



Chair: Philip Bennett

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Chairs Report: January 2024

Current contracted commitment: 8 days per month (96 days per annum)

Average working in practice 2 days per week (104 day per annum)

Preferred working days: Tuesday to Wednesday (but flexible for meetings etc)

General Activities

- Basic sea survival 13/12/2023
- Assisting with update of RIFG website
- 1-2-1 with Fishermen as required
- Follow-up on individual enquires
- Contact with local stakeholders

RIFG Network

- Meetings with fellow RIFG chairs – Monthly with additional as and when required
- Development of a Network Plan (Awaiting sign off before published)
- Constant interaction via email and WhatsApp

Marine Directorate

- Four formal meetings (In person and via Teams)
- In other forums (i.e. FMAC)
- Frequent contact by e-mail and phone

Meetings with Ministers

Gillian Martin

- 16/11/2023 – RIFG chairs & Inshore Fisheries Team of Marine Directorate
- 12/01/2023 – with Hannah Fennel OFA

FMAC: Fisheries Management and Conservation – Inshore Fisheries Sub Group

- Chairs updates submitted prior to meeting

Maine Litter

- Jessica Mather – leaving and replacement TBA (Add to agenda in future?)



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Renewables

- Meeting with Neil Kermode and Hannah Fennell
- WOW – Femke Deboer
- WOW - Working group (Still at glossy brochure stage)
- Marine licence Consultation for Oceanstar and Seastar

Consultations

Responded to

- Additional Quota – (Keep local and flexible)
- Tracking and REM - (No direct feedback from Fishermen other than one who was concerned that it was a waste of time – Main comments related to the ongoing costs, maintenance (access to replacement equipment) and access to and management of information.)

Current

- Medical Exemption – Existing Fishermen on Vessels of 10 Metres and Under
- Marine licence Consultation for Oceanstar and Seastar

Marine Planning

OIC Marine Planning

- Orkney Marine Plan (1 of 3 invited to submit a regional plan)
- Shona Retired - Danny now marine planner – advertise for a Graduate Planner

National Marine Planning (NMP2) (Tomorrow) No prev involvement

- To discuss the appraisal of the existing National Marine Plan, and some of their proposals for NMP2.

First published 1 2015 – (coming up to 9 years old)

134 pages long – 11 pages – Fisheries mentioned 118 times



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