

File Note: 57211

FIFG Conwy Quay Meeting  
Bodlondeb Conwy 13<sup>th</sup> July 2005

Attendees:

Sheila Potter	Conwy Borough County Council
Barry Bond	Ditto
Geriant Edwards	Ditto
Angela Kay	Ditto
Gerallt Williams	Ditto
Sara Hobson	Ditto
Liz Roberts	Ditto
Neil Howard	EPC
John Eddington	EPC

The meeting was convened to discuss the progress of the P5 M8 Conwy Estuary Strategic Route project and the FIFG application for Conwy Port Improvements.

It was confirmed by Conwy BCC that the capital costs element of the 5.8 project had overrun due to the increases to costs of steel and stone. The scale of the increased costs amounted to £1.2 million.

Neil said that WEFO could not offer any further funding via 5.8 and he suggested two alternatives:

- 1) The Strategic Route project to be scaled down to fit within budget (one link would have to be sacrificed to do so).
- 2) The development of Conwy Quay be taken out of the P5M8 project and be submitted separately as a port improvement project under FIFG (P5M9).

There was a discussion on Neil's suggestions and it was the opinion of the Council that the Strategic Route project needed to be completed in its entirety and therefore the Council wished to include the quay improvements under a FIFG bid.

Neil agreed with the Council but said that the Welsh Assembly Government Fisheries Policy Branch will only support the bid if the applicants submitted a revised scheme solely in relation to activities that directly supported commercial fisheries. They have commented that the project appeared to be far in excess of the commercial fishery needs and was providing facilities that would be for non-commercial usage. Furthermore Policy Branch colleagues felt that they would not be able to provide match funding for the project because of this additional activity and the scale of it in relation to the project as a whole.

Neil asked Sheila if the Council would be able to provide match funding for the FIG project and she confirmed that they could and therefore the project could proceed in its current form without Welsh Assembly Government match funding.

Neil said that he supported the concept of a separate FIG application and he thought that approval could be completed in early August.

Neil would contact Fisheries Policy and discuss the project with them. He would stress the wider benefit to the fishing industry and provide justification for the project in terms of the importance of the mussel fishery and the possible expansion of the port, which would increase the capacity for fisheries in the area.

Action Points:

Neil Howard to contact Fisheries Policy.  
CCBC to provide a request for preliminary works letter.  
CCBC confirm the completion date of the project.  
WEFO to send eligibility letter to outline final checks.  
WEFO to second score project.

John Eddington  
19<sup>th</sup> July 2005