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# Offshore Transmission Network Review (OTNR) Webinar

31 January 2022



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

# Agenda

Time	Subject	Speaker
12.00	Welcome	Chris Fox
12.05	Opening remarks from the Minister for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change	The Rt Hon Greg Hands MP
12.10	Strategic Context of OTNR within the Transition to Net Zero	Emily Bourne
12.15	Scotwind Leasing Round Announcement	Colin Maciver
12.20	OTNR Delivery Timeline	Mark Darby
12.30	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Early Opportunities, Enduring Regime and Multi-Purpose Interconnectors (MPIs)	Safa Jahan Ewa Wolkowicz Rob Selbie
12.45	Ofgem Publication Update and Interconnector Policy Review	Stuart Borland Andrew Bullimore
13.00	National Grid ESO Holistic Network Design Timeline and Methodology, Generation Map, and Network Options Assessment Launch	Alice Etheridge
13.20	Marine Environment Protection Research	Will Apps
13.25	Q&A	Chris Fox
14.00	Close	Chris Fox



# Opening Remarks

The Rt Hon Greg Hands MP, Minister  
for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate  
Change





# Strategic Context of OTNR within the Transition to Net Zero

Emily Bourne, Director, Energy Systems,  
Networks and Markets, BEIS

# Scotwind Leasing Round Announcement

Colin Maciver, Head of Offshore Wind,  
Crown Estate Scotland



# ScotWind Outcome

## Colin Maciver, Head of Offshore Wind

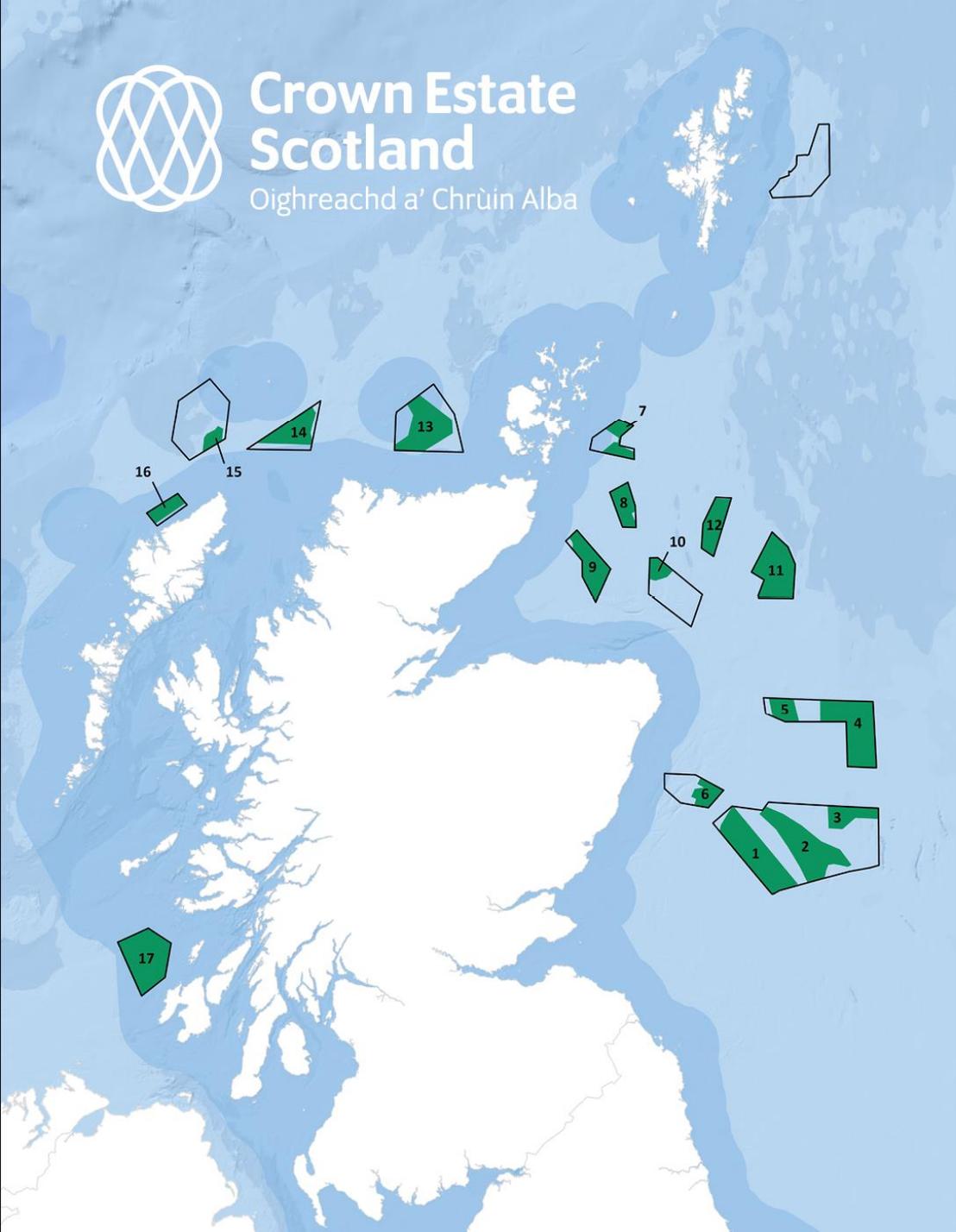
### January 2022





Crown Estate  
Scotland

Oighreachd a' Chrùin Alba



74

Applications  
from bidders

17

Projects  
selected

7,000km<sup>2</sup>  
Total seabed area offered  
as options



Crown Estate  
Scotland

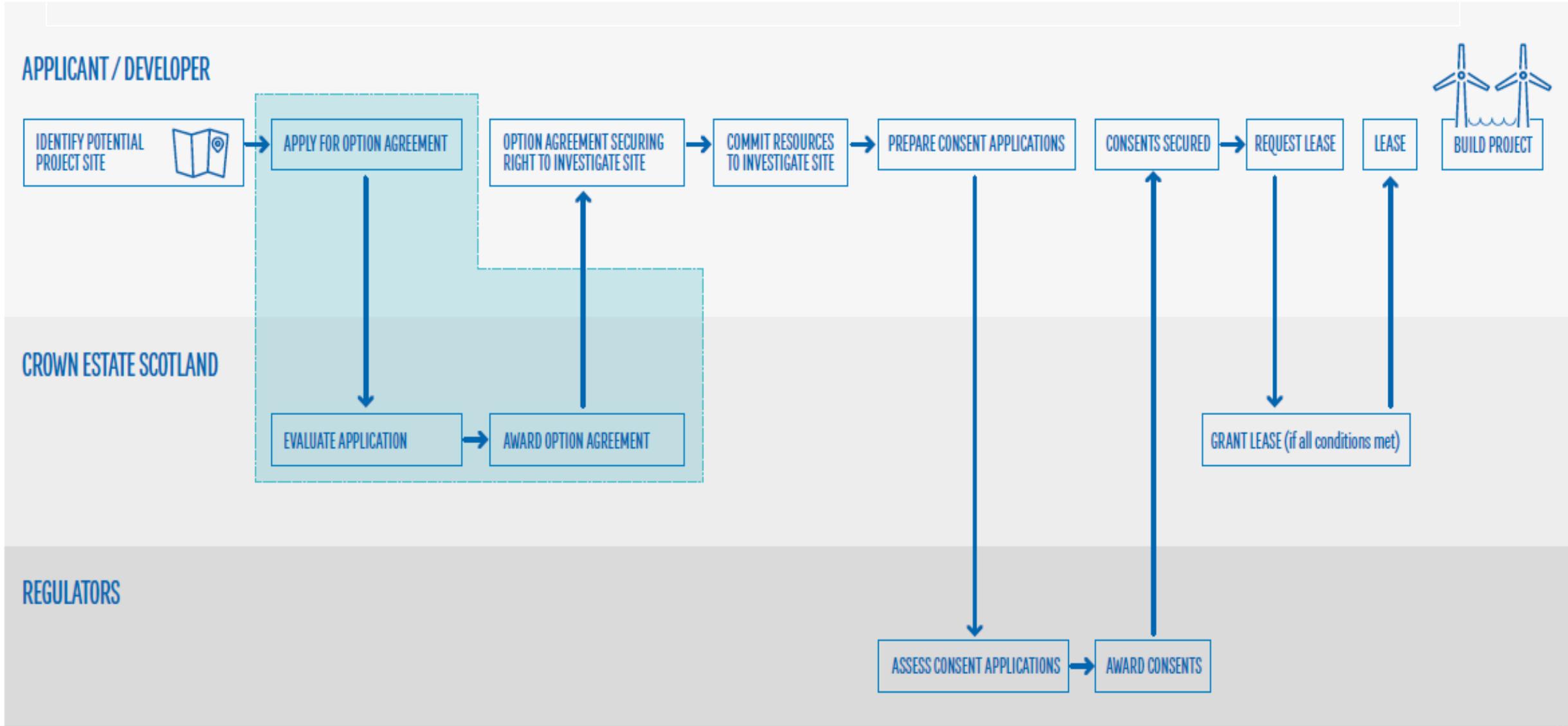
Oighreachd a' Chrùin Alba

**£700m** of option fees will  
go to public spending

**£Billions** of investment  
expected in Scottish  
supply chain



# Next Steps

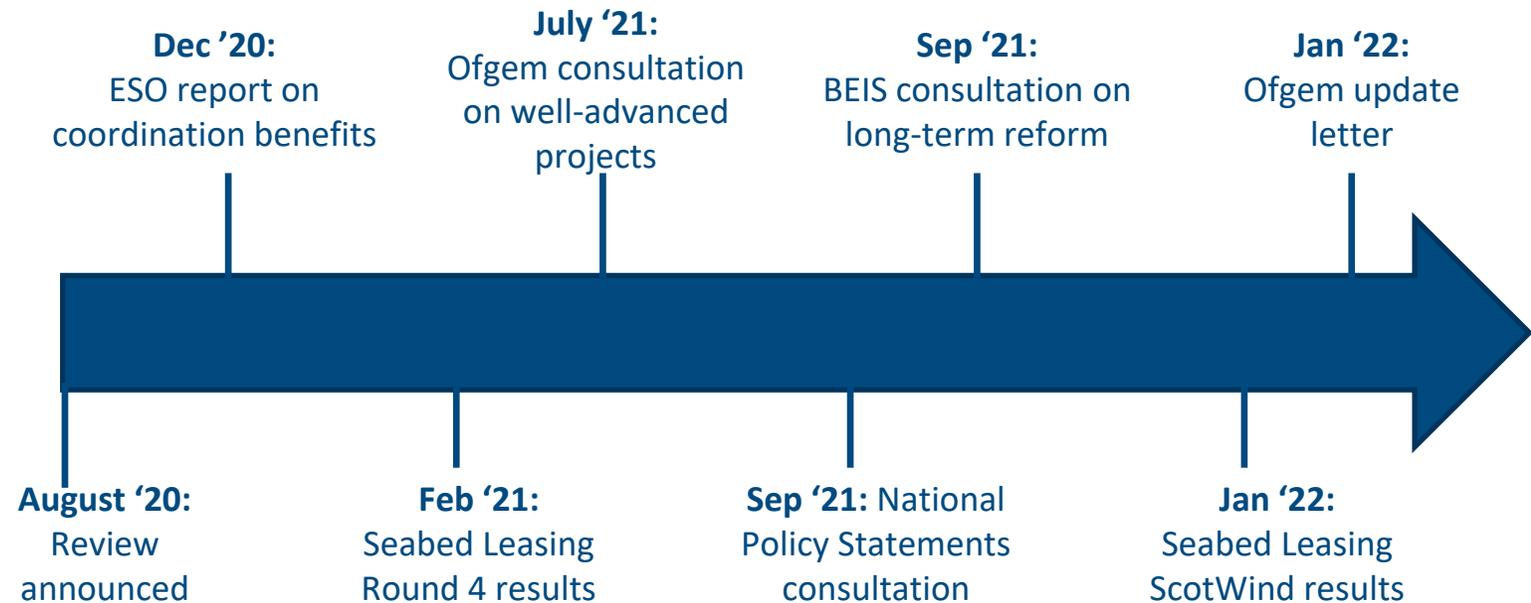
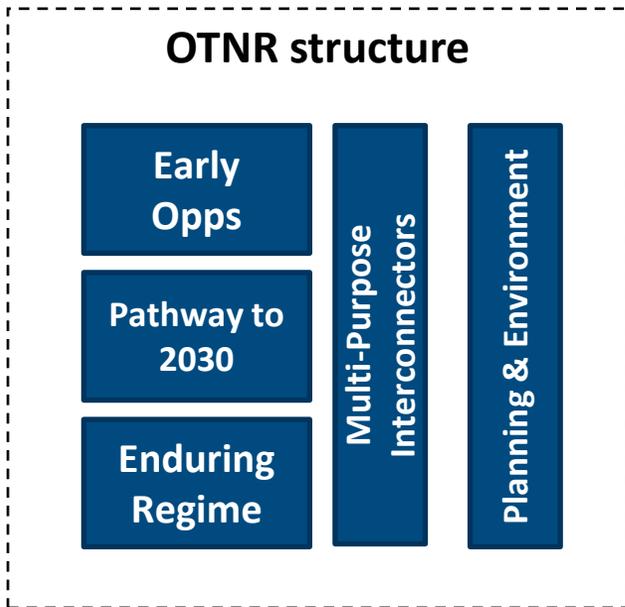


# Delivery Timeline

Mark Darby, OTNR Project Manager,  
BEIS

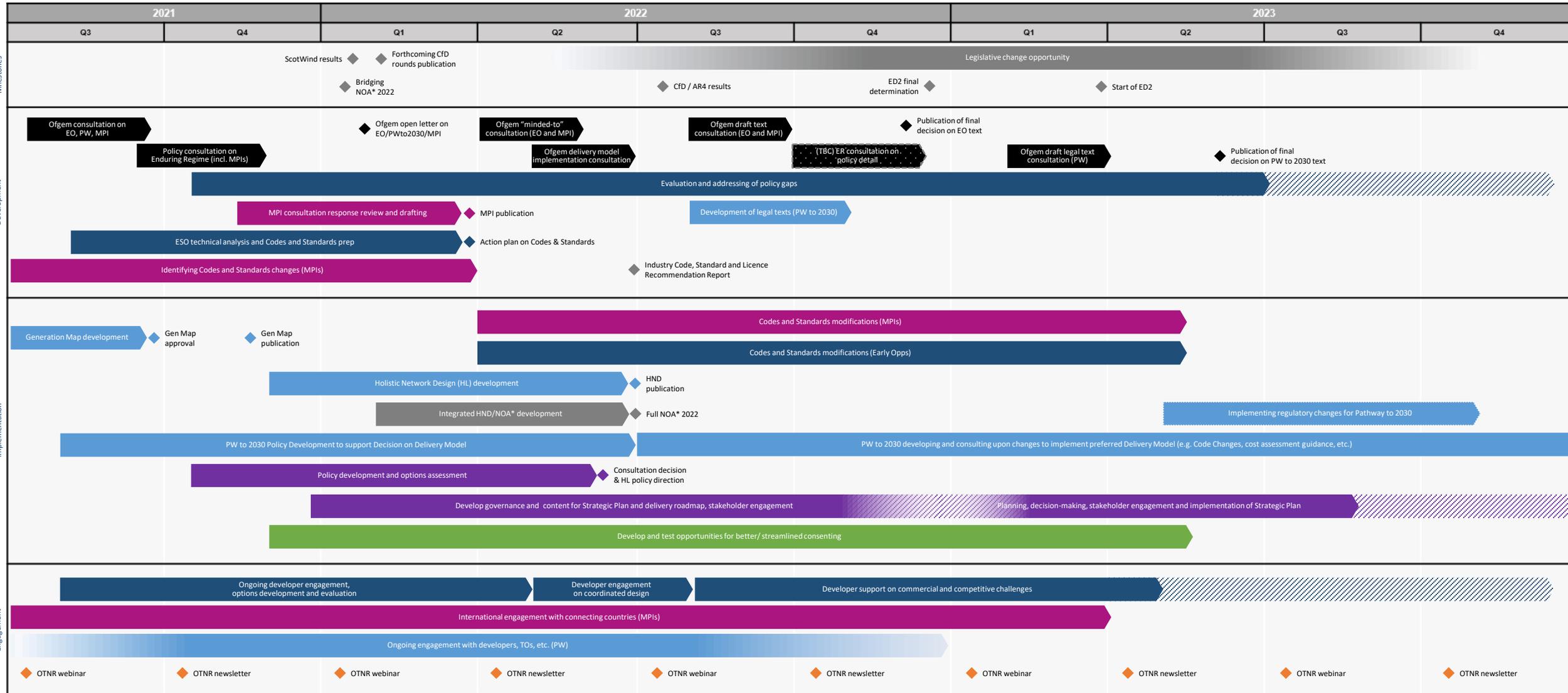
# Progress so far

- In **2021** we gathered evidence, made initial proposals and started reform
- In **2022** we will move firmly from 'reviewing' to 'delivering', focusing on the enabling policy/regulatory change, coordinated designs, and setting the long-term strategic direction
- We are balancing the need to move quickly with getting the detail right – a lot of people have an interest and decisions now impact infrastructure for decades



# OTNR delivery timeline

Please note that the timings represented here are based on a number of assumptions and hence should be treated as indicative only



\* NOA = Network Options Assessment

KEY	
External	External activities
CONS	Consultations
EO	Early Opportunities
PW	Pathway to 2030
ER	Enduring Regime
MPI	Multipurpose Interconnectors
P&E	Planning and Environment
ENG	Engagement and Comms

# Early Opportunities, Enduring Regime and Multi-Purpose Interconnectors

Safa Jahan, Early Opportunities, BEIS

Ewa Wolkowicz, Enduring Regime, BEIS

Rob Selbie, Multi-Purpose Interconnectors, BEIS

# Early Opportunities – upcoming activity

- Since our joint BEIS/Ofgem **Open Letter** was published in August 2020 inviting stakeholders to submit early opportunities for coordination, we have received **16 proposals** across most major developers.
- The **six concepts for coordination** that formed these proposals were included in Ofgem's consultation published in July 2021.
- Some proposals offer a good level of coordination and could **progress** their designs once **enabling changes** are made.
- Others, particularly those located in **East Anglia**, could potentially go further and we will soon be launching a **program of activity** facilitated by RenewableUK to explore more regional coordinated solutions.
- This program will be delivered in **three phases**:



<b>Phase 1</b>	Agree success criteria and generate options for coordination
<b>Phase 2</b>	Assess options against barriers to coordination
<b>Phase 3</b>	Agree preferred options and address barriers to coordination

# Enduring regime – key themes from consultation responses

We received 57 consultation responses from a wide range of stakeholders. An overwhelming majority welcomed our proposals for taking a more strategic approach to development and delivery of future offshore wind and associated infrastructure, whilst noting important considerations for successful implementation.

**Strategic planning framework**

- Strong support for taking a more strategic approach
- Broad support for the proposed 9 elements of scope
- BEIS as a preferred lead organisation
- Stakeholder engagement essential throughout
- Balancing long-term stability vs near term flexibility

**Holistic Network Design**

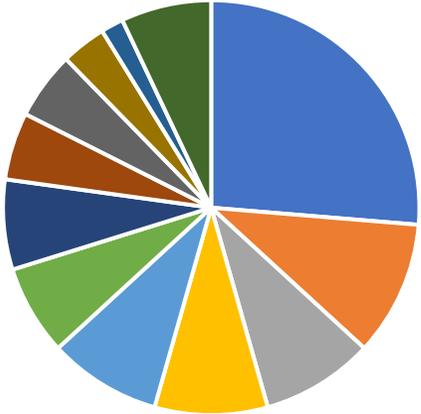
- Strong support for HND in enduring regime
- Strong support to include onshore transmission
- Interactions with existing network planning processes need to be clearly set out
- FSO suggested to lead on future strategic network planning

**Delivery models**

- Different preferences in different stakeholder groups
- Opportunity for alignment across onshore and offshore should be leveraged
- Phased approach and careful transition from PW2030 encouraged
- Amended/new options proposed for consideration

**Transmission delivery timing**

- Support for early planning and construction at the 'right time'
- Risk of stranded asset a key consideration – timing transmission asset delivery to need



- Developers (OSW, IC, O&G), Energy companies
- Environmental stakeholders
- Transmission Owners, System Operators
- Community groups and individuals
- Industry groups and think-tanks
- Technology sector
- Government stakeholders
- Local authorities
- OFTOs
- Seabed owners
- Consumer bodies
- Other

# MPIs – key themes from consultation responses

Three questions on Multi-Purpose Interconnection (MPI), i.e. assets which combine market-to-market interconnection and offshore transmission. Of the 57 responses to our September consultation, 21 responses specifically addressed the MPI questions (questions 12 to 14). Broad agreement that our current legal and regulatory framework does not provide an adequate enduring solution for the regulation of MPIs. Overall, the consultation supports the case for change. We will continue to review the stakeholder feedback with a view to make use of upcoming opportunities for legislative change.

## Current legal and regulatory framework

- Broad support of the case for change.
- 90% of respondents believe the current legal and regulatory framework is unsuitable.
- Alignment with existing licensing and code conditions

## Regulatory developments elsewhere

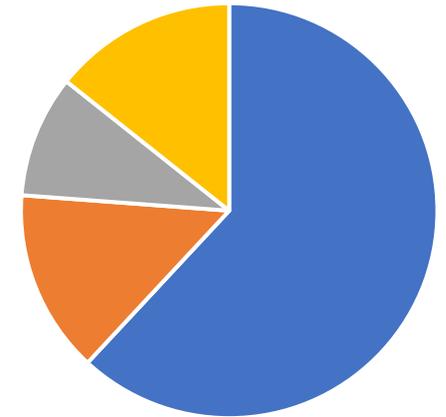
- A number of respondents highlighted the implementation of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement to enable efficient electricity trading between UK and the EU.
- Coherence with EU arrangements

## A separate MPI asset class

- 86% of respondents were not opposed to creating a new MPI asset class, 48% of respondents were directly supportive of creating a new MPI asset class
- 14% of respondents were opposed to creating a new MPI asset class

## Delivery considerations

- Timeline of implementation
- Coherence with EU arrangements
- Funding regimes for MPIs
- Capacity Market and Contracts for Difference considerations



- Developers (OSW, IC, O&G), Energy companies
- Transmission Owners, System Operators
- Industry groups and think-tanks
- Government stakeholders

# Next steps

Early Opps	Enduring Regime	MPIs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress enabling <b>changes to facilitate pathfinder proposals</b> that offer a good level of coordination</li> <li>Launch program to explore more ambitious changes in East Anglia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drafting of <b>consultation decision</b> and associated recommendations – publication planned for Q2</li> <li>Ongoing <b>policy development</b> in key areas (strategic planning framework, delivery models), through established working groups, informed by stakeholder feedback</li> <li><b>Alignment with key change programmes</b> across different policy areas and partner organisations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make use of opportunities for <b>legislative change</b> to provide an <b>enduring solution</b> for the <b>regulation of MPIs</b></li> <li>Drafting of <b>consultation decision</b> and associated recommendations – publication planned for late Q1</li> <li>Ongoing <b>MPI policy development</b> across different temporal workstreams, through established working groups, informed by stakeholder feedback</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shift towards <b>collaborative development and delivery</b>, including planning the required <b>stakeholder engagement</b> throughout this process</li> </ul>		

# Publication Update and Interconnector Policy Review

Stuart Borland, Head of Interconnectors and Offshore Coordination, Ofgem

Andrew Bullimore, Senior Manager Interconnectors, Ofgem

# Ofgem publication update



**Stuart Borland and Andrew Bullimore**

31/01/2022

- Consultation analysis
- Summary of responses and next steps
  - Early opportunities
  - Pathway to 2030
  - Multi-Purpose Interconnectors (MPIs)
- Continuing policy development work

Our January 2022 publication summarises the consultation responses and sets out more detail on next steps for each workstream prior to our decisions in Spring 2022.

Workstream	Key messages
<b>Early opportunities</b>	We are developing changes to facilitate anticipatory investment which would advance the aims of the OTNR, subject to a cost-benefit analysis and more detailed proposals on when such investment would be appropriate and how the risks to consumers can be minimised.
<b>Pathway to 2030</b>	We are narrowing the range of options on the models for delivery of coordinated offshore transmission assets for ScotWind and Crown Estate Leasing Round 4 projects. We are discounting models that would likely delay delivery against government’s target of 40GW of offshore wind by 2030.
<b>MPIs</b>	Taking account of feedback and analysis, we intend to publish a minded-to decision in Spring 2022 setting how we think we can adapt the existing licensing framework for MPIs on an interim basis. Assuming this is feasible, this will be followed by an implementation consultation in due course. In parallel, we continue to ensure alignment with the recent conclusions of our Interconnector Policy Review and with BEIS in respect of considerations for a possible enduring MPI framework.

Workstream	High level Response summaries
<b>Early opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broad support for the concepts identified but also recognition of need for flexibility to combine concepts and support additional activities, such as coordinated construction.</li> <li>• Majority of respondents supported sharing anticipatory investment risk between offshore wind developers and consumers. Anticipatory investment ≠ Highly anticipatory investment.</li> <li>• Little appetite for SCR for early opportunities given timing constraints but need for collaborative approach to code changes.</li> </ul>
<b>Pathway to 2030</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Majority of stakeholders agreed with a holistic design and planned offshore detailed design. No consensus was formed on who should deliver the latter.</li> <li>• Vast majority agreed with the retaining of developer led model for HND indicated radial connections.</li> <li>• No model was favoured outright by respondents.</li> </ul>
<b>MPIs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broad support for IC and OFTO-led models at this stage – be open to other models if needed. Mixed views if MPIs could evolve from pre-existing assets in operation today.</li> <li>• Support to use existing framework for an interim regime. No opposition to licensing an asset on primary activity, while it undertakes an additional secondary activity.</li> <li>• Model preference driven by commercial, regulatory and operational arrangements. Clarity sought on impact of market arrangements and EU Regulations on MPIs.</li> </ul>

The timeline below provides an indicative summary of the key stages of our next steps for the relevant workstream areas.

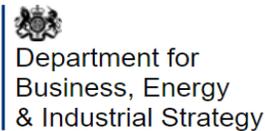


# Interconnector policy review (ICPR)



OFG1161

The primary objective of the interconnector policy review was **to establish whether there is a need for further GB interconnection capacity** beyond those projects currently with regulatory approval. If so, the secondary objective was **to consider Ofgem’s approach to the regulation of future GB interconnection**. Alongside this we also considered our regulatory approach to multiple-purpose interconnectors (MPIs).



Energy White Paper (Dec 2020) sets an ambition to realise at least **18GW by 2030**. Highlights contribution of ICs to decarbonisation.



**6<sup>th</sup> Carbon Budget (Dec 2020)** highlights role of interconnectors as enabler for Net Zero.



**NOA 2021:** Optimal range of **16.9 GW to 27.7 GW** of interconnection in 2040.

**Developers:** Pipeline of **32GW** of connection offers in NGESO IC register.



### Key ICPR conclusions

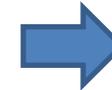
- We think the cap and floor regime has met its objectives to date.
- We think further interconnection is likely in consumer's interests.
- We think the cap and floor regime is the right regime for the future, albeit with some changes.
- We think the cap and floor regime is, in principle, a suitable framework for regulating MPis.

We will now act on these conclusions during an implementation period over the coming months.

We think there is value in further interconnection. However we recognise that as interconnector capacity increases the incremental benefits marginalise. We therefore want to ensure that our application framework brings forward the right projects, in the right places, at the right time for consumers when thinking about the whole system. **Therefore, in response to the ICPR conclusions we will:**



\* INDICATIVE ONLY!



**W1 (2015), W2 (2017)** -  
Nine projects approved to  
Belgium, France, Norway,  
Denmark, Ireland and  
Germany.

**Near-term** - Open a third cap and floor  
application window in mid-2022. This will be  
targeted and informed in part by forward-  
looking analysis and engagement. We will  
enhance our CBA to reflect the wider impacts of  
interconnection and implement some changes to  
our cap and floor framework.

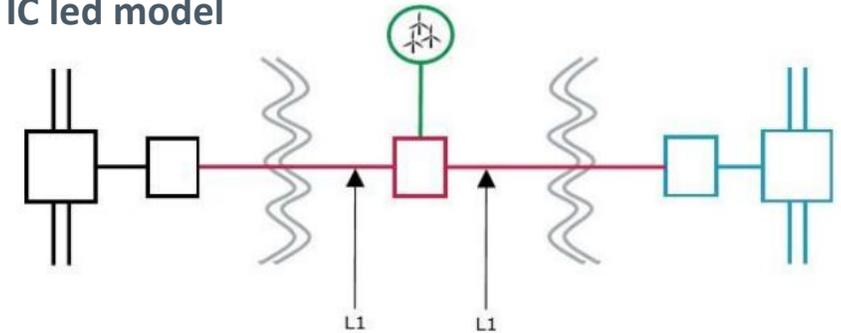
**Far-term (2024+)** - Consider cyclical application  
windows that are informed by regular outputs  
from strategic network planning. We will work  
with the relevant teams in Ofgem and government  
to ensure that interconnector regulation is  
factored into the development of future planning  
frameworks.

We think that MPIs likely have an important role to play in supporting the decarbonisation agenda, government ambitions, and subsequently are likely to have positive impacts for consumers. **We therefore support the development of MPIs.**

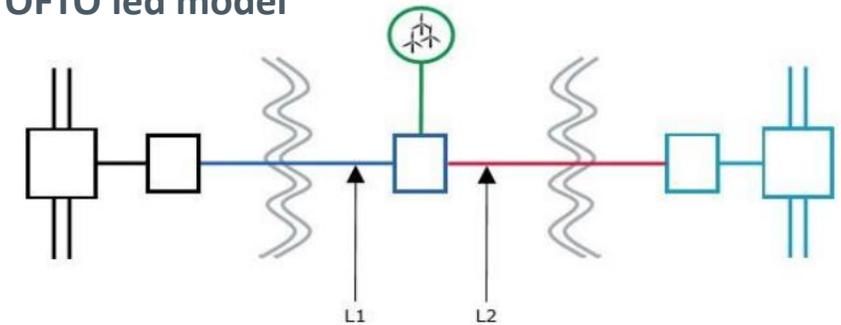
We think that **the cap and floor regime is in principle a suitable regime** to apply to MPIs, subject to there being an appropriate legal framework which is being considered through the Offshore Network Transmission Planning Review (OTNR).

We want to maintain the momentum in industry and unlock uncertainty over regulatory approach by **running a pilot cap and floor process for MPIs alongside our near-term application window for interconnectors in 2022.**

IC led model



OFTO led model



MPIs present a complex regulatory challenge, we will therefore:

- Continue to engage with stakeholders and provide clarity at the earliest opportunity.
- Continue to work with OTNR colleagues in Ofgem, BEIS and ESO to ensure alignment in our workstreams.

**MPI pilot** – Run by Ofgem and launching mid-2022 with the aim of working closely with successful project(s) as we develop a cap and floor regime for MPIs.



Complimentary workstreams for delivering early MPIs, with the MPI pilot focussing on a revenue regime and the OTNR on regulatory compliance and the legal framework.

**Interim regime** – Delivered under the OTNR MPI workstream with a focus on facilitating MPIs in the near term, including classification, licencing, and ownership.



BEIS and Ofgem will need to consider a suitable approach in transitioning from any interim regime to an enduring one (if progressed) that delivers for industry and consumers, without penalising early MPI projects.

**Enduring regime** – Delivered under the OTNR, exploring the need for and benefit of legislative change, with a view to potentially creating an enduring MPI regime.

**Our core purpose is to ensure that all consumers can get good value and service from the energy market. In support of this we favour market solutions where practical, incentive regulation for monopolies and an approach that seeks to enable innovation and beneficial change whilst protecting consumers.**

**We will ensure that Ofgem will operate as an efficient organisation, driven by skilled and empowered staff, that will act quickly, predictably and effectively in the consumer interest, based on independent and transparent insight into consumers' experiences and the operation of energy systems and markets.**

# Offshore Coordination Update

Alice Etheridge, Offshore Coordination Senior Manager, National Grid ESO

An offshore wind farm is shown at dusk or dawn. The sky is a mix of dark blue and grey clouds. In the foreground, a large wind turbine is the central focus, with several bright, glowing yellow lines radiating from its base across the sky, symbolizing power transmission. Other smaller wind turbines are visible in the distance across the dark sea.

# ESO Offshore Coordination Update

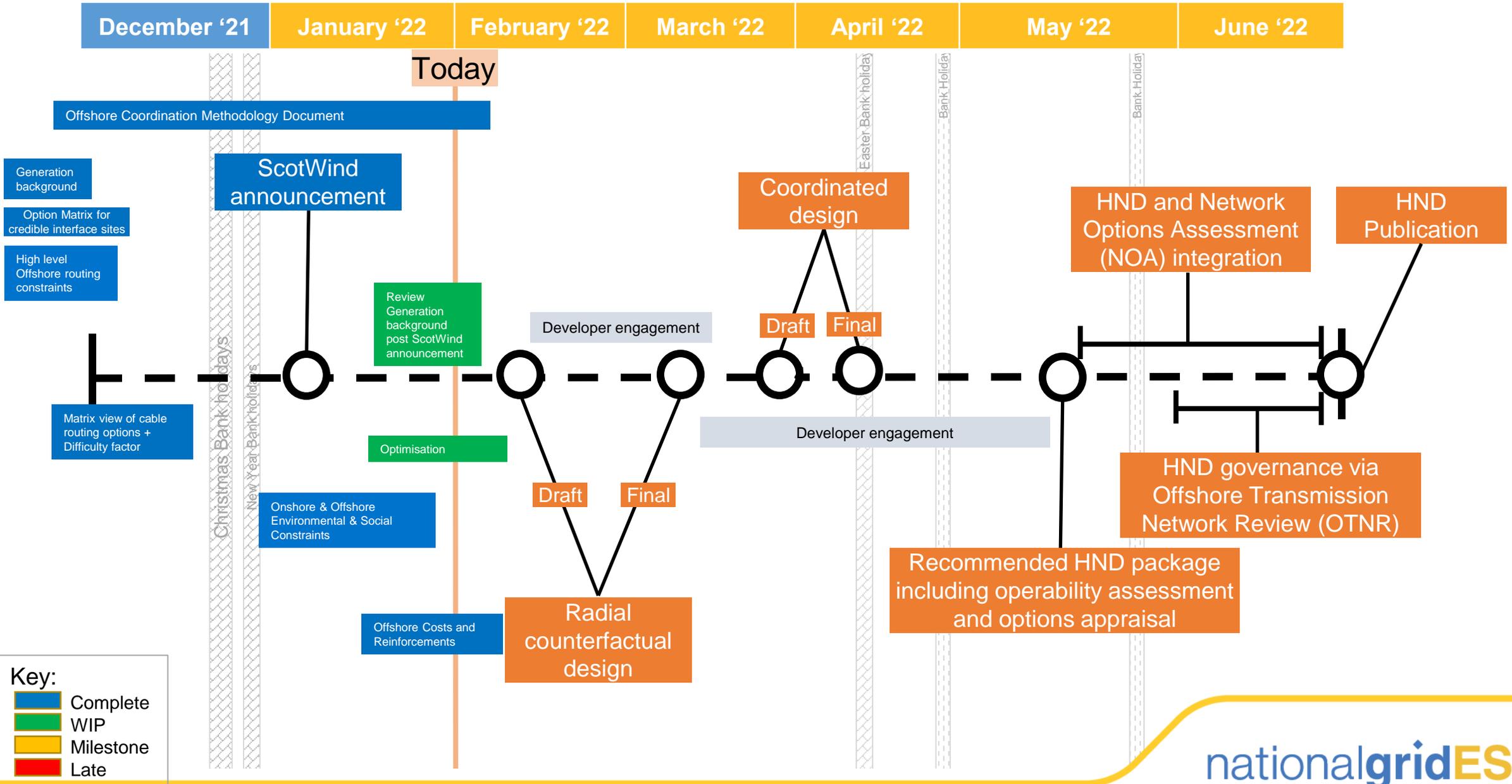
January 2022

# Agenda

1. Holistic Network Design Timeline
2. OTNR Generation Map
3. Holistic Network Design Methodology
4. Network Options Assessment 2021/22
5. Other key project updates including:
  - Open letter on the Pathway to 2030 Connection Contract Update Programme
  - Industry codes engagement
6. How to stay in touch and find out more

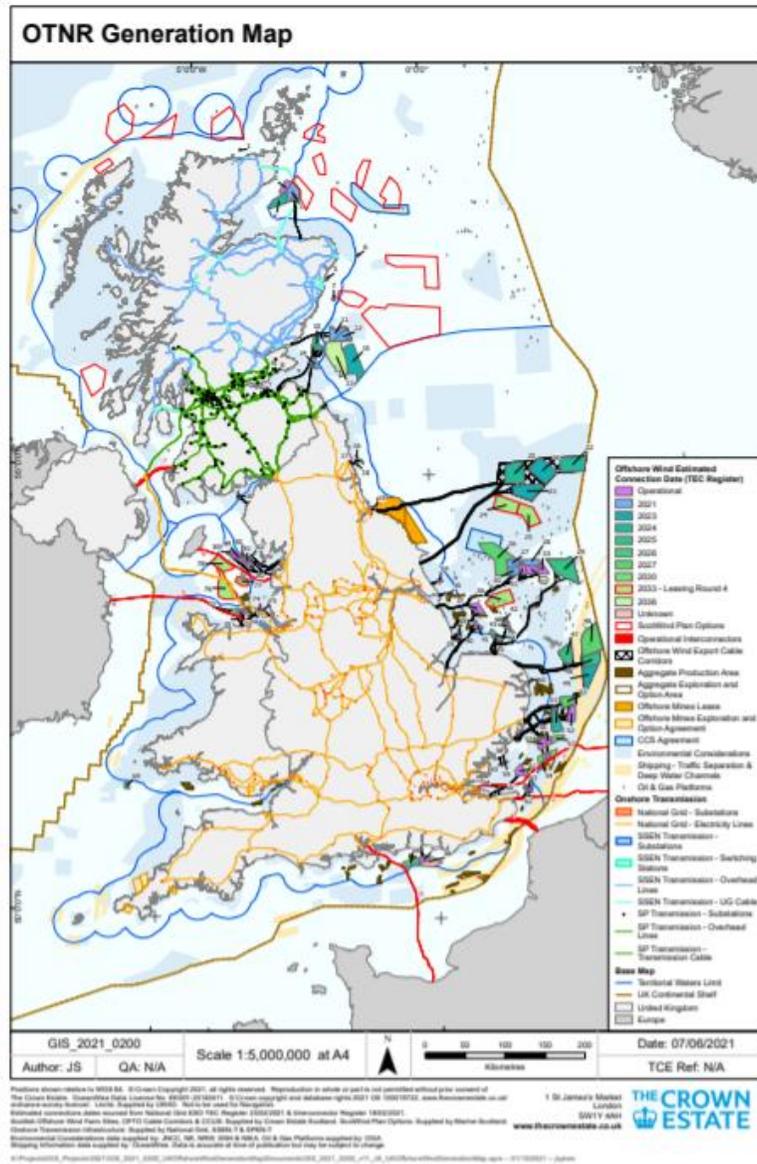


# ESO Offshore Coordination Project: Pathway to 2030 Holistic Network Design (HND) High level plan



**Key:**

- Complete
- WIP
- Milestone
- Late

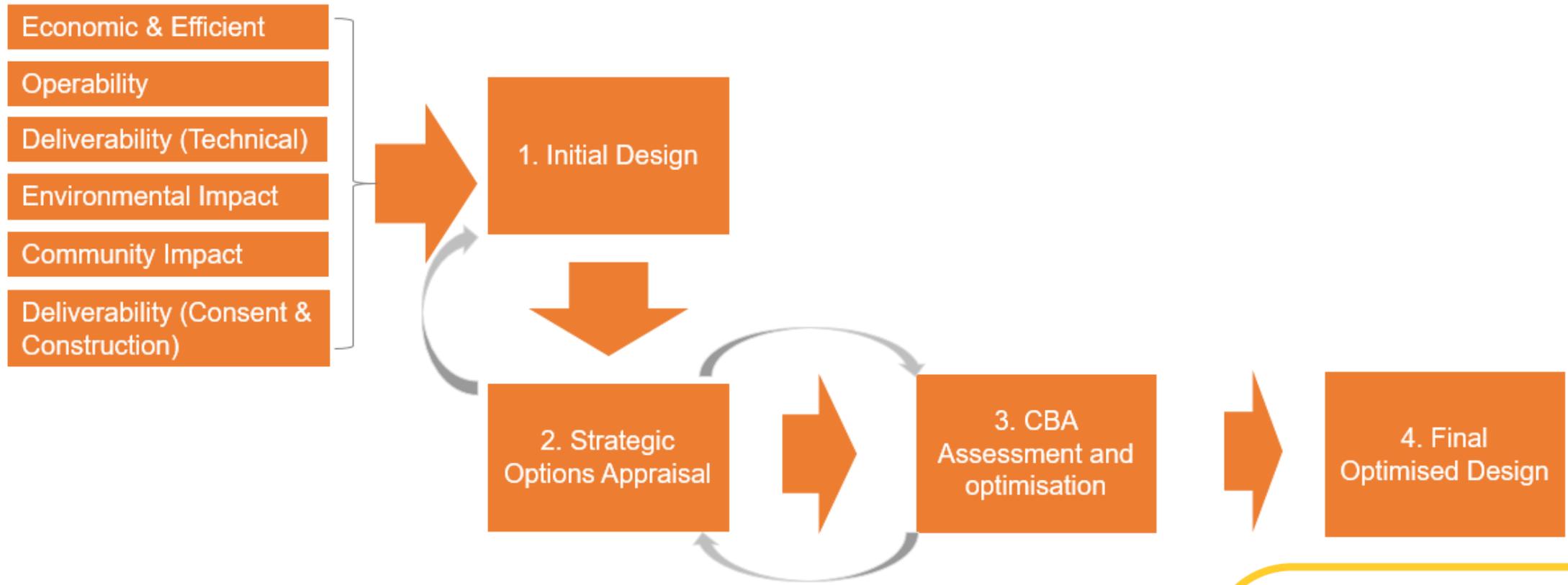


# OTNR Generation Map

- Developed by The Crown Estate in summer 2021 and published in November 2021
- Bespoke map – potential development pathway for offshore wind projects in GB over the next decade based on publicly available data
- Includes a range of other data including:
  - existing and planned export cable corridors (where possible)
  - cable routes for operational interconnectors
  - onshore transmission system in GB (overhead lines and substations)
  - environmental designations in the offshore area.
- One of the inputs to the HND
- The Crown Estate will update the map periodically with input from relevant stakeholders
- Available on the BEIS website

# Holistic Network Design (HND) Methodology

- The objective of the HND is to provide an economic, efficient, sustainable and coordinated National Electricity Transmission System to deliver 2030 offshore wind targets.



# Network Options Assessment 2021/22

Published 31st January 2022  
(search: ESO NOA)

- Provides an annual assessment of Electricity Transmission investments within GB to deliver the Future Energy Scenarios
- This year, provides a bridge to the Holistic Network Design publication in Summer 2022
- NOA for Interconnectors assesses the benefit of potential interconnector between GB and Europe



# Open letter on the Pathway to 2030 Connection Contract Update Programme

- Open letter published on our website on 14 January
- Provides an update to relevant offshore developers and other interested stakeholders on our plans to update connection contracts to reflect Pathway to 2030 developments
- Available on ESO website

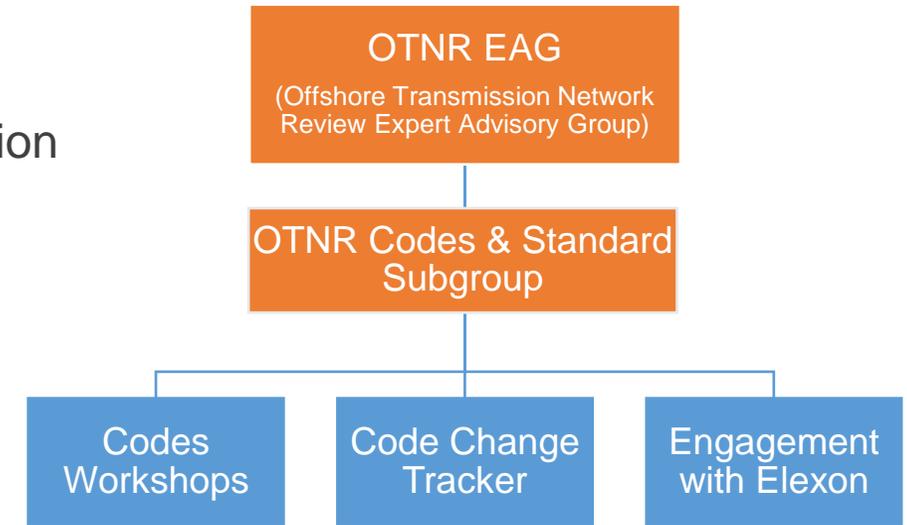
<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/230851/download>

The screenshot shows the top of a webpage from nationalgridESO. The header includes the company logo and contact information: 'National Grid ESO, Faraday House, Galloway Hill, Warwick, CV34 6DA'. Below this, the date '14 January 2022' and the website URL 'www.nationalgrideso.com' are displayed. The main heading is 'Pathway to 2030 Connection Contract Update Programme'. The body of the page begins with 'Dear colleagues,' followed by a paragraph explaining the regulatory context and the OTNR's role. It mentions the Government's offshore wind target of 40GW by 2030 and net zero by 2050. The text continues to describe the collaborative work with stakeholders and the development of the HND. A section titled 'Projects with connection contracts, including developers which are successful in the ScotWind leasing round' is highlighted. The page concludes with a note that any Agreement to Vary will be referred to Ofgem. At the bottom, there are several footnotes providing links to related documents and a footer with the company's registered office address: 'National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited, Company number 11014226, Registered office address 1-3 Strand, London, WC2N 8EH'.

# Industry codes engagement

In November 2021, we hosted five workshops covering the Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC), Security and Quality of Supply Standard (SQSS), Grid Code and System Operator Transmission Owner Code (STC) to:

- share our initial views on the challenges and opportunities
- commence discussion with industry
- establish next steps and the priority of topics.



Industry views collated at the workshop are helping shape the work on codes and standards.

- We set up a Codes and Standards subgroup in November 2021 to project manage the work relating to codes and standards.
- We will publish an *Industry Code, Standard and Licence Recommendation Report* in parallel with the HND, to outline our recommendations on changes needed to the Codes, Standards and Licences to facilitate the HND.

# How to stay in touch and find out more



## Meetings and workshops

We will continue to hold meetings and workshops with stakeholders



## Email us

If you have questions or feedback, please get in touch via our email address

[box.OffshoreCoord@nationalgridESO.com](mailto:box.OffshoreCoord@nationalgridESO.com)



## Subscribe to our mailing list

You can stay in touch by signing up to receive updates from us (link available from website).



## Visit our website:

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/future-energy/projects/offshore-coordination-project>

# Marine Environment Protection Research

Will Apps, Head of Marine Development,  
The Crown Estate



Offshore  
Wind Evidence  
+ Change  
Programme



## An introduction: Offshore Wind Evidence and Change Programme

Will Apps, Head of Marine Development, The Crown Estate

31 January 2022





Offshore  
Wind Evidence  
+ Change  
Programme

## Programme Mission Statement

To facilitate the sustainable and coordinated expansion of offshore wind to help meet the UK's commitments to low carbon energy transition whilst supporting clean, healthy, productive and biologically diverse seas.

## In our first year...

Over £20.8 million invested in 25 projects

3 projects completed

13 projects underway

27 member organisations in the Programme Steering Group including Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland government bodies, regulators, NGOs and industry

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# Who is involved?

- Lead organisation



- Programme partners



- Devolved governments

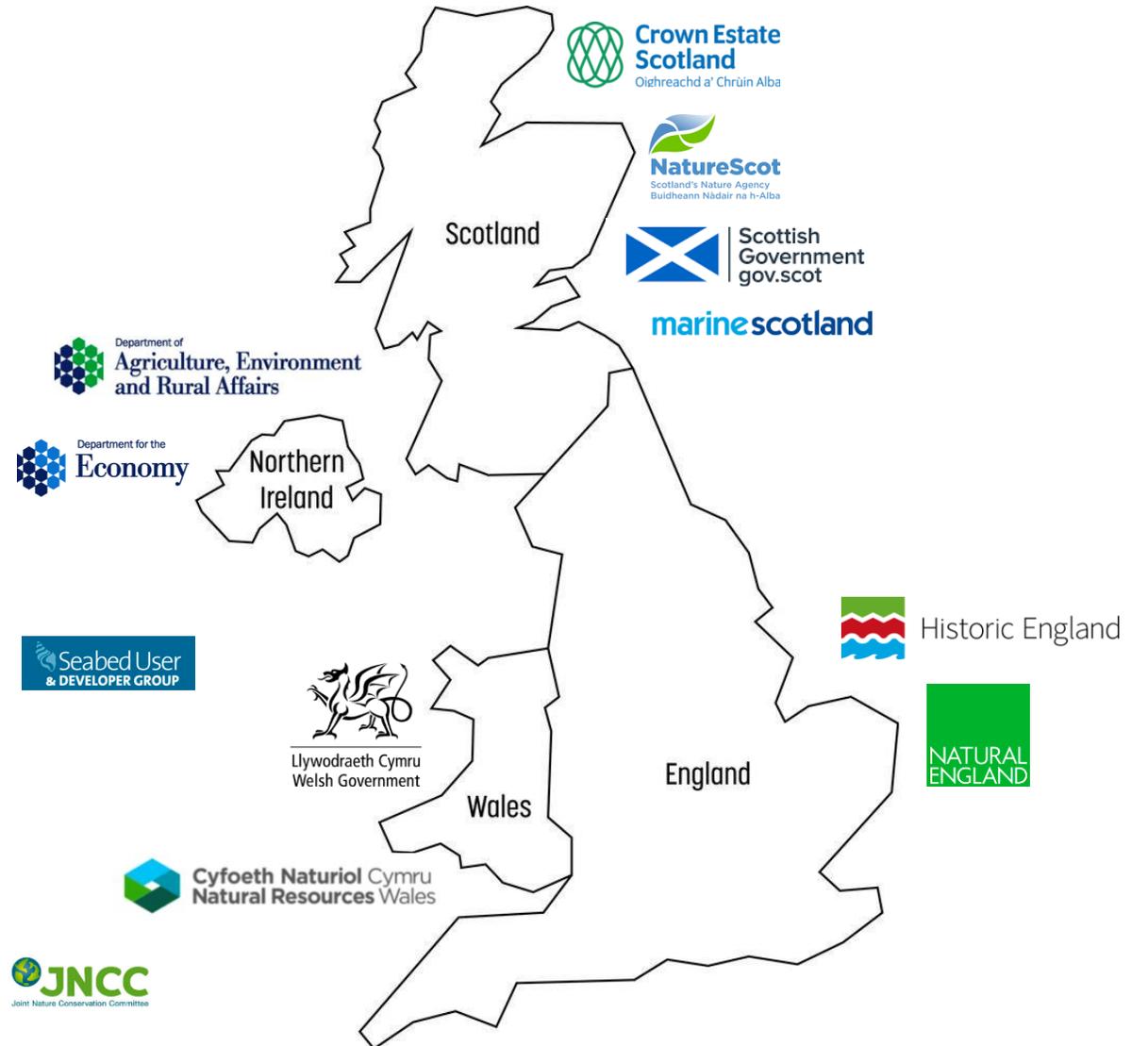
- Industry representatives



- Non Governmental Organisations



- Public bodies



# Strategic East Coast Grid Spatial Study

## Purpose

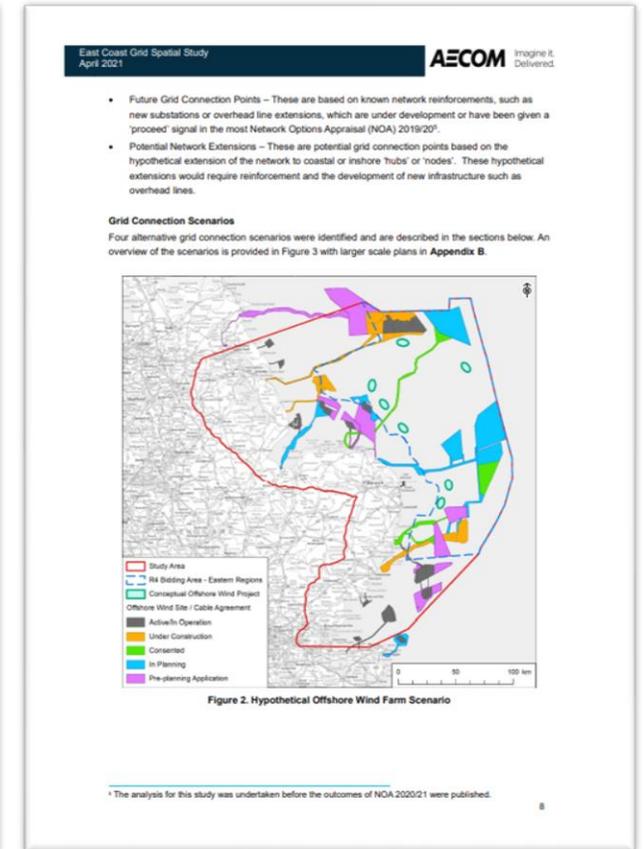
To develop a deeper understanding of potential terrestrial and marine constraints that future offshore wind development in the east of England could encounter; to assess the risks and issues to offshore wind deployment driven by those constraints; and to assess if coordinated grid connection solutions could mitigate these risks and issues.

## Output

Authoritative report published – summary report and detail version

## Outcome

Support the evolution of policy and regulatory arrangements for offshore transmission infrastructure by providing greater evidence and a deeper understanding of the marine spatial context for future offshore development activity.



# Q&A

Chris Fox, Head of Europe & Offshore,  
BEIS



# Keep in touch

## **Offshore transmission network review on GOV.UK**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/offshore-transmission-network-review>