

Consenting Strategic Advisory Group

Science and Evidence Advisory Sub-group

2 February 2020



Attendees

Chair – **Jim McKie** (Eurona), **Sharon Davies** (WG – Marine Licensing), **Rebecca Rees** (WG – Marine Planning), **James Moon & Kirsten Ramsey** (NRW), **Manon Kynaston** (Marine Energy Wales), **Tania Davy** (The Wildlife Trusts), **Jennifer Fox** (ORJIP-OE), **Sue Barr** (Cambrian Offshore)

1. The Group were presented with the SEAGP Action Plan and approved it subject to a slight amendment to the introductory text. The Action Plan sets out the key deliverables for the Group, which includes the publication of a series of Information Notes outlining the shared understanding of the state of the available science and the evidence needs regarding single and small scale deployments of wave energy and tidal stream energy devices in Wales.
2. Working in collaboration with SEAGP, the Offshore Renewable Joint Industry Programme for Ocean Energy (ORJIP-OE) has agreed to coordinate and lead on producing the Information Notes on behalf of the Group. The structure and use of the Information Notes was considered. ORJIP-OE will develop a methodology for the Information Notes for consideration by members. It was also agreed that a pilot Information Note will be developed to help understand the role of the Information Notes in supporting the consenting process in the short and longer-term.
3. The Group also had an initial discussion around data sharing, some of the available platforms, such as the Marine Environmental Data and Information Network,¹ which could be used to host project data providing open access to inform future projects and how existing evidence could be better used to support consenting in Wales. Initial consideration was given to the potential benefits of SEAGP collaborating with academia and international forums such as the Ocean Energy Systems (OES), established by the International Energy Agency, as they are also working to improve the use of the available evidence base from operational projects around the world to support the marine renewable energy sector.

Next meeting: 13 April 2021

¹ <https://www.medin.org.uk/>