

Barriers to Deployment group

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Objectives - overview

- **Environment constraint and uncertainties**

Main Objective: Coordinated action is taken to address the environmental constraints affecting the deployment of offshore wind in Scottish waters

- **Fisheries**

Main Objective: A renewed industry approach is taken to fostering coexistence with Scotland's fishing sector, recognising that a new generation of ScotWind projects will require a more holistic approach.

- **OWIC Liaison**

Main Objective Scottish interests are represented in the Pathways to Growth workstream and SOWEC is kept informed on relevant discussions led by OWIC.

Targets - Barriers to Deployment Group

Environmental constraints and uncertainties

Targets

- Industry and Scottish stakeholders are coordinated in their approach to environmental evidence gathering and monitoring, identifying any strategic needs and what resourcing is needed to deliver this and keep guidance up to date.
- A clear process is agreed in relation to potential derogation and compensation processes for Scottish projects, which has the confidence of industry, regulators and stakeholders.
- Early consideration is given to the potential different needs of floating wind projects, and what action can be taken in anticipation of the commercial scale floating projects likely from ScotWind.
- The capacity and resourcing of all aspects of the Scottish planning and consenting process is at a level that ensures efficient and timely offshore project deployment.

Deliverables

- Ongoing coordination with, and input to, the Offshore Wind Environmental Evidence Register project (Defra) and the ScotMER programme (Marine Scotland).
- Having delivered HRA reports: 'Assessing future approaches to applying HRA derogation provisions in Scotland' with both legal and ecological scopes of work, the group will now focus on taking forward the recommendations and any further external work that may be required. This work will align with the current Marine Scotland project on a Compensation Measures Framework, which is expected by the end of 2021.
- The group will assess the outputs of the Floating Wind Centre of Excellence project on 'Development and Consenting - Risks and Opportunities' and will work with the Centre and other stakeholders to agree a scope of work.
- The B2G group has coordinated industry input to the Pathways to Growth workstream on the resourcing requirements for Scottish bodies and will contribute to the delivery a report to the P2G Executive Board. The B2G group will take forward any supporting measures or initiatives agreed as part of this work.

How contribute to SOWEC Strategic Goals?

The potential for cumulative environmental impacts to be identified from increased deployment could pose a major challenge to the Goals outlined by SOWEC. However, the discussion around strategic compensation also offers the possibility that the offshore wind sector could have a net gain impact and be part of the solution to both biodiversity and climate crises. Additionally, resourcing of consenting and planning authorities is a key dependency of the sector, which needs reliable project timescales.

Fisheries

Targets

- A greater shared understanding of process and needs is developed between Scottish offshore wind and fisheries sectors, with new forums for strategic discussion established.

Deliverables

- Briefing meetings between industry, Marine Scotland and fishing representatives to understand each other's priorities and positions
- A stakeholder forum event to bring together sectors, meeting at least twice in 2021, and once in Q1 2022 post the ScotWind outcome.
- Potential specific projects agreed through both bilateral and forum discussions by end 2021, subject to funding.

How contribute to SOWEC Strategic Goals?

Establishing collaborative relationships with other marine users is essential to SOWEC's goal of creating a competitive, commercially attractive offshore wind sector. This part of the workstream has increasing relevance to Marine Scotland pursuit of a Blue Economy approach to marine policy.

OWIC Liaison

Targets

- Attend Pathways to Growth meetings and coordinate with the SOWEC Developer group where needed.

Deliverables

- An update to each SOWEC meeting highlighting any challenges or opportunities specific to Scotland, with any recommendations for action.

How contribute to SOWEC Strategic Goals?

This work is key to align with OWIC and prevent duplication of effort.

Key Milestones – Barriers Group

Milestone	Date	Comment/Further Detail
Delivery of HRA project reports	April/Sept	Final reports received early April, published w/c 6 th September following comms review.
Forum event with fishing industry		Forum 1 held 23 rd July
P2G workshop on Scottish resourcing		Held 10 th August
Coordinate industry input to Compensation Measure Framework draft	Q3/Q4	
Agree any further B2G scopes of work on HRA	Q3	
FOWCOE Consenting report published	Q3	Being published at FOW conference 15 th Sept
P2G report to Executive Board	Q4	
Forum 2 with fishing industry	Q4	

Budget Barriers to Deployment Group 2021

Environmental

Next steps on HRA work - £20k (expected cost dependant upon public procurement process)

Fisheries Budget Estimate

Ideas to be discussed at roundtable – this could be linked to the floating wind objective as well. £30k (expected cost dependant upon public procurement process)

OWIC Liaison Budget Estimate

No budget implications