



Offshore Petroleum Regulator  
for Environment & Decommissioning

**Announcement of OPRED Interim Director and new Deputy Director, Chief Operations Officer, Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning**

Helena Charlton is appointed as the OPRED Interim Director to cover a period of parental leave for Tom Child, wef 5 June 2024.

Following the retirement of Wendy Kennedy from the Department, Teresa Munro took up the role of Deputy Director, Chief Operations Officer wef 15 April 2024.

This News and Communications announcement carries their biographies below this notice.

**Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning (OPRED)**



## Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning

### **Helena Charlton: Interim Director, Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning**

#### **Biography**

Helena Charlton became Interim Director of the Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning in June 2024 to cover parental leave for Tom Child.

Helena has held Senior Civil Service roles in energy policy across DESNZ and BEIS since 2017, spanning renewable electricity, upstream oil and gas, and nuclear resilience.

She joined the Cabinet Office as a graduate recruit in 1999.

#### **Director, Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning**

The Director is responsible for:

- Providing organisational strategic leadership
- The functioning of the OPRED Executive Board
- Representation of OPRED with key stakeholders
- Delivering continuous improvement and reform
- OPRED's people, policies, and finances





## Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning

### **Tom Child: Director, Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning**

#### **Biography**

Tom Child became Director of the Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning in September 2021.

Tom has held Senior Civil Service roles across DESNZ, BEIS and FCDO since 2015 spanning industrial development, science & innovation and business growth, as well as a posting to the British Embassy, Beijing.

He joined the Department of Trade and Industry in 2005 as a graduate recruit.

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## Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning

### **Teresa Munro: Deputy Director, Chief Operations Officer, Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning**

Teresa Munro is Deputy Director, Chief Operations Officer, Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning in the UK Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and is responsible for the environmental regulation of offshore energy developments, their decommissioning and associated financial guarantees.

Teresa has 27 years oil and gas experience. She has held several leadership positions with an oil and gas operator. She is a chartered chemical engineer and has extensive practical knowledge of the planning and execution of development and decommissioning projects.

Teresa and her teams lead on offshore environmental regulation for oil and gas activities on the UKCS. In particular her teams deal with:

- International and domestic offshore environmental policy;
- Inspection of platforms and drilling rigs;
- Assessment of environmental impacts of oil and gas projects;
- Assessment of oil spill contingency plans – including financial provision for remediation in the event of an accident/incident;
- Emergency response to offshore environmental incidents (24/7 on call provision);
- Assessment of oil and gas platform and pipeline decommissioning plans;
- Consideration of legal obligations and financial security for decommissioning of offshore installations and pipelines; and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) of UK continental shelf prior to licensing

