

## Offshore Wind Collaborative Framework Charter

### INTRODUCTION

All developers of offshore wind projects in Scotland have strong and public commitments to engage and support supply chain growth.

ScotWind is a once in a generation opportunity. Taken together with the current and future pipeline, it is vital that developers work to collaborate to manage collective risks while maximizing opportunities for supply chain growth in Scotland.

This Charter builds on the 2021 Strategic Investment Assessment (SIA) adopted by SOWEC (Scottish Offshore Wind Energy Council) and its recommendation to the offshore wind industry to develop a collaborative framework to enable and engage a cluster of Scottish ports. As individual developers in Scotland, we are committed to work to support SOWEC in delivery of this recommendation so that we can collectively build supply chain confidence.

### COMPETITION LAW STATEMENT

Whilst as individual companies we support efforts on collaboration, we also are bound by Competition Law requirements. As part of this Charter, we also have commitments to ensure that while discussions can cover matters of interest to the offshore wind industry, we cannot discuss or exchange sensitive commercial information. If at any time during discussions, verbal or written, we see issues raised which may be in breach of competition rules, we have a responsibility to raise these. In practice we will do this by informing the Chair of the Collaborative Framework working group or equivalent. The Chair may close the discussion at any time if they believe that discussions are in breach of competition law.

## PURPOSE

1. A Collaboration Framework will assist Scottish offshore wind developers, the wider supply chain and support agencies, to work collaboratively to build up processes, documents and tools that support growth of Scottish supply chain and help to create a sustainable pipeline which gives Scottish companies confidence to invest ready to support this delivery. In doing this, the Framework will also help industry work collectively to remove risks that could hold back delivery of this opportunity.

## OVERVIEW

1. The scale of offshore wind growth expected to be delivered in Scotland from today out to 2050 represents a major opportunity for the Scottish economy.
2. Offshore wind development and operation provides a route for a just transition, helping high carbon companies and staff transition into low carbon activity
3. While companies will need to make project specific investments that support delivery of their individual or project portfolios, the investment decisions of the wider supply chain may depend on multiple contracts and/or multiple customers.
4. Working to support this Collaborative Framework will be one element of work that participants will engage in to demonstrate supply chain commitments made as part of securing ScotWind or other leases.
5. Sector competition is an integral part of delivering quality, low-cost projects. Competition law frames this action, but the offshore wind industry also understands the value of working together while respecting this legal framework.
6. The Framework will allow and facilitate wider public sector investment in necessary infrastructure.

## OUTPUTS

7. Framework participants will provide a named point of contact responsible for cross-sector collaboration. This individual will be given time and responsibility to work effectively as part of a cross-cutting group of industry peers working within this SOWEC working group and with other partners.
8. Participants will seek to share strategic information and data to enable effective collaboration. This will include information on project timelines and major capital spend, firstly with trusted intermediaries such as enterprise bodies and ORE Catapult, and ultimately through collective knowledge sharing, to assist in building confidence in a sustainable pipeline of projects and potential work for a Scottish Offshore Wind Port Cluster.
9. Participants will explore potential contractual and procurement mechanisms that will provide confidence to investors and support inward capital investment for the development of supply chain capabilities.
10. Participants will support sector wide communication efforts re. the opportunity in Scotland, as well as the benefits to potential inward investors that a Scottish Offshore Wind Port Cluster and an associated Collaborative Framework can offer.

11. The Collaboration Framework will have a guiding governance which all parties will agree to, including an independent leader, an overall vision, list of members, MoU (memorandum of understanding) or ToRs (terms of reference), Communications protocol, standard processes for meetings etc. and reporting progress to SOWEC.

## OUTCOME

12. To support growth of world class port infrastructure in Scotland that is commercially competitive and technically able to support delivery of the volume of offshore wind projects expected in Scottish waters, with particular focus on securing greater manufacturing activity around growth of floating offshore wind.
13. By working jointly to facilitate building any investment case in a Scottish port cluster, a collaborative framework offers a route to de-risk project delivery, develop a sustainable supply chain, and reduce potential project cost of having world-class facilities available to Scottish projects.

## PRIORITIES & ONGOING FRAMEWORK DEVELOPMENT

14. The SIA recommended that the immediate priority of the collaborative framework is supporting the creation of a Scottish Floating Offshore Wind Port Cluster with the capacity and capability for fabrication and assembly of floating wind platforms. The SIA also notes that the collaborative framework should also be used to support wider investment in offshore wind component manufacture and assembly facilities.
15. This collaborative framework is intended to lead to the maximum benefits for the Scottish economy and as such the collaborative framework can also be applied to wider opportunities such as fabrication of and related to fixed foundations that will be required by a number of ScotWind and other fixed offshore wind projects.
16. Once engagement between suitable ports and industry is underway, lessons should be learnt from this initial use of a collaborative framework and necessary adaptations made
17. Depending on participants wider priorities, the Collaborative Framework may also be used to support wider engagement between the offshore wind sector and port providers, to help build any investment case for inward investment in offshore wind component manufacture, as well as to support investment in necessary assembly facilities.

This Charter has been signed by the following organisations:

