

MARINE SCIENCE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE
COMMUNICATION WORKING GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

PURPOSE

1. The Communication Working Group will report to the Marine Science Co-ordination Committee (MSCC) and:

- Provide advice and guidance on matters relating to the communication of marine science, thus facilitating a collaborative and co-ordinated approach within the UK marine science community;
- Promote the UK Marine Science Strategy and the function of the MSCC;
- Deliver bespoke communication and awareness products agreed by MSCC.

2. The Communication Working Group will report directly to the MSCC via the Chair of the Group.

MEMBERSHIP

3. Membership of the Working Group will be composed of representatives from, but not restricted to, Government Departments and their agencies, Devolved Administrations, Non-Governmental Organisations, the UK Marine industry, UK research and academia, international marine conventions, and European and international marine initiatives.

ROLE

4. The role of the Communication Working Group is to:

- Improve communication from policy makers to the marine science community, with suggestions for best practice;
- Identify topics requiring advice on communication matters and strengthen the lines of communication between MSCC Working and Sub Groups and provide advice on communication matters both within and external to MSCC;
- Promote the UK Marine Science Strategy and the function of the MSCC to the general public, scientists, policy makers, politicians, industry and other users and beneficiaries of the marine environment, to increase understanding of marine issues and marine science and influence positively the ways in which groups interact with the marine environment;

- Improve understanding of the Strategy and encourage its uptake by the UK marine science community;
- Deliver bespoke communication products agreed by MSCC to promote a UK marine science identity.

MEETINGS

5. The Group will meet twice annually, with communication of further information and advice to MSCC throughout the year.

6. By participating in the Communication Working Group, contributors agree to their names being placed in the public domain in this context, e.g. in the minutes, action plan or any supporting papers.