

Terms of Reference - D&S IFCA's Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee

Officers' Recommendation

That the Terms of Reference for the B&PSC, as set out in this officers' paper, are agreed by the Authority.

Background

The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee (B&PSC), were last amended in 2023. The TOR for the B&PSC as set out below, were presented to the Authority in June 2024. These were agreed with no amendments.

Officers are recommending no changes to the B&PSC Terms of Reference as set out below.

The B&PSC's Terms of Reference - Transcript

Name

The Committee shall be known as the Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee (B&PSC) of Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (D&S IFCA).

Membership

The B&PSC may invite all General Members to attend, and membership may include representatives of the funding Authorities and Statutory Appointees.

- The Chair and Vice-Chairs will be ex-officio members of the B&PSC.
- Other members may be co-opted as and when this is considered to be appropriate.
- Any member of D&S IFCA may attend a meeting as an observer.

Quorum

Six members from the total membership are required at any meeting of the B&PSC for it to be quorate and allow voting to take place.

Chairing the Sub-Committee

The B&PSC will appoint a Chair and Vice Chair at its inaugural meeting and at the first meeting following the Annual meeting of D&S IFCA each year thereafter. The Chair of the B&PSC shall not be the Chair of the Full Authority.

Functions

The role of the B&PSC is fundamental to the work of D&S IFCA. D&S IFCA reviews different fishing activities with a view to introducing appropriate management, which can also include the development of new byelaws. The primary function of the B&PSC is to support the delivery

of this task, so D&S IFCA is able to complete its functions as set out in Sections 153 and 154 Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. Core work and functions include:

- a. Reviewing the management of fishing activities
- b. Reviewing the effectiveness of existing legacy byelaws
- c. Reviewing current byelaws, no less than every five years
- d. Reviewing byelaw permit conditions, no less than every three years
- e. Where appropriate make amendments to existing byelaws
- f. Where appropriate make amendments to existing permit conditions
- g. Creating new byelaws
- h. Creating permit conditions to accompany new permitting byelaws
- i. Considering requests for a review of permit conditions
- j. Creating and reviewing policies for the administration of permits
- k. Creating and reviewing non-regulatory policies to support fisheries management
- l. Creating and reviewing guidance to support byelaws and permit conditions

This B&PSC must review information and evidence relevant to the review of management in line with the process set out in any relevant legislation, including any relevant byelaws. The B&PSC must discharge procedural obligations imposed by policy documentation. The B&PSC may consider any other matters referred to it by the Chief Officer or Chair of the Authority.

Delegated Powers

The Authority shall delegate powers to the B&PSC to complete the required functions. Although officers can and will provide technical advice, they will not take decisions at any time.

The B&PSC may delegate, to the Byelaw Technical Working Group, the drafting of legislation and legal documentation to introduce the agreed management measures.

The Chair of the B&PSC, or the Chief Officer in consultation with the Chair, may refer any of the matters set out above to the Authority for determination, where this is in the Authority's interests.

Role of Members

Members will:

- provide a channel of communication between the B&PSC and their host organisations.
- provide technical expertise and knowledge to the B&PSC to inform and support decision making.
- keep the B&PSC informed of their host organisations' policy initiatives and position.
- provide support to D&S IFCA's senior officers in their work for the Authority.
- notify officers if they are unable to attend scheduled meetings.

Members will be expected to play an active and participative role in all business associated with the B&PSC which may include, from time to time, written input.

Frequency of Meetings

It is expected that at least four meetings will be scheduled in advance per calendar year, or as and when required. Additional meetings or emergency meetings can be arranged at a

frequency determined by officers in order to undertake the level of work required in order that the D&S IFCA fulfils its legal responsibilities.

Sub-Committee Support

Support will be provided by D&S IFCA's officers and its administrative support team who will be responsible for collating and circulating agendas, minutes, and all required officer papers to members in advance of meetings. The D&S IFCA website will also be used to display information that is suitable for publication and relevant to the B&PSC meetings.

Review Date/s	Comments
16 th July 2021	B&PSC TOR adopted by the Authority.
May 2022	B&PSC TOR reviewed by Officers. B&PSC TOR (with no changes) prepared for presentation to Authority Members at the Authority meeting (AGM) – 16 th June 2022.
16 th June 2022	B&PSC TOR adopted by the Authority
15 th June 2023	B&PSC TOR examined by Authority Members at AGM held on 15 th June 2023. Minor amendment to the wording for the membership of the B&PSC.
Reviewed each year at Authority AGM as a repeating agenda item.	Content remains as per June 2023 edition until amendments are identified.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers

[Authority meeting minutes – 20th June 2024](#)

End.