

## **NERC Cruise Programme Executive Board - Terms of Reference**

### **I. The NERC Cruise Programme Executive Board**

The NERC Cruise Programme Executive Board will be Chaired by the NERC Director, Science & Innovation (the 'customer' for NERC science programmes) and its membership will also include the:

NERC Director, Finance  
Chair of the NERC Cruise Programming Review Group  
Chair of the NERC Marine Facilities Advisory Board  
NOC Chief Operating Officer  
NOC Associate Director, National Marine Facilities (NMF)  
BAS Director of Operations

In addition, there will be a number of ex officio members of the Board who will be involved in meeting as is required.

A full list of the members is provided at **Annex I**.

### **2. Remit**

The NERC Cruise Programme Executive Board has been convened by NERC Council to oversee the implementation of the funding model for the NMF ship and technical support operations and to ensure that the science and financial risks associated with the funding model are well managed by NERC in the future. In setting up the Board, the NERC Executive still retains the right to veto any decisions that are made if it considers this is required to manage NERC's science and financial risks.

### **3. Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference of the NERC Cruise Programme Executive Board are to:

- I. Approve the publication of the NERC Cruise Programme on an 8-month rolling basis, taking full account of the associated science and financial risks.
- II. When required, decide on the priority for programming of competing ship-time bids for science and income earning cruises on the *RRS Discovery* and *RRS James Cook*.
- III. Monitor any financial gap that opens up between the NERC National Capability funding to cover the Owner and Ready-to-Go costs of NMF ship and technical support operations, and the actual costs of delivering these operations.
- IV. Take a longer-term view (up to 3-years ahead) on the planning for *RRS Discovery* and *RRS James Cook* and identify at an early stage science opportunities (e.g. potential for developing large programmes in remote regions) and income earning opportunities (e.g. windows in the emerging cruise programme to target for third party income earning cruises) that NERC should try to take advantage of.
- V. Review the reward/incentive model for ship funding model for *RRS Discovery* and *RRS James Cook* and, when required, adjust the model to ensure that there is an appropriate balance of risk between NERC and NOC.

- VI. Oversee the delivery of the NMF capital programme for *RRS James Cook* and *RRS Discovery*, and for the National Marine Equipment Pool and Marine Autonomous and Robotic Systems, and ensure that the associated benefits realisation plans are effectively monitored by NERC.
- VII. Ensure that NERC effectively communicates with the seagoing science community, especially when decisions are made by NERC that have significant consequences for the delivery of NERC science.
- VIII. Consider any major issues/risks that the Chairs of the NERC Cruise Programme Review Group (CPRG) and NERC Marine Facilities Advisory Board (MFAB) wish to raise following the meetings of their advisory groups.

#### **4. Mode of operation of meetings**

The NERC Cruise Programme Executive Board will meet at least twice a year (in the Summer and Winter). These meetings will ideally follow shortly after the CPRG and MFAB have met to ensure that any issues/risks that have been identified can be raised in a timely fashion with the Board. It is anticipated that the main business of the Board will typically be completed in no more than half a day. Members can attend meeting in person, or via videoconference.

Any written papers for agenda items will be provided to the Board by email at least two working days in advance of Board's meetings.

## Annex I. Membership of the NERC Cruise Programme Executive Board

### NERC Cruise Programme Executive Board (CPEB) membership – Nov 2015

<p>Prof Tim Wheeler (CPEB Chair) NERC Director, Science and Innovation</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:igil@nerc.ac.uk">igil@nerc.ac.uk</a> <i>First meeting: July 2016</i></p>	<p>Mr Nigel Bird NERC Director, Finance</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:nibi@nerc.ac.uk">nibi@nerc.ac.uk</a> <i>First meeting: Nov 2015</i></p>
<p>Prof Paul Tyler University of Southampton and, Chair of the NERC Cruise Programme Review Group</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:pat8@noc.soton.ac.uk">pat8@noc.soton.ac.uk</a> <i>Start: November 2015</i> <i>End: November 2017 (?)</i></p>	<p>Prof Mark Inall Scottish Association for Marine Science and Chair of the NERC Marine Facilities Advisory Board</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:Mark.Inall@sams.ac.uk">Mark.Inall@sams.ac.uk</a> <i>Start: November 2015</i> <i>End: November 2017 (?)</i></p>
<p>Mr Leigh Storey Associate Director, National Marine Facilities National Oceanography Centre</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:leigh.storey@noc.ac.uk">leigh.storey@noc.ac.uk</a> <i>First meeting: November 2015</i></p>	<p>Ms Julie Pringle Stewart Chief Operating Officer National Oceanography Centre</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:jfp@noc.ac.uk">jfp@noc.ac.uk</a> <i>First meeting: November 2015</i></p>
<p>Mr Tim Stockings Director of Operations British Antarctic Survey Email: <a href="mailto:timtoc@bas.ac.uk">timtoc@bas.ac.uk</a> <i>First meeting: TBC</i></p>	
<p>Dr Natalie Clark (<i>ex officio</i>) NERC Marine Planning Officer Natural Environment Research Council</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:natcla@nerc.ac.uk">natcla@nerc.ac.uk</a> <i>First meeting : TBC</i></p>	<p>Mrs Debbie Mason (CPEB Secretary) Natural Environment Research Council</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:deso@nerc.ac.uk">deso@nerc.ac.uk</a> <i>First meeting : November 2015</i></p>