

SEA FISH INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

Minutes of the second meeting of the Seafish Domestic and Export Sector Panel

Held at Sea Fish Industry Authority, 18 Logie Mill, Logie Green Road, Edinburgh
on Wednesday 8th August 2012

Present:

John Goodlad	Chair
Neil Auchterlonie	Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science
Martyn Boyers	British Ports Association
Jackie Bruce	Fresh Catch Ltd
John Butterwith	North Devon Fishermen's Association
John Cox	Scottish Seafood Association
Robert Duthie	Scottish Pelagic Processors' Association
Jim Evans	Welsh Fishermen's Association
Ian Gatt	Scottish Fishermen's Federation
Davey Hill	National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations
David Jarrad	Shellfish Association of Great Britain
Jennifer Mouat	Shetland Shellfish Management Organisation
Jim Portus	UK Association of Fish Producers Organisations
Jane Sandell	Scottish Fishermen's Organisation
Paul Williams	Seafish, Chief Executive
Jon Harman	Seafish, Operations Director
Simon Potten	Seafish, Operations Leader & Panel Secretariat
Karen Galloway	Seafish, Head of Marketing (Observer)
Lesley Cunningham	Seafish, Minute-taker

Apologies:

None

1. Welcome

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.2 The Chair wished Mike Park (interim chair at the first panel meeting) well on his charity row across the North Sea.

1.3 The Chair explained that at the first meeting, panel members had identified their priorities for Seafish action over the next three years. Seafish had developed rough-costed work programme proposals for those priorities, taking into account the priorities of the other two sector panels. Members of all three panels had been sent the costed proposals and asked to provide initial feedback. Seafish had received good feedback and reasonable response from the other 2 panels.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

2.1 It was agreed that the minutes were an accurate record and were approved. Proposed by John Butterwith (JB) and seconded Davey Hill (DH).

2.2 It was agreed that draft minutes would be placed on the Seafish website promptly after each meeting, being replaced by the final minutes once they had been formally approved at the next meeting.

3. Meeting objectives and review of the process

3.1 Paul Williams (PW) emphasised that the purpose of this meeting is to ensure that the Chair is clear on this Panel's priorities and requirements for future Seafish work programmes and levy expenditure. The Panel Chairs meet on 14 August to negotiate an agreed recommendation for the Seafish Board on future operational activities and spend. The Panel Chairs will then attend the next Seafish Board meeting on 6 September. The Seafish Board will resolve any areas of conflict.

3.2 PW advised that Seafish needs to have a new corporate plan and budget approved by October 2012. There will not be time for another Panel meeting before then. Seafish will circulate by email the final agreed budget and proposals following the Panel Chairs meeting and provide an opportunity for Panel members to comment before they are put to the Seafish Board.

3.3 PW explained that the work of the Sector Panels would continue following approval of the new corporate plan and budget, with their role switching to one of monitoring, reviewing, evaluating and updating. In this respect, the Sector Panels will meet again in February/March 2013.

3.4 PW also advised that Seafish will undergo a Government review in 2014.

3.5 PW advised that questions regarding the levy will be handled by a separate consultation in Autumn 2013, followed by revision of the regulations in autumn 2013 (the soonest that DEFRA say this can be done). Therefore Seafish will continue to collect £8m in levy next year in addition to the reserves built up from the collection of back levy. These reserves mean that it will be possible to run a deficit budget next year,

if there is the work to justify this.

3.6 The levy consultation in autumn 2013 will address questions such as:

- what does industry think is the appropriate level for the levy to be set at?
- what should the rates be for shellfish, whitefish and pelagic?

3.7 The levy consultation will not consider the species that are liable to levy (salmon, *Pangasius* and all fresh water species are not currently included) as this would require changes to the Act. This is unlikely to be considered sufficiently important to warrant parliamentary time being allocated to discuss it in the near future.

4. Presentation of the consolidated feedback

4.1 A copy of the presentation will be circulated to members by SP.

4.2 See attached papers attached for summary of output of Panel discussion.

4.3 Members agreed that there should be an annual contingency fund factored into the budget. It was suggested that the three panel chairs could be convened to consider proposals for spending.

5. Work programme review

5.1 Karen Galloway (KG) explained that Seafish required Government approval for any expenditure on promotion. Cabinet Office had requested evidence of industry endorsement for Seafish to undertake promotional work. KG asked if Panel members would agree to their names being put to an industry letter endorsing Seafish to undertake promotional work. Members agreed.

6. Process review and next steps

6.1 The Panel Chairs meeting is to be held in Edinburgh on 14 August. Seafish will then amend the work programme proposals accordingly and work them up into a fully-costed budget ready for consideration at the Seafish Board meeting to be held on 6 September. The Panel Chairs will attend the Board meeting to present and support the agreed activities. Time is tight for Seafish to get Ministerial sign off for its new corporate plan so that delivery can commence from 01 October.

6.2 Panel members will receive regular progress reports from Seafish on delivery of the new plan. The Sector Panels will then reconvene in February/March 2013 to review

progress. Some Panel members may have additional input through working groups.

7. Any other business

7.1 There was no other business.

8. Date of next meeting

8.1 February/March 2013.