



Meeting note

File reference	EN010098 Hornsea Project Four and EN010080 Hornsea Project Three
Status	Final
Author	Planning Inspectorate
Date	11 August 2020
Meeting with	Ørsted, key stakeholders
Venue	Teleconference (hosted by Ørsted)
Attendees	PINS, Ørsted, Natural England, the Marine Management Organisation, Defra, The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Meeting objectives	Compensation Workshop - joint workshop to discuss Ørsted's 'Project Seabird' and derogation under the Habitats Regulations
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

The workshop was hosted by Ørsted, seeking stakeholder views on the overall approach to compensation for seabirds under the derogations of the Habitats Regulations. Compensation is proposed as: provision of artificial nest sites, or; as measures to increase prey availability; or a combination approach.

The joint project approach 'Project Seabird' aims to establish a common basis of evidence and share data between the Hornsea Project Three and Hornsea Project Four projects which share similar challenges in relation to impacts on seabird populations. Following technical presentations on the subject areas concerned, discussion sessions were held to record stakeholder views on the feasibility and potential efficacy of the two overall approaches to compensation.

While it was recognised that the issues raised may be common to a number of projects, and that wider policy and strategic level considerations exist, the Inspectorate advised that project matters will be examined on the basis of the DCO application made.

Follow up/ next steps

The Inspectorate agreed to attend future technical workshops should specific advice on the PA2008 process be sought by parties, and requested that in any case a summary of workshop outcomes be supplied as part of the agenda of future pre-application project meetings with the developer in the case of Hornsea Project Four.

A further workshop is proposed in approximately one month's time.