Logo

Description automatically generatedA picture containing logo

Description automatically generated

**Call for Expressions of Interest**

The Offshore Wind Industry Council (OWIC) is a senior Government and industry forum established to drive the development of the offshore wind sector in the UK.OWIC is seeking Expressions of Interest from relevant institutions to deliver the following packages of work to support the delivery of the OWIC Pathways to Growth work programme [OWIC | Pathways to Growth](https://www.owic.org.uk/our-work-pathways-to-growth). Pathways to Growth (P2G) is the Sector Deal’s workstream focused on identifying and addressing the key environmental and consenting challenges that will be a barrier to the UK meeting its offshore wind targets.

Lot 1 - Biodiversity and Nature Recovery

Lot 2 - Coexistence and Colocation - Marine Industries

Lot 3 - Applying Evidence and Data in Decision Making

Lot 4 – Identifying Policy and Legislative Barriers to Offshore Wind Deployment

**Notes**

* The Lots can be delivered separately or as a package of works.
* Further detail including full Scope of works for each Lot and EOI submission form can be found below.
* This is a two-stage competitive tender process, and a four-week ITT will follow any successful Note of Interests.

**Eligibility**

* Your organization must be a UK registered business or research and technology organization.
* Open to both single applicants and collaborations.

To register interest in this project please complete and return the application form to [aaron.fraser@sse.com](mailto:aaron.fraser@sse.com) prior to the deadline below.

Any questions, don’t hesitate to get in touch via the above email.

**EOI Closing date**: 30TH September 2022.

**Pathways to Growth**

**Application Form**

|  |
| --- |
| 1. **To be eligible to bid for any of the lots in the ITT your organization must be a UK registered business or research and technology organization. Please confirm that you are eligible and which of these categories your organization falls within.** |
| 1. **This ITT is open to both single applicants and collaborations. Please confirm whether you are planning to apply as a single applicant or as a collaboration. If your bid will be a collaborative bid please confirm the lead organization.** |
| 1. **Please confirm which of the lots you intend to bid for (check correct checkbox)**   Lot 1 - Biodiversity and Nature Recovery  Lot 2 - Coexistence and Colocation - Marine Industries  Lot 3 - Applying Evidence and Data in Decision Making  Lot 4 – Identifying Policy and Legislative Barriers to Offshore Wind Deployment |
| 1. **Please list the relevant specialist topic skills your team or institution can offer relevant to offshore wind consenting and environmental assessment.** |
| 1. **For each lot that you intend to bid for, please provide a brief description of similar work carried out including publications of research projects. Please set out your examples underneath a heading that clearly identifies which of the advertised lots they are relevant to. Please note these examples will be utilized to evaluate suitability for participation on the next phase of the selection process (ie tender exercise).**   **No more than 3 examples should be provided for each lot that you are bidding for and each description should include title of the work, client, why the work was carried out or which journal(s) it was published in and a short paragraph summarizing the work. The examples must all have been delivered within the last 5 years.** |

# Scope of Work – Lot 1

## Offshore Wind Sector Deal Pathways to Growth

## Future Policy: Identifying policy and legislative barriers to offshore wind deployment

# Project Summary

The Pathways to Growth (P2G) workstream is part of the Sector Deal and provides leadership, oversight and coordination to the offshore wind industry to identify and overcome strategic deployment issues in relation to consents and cumulative environmental impacts both in the marine and onshore areas and impacts on other users of sea space such as navigation and fishing.

One of the ten prioritised issues that the Pathways to Growth Coordination Group have identified is that:

“*Opportunities to resolve policy or legislative challenges or to make improvements to wider policy delivery are missed leading to delays meeting UK net zero targets”.*

The full list of the P2G prioritised issues is available on the OWIC webpages here: [Pathways to Growth prioritised consenting issues](https://www.owic.org.uk/pathways-to-growth-challenges)

Recognising that there have been recent policy and legislative reforms across the UK and that further reforms are planned, taking a step back to carry out a deep-dive look at what is currently in place or planned may help to identify potential opportunities to recognise benefits of offshore wind to policy goals that could be realised through legislative change or issues that could become barriers to offshore wind deployment if not resolved through legislative change or solutions found. Early identification will ensure that these opportunities or barriers are addressed to support the deployment of future offshore wind rounds i.e. beyond ScotWind and Round 4 to meet net zero offshore wind targets.

This work will be time limited given that policy and legislation changes in some cases are not yet clear so the outcomes of this work are intended to provide a “point in time” opinion piece that can be used to test policy and legislative reform now. It is however, expected to factor in policy and legislative changes introduced by the British Energy Security Strategy.

This Scope of Work sets out the requirements for a piece of consultancy work to review policy and legislation but, to manage the scale of the work, it will be informed by an initial piece of work to identify the key planning and consenting challenges first, carrying out a gap analysis to map the work that is already being delivered (if any) and highlight gaps. This will inform the full scope of the review.

The objectives are to:

Identify and categorise - with developers, SNCBs and regulatory bodies - the main types of planning / consenting challenges facing offshore wind (both fixed and floating foundations).

Identify the relevant legislation and planning policies to the agreed challenges and explain how they influence offshore wind consenting processes.

Assess the potential for recent and ongoing reforms to address identified challenges and recommend any gaps or issues supported by the consequences if gaps and issues are not addressed.

Identify and analyse remaining / wider areas of legislation and policy which present challenges but which have not been addressed in reforms to date.

* Recommend actions to address identified gaps and particularly to support the implementation of net zero and Energy Security Strategy targets.

The deliverables are:

* A review report, agreed with the P2G Coordination Group, setting out:
* The planning/consenting challenges that have been agreed and covered in the report.
* Policy and legislation challenges that may delay or prevent expansion of offshore wind to meet 2030 and net zero targets, how they will delay or prevent expansion (the potential consequences) and what can be done to resolve identified issues.
* Policy and legislation opportunities i.e. areas which recognise and will support offshore wind deployment where there are positive outcomes for the onshore or offshore environment and recommendations about what can be done to ensure they are realised.

## Background

* 1. The Offshore Wind Sector Deal is a partnership between the Offshore Wind Sector and the UK Government. It is an ambitious, long-term strategy, in which offshore wind will become the backbone of the UK’s power system.
  2. The Pathways to Growth (P2G) workstream is part of the Sector Deal and provides leadership, oversight and coordination to the offshore wind industry to identify and overcome strategic deployment issues in relation to consents and cumulative environmental impacts both in the marine and onshore areas and impacts on other users of sea space such as navigation and fishing.
  3. The P2G Coordination Group have identified 10 prioritised issues. One of these is, “*Opportunities to resolve policy or legislative challenges or to make improvements to wider policy delivery are missed leading to delays meeting UK net zero targets”.*
  4. In February 2022, the P2G Coordination Group met to discuss each of these 10 issues to define activities needed to be in place to resolve them. At that meeting, discussions identified that whilst there was a great deal of policy and legislative reform ongoing, it would be helpful to take a step back to ensure that areas were not missed, particularly related to meeting net zero. The concern was that if these areas were not identified now, they may become future unexpected barriers when there is little or no time to make legislative changes or for the industry to adapt. This was identified as a delivery gap at the February workshop with no known work taking the approach of identifying challenges and mapping back through the relevant policies and legislation to ensure challenges or opportunities are recognised.
  5. Further information about the P2G workstream, including the 10 prioritised issues, are available here: [OWIC | Pathways to Growth](https://www.owic.org.uk/pathways-to-growth-who-involved)

## Requirement

* 1. Offshore wind deployment is set to expand rapidly over the coming years. Round 4 will deliver at least 7 GW of offshore wind projects, the ScotWind leasing round announced 25 GW in early 2022 and the Celtic Sea Floating Wind Programme plans to deliver 4 GW of floating wind capacity. Alongside this, the British Energy Security Strategy has increased the ambition of the 2030 target to 50 GW. Although a clear offshore wind target hasn’t yet been set for net zero there are scenarios under discussion[[1]](#footnote-1). This is set against a backdrop of considerable policy and legislative reform already underway or planned and now to be accelerated by the British Energy Security Strategy.
  2. The reason for taking forward the work described in this Scope of Work is to ensure that potential policy or legislative barriers are not missed and solutions are identified now so that work can be implemented early enough to facilitate offshore wind targets. There is also the potential that there are further opportunities that planned policy and legislation reform could include that will recognize and facilitate the benefits that offshore wind will contribute to the environment and to UK policy goals e.g. to delivering net zero.
  3. This work must not duplicate existing or planned work so it includes a workshop to collaboratively agree the planning/consenting challenges that the study should focus on before progressing to the review stage.

# Objectives

2.1 The objectives of this work are to:

Identify and categorise - with developers, SNCBs and regulatory bodies - the main types of planning / consenting challenges facing offshore wind (both fixed and floating foundations).

Identify the relevant legislation and planning policies to the agreed challenges and explain how they influence offshore wind consenting processes.

Assess the potential for recent and ongoing reforms to address identified challenges and recommend any gaps or issues supported by the consequences if gaps and issues are not addressed.

Identify and analyse remaining / wider areas of legislation and policy which present challenges but which have not been addressed in reforms to date.

* Recommend actions to address identified gaps and particularly to support the implementation of net zero and Energy Security Strategy targets.

## Deliverables

3.1 A final review report, agreed with the associated forum and the P2G Coordination Group, setting out:

* The planning/consenting challenges that have been agreed and covered in the report
* Policy and legislation challenges that may delay or prevent expansion of offshore wind to meet 2030 and net zero targets, how they will delay or prevent expansion (the potential consequences) and what can be done to resolve identified issues.
* Policy and legislation opportunities i.e. areas which recognise and will support offshore wind deployment where there are positive outcomes for the onshore or offshore environment and recommendations about what can be done to ensure they are realised.

# Scope

4.1 The scope for the work is outlined in Work Packages 1-4 below. These are high level descriptions of the expectations. Proposals must build on these to clearly illustrate what and how the work will be delivered. Merit will be given for proposals that expand on the work outlined using expert judgement to recommend novel approaches or additional information that could be collected. Equally, proposals must recommend opportunities to streamline the work so that meetings are minimized and the programme can be expedited by running multiple activities simultaneously.

**Work Package 1: Agreeing the scope of the deep-dive review**

Carrying out a review of all policy and legislation related to offshore wind consenting would be a considerable piece of work. To contain the scope and deliver results efficiently, this work package will agree the scope of the full review. Some work will be required up-front to prepare workshop material as well as setting up and facilitating the workshop itself. **This initial work package must be delivered and approved first before progressing on to Work Packages 2, 3 and 4**.

Work Package 1 is intended to confirm the scope of the remaining work and will include, but is not limited to:

* Setting out a “straw man” describing the main planning/consenting challenges experienced or perceived by the offshore wind sector in Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland and the corresponding legislation and policy that influences them.
* Setting up and facilitating the workshop with developers, government, SNCBs, regulatory bodies and NGOs to discuss the “straw man” and agree the challenges that the study should focus on.
* Agreeing the scope for the deep dive study with the P2G Workstream Lead, P2G Coordination Group Manager and the P2G Coordination Group.

**Work Package 2: Deep dive review and mapping**

This package of work is to deliver the review based on the outputs and agreements achieved in Work Package 1. It will be a desk-based study and the proposal must identify how these outputs will be presented – both to document findings in a full report and the presentation material that can be used for engaging with stakeholders in Work Package 3.

The review must identify the agreed planning/consenting challenges, the associated policy and legislation, a clear description of the opportunity or challenge either faced now or risk for the future and a proposal for what is needed to realise the opportunity or resolve the challenge.

**Work Package 3: Testing the findings**

This work package is to ensure that stakeholders have challenged the outcomes of the review. It is expected to include discussions with developers (consenting representatives), Government, SNCBs, regulatory bodies and environmental NGOs.

It is likely that it is more effective to have these discussions collaboratively rather than in separate groups as this will foster common understanding and may highlight issues that could be missed in closed groups e.g. industry only or SNCBs only. On that basis it is expected that the findings of the review will be tested through a similar workshop to the one organised in Work Package 1, possibly with the same organisations represented. Proposals must identify how stakeholder engagement around the review findings could be conducted – perhaps setting out options for the approach. If options are presented any programme or cost differences between them must be clearly articulated in the cost and programme sections of the proposal.

Where possible any engagement must use existing forums. For example, if there is a need to engage with developers separately, use must be made of existing forums such as the OWIC Developer Group.

**Work Package 4: Final reporting**

A draft final report should be prepared for sharing with the P2G Coordination Group for discussion and the proposal must include attendance at a P2G Coordination Group meeting to present the final results.

Following the P2G Coordination Group meeting, the final report must be prepared, taking into account comments made, and submitted to the P2G Coordination Group Manager.

## Timing

* 1. The target date for delivery of the final report is September 2023 however an alternative delivery target date will be acceptable provided that the proposal sets out the proposed delivery timeline clearly.
  2. The date for a kick-off meeting will be arranged within 5 days of the contract being signed; the proposal must set out a proposed agenda for the kick-off meeting together with information expectations of P2G.

1. Project and Team Management
   1. The proposal must include a clear description of the project team and the corresponding roles and responsibilities. This information must be supported by a organogram that clearly illustrates how the team will work together – including reporting lines.
   2. It is crucial that P2G are satisfied that the outputs will be delivered to a high standard so quality assurance including the proposed process and roles involved in quality assuring the outputs for the work must be clearly identified in the organogram and in the plan.
   3. An outline project plan must be provided with the proposal in a Gantt chart format that identifies the main activities and indicates who is responsible from the project team for delivering them. Activities must include expected inputs from the P2G Coordination Group Manager and the P2G Coordination Group.
   4. CVs must be submitted for those proposed to be part of the project team.

1. Cost

7.1 The proposal should provide both an overall cost and a breakdown of task or work package costs.   A rate card for the team roles should also be provided identifying the individuals involved in delivering the tasks and their corresponding hourly rate.

## Communication

* 1. Day-to-day project management communication will be via the P2G Coordination Group Manager however there will be some engagement with the Coordination Group representatives during delivery of Work Packages 1, 3 and 4. The P2G Coordination Group consists of representatives from the following organisations:
* UK Developer representatives
* Natural England;
* Marine Management Organisation (MMO);
* The Planning Inspectorate (PINS);
* Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC);
* NatureScot;
* Natural Resources Wales (NRW);
* Marine Scotland;
* Department for Business, Energy and Skills (BEIS);
* Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
* Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA);
* Scottish Government;
* Welsh Government;
* The Crown Estate (TCE);
* Crown Estate Scotland (CES);

## Works Location

* 1. The consultant’s main point of contact will be the P2G Coordination Group Manager. Meetings can mainly be conducted online. Face-to-face meetings are optional however the proposal should indicate whether any allowance is made for face-to-face meetings.

# Scope of Work – Lot 2

## Offshore Wind Sector Deal Pathways to Growth

## Colocation and Coexistence between the offshore wind sector and other marine industries: Lessons learnt and good practice principles

# Project Summary

The Pathways to Growth (P2G) workstream is part of the Sector Deal and provides leadership, oversight and coordination to the offshore wind industry to identify and overcome strategic deployment issues in relation to consents and cumulative environmental impacts both in the marine and onshore areas and impacts on other users of sea space such as navigation and fishing.

One of the ten prioritised issues that the Pathways to Growth Coordination Group have identified is that:

*“Existing approaches to marine spatial planning across the UK do not currently provide clarity on how decisions are being made about the use of marine space to ensure there is adequate area available to meet 2030 and net zero offshore wind targets”.*

The full list of the P2G prioritised issues is available on the OWIC webpages here: [Pathways to Growth prioritised consenting issues](https://www.owic.org.uk/pathways-to-growth-challenges)

Recognising that offshore wind developers have been working alongside other marine industries - engaging with them and collecting data - for some years now there is perceived to be opportunities to look at what has been learnt to date and explore whether there are some approaches or principles that can be adopted. Principles are not limited to engagement and building relationships with these industries but also whether there are particular design, construction or operational management approaches that would facilitate opportunities for colocation or coexistence. The ultimate goal of this work is to clearly define whether and where there is robust evidence to support the development of cross-industry guides and/or standardising design, construction or operational management approaches to facilitate 2030 and net zero offshore wind targets.

There is already work underway or planned in this field so the initial work will be required to ensure that the scope of the work is fully aligned with ongoing or planned work. In particular, OWEC[[2]](#footnote-2) projects, Defra’s OWEAP[[3]](#footnote-3) , Defra’s Marine Spatial Prioritisation Project and the SUDG[[4]](#footnote-4). There is also likely to be work commenced to deliver the British Energy Security Strategy.

This Scope of Work sets out the requirements for a piece of consultancy work to seek relevant evidence from offshore wind developers and other marine industries, review it and recommend what it demonstrates based on what is currently known about opportunities for coexistence and colocation and what standardised approaches could be embedded – either across the offshore wind industry or by other industries covered by this work. The review will likely reveal areas that would benefit from further evidence gathering or discussions and this must be documented in the recommendations.

The objectives are to:

* To distinguish between the terms “coexistence and collocation” from a marine industries perspective taking into account definitions set out in policy documentation and identify any differences between the Devolved Administrations.
* To gather existing evidence and set out current understanding about whether and where coexistence and/or colocation can be facilitated through the adoption of good practice guidance (already available, being prepared or an identified gap).
* To gather existing evidence and set out whether there is potential to facilitate coexistence and/or colocation between marine industries through standardized design, construction or operational management approaches.
* To recommend next steps to realise opportunities for coexistence and/or colocation through implementing design, construction or operational management standards.
* To identify where further data should be collected to strengthen the evidence base and how that data could be collected to inform decision making.

The deliverables are:

* An outline report confirming the scope of the full review in both a report format and presentation slides to deliver to the P2G Coordination Group (Work Package 1).
* A final review report, agreed with the P2G Coordination Group, setting out:
  + Conclusions of the review of available data and evidence detailing lessons learnt to date about opportunities for coexistence and colocation for offshore wind and other marine industries
  + Recommendations for potential design, construction or operational management approaches that should be explored for standardization across either the offshore wind industry or other industries
  + Recommendations about how to take forward discussions about design, construction or operational management approaches.
  + Recommendations for good practice guidance, identifying how they would support better colocation or coexistence.
  + Recommendations about data and evidence needs that have been identified during the project.

## Background

* 1. The Offshore Wind Sector Deal is a partnership between the Offshore Wind Sector and the UK Government. It is an ambitious, long-term strategy, in which offshore wind will become the backbone of the UK’s power system.
  2. The Pathways to Growth (P2G) workstream is part of the Sector Deal and provides leadership, oversight and coordination to the offshore wind industry to identify and overcome strategic deployment issues in relation to consents and cumulative environmental impacts both in the marine and onshore areas and impacts on other users of sea space such as navigation and fishing.
  3. The P2G Coordination Group have identified 10 prioritised issues. One of these is, “*Existing approaches to marine spatial planning across the UK do not currently provide clarity on how decisions are being made about the use of marine space to ensure there is adequate area available to meet 2030 and net zero offshore wind targets”.*
  4. In February 2022, the P2G Coordination Group met to discuss each of these 10 issues to define activities needed to be in place to resolve them. At that meeting, developer representatives were keen to draw attention to the years of experience and lessons learnt engaging with other marine industries and the opportunities to collaboratively identify opportunities for colocation and coexistence. This evidence gathering exercise should help to identify opportunities where marine industries can work together to facilitate coexistence and where opportunities for colocation exist. This was identified as a delivery gap at the February workshop i.e. there is no current work bringing together existing data and experience to support a discussion about whether and what standard approaches could be adopted to facilitate more effective use of the marine space.
  5. Further information about the P2G workstream, including the 10 prioritised issues, are available here: [OWIC | Pathways to Growth](https://www.owic.org.uk/pathways-to-growth-who-involved)

## Requirement

* 1. Offshore wind deployment is set to expand rapidly over the coming years. Round 4 will deliver at least 7 GW of offshore wind projects, the ScotWind leasing round announced 25 GW in early 2022 and the Celtic Sea Floating Wind Programme plans to deliver 4 GW of floating wind capacity. Alongside this, the British Energy Security Strategy has increased the ambition of the 2030 target to 50 GW. This all means a rapid expansion in the deployment of offshore wind whilst ensuring other marine industries can continue to operate.
  2. The reason for taking forward the work described in this Scope of Work is in recognition that there may be good practice solutions or opportunities to adopt around engagement between the offshore wind and other industries and there might be design, construction or operational standards that could be adopted now to more effectively utilize marine space. Whilst this work is primarily focused on offshore wind there may be actions that could also be taken by other industries to ensure mutually beneficial outcomes for all. Where there are gaps in understanding, this work will identify further data collection and trials that could be implemented by other initiatives or funding programmes.
  3. This work must not duplicate existing or planned work so it includes an initial stage to define how planned activities will add value to existing work and utilise existing forums. If any new forum is to be set up under this contract, or if aspects of coexistence or colocation are to be covered under this contract even though they are being addressed in other initiatives, there must be very clear reasons setting out why and what the new forum or this work will deliver that existing work will not.
  4. The marine industries to consider in the initial stage – taking into account both fixed and floating offshore wind farms – are:
     + Ports;
     + Marine aggregates;
     + Fisheries, including aquaculture;
     + Shipping;
     + Search and Rescue;
     + Military (practice areas only; radar is covered by the Sector Deal Aviation Work Stream;
     + Carbon Capture and Storage; and
     + Oil and gas (infrastructure and Helicopter Main Routes).

2.5 Note that some are included here for the purposes of considering to ensure any aspects not being covered by existing initiatives are not lost.

## Objectives

3.1 The objectives of this work are to:

* To distinguish between the terms “coexistence and collocation” from a marine industries perspective taking into account definitions set out in policy documentation and identify any differences between the Devolved Administrations.
* To gather existing evidence and set out current understanding about whether and where coexistence and/or colocation can be facilitated through the adoption of good practice guidance (already available, being prepared or an identified gap).
* To gather existing evidence and set out whether there is potential to facilitate coexistence and/or colocation between marine industries through standardized design, construction or operational management approaches.
* To recommend next steps to realise opportunities for coexistence and/or colocation through implementing design, construction or operational management standards.
* To identify where further data should be collected to strengthen the evidence base and how that data could be collected to inform decision making.

## Deliverables

4.1 A review report, agreed with the P2G Coordination Group, setting out:

* An outline report confirming the scope of the full review in both a report format and presentation slides to deliver to the P2G Coordination Group (Work Package 1).
* A final review report, agreed with the P2G Coordination Group, setting out:
  + Conclusions of the review of available data and evidence detailing lessons learnt to date about opportunities for coexistence and colocation for offshore wind and other marine industries
  + Recommendations for potential design, construction or operational management approaches that should be explored for standardization across either the offshore wind industry or other industries
  + Recommendations about how to take forward discussions about design, construction or operational management approaches.
  + Recommendations for good practice guidance, identifying how they would support better colocation or coexistence.
  + Recommendations about data and evidence needs that have been identified during the project.

## Scope

5.1 The scope for the work is outlined in Work Packages 1-4 below. These are high level descriptions of the expectations. Proposals must build on these to clearly illustrate what and how the work will be delivered. Merit will be given for proposals that expand on the work outlined using expert judgement to recommend novel approaches or additional information that could be collected. Equally, proposals must recommend opportunities to streamline the work so that meetings are minimized and the programme can be expedited by running multiple activities simultaneously.

**Work Package 1: Defining added value**

There are multiple projects and initiatives that have been set up to either collect evidence or demonstrate existing evidence for coexistence and colocation between industries. However, it is key that industries are not descoped for further work unless all aspects are sufficiently covered by existing work. Delivery of this Scope of Work must add value and not duplicate existing work so **this initial work package must be delivered and approved first before progressing on to Work Packages 2, 3 and 4.**

Work Package 1 is intended to confirm the scope of the remaining work and will include, but is not limited to:

* Setting out clear definitions for and differences between, “coexistence and collocation” in the UK and Devolved Administrations by drawing on definitions already set out in policy documents.
* Clarifying if there are already clear positions on priority of specific industries set out in policy.
* Defining relevant discussion forums or initiatives e.g. SUDG, Defra’s OWEAP and OWEC and confirming how this scope will add value and not duplicate those initiatives.
* Recommending which marine industries should be scoped in and scoped out of further work with justification.
* A stakeholder engagement plan for delivery that - where possible - utilises existing forums.
* Presenting and agreeing this confirmed scope with the P2G Workstream Lead, P2G Coordination Group Manager and the P2G Coordination Group.

Proposals must set out an approach to delivering this work package ensuring that at least the above bullet points are addressed.

**Work Package 2: Data analysis**

This package of work is to gather the relevant data for those marine industries agreed as scoped into the work and analyse it to illustrate what lessons have been learnt to date – both good practice and practices that have worked less well or that should be avoided. The review should highlight whether these practices relate to coexistence or colocation and if there are potential design, construction or operational management practices associated, these should be highlighted for later discussion about opportunities for standardisation.

This will be a desk-based study and the proposal must identify how these outputs will be presented – both to document findings in full and the presentation material that can be used for engaging with stakeholders in Work Package 3.

**Work Package 3: Testing the findings**

This work package is to ensure stakeholders have challenged the outcomes of the analysis. It is expected to include:

* Discussions with developers (consenting and engineering representatives) to explore opportunities and challenges around adopting approaches – both during the consent application and preconstruction engagement and for specific design, construction or operational standards.
* Discussions with Government, relevant government Arms Length Bodies, trade bodies, and NGOs to understand which outcomes will deliver policy goals and whether views on whether certain outcomes will be more beneficial than others.
* Discussions with all groups about adopting approaches – both during the consent application and preconstruction engagement and for specific design, construction or operational standards.
* Discussions with all groups about further data or trials that could be set up to provide more robust evidence where identified as needed.

It is likely that it is more effective to have most of these discussions collaboratively rather than in separate groups as this will foster common understanding and may highlight issues that could be missed in closed groups e.g. offshore wind industry only.

There could be incidences however, where it would be helpful to have closed discussions, and this should be identified in the proposal if already considered needed. For example, there may be commercially sensitive reasons why certain design, construction or operational standards might not be feasible to openly discuss as an industry-wide standard and a closed session is needed before opening this up to wider stakeholders.

The proposal must identify a staged stakeholder ‘strategy’ for sharing, debating and agreeing the outcomes of the analysis. This must utilise existing forums and must set out a brief statement of why specific forums are being used. If a new forum is identified in the strategy this must be identified with a similar statement of why it is needed. This initial strategy, set out in the proposal, will be explored as part of Work Package 1.

**Work Package 4: Final reporting**

A draft final report should be prepared for sharing with the P2G Coordination Group. As set out in the Deliverables section, this report must include the conclusions of the review, recommendations about good practice guidance needed, design, construction and operational approaches that have been discussed and recommended next steps for implementing these and any proposed further evidence gathering/trials.

The information presented in this draft final report should be discussed at a workshop involving all P2G Coordination Group members, NGOs and others (to be agreed). The main aim of the workshop is to challenge the findings and proposed recommendations and ensure that the recommendations are broadly agreed or conflicts are clarified.

Following the workshop the final report must be prepared and submitted to the P2G Coordination Group Manager. There may be a need to discuss specific aspects with the P2G Coordination Group however this will be achieved through existing P2G Coordination Group meetings and confirmed after the workshop.

## Timing

* 1. The target date for delivery of the final report is September 2023 however an alternative delivery target date will be acceptable provided that the proposal sets out the proposed delivery timeline clearly.

.

* 1. The date for a kick-off meeting will be arranged within 5 days of the contract being signed; the proposal must set out a proposed agenda for the kick-off meeting together with information expectations of P2G.

1. Project and Team Management
   1. The proposal must include a clear description of the project team and the corresponding roles and responsibilities. This information must be supported by a organogram that clearly illustrates how the team will work together – including reporting lines.
   2. It is crucial that P2G are satisfied that the outputs will be delivered to a high standard so quality assurance including the proposed process and roles involved in quality assuring the outputs for the work must be clearly identified in the organogram and in the plan.
   3. An outline project plan must be provided with the proposal in a Gantt chart format that identifies the main activities and indicates who is responsible from the project team for delivering them. Activities must include expected inputs from the P2G Coordination Group Manager and the P2G Coordination Group.
   4. CVs must be submitted for those proposed to be part of the project team.

1. Cost

8.1 The proposal should provide both an overall cost and a breakdown of task or work package costs.  A rate card for the team roles should also be provided identifying the individuals involved in delivering the tasks and their corresponding hourly rate.

## Communication

* 1. Day-to-day project management communication will be via the P2G Coordination Group Manager however there will be some engagement with the Coordination Group representatives during delivery of Work Packages 1, 3 and 4. The P2G Coordination Group consists of representatives from the following organisations:
* UK Developer representatives
* Natural England;
* Marine Management Organisation (MMO);
* The Planning Inspectorate (PINS);
* Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC);
* NatureScot;
* Natural Resources Wales (NRW);
* Marine Scotland;
* Department for Business, Energy and Skills (BEIS);
* Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
* Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA);
* Scottish Government;
* Welsh Government;
* The Crown Estate (TCE);
* Crown Estate Scotland (CES);

## Works Location

* 1. The consultant’s main point of contact will be the P2G Coordination Group Manager. Meetings can mainly be conducted online. Face-to-face meetings are optional however the proposal should indicate whether any allowance is made for face-to-face meetings.

# Scope of Work – Lot 3

## Offshore Wind Pathways to Growth

## Evidence and data into decision making: Identifying good practice in adopting new evidence and exploring opportunities to pool data more widely to support understanding of key environmental issues.

# Project Summary

The Pathways to Growth (P2G) workstream is part of the Sector Deal and will provide leadership, oversight and coordination to the offshore wind industry to identify and overcome strategic deployment issues in relation to consents and cumulative environmental impacts both in the marine and onshore areas and impacts on other users of sea space such as navigation and fishing.

Two of the ten prioritised issues that the Pathways to Growth Coordination Group have identified are :

*“There isn’t a defined process or transparent way of communicating when and how evidence and research outcomes inform Government, SNCB and regulatory body positions on the impacts of offshore wind farms”.*

and

*“The different approaches to collecting monitoring data at project sites across the UK is preventing development of a more coordinated, robust evidence base to support the understanding and potential resolution of uncertainty in offshore wind development”.*

The full list of the P2G prioritised issues are available on the OWIC webpages here: [Pathways to Growth prioritised consenting issues](https://www.owic.org.uk/pathways-to-growth-challenges)

This Scope of Work sets out the requirements for a piece of consultancy work which is split into two parts. Part 1 aims to carry out some initial work that could ultimately inform a detailed analysis study to look at data gathered across the UK to determine whether, by pooling data, we can conclude that there is sufficient understanding to close impact issues or to focus evidence and data work to more rapidly close the evidence gap. Part 2 aims to research and identify good practice in adopting evidence into consenting decision making.

|  |
| --- |
| **Objectives**  Part 1:   * Identify, agree and test with key stakeholders the 10 most critical impact evidence gaps causing the biggest delays in consenting processes by drawing on the Offshore Wind Evidence and Change Register (OWEER). * Review and identify suitable data and evidence available across the UK (and if widely available also from Europe) that are relevant to each identified impact evidence gap and document these. * Identify relevant data or evidence initiatives that any further analysis of the identified data will add value to and how that can be built into the full analysis work. * Present and agree which issues are the most likely to deliver resolution or closest to resolution with the P2G Coordination Group. * Define recommendations for a further analysis stage whereby the data and initiatives identified by this work can be reviewed and conclusions about current understanding/position can be presented to the P2G Coordination Group.   Part 2:   * To identify other sectors and countries that present good case studies for exploring how evidence has been adopted into the consenting decision making process. * To research the agreed sectors and countries as case studies to provide some key good practice principles that could be incorporated into UK offshore wind consenting decision making processes. |

|  |
| --- |
| **Deliverables**  Part 1:   * A list (spreadsheet or alternative format) of the 10 most critical impact evidence gaps (those causing the biggest delays in the offshore wind consenting processes), mapped against key data and evidence sources from across the UK (and potentially Europe), and how further analysis will support and add value, including any expected limitations for data analysis. * Design and delivery of a workshop with the P2G Coordination Group to inform, refine and finalise the list of critical impact evidence gaps and associated data sources. * A proposed approach and list of recommendations for further review and analysis of the data to inform the full analysis work that will look to address key impact issues. This should include limitations anticipated for the analysis including regional variations that might limit conclusions. * A written report of the P2G Coordination Group workshop documenting the discussion, agreements and follow up actions required. This report should include all ten original impact issues and clearly document which were deprioritised and why. * A final report that presents the proposed shortlisted impact evidence gaps, the data sources and evidence initiatives and approach to be taken to ensure any full review adds value to existing work. This report will also include a description of how the follow up actions have been taken forward and incorporated.   Part 2:   * A meeting with the P2G Coordination Group to propose and agree the sectors and countries to be used as case study material with the rationale for why they are appropriate for comparison with offshore wind. * A desk-based study report that describes the case studies and presents recommendations about successful principles that could be implemented by UK offshore wind consenting organisations and identifies less successful approaches to be avoided. |

## Background

* 1. The Offshore Wind Sector Deal is a partnership between the Offshore Wind Sector and the UK Government. It is an ambitious, long-term strategy, in which offshore wind will become the backbone of the UK’s power system.
  2. The Pathways to Growth (P2G) workstream is part of the Sector Deal and will provide leadership, oversight and coordination to the offshore wind industry to identify and overcome strategic deployment issues in relation to consents and cumulative environmental impacts both in the marine and onshore areas and impacts on other users of sea space such as navigation and fishing.
  3. The group have identified 10 prioritised issues. In February 2022, the P2G Coordination Group met to discuss each of these 10 issues to define activities needed to be in place to resolve them. At that meeting, there was discussion about the need to increase transparency around how evidence is adopted into consenting decisions and to look for opportunities to pool data and evidence.
  4. The P2G Coordination Group would like to understand whether there are good practice elements that should be incorporated into applying evidence into consenting decision making and to explore whether there are opportunities to pool data now – not just from across the UK but also potentially from other countries - to clarify common understanding of key impact areas to inform decision making and potentially better target future evidence projects. The ultimate driver is to look at whether positions on understanding key impacts can be reached more rapidly by taking a more collaborative approach to data collection and analysis across the UK (and potentially more widely across Europe).

## Requirement

* 1. Professional consulting services are required to engage with the P2G Workstream Lead, Coordination Group Manager and members of the P2G Coordination Group to deliver 2 studies.
* **Part 1 (which must be delivered first)** is to research and provide recommendations to inform the development of a full-scale study to collate multiple data sources, carry out the analysis, make recommendations about what can be concluded from the data and what additional data collection should be undertaken to completely close the issue and remove the evidence gap. The reason for this initial piece of work is to ensure that existing data and evidence initiatives are considered, an agreed set of impact evidence gaps are prioritized, that the data list proposed is agreed and that any limitations that can be highlighted early are fully understood.
* **Part 2** is to deliver a desk-based study presenting case study material to illustrate good practice in adopting evidence into the consenting decisions. This can draw on other sectors and/or countries. The reason for this piece of work is to understand whether there are key principles that can be adopted into UK consenting decision processes and/or whether there are any approaches that should be avoided.
  1. The minimum scope for Part 1 is described in work packages 1(a)-(d) below; Part 2 in Work Packages 2(a)-(c). These are outline descriptions of the work packages and intended as a guide to inform proposal drafting. Merit will be given to proposals that build on the scope, particularly where they offer more innovative approaches to delivering the final outputs. Suggested information sources that are to be used to support the proposed methodology should be identified in the proposal e.g. the OWEC Net Gain project, “Strategic Net Gain targets for Coastal and Marine Environments” (final report is available on TCE’s Marine Data Exchange).

**Part 1**

**Work Package 1(a): Ten most critical impact evidence data gaps and associated evidence needs**

The Offshore Wind Environmental Evidence Register (OWEER) was published in 2021. Since its publication a version 2 of the register has been issued and a third version will be issued in June 2022. Impact evidence gaps are now presented for benthic ecology, ornithology, marine mammals and epifauna and fish. The evidence needs have already been prioritised in the OWEER so this work package should cover the use of the OWEER to identify a list of top ten evidence gaps.

The identified evidence gaps selected should be tested with P2G Coordination Group members and the Offshore Wind Industry Council (OWIC) Developer Group to ensure they represent the evidence gaps that, once closed, will have the greatest impact in terms of reducing uncertainty in offshore wind consenting decision making. The list will then be shared for information with other groups such as the Offshore Renewable Joint Industry Programme (ORJIP) for awareness and to raise any concerns. This latter sharing will be coordinated with the P2G Coordination Group Manager.

For each evidence gap, the range of relevant data sources from across the UK (and Europe if considered valid) should be identified i.e., those that the consultant considers are relevant to review together and draw conclusions about current understanding. Data should be drawn from offshore wind pre, during or post construction monitoring data but if there is data available from other industries that the consultant considers relevant or academia, and it can be considered collectively with the other identified datasets, this should also be identified. Data sources must be marked as offshore wind or other (with the other defined). Where there isn’t any available data or data is available is limited, recommendations should be made about future opportunities to close the gap – either via data initiatives that are already planned or recommend how the data could be collected.

**Work Package 1(b): Adding value to existing evidence initiatives**

There are many evidence and data initiatives in place across the UK and Europe. The intention of this work package is to ensure that the relevant initiatives are identified and the added value any further data analysis will bring is clarified. Examples include through OSPAR, The Crown Estate’s Marine Data Exchange, the Offshore Wind Evidence and Change Programme (OWEC) Knowledge and Evidence Hub and other OWEC projects underway e.g. PrePARED.

Evidence initiatives should be linked to each of the 10 impact evidence gaps they are relevant to and a short description should be included to describe how further data analysis will add value to those related initiatives. At this stage it may also be possible to make recommendations about limitations in the analysis of the data. It is recognised that only a full analysis of the data will yield any further understanding of the limitations but it would be helpful to highlight risks so that decisions can be considered on the basis of whether certain evidence gaps are more worth pursuing more than others.

**Work Package 1(c): Design, coordination and facilitation of a P2G Coordination Group member workshop**

Once a draft record detailing the outputs of Work Packages 1 and 2 have been pulled together, they will be discussed and agreed with the P2G Coordination Group. The consultant will be expected to present the outputs of Work packages 1 and 2 to the P2G Coordination Group and set up, coordinate, facilitate and document the outcomes of the workshop. It is expected that this workshop will be where agreement is achieved on the evidence gaps to pursue, the data to use, the relevant initiatives to be taken into account and the approach to be taken to align with these other initiatives.

**Work Package 1(d)**

Final deliverable. This will be a full set of recommendations of the impact issues to focus on, the data sources agreed and the approach to be taken for working with the relevant initiatives identified.

Work to close additional actions identified in Work Package 3 should be described – setting out what was done and how the result has fed into the revised version. The final deliverable should clearly indicate potential limitations for the analysis but should also identify opportunities to resolve these limitations through further data collection.

**Part 2**

**Work Package 2(a)**

This stage of the work is to agree with the P2G Coordination Group which sectors or countries should be explored as case studies and how the material is to be presented in the final report. It must be completed first before progressing to Work Packages 2(b) and (c).

A list of at least 10 case study options must be presented to the P2G Coordination Group with the rationale for exploring each in more detail, in particular identifying how they apply to aspects of the offshore wind consent decision making process in the UK. The approach for presenting the case study material must be discussed with the P2G Coordination Group including which aspects to drawn on more and how to present approaches that have worked well or less well. Proposals must set out broadly how this information will be shared with the P2G Coordination Group to inform discussion.

The P2G Coordination Group will agree a maximum of 6 case studies to explore in detail which may be a mix of sector and country-based examples.

**Work Package 2(b)**

Desk-study. This stage of the work is to research the agreed sectors and countries and prepare a report that describes the case studies, setting out how decisions are made, how evidence is used to support those decisions by all those involved, how new evidence is agreed and taken into account in decisions, how positions are shared across teams and organisations, how positions inform further evidence work and how understanding or positions are shared more widely.

**Work Package 2(c) Delivery of the final report**

A draft final report, implementing agreements from Work Package 2(a) and outputs from Work Package 2(b), must be delivered to the P2G Coordination Group Manager together with material to present to the P2G Coordination Group for discussion and agreement prior to preparing the final version. The key outcomes will be discussed at a P2G Coordination Group meeting and the consultant team will be expected to attend to present the report findings and discuss comments made by the Group.

The final report is to be completed and submitted once P2G Coordination Group comments have been accommodated in the report.

## Timing

The target delivery for Part 1 outputs is April 2023. Part 1 is a priority piece of work so this should be delivered ahead of Part 2 however if the target delivery date is considered to be unrealistic, the proposal should include an alternative timeline..

* 1. The target date for delivery for Part 2 outputs is September 2023 however an alternative delivery target date will be acceptable provided that the proposal sets out the proposed delivery timeline clearly.
  2. A kick-off meeting will be arranged within 5 working days of the contract start date.

## Project and Team Management

## The proposal must include a clear description of the project team and the corresponding roles and responsibilities. This information must be supported by a organogram that clearly illustrates how the team will work together – including reporting lines.

## It is crucial that P2G are satisfied that the outputs will be delivered to a high standard so quality assurance including the proposed process and roles involved in quality assuring the outputs for the work are clearly identified in the organogram and in the plan.

## An outline project plan must be provided with the proposal in a Gantt chart format that identifies the main activities and indicates who is responsible from the project team for delivering them. Activities must include expected inputs from the P2G Coordination Group Manager and the P2G Coordination Group.

## CVs must be submitted for those proposed to be part of the project team.

## 

## Cost

5.1 The proposal should provide both an overall cost and a breakdown of task or work package costs. A rate card for the team roles should also be provided identifying the individuals involved in delivering the tasks and their corresponding hourly rate.

5.2 Section 7 identifies that the proposal should identify a location for a potential hybrid event so indicative costs should be provided and include venue hire (if applicable) and any communication equipment needed to run the workshop as a hybrid (online and in-person) event. These costs should be presented as optional costs and will be discussed at the kick-off meeting.

## Communication

* 1. Day-to-day project management communication will be via the P2G Coordination Group Manager however there will be some engagement with the Coordination Group albeit that this is only anticipated to be to review workshop material, attendance at the workshop and to agree outputs/outcomes from the workshop. The P2G Coordination Group consists of representatives from the following organisations:
* UK Developer representatives
* Natural England;
* Marine Management Organisation (MMO);
* The Planning Inspectorate (PINS);
* Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC);
* NatureScot;
* Natural Resources Wales (NRW);
* Marine Scotland;
* Department for Business, Energy and Skills (BEIS);
* Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
* Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA);
* Scottish Government;
* Welsh Government;
* The Crown Estate (TCE);
* Crown Estate Scotland (CES);
  1. Further details about how communication and engagement should be managed and any limitations around timing will be clarified at the project kick-off meeting however, the proposal should identify whether there are other points where the consultant would value engagement from the P2G Coordination Group.

## Deliverables

* 1. Part 1 expected deliverables for the work are:
  + A draft spreadsheet or alternative format listing the 10 most critical impact evidence gaps, relevant data from across the UK (and potentially Europe), relevant data initiatives and how further analysis will support and add value and any expected limitations for any data analysis.
  + Design and delivery of a workshop with the P2G Coordination Group.
  + A final spreadsheet or alternative format listing the agreed final list of prioritised impact evidence needs, the relevant data (and any associated purchase costs), the relevant data and evidence initiatives and the proposed approach for adding value to the identified existing initiatives and limitations anticipated for the analysis including regional variations that might limit conclusions.
  + A written report of the P2G Coordination Group workshop documenting the discussion, agreements and follow up actions required. This report should include all ten original impact issues and clearly document which were deprioritised and why.
  + A final report that presents the proposed shortlisted impact evidence gaps, the data sources and evidence initiatives and approach to be taken to ensure any full review adds value to existing work. This report will also include a description of how the follow up actions have been taken forward and incorporated.

7.2 Part 2 expected deliverables for the work are:

* A meeting with the P2G Coordination Group to propose and agree the sectors and countries to be used as case study material with the rationale for why they are appropriate for comparison with offshore wind.
* A desk-based study report that describes the case studies and presents recommendations about successful principles that could be implemented by UK offshore wind consenting organisations and identifies less successful approaches to be avoided.

## Works Location

* 1. The consultant’s main point of contact will be the P2G Coordination Group Manager. Meetings can mainly be conducted via online meetings. Face-to-face meetings are optional.

* 1. It is expected that delivery of this work will be at the consultant’s own premises. The only part of this scope that is not expected to be delivered at the consultant’s own premises is the workshop with the P2G Coordination Group, assuming it does go ahead as a hybrid event. The consultant’s proposal should include a potential venue for the workshop (for those who are able to attend in person) and all communication requirements to ensure that the workshop can be run as a hybrid event. This hosting arrangement and associated costs will be optional.
  2. Ideally the workshop with the P2G Coordination Group will be a hybrid event however this will be dependent on any update to COVID19 guidelines from government.

# Scope of Work – Lot 4

## Offshore Wind Sector Deal Pathways to Growth “Coexistance and Colocation: Opportunities for delivering biodiversity and nature recovery goals through offshore wind development.”

# Project Summary

The Pathways to Growth (P2G) workstream is part of the Sector Deal and provides leadership, oversight and coordination to the offshore wind industry to identify and overcome strategic deployment issues in relation to consents and cumulative environmental impacts both in the marine and onshore areas and impacts on other users of sea space such as navigation and fishing.

One of the ten prioritised issues that the Pathways to Growth Coordination Group have identified is that:

“*Biodiversity policy targets may limit the amount of marine space available for offshore wind deployment required to meet 2030 and net zero targets”.*

The full list of the P2G prioritised issues is available on the OWIC webpages here: [Pathways to Growth prioritised consenting issues](https://www.owic.org.uk/pathways-to-growth-challenges)

Recognising that offshore wind developers have been collecting monitoring data for some years now and have also sought to identify examples of where nature positive outcomes can be delivered by offshore wind development, P2G is setting up a contract to clarify what the evidence shows to date. The goal of this work is to clearly define whether and what evidence is available now to support views that there are nature positive goals that can be met by offshore wind deployment. Drawing on this evidence, this work will also identify corresponding design, construction or operational management standards can potentially be adopted industry-wide now.

There is already work underway or planned in this field so the work will require some engagement with other groups and initiatives to ensure that there is no duplication or conflicts. This engagement work will form an initial stage which must be completed first and the outcomes agreed with the P2G Coordination Group to ensure this work adds value. Activities include, but are not limited to, the ECOWind programme, SMEEF[[5]](#footnote-5), the Blue Marine Foundation and also work that is anticipated to support delivery of the Energy Security Strategy and work arising from the Government’s Nature Recovery Green Paper.

This Scope of Work sets out the requirements for a piece of consultancy work to seek relevant evidence from developers and analyse it to recommend what it demonstrates about nature positive gains that can be delivered and what the corresponding design, construction or operational management standards are that could potentially be adopted across the industry. The expectation is that the analysis will identify areas that could benefit from further evidence gathering and/or trials.

The objectives are to:

* Provide a clear distinction between the terms “nature positive”, “nature inclusive”, “nature recovery”, “coexistence and collocation” (in biodiversity terms) and “net gain” and to set out the UK’s policy goals.
* Gather and analyse existing data available from developers and other sources to set out current understanding about whether and where positive biodiversity outcomes align with offshore wind development.
* Explore and agree the corresponding design, construction or operational management approaches that are the root cause of the defined nature positive outcomes and coordinate industry agreement, through engagement with developers, on what approaches could be adopted as common standards.
* Identify where further data should be collected or trials set up to strengthen the evidence base.
* Convene and facilitate a workshop with P2G Coordination Group members and environmental NGOs to discuss recommendations, the potential standards and feasibility of implementing them and the scope of further data collection and/or trials to support a more robust evidence base where needed.

The deliverables are:

A review report, agreed with the P2G Coordination Group, setting out

* The conclusions of the review of available data clearly articulating what the evidence has already shown in terms of nature positive outcomes and alignment with biodiversity related policy.
* Recommended opportunities to adopt design, construction and operational management standards across industry and any associated risks.
* The agreed outputs of a workshop to challenge the review findings, the proposed design, construction and operational management approaches and opportunities for further work/trials.
* Recommended next steps for implementing common standards identified across industry.

## Background

* 1. The Offshore Wind Sector Deal is a partnership between the Offshore Wind Sector and the UK Government. It is an ambitious, long-term strategy, in which offshore wind will become the backbone of the UK’s power system.
  2. The Pathways to Growth (P2G) workstream is part of the Sector Deal and provides leadership, oversight and coordination to the offshore wind industry to identify and overcome strategic deployment issues in relation to consents and cumulative environmental impacts both in the marine and onshore areas and impacts on other users of sea space such as navigation and fishing.
  3. The P2G Coordination Group have identified 10 prioritised issues. One of these is, “*Biodiversity policy targets may limit the amount of marine space available for offshore wind deployment required to meet 2030 and net zero targets”.*
  4. In February 2022, the P2G Coordination Group met to discuss each of these 10 issues to define activities needed to be in place to resolve them. At that meeting, developer representatives were keen to draw attention to the wealth of data that has been collected by the offshore wind sector and the opportunity to pool it to demonstrate positive environmental outcomes associated with offshore wind projects. This evidence should help to identify opportunities where biodiversity policy and offshore wind development align, to ensure that one goal is not met at the cost of the other. This was identified as a delivery gap at the February workshop i.e. there is no current work bringing together existing data to support a discussion about whether and what standard design, construction and operational management approaches could be adopted to realise environmental benefits that meet both offshore wind and biodiversity goals.
  5. Further information about the P2G workstream, including the 10 prioritised issues, are available here: [OWIC | Pathways to Growth](https://www.owic.org.uk/pathways-to-growth-who-involved)

## Requirement

* 1. Offshore wind deployment is set to expand rapidly over the coming years. Round 4 will deliver at least 7 GW of offshore wind projects, the ScotWind leasing round announced 25 GW in early 2022 and the Celtic Sea Floating Wind Programme plans to deliver 4 GW of floating wind capacity. Alongside this, the British Energy Security Strategy has increased the ambition of the 2030 target to 50 GW. This all means a rapid expansion in the deployment of offshore wind at the same time that policy is driving at ensuring greater protections for nature to stop the decline in species abundance and leave the environment in a better state.
  2. The reason for taking forward the work described in this Scope of Work is in recognition that nature positive solutions may go hand in hand with offshore wind deployment and potentially, by adopting standardised approaches to design, construction and operational management, greater benefits could be realized. Demonstrating that biodiversity policy goals can be delivered in harmony with offshore wind deployment could help to ensure that one outcome is not implemented at a cost to the other. Where there are gaps in understanding, this work will identify further data collection and trials could be implemented by other initiatives or funding programmes.
  3. This work must not duplicate existing or planned work so it includes an initial stage to define how planned activities will add value to existing work and utilise existing forums. If any new forum is to be set up under this contract, there must be very clear reasons setting out why and what the new forum will deliver that existing forums do not.

# Objectives

2.1 The objectives of this work are to:

* Provide a clear distinction between the terms “nature positive”, “nature inclusive”, “nature recovery”, “coexistence and collocation” (in biodiversity terms) and “net gain” and to set out the UK’s policy goals.
* Gather and analyse existing monitoring data available from developers and other sources to set out current understanding about whether and where positive biodiversity outcomes align with offshore wind development.
* Explore and agree the corresponding design or construction approaches that are the root cause of the defined nature positive outcomes and coordinate industry agreement on what approaches could be adopted across the industry.
* Identify where further data should be collected or trials set up to strengthen the evidence base with recommendations on how the data could be collected to inform decision making.
* Convene and facilitate a workshop with P2G Coordination Group members and environmental NGOs to discuss approaches agreed by industry and acceptability of adopting them and regarding the trials

## Deliverables

3.1 An initial summary report and presentation describing how this work will align with and add value to other relevant initiatives, the existing forums it will work with and need for any new groups of forums (with justification) to be set up.

3.2 A final review report, agreed with the associated forum and the P2G Coordination Group, setting out

* The conclusions of the review of available data clearly articulating what the evidence has already shown in terms of nature positive outcomes.
* Recommended opportunities to adopt design and construction standards across industry and any associated risks.
* The agreed outputs of a workshop to challenge the review findings, the proposed design and construction approached and opportunities for further work/trials.
* Recommended next steps for implementing common standards identified across industry.

# Scope

4.1 The scope for the work is outlined in Work Packages 1-4 below. These are high level descriptions of the expectations. Proposals must build on these to clearly illustrate what and how the work will be delivered. Merit will be given for proposals that expand on the work outlined using expert judgement to recommend novel approaches or additional information that could be collected. Equally, proposals must recommend opportunities to streamline the work so that meetings are minimized and the programme can be expedited by running multiple activities simultaneously.

**Work Package 1: Defining added value**

There are multiple projects and initiatives that have been set up to either collect evidence or demonstrate existing evidence for nature positive solutions. Delivery of this Scope of Work must add value and not duplicate existing work so **this initial work package must be delivered and approved first before progressing on to Work Packages 2, 3 and 4**.

Work Package 1 is intended to confirm the scope of the remaining work and will include, but is not limited to:

* Setting out the definitions for and differences between, “nature positive”, “nature inclusive”, “nature recovery”, “coexistence and collocation” (in biodiversity terms) and “net gain”.
* Clarifying the current UK biodiversity policy goals.
* Defining relevant biodiversity initiatives e.g. SMEEF, Blue Marine Foundation, ECOWind and confirming how this scope will add value and not duplicate those initiatives.
* A stakeholder engagement plan for delivery that where possible utilises existing forums.
* Presenting and agreeing this confirmed scope with the P2G Workstream Lead, P2G Coordination Group Manager and the P2G Coordination Group.

**Work Package 2: Data analysis**

This package of work is to gather the relevant data and analyse it to illustrate what nature positive outcomes have been demonstrated and what corresponding design, construction or operational approaches have facilitated these outcomes. The data sources must be documented to identify what data is being used and how it has been sourced. It must also recommend a prioritised list of potential design, construction or operational management standards based on the consultant’s expert view on those that will deliver the greatest biodiversity benefits.

This will be a desk-based study and the proposal must identify how these outputs will be presented – both to document findings in a full report and the presentation material that can be used for engaging with stakeholders in Work Package 3.

**Work Package 3: Testing the findings**

This work package is to ensure that stakeholders have challenged the outcomes of the analysis. It is expected to include:

* Discussions with developers (consenting and engineering representatives) to explore opportunities and challenges around adopting specific design, construction or operational standards.
* Discussions with Government, SNCBs, regulatory bodies and environmental NGOs to understand which outcomes will deliver policy goals and whether views on whether certain outcomes will be more beneficial than others.
* Discussions with all groups about further data or trials that could be set up to provide more robust evidence where identified as needed.

It is likely that it is more effective to have most of these discussions collaboratively rather than in separate groups as this will foster common understanding and may highlight issues that could be missed in closed groups e.g. industry only or SNCBs only. Although a stakeholder engagement plan will have been agreed in Work Package 1, it may need to be reviewed prior to discussions commencing about the outputs of Work Package 2. For example, the outputs of the review may indicate that having closed discussions are necessary because there are commercially sensitive issues to discuss regarding specific design, construction or operational standards.

The proposal must identify an outline stakeholder plan for sharing, debating and agreeing the outcomes of the analysis based on existing knowledge of relevant work currently underway. This proposed strategy must utilise existing forums and must set out a brief statement of why they are being used. If a new forum is identified in the strategy a similar statement of why it is needed must be included.

**Work Package 4: Final reporting**

A draft final report should be prepared for sharing with stakeholders. As set out in the Deliverables section, this report must include the conclusions of the data review, design, construction and operational approaches that have been discussed, the agreed standards identifying which policies they support and how and any proposed further evidence gathering/trials.

The information presented in this draft final report should be discussed at a workshop involving all P2G Coordination Group members, environmental NGOs and others (to be agreed). The main aim of the workshop is to challenge the findings of the work and ensure that the recommendations are broadly agreed.

Following the workshop the final report must be prepared and submitted to the P2G Coordination Group Manager. There may be a need to discuss specific aspects with the P2G Coordination Group however this will be achieved through existing P2G Coordination Group meetings so an allowance must be included for attending one P2G Coordination Group meeting after the workshop and before the finalised report is submitted.

## Timing

* 1. The target date for delivery of the final report is September 2023 however an alternative delivery target date will be acceptable provided that the proposal sets out the proposed delivery timeline clearly.
  2. The date for a kick-off meeting will be arranged within 5 days of the contract being signed; the proposal must set out a proposed agenda for the kick-off meeting together with information expectations of P2G.

1. Project and Team Management
   1. The proposal must include a clear description of the project team and the corresponding roles and responsibilities. This information must be supported by an organogram that clearly illustrates how the team will work together – including reporting lines.
   2. It is crucial that P2G are satisfied that the outputs will be delivered to a high standard so quality assurance including the proposed process and roles involved in quality assuring the outputs for the work must be clearly identified in the organogram and in the plan.
   3. An outline project plan must be provided with the proposal in a Gantt chart format that identifies the main activities and indicates who is responsible from the project team for delivering them. Activities must include expected inputs from the P2G Coordination Group Manager and the P2G Coordination Group.
   4. CVs must be submitted for those proposed to be part of the project team.

1. Cost

7.1 The proposal should provide both an overall cost and a breakdown of task or work package costs.  A rate card for the team roles should also be provided identifying the individuals involved in delivering the tasks and their corresponding hourly rate.

## Communication

* 1. Day-to-day project management communication will be via the P2G Coordination Group Manager however there will be some engagement with the Coordination Group representatives during delivery of Work Packages 1, 3 and 4. The P2G Coordination Group consists of representatives from the following organisations:
* UK Developer representatives
* Natural England;
* Marine Management Organisation (MMO);
* The Planning Inspectorate (PINS);
* Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC);
* NatureScot;
* Natural Resources Wales (NRW);
* Marine Scotland;
* Department for Business, Energy and Skills (BEIS);
* Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
* Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA);
* Scottish Government;
* Welsh Government;
* The Crown Estate (TCE);
* Crown Estate Scotland (CES);

## Works Location

* 1. The consultant’s main point of contact will be the P2G Coordination Group Manager. Meetings can mainly be conducted online. Face-to-face meetings are optional however the proposal should indicate whether any allowance is made for face-to-face meetings.

1. OWEC Future Scenarios [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Offshore Wind Evidence and Change Programme [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Offshore Wind Enabling Actions Programme [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Seabed Users Developer Group [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund [↑](#footnote-ref-5)