

1 Terms of Reference – SOWEC Innovation Group

Following the successful agreement of the Offshore Wind Sector Deal, the Scottish Offshore Wind Energy Council (SOWEC) has agreed to the formulation of an Innovation Group. This initiative shall ensure that our industry strives for innovative solutions towards the most fundamental sector challenges, especially those pertinent to the industry in Scotland, and will approach this from the perspective of cross-sector collaboration and lateral thinking.

It will work to ensure Scotland uses innovation in offshore wind power to maximise its economic growth potential via direct and indirect jobs, lowest cost offshore wind energy and integration into the wider energy system.

1.1 Purpose

Based on a robust and industry recognised understanding of the sector challenges, the SOWEC Innovation Group will:

- Identify and agree sector challenges to be solved through cross-sector collaboration in the Scottish supply chain;
- Communicate and promote to relevant private and public sector bodies, including the Scottish Government 'Green New Deal' initiative, the sector's innovation priorities, to look for financial support to priority issues;
- Collaborate with other major industries including Oil & Gas, Aerospace and manufacturing to de-risk innovation exchange, including SME engagement and knowledge sharing;
- Agree and implement initiatives and mechanisms that facilitate the above support for solution providers, embracing 'out of the box' thinking;
- Ensure other workstreams such as supply chain growth and the regional clusters are fully supported and where necessary coordinated with in respect to innovation potential;
- Ensure alignment with the OWIC Innovation Workstream;

1.2 Delivery

Delivering the Innovation Group activities will centre around both remote and face-to-face communication. As well as the organisations on the group itself, interaction will take place with other initiatives such as the ORE Catapult Floating Wind Centre of Excellence, the Scottish Sector Deal clusters and the Offshore Wind Innovation Hub (OWIH).

The group will interface closely with the Offshore Wind Industry Council (OWIC) Innovation Workstream to ensure coordination of effort.

1.3 Outputs

Key deliverables will take the form of status reports, issued following each face-to-face meeting, highlighting the proposed innovation priorities and potential mechanisms for establishing solutions.

These reports and minutes of meeting will be circulated to the SOWEC Innovation Group members and the SOWEC PMO. Agendas for meetings will also be communicated to the SOWEC PMO.

1.4 Governance

Good governance will be ensured via a structure of management as shown in Figures 1. The group meetings will be chaired by the ORE Catapult CEO, Andrew Jamieson, and will consist of several relevant senior figures representing various key sectors or bodies as outlined below.

Group	Membership	Frequency of meetings
SOWEC		As per OWIC schedule
Innovation Group	<p>Lead: C. Hill / A. Stormonth-Darling Chair: A. Jamieson (ORE Catapult) [Offshore Wind]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A. Holt (Scottish Gov.) [Government] • C. Pearson (OGTC) [Oil & Gas] • L. McRobb (Shepherd & Wedderburn) [Legal] • C. Yiu (Blair Institute) [Institute] • M. Smith (Glasgow School of Art Innovation School) [Academia] • A. MacAskill (Flotation Energy Plc) [Offshore Wind] • J. Downes (SSE) [Offshore Wind] • J. Brown (MHI Vestas) [Offshore Wind] 	Quarterly

Figure 1