Marine Scotland’s roles in renewable energy

- Planning authority
- Licensing authority
- Science support
Renewables and Energy Programme

Licensing, marine planning, environment
Need access to, or drive towards, funding
Need clear steer from stakeholders
Need wide stakeholder buy-in
Needs continuity
ORJIP wind

Initially funded by TCE, DECC and MS

Industry to define priorities and develop projects

Transferred management to Carbon Trust

One large project funded on bird collision

Smaller project on acoustic deterrents

Developing a project on porpoise response to piling
ORJIP Ocean Energy

Contracted to experienced renewables consultancy

Wide engagement with stakeholders, very open to ideas

Seeking consensus

Very active leadership, using initiative

Developing international links

Basis for additional funding (small) to do useful things

No significant practical project funding
SPORRAN

Marine Scotland initiative

Developing evidence maps to support marine renewables

Process includes MS scientists, MS licensing, academics, developers, consultants, SNCBs,

- Ornithology
- Marine Mammals
- Benthic ecology
- Social and economics
- Fish and fisheries
- Diadromous fish
- Physical processes
Theme 1. Increasing baseline understanding of marine ecosystems.
Reduce uncertainty and increase baseline understanding of marine ecosystems in relation to marine planning and licencing of offshore renewables through innovative monitoring / modelling solutions and data sharing initiatives.

Theme 2. Detecting impacts and avoidance behaviour
Methods to monitor and detect impacts and avoidance behaviour of marine species in response to offshore renewables development including the consideration of cumulative impacts.
Theme 3. Assessing population level impacts
Assessing/monitoring the population level consequences of marine renewables development on marine species.

Theme 4. Understanding Mitigation Options
Understanding and monitoring the efficacy of mitigation measures in areas of marine renewable development.
Is it working?

Basis for interaction with Research Councils
2 Innovation internships
Support for academic project proposals

Basis for internal bids for funding for external commissioning
Ornithology
Acoustic impacts on mammals
Acoustics of tidal stream areas

Helps to steer internal research project development

Attracted co-funding
Lessons

Lead organisation with a clear driver to advance the process
Have clear funding and enthusiasm for the coordination role
Engage with as full a range of stakeholders as possible
Strive for consensus
Have some associated research funding
Welcome co-funding
Try to keep internal project relations simple
Engage actively with potential funders
Seek new funding opportunities