



Severn Estuary Commission meeting: 9th July 2024

Blackfriars, Ladybellegate Steet, Blackfriars Lane, Gloucester, GL1 2HS

Commission Members:

- Andrew Garrad (Chair)
- Sue Barr
- Nigel Costley
- Peter Davies
- Madeleine Havard
- Chris Mills

Secretariat:

- William Mansfield
- Nicola Lomax

Open Session Guests:

Representatives from WSP, HJA, Crown Estate and Severn Estuary Partnership

Open Session

Item 1: Introductions and work package presentations

- Introductions from the Commission, the Secretariat, the Severn Estuary Partnership and the project teams from WSP and HJA were made. The role of the Crown Estate as an observer and source of expertise and support for the Commission was discussed.
- WSP and HJA provided a summary of their proposed approaches to the environmental and socio-economic work packages respectively.
- Both consultant teams discussed the stakeholder engagement process with the Commission and the principles that will be used.
- The Commission noted that they are committed to seeking a wide range of views from as many stakeholders as possible.

Closed Session

Item 2: Update and Next Steps

- Ways of working with the consultant teams were agreed, including the timing of meetings and which Commissioners will take the lead on topics.
- The plan for stakeholder engagement was discussed, including the roles of the Secretariat, consultant teams and Commissioners. The Commission agreed that a communications plan and a stakeholder management plan will be needed to facilitate effective engagement by the Commission.



- The Secretariat highlighted the stakeholder engagement that CFAS and MMO will be carrying out during the autumn around marine planning policy in the Severn Estuary.
- The Commission discussed the Chair's upcoming visits and engagements with key stakeholders.
- The Secretariat provided an update on the energy systems work package.
- The Chair reported on the progress of identifying a Finance Commissioner.
- The implications of potential changes in consenting, planning and environmental legislation following the election of a new government were acknowledged.

Item 3: Admin and Next Meeting

- It was agreed that the next meeting will be an online update session, and the Commission will meet in person in September.

Item 4: AOB

- The Chair's visit to a planned tidal range test facility at Aberthaw was discussed.