

NORTH EASTERN INSHORE FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

05 SEPTEMBER 2024

Present

Cllr David Chance (Vice Chair)
Mr Graham Collins
Andrew Wheeler
Cllr Tim Norman

Representing

North Yorkshire Council
MMO appointee
MMO Appointee
East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Clerk Darren Stevens, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Treasurer Stephen Chandler, East Riding of Yorkshire Council and David McCandless, NEIFCA Chief Officer, also attended the meeting.

The meeting took place in County Hall, Beverley, the meeting commenced at 9.30am.

89.	APOLOGIES
	Apologies for absence received from Prof Mike Elliott and Cllr Neil Swannick
90.	DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS
	Resolved – The Chair asked Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests with respect to items on the Agenda and the nature of such interests. No such interests were declared.
91.	TO TAKE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 07 MARCH 2024 AS A CORRECT RECORD
	Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2024 are approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
92.	BUDGET MONITORING 2024/2025
	Treasurer Stephen Chandler advised Members of the budget position at the end of month 3 (June) in 2024/25. At the end of June 2024, the Authority has net expenditure of £295,156 against an expected £362,701 underspending by £67,546. The forecast outturn underspend is £156,431, mainly due to underspends on employees relating to vacancies and additional interest receipts due to the level of reserves set aside for the patrol vessel replacement. Any underspend at the end of the financial year will help towards the build of the new vessel.
	Resolved – The 2024/2025 budget monitoring position is noted.
93.	STRATEGIC AND OPERATION RISK REGISTER - REVIEW
	The Chief Officer, David McCandless presented a report to inform members that in accordance with the Authority's Risk Management Strategy, a six monthly review of the Strategic and Operational Risk Registers had been undertaken and reported for information.

	Key risks identified included staffing and financial relating to the sale of NEG III. The Chief Officer provided updated positions provided in relation to both.
	Resolved – The revised Strategic and Operational Risk Register is noted and should be reviewed in six months' time.
94.	NEIFCA STANDBY AND CALLOUT POLICY
	Chief Officer David McCandless presented a Standby & Call out policy to members which set out a framework for the designation of an 'out of hours' officer point of contact through a rota system alongside terms and conditions and additional remuneration for acting in such a role. Officers would be given the option to opt in or out of such a scheme and those officer's choosing to opt in would be retained on a list which would be rotated around units of one week. Members agreed that the provision would enhance the service to stakeholders.
	Resolved – (a) Members noted the report (b) Members recommended the Standby & Call Out Policy be approved and adopted.
95.	STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS – ANNUAL REVIEW
	Chief Officer David McCandless presented a report to seek members approval to adopt the amendments to the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations In line with the recommendations of the 2024 NEIFCA Internal Audit a review of the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations has been completed by the Treasurer and Clerk in consultation with the Chief Officer and some minor changes have been made which are included in the report.
	Resolved – (a) Members noted the report (b) Members agreed that the revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations be approved and adopted.
96.	NEIFCA ANNUAL AUDIT 2023/2024
	The Clerk and Chief Officer presented a report to inform Members of the findings of the annual audit. The overall assurance opinion is substantial, maintaining the level achieved in the 2022/2023 audit. A sound system of governance, risk management and control exists, with internal controls operating effectively and being consistently applied to support the achievement of objectives in the area audited.
	Resolved – Members noted the report.
97.	CHIEF OFFICERS OPERATIONAL UPDATE
	Chief Officer David McCandless presented a report to provide members with an operational update covering the period March 2024 to August 2024. The report focused on the development of the new build vessel with a visual update provided for members by Deputy Chief Ian Davies. The new vessel is currently on budget and schedule with delivery expected for April 2025. Discussions held by members on launch strategy of the new vessel with the Chief Officer reporting help with this would be sought from both ERYC and NYC press offices.
	Resolved - Members noted the report.

98.	HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY & SAFE WORKING PRACTICES 2024/2025 - REVIEW
	Chief Officer David McCandless advised members of the completion of the six monthly review of the Authority's Health & Safety provisions. Since the last review reported to the Executive Committee on 7 March 2024 there had been no notable incidents or accidents to report to members. The provision of mandatory stab vests removed in March 2024 had been continuously monitored and risk level had not changed.
	Resolved - Members noted the report.
99.	NEIFCA BYELAWS UPDATE
	Chief Officer Davis McCandless presented a report to members to update them on the progress of the 3 byelaws made recently by the authority. Both the Shellfish Permit Byelaw and the Humber Estuary Byelaw were currently in second stage quality assurance with the MMO. Once this process was complete, they would then pass to the Minister in London for formal sign off. Most likely this would run into the first few months of 2025. The Beam Trawling Byelaw was currently the subject of formal public consultation. To date two responses had been received from hobby fishermen affected by the draft proposals. In response, the Chief Officer advised members that an exception had been added to the draft byelaw which would enable hobby fishermen to continue using a single 2.5m beam trawl without the need for an additional permit. This new byelaw would be 'fast tracked' due to the emergency byelaw expiring in January 2025.
	Resolved - Members noted the report.
100.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
	No items recorded.
	The meeting closed at 11.20