEOL cannot be ruled out,
 - No AEOL, &
 - Not Screened In.

Table A.1.1. Dogger Bank D Appropriate Authority conclusions for the following designated sites and features. This table is designed to reflect the information in Table 5.1 of the Capacity Increase Programme Compensation Plan.

Designated site	Feature	Appropriate Authority Conclusion (AEOI / AEOI cannot be ruled out / No AEOI / Not Screened In)
		Dogger Bank D
Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA	Kittiwake	
	Guillemot	
	Razorbill	
	Gannet	
Dogger Bank SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	
Margate and Long Sands SAC	Sandbanks which are covered by seawater all the time	
Farne Islands SPA	Guillemot	
Alde-Ore Estuary SPA	Lesser black-backed gull	
Outer Thames Estuary SPA	Red-throated diver	
North Norfolk Coast SPA	Sandwich tern	
Greater Wash SPA	Sandwich tern	

A.1.2. Basis for Plan Level Compensation

This section details the information required for Section 6.1 of the CIP Compensation Plan.

Information to be provided:

- Link to the relevant DCO source:

- Securing Mechanism - Reference to relevant DCO Article(s), Schedule(s), Requirement(s) or Condition(s) securing compensation:

- Summary of DCO Compensation Requirements – as per information provided for SSDE, Rampion 2, Five Estuaries and North Falls (Sections 6.1.2 to 6.1.5 of the Compensation Plan).

- HRA features with compensatory requirements.

A.1.3. Status of Project Level Compensation

This section details the information required for Section 6.2 of the CIP Compensation Plan.

Required information: Information should be provided for each compensation measure proposed through the DCO process, including the relevant designated site and feature, a summary of the proposed compensation measure, the location(s) at which the measure will be delivered (or location options under consideration), and a reference to the key project documentation describing the measure. Where compensation is to be delivered through a strategic mechanism, such as the Marine Recovery Fund, this should be clearly identified within the measure description and supported by the relevant reference document. Information provided should reflect the most up-to-date position available at the time this Addendum is prepared.

Table A.1.2. Summary of current compensation measures secured or proposed through the DCO decision. This information should reflect Section 6.2 of the Capacity Increase Programme Compensation Plan in a manner consistent with the other CIP projects.

Site	Feature	Measure	Location Options	Document Link

A.1.4. Ongoing Assurance

The information provided in this Addendum should be sufficient to populate each section of the Compensation Plan. Once the information from Dogger Bank D is incorporated, the draft Addendum will be shared with the CIP SG (as detailed in Section 3.1 of the CIP Compensation Plan) for information and oversight and will be subject to consultation with Dogger Bank D, DESNZ, Defra, Natural England and JNCC. Following consultation, the Addendum will be finalised by The Crown Estate and Dogger Bank D, who will retain responsibility for the final approval of the document.

The ongoing implementation, monitoring, reporting and assurance of compensation measures will be undertaken in accordance with the Compensation Delivery Assurance process described in Section 7 of the CIP Compensation Plan. Any subsequent updates relating to the compensation conditions detailed in section A.1.2 will be included in this process.

A.2. Capacity Increase Programme Steering Group Terms of Reference

Appended to document as a separate .PDF

Capacity Increase Programme Compensation Plan

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