



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN
WATERS
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

—
12 March 2025

Agenda

09:00 – 09:10	1. Welcome and introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome from the Chair (Emiel Brouckaert) • Apologies • Adoption of the agenda • Action points from the last meeting (21 October 2024, virtual)
09:10 – 09:30	2. Approval of action points from the Working Groups
09:30 – 09:45	3. Dialogue with NWW MSG – Noelia Cuervo, Spanish presidency of the NWW Member States Group
09:45 – 11:00	4. Dialogue with DG MARE – Fabrizio Donatella (Director), Thomas Brégeon (Deputy HoU), DG MARE C5
11:00– 11:15	COFFEE
11:15 – 11:20	5. Approval of NWWAC advice on the EU Oceans Pacts (Secretariat)
11:20 – 11:45	6. NWWAC Work Programme and Budget Year 20 – state of play (Secretariat)
11:45 – 12:00	7. NWWAC Chair nomination (Secretariat)
12:00 – 12:15	8. Election of NWWAC ExCom Vice Chairs- (Secretariat)
12:15 – 12:20	9. AOB
12:20 – 12:30	10. Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair

Action points from the last meeting

1. Members to submit additional questions for DG MARE to the Secretariat for written response.
2. AC to follow up on necessary responses to UK FMPs consultation.
3. NWWAC to put forward to the Commission ideas on changes in management principles, for example spurdog.
4. FG Spatial Dimension to address socio-economic assessment of developments within MSP.
5. AC needs to clarify that it was not consulted as part of the JR VME. Identify FG to follow up on discussion points re VME to take forward work.
6. Vice-Chair elections are postponed until March 2025.
7. Secretariat to initiate next steps in the procedure for the appointment of a new AC Chair.
8. AC needs to make an effort in addressing conflict within the AC to reestablish trust and cohesion.
9. Members to review Work Programme and ensure that proper action is taken on the items identified.
10. Members to revert to either the Secretariat or Stephan directly to establish if their country is interested in developing the ACFishMap in other ACs.

Action points Working Group 1 – Irish Sea

- 1 Follow up with BIM to keep the AC informed on the upcoming gear trials which will take place during spring/ summer this year.
- 2 WG to develop query to the Commission regarding the monetisation of carbon credits for the fishing industry.

Action points Working Group 2 – Celtic Sea & West of Scotland

- 1 Further engage with AZTI following the presentation and dissemination of the Northern Hake Stock dynamic
- 2 Declining SSBs while *MSY*-fished : members agreed to further dig in regarding the causes of the bad recruitments that several stocks are facing, leading to decreasing SSBs for several important stocks. Though not very specific at this moment, the idea would be to further look at inter-specific predation (boarfish, bluefin tuna..), intra-specific mechanisms (cannibalism), and should include analysis regarding the data collection for food stomachs analysis, that we could encourage to be funded if necessary. Asking the EC to organize a specific request to ICES could be developed.
- 3 Include a presentation of the Nephrops Porcupine Survey by BIM during WG2 meeting in July.

Action points Working Group 3 – Channel

1. Secretariat to contact ICES to present the seabass benchmark results to the FG seabass and discussion on the implications for advice and future management of stocks.
2. Secretariat to organise next meeting of the FG Scallop to discuss technical measures
3. Working Group to follow the Member States Group's discussions on lemon sole and red mullet
4. Working Group to follow the results of the Benchmark on flatfish in the Eastern Channel and the related advice

Action points Horizontal Working Group

1. NWWAC to develop advice on the “Vision for Agriculture and Food” roadmap.
2. Secretariat to circulate draft CFP response and ask for additional input on strategic topics. Next meeting of FG CFP to be organised for end of March to continue advice drafting.
3. Secretariat to circulate invitation for ICES WGENGAGE.
4. Secretariat to share ICES documentation from MIAC/MIACO in NWWAC Members Area. AC to follow up in HWG topics from MIAC and MIACO possibly for July meetings.
5. Secretariat to contact LDAC regarding next meeting of Inter-AC Brexit Forum and emphasise the importance of including detailed update on TCA review 2026. Possibility to formulate request to Commission regarding increased AC involvement on this topic.

Action points Horizontal Working Group

6. FG Climate to meet and prepare advice on Energy Transition Partnership.
7. Secretariat to contact UK Seabass group again for AC inclusion in work. Secretariat to organise next meeting once benchmark results are available.
8. Proposal to the joint FG Social Aspects to include in ToR a case study of area 7d.



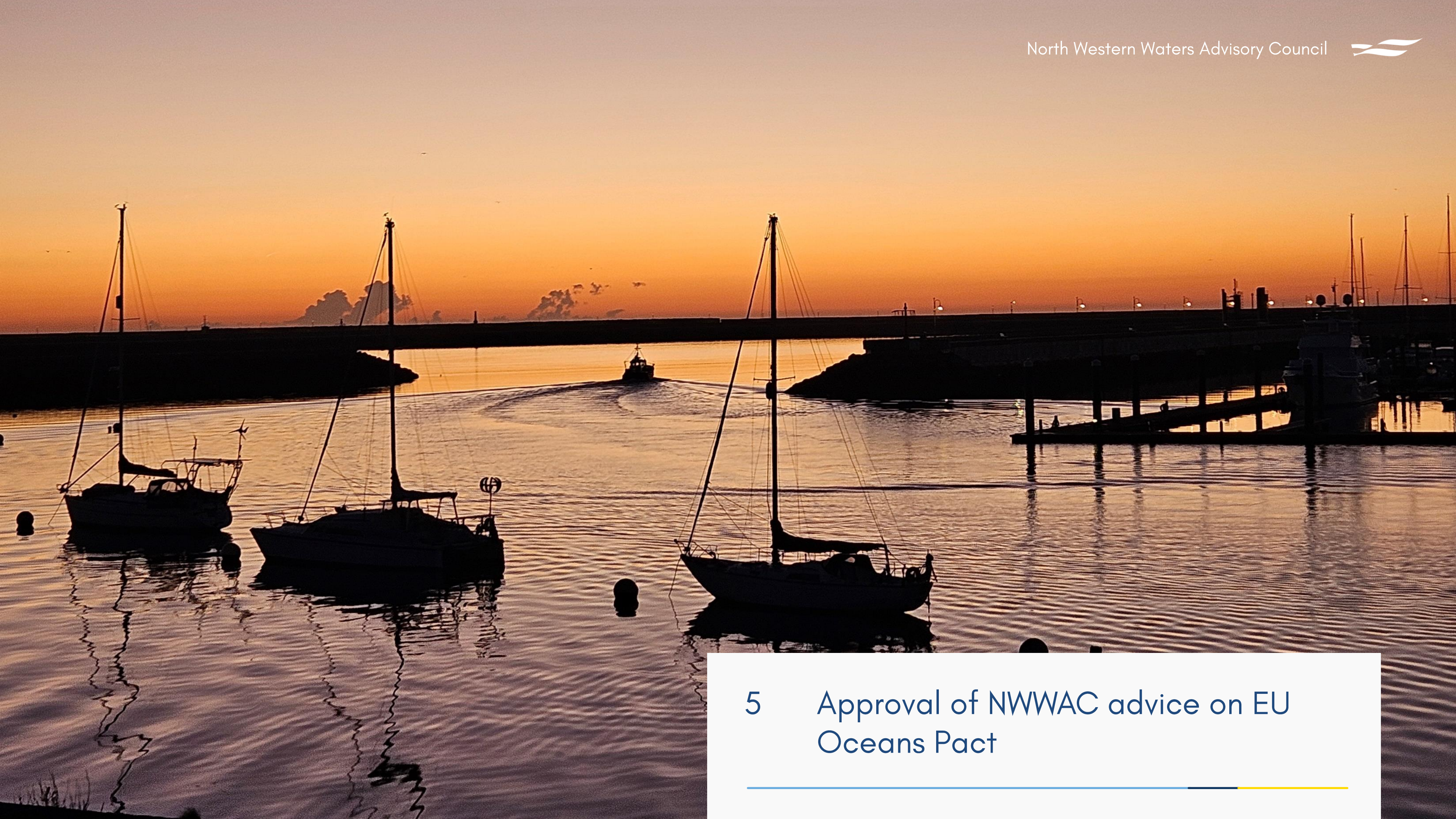
- 3 Dialogue with the NWW MSG – Noelia Cuervo, Spanish presidency of the NWW Member States Group
 - 3 Dialogue with DG MARE – Fabrizio Donatella (Director), Thomas Brégeon (HoU)
-



COFFEE BREAK

11:00 – 11:15 CET





5 Approval of NWWAC advice on EU Oceans Pact



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

Work Programme Year 20



www.nwwac.org

Planned recommendations YR20



No	Issue/subject	Link with the CFP	WG/FG at the origin of the recommendation	Planned date of adoption (if available)
1	Advice on Addressing Choke Risk in the NWW after exemptions	Article 2, 14, 15	WG1, WG2, WG3	January 2025
2	Advice on topics related to the Landing Obligation	Article 2, 14, 15	Horizontal WG (Focus Group Landing Obligation)	March 2025
3	Advice on the implementation of the EU Technical Measures Regulation, including directed fisheries definition	Article 2, 10	Horizontal Working Group	November 2024 December 2024 January 2025
4	Advice on Technical Measures as a topic in the execution of the TCA if relevant proposals are put forward by the Commission	Article 2	WG1, WG2, WG3, HWG	July 2025
5	Advice on Fishing Opportunities 2026 & COM Policy Paper	Article 2, 14, 15, 16	WG1, WG2, WG3, HWG	July 2025
6	Advice on the management of skates & rays	Article 2, 10, 14, 15, 16	HWG (Focus Group Skates & Rays)	January 2025
7	Advice relating to SCF issues: technical measures, non-quota species etc.	Article 2, 14, 15	Horizontal WG	December 2024
8	Advice related to climate & environment topics, e.g., EU Biodiversity Strategy, EU Green Deal, Farm to Fork Strategy, Nature Restoration Law	Article 2	HWG (Focus Group Climate & Environment)	November 2024 December 2024 February 2025
9	Advice on social aspects related to fisheries in the NWW	Article 2	HWG (Focus Group Social Aspects)	In progress
10	Advice on aspects raised in the CFP Communication or as part of the CFP evaluation	Article 2	HWG (Focus Group CFP and other relevant FGs once identified)	In progress
11	Advice on aspects raised in the Action Plan	Article 2	HWG (Focus Group CFP and other relevant FGs once identified)	May 2025
12	Advice on aspects raised in the Energy Transition Communication	Article 2	HWG (Relevant FG once identified)	December 2024



Additional recommendations Year 20

- Joint NSAC-LDAC-PelAC-NWWAC-SWWAC-BSAC Advice on stakeholder engagement in ICES advice request formulation – October 2024
- NWWAC advice on stocks to prioritise for benchmark workshops by ICES – December 2024
- Joint-ACs advice on stakeholder engagement in Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) processes – February 2025



Planned meetings Year 20

	Date (for the first 6 months, please provide precise dates)	Topics /subjects of meeting	Type of meeting (physical/ planned/ hybrid)	European Commission participation requested (yes/no)	Date held	Priority for a Commission participation (from 1 to 4) (1= highest priority)
1	04 October 2024	CHARM	Virtual	No	03 October 2024	
2	09 October 2024	Working Group 1	virtual	yes	09 October 2024	1
3	09 October 2024	Working Group 2	virtual	yes	09 October 2024	1
4	09 October 2024	Working Group 3	virtual	yes	09 October 2024	1
5	10 October 2024	Horizontal Working Group	virtual	yes	10 October 2024	1
6	13 October 2024	Focus Group CFP	physical	no		
7	tbc October 2024	Workshop on Scallop Management in the Channel	physical	yes		1
8	22 October 2024	Executive Committee	virtual	yes	22 October 2024	1
9	27 October 2023	Focus Group Climate	virtual	no		
10	01 November 2024	Focus Group Landing Obligation	virtual	no	22 November 2024	

Planned meetings Year 20 ctnd.

11	04 November 2024	CHARM	Virtual	no	04 November 2024	
12	07 November 2024	Focus Group Scallop	virtual	yes	25 November 2024	
13	15 November 2024	Focus Group Control & Compliance	Virtual	no	31 October 2024	
14	25 November 2024	Focus Group Skates & Rays	physical	yes	18 October 2024	1
15	28 November 2024	Focus Group CFP	virtual	no		
16	16 December 2024	Focus Group Social Aspects	virtual	no	17 December 2024	
17	06 January 2025	CHARM	Virtual	no	08 January 2025	
18	10 January 2025	Focus Group MSP/ORE	virtual	no	07 November 2024	
19	31 January 2025	Focus Group Control & Compliance	virtual	no	05 February 2025	
20	03 February 2025	CHARM	Virtual	no	04 February 2025	
21	04 February 2025	Inter-AC Brexit Forum	In-person	Yes	04 February 2025	1
22	07 February 2025	Focus Group CFP	virtual	no		
23	23 February 2025	Focus Group Social Aspects	virtual	no	28 March 2025	
24	03 March 2025	CHARM	Virtual	no	05 March 2025	
25	10 March 2025	Working Group 1 Irish Sea	hybrid	yes	10 March 2025	1
26	10 March 2025	Working Group 3 English Channel	hybrid	yes	10 March 2025	1
27	11 March 2025	Working Group 2 Celtic Sea & West of Scotland	hybrid	yes	10 March 2025	1
28	11 March 2025	Horizontal Working Group	hybrid	yes	11 March 2025	1
29	12 March 2025	Executive Committee	hybrid	yes	12 March 2025	1
30	07 April 2025	CHARM	virtual	no		
31	05 May 2025	CHARM	virtual	no		
32	02 June 2025	CHARM	Virtual	no		
33	02 July 2025	CHARM	Virtual	no		
34	02 July 2025	Working Group 1 Irish Sea	hybrid	yes	ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts	1
35	02 July 2025	Working Group 3 English Channel	hybrid	yes	ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts	1





Planned meetings Year 20 ctnd.

36	03 July 2025	Horizontal Working Group	hybrid	yes	depending on the topics discussed a DG MARE expert will be requested	1
37	03 July 2025	General Assembly	Hybrid	no		
38	03 July 2025	Working Group 2 Celtic Sea & West of Scotland	hybrid	yes	ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts	1
39	04 July 2025	Executive Committee	hybrid	yes	Dialogue with the Commission and Member States; EU-UK negotiations, fishing opportunities 2026	1
40	25 July 2025	Focus Group Landing Obligation	Virtual	no		
41	29 July 2025	CHARM	Virtual	no		
42	01 September 2025	CHARM	Virtual	no		
43	12 September 2025	Focus Group Landing Obligation	Virtual	No		
44	23 September 2025	Focus Group CFP	virtual	no		
45	25 September 2025	General Assembly	virtual	no	Approval of Year 20 annual report and budget	



Upcoming meetings

- 20 Mar NMCI conference
- 25–27 Mar ICES WGENGAGE
- 01–04 Apr ICES WSKATE2
- 08–09 Apr Inter-AC with DG MARE
- 10 Apr CIBBRiNA
- 23 Apr EFCA Advisory Board
- 24 Apr EFCA anniversary event
- 21–23 May EMD
- 02–04 Jul NWWAC Working Groups and ExCom, Vigo



UPDATE ON YEAR 20 ACCOUNTS

Year 20 – Income – Current Position

	Original Budget 01 October 2024	Actual Income at 12 March 2025	Outstanding
Member States	€ 25,000	€ 20,000	€ 5,000
Commission	€ 343,332	€ 274,666.60	€ 68,665.40
Member's Fees + interest on fees + misc. income	€ 28,700	€ 28,700	€ 0
Total	€ 397,032	€ 313,366.60	€ 73,665.40

Year 20 – Expenditure – Current Position

	Eligible Predicted Budget 01 October 2024	Actual Expenditure up to 12 March 2025	Estimated actual expenditure 30 September 2025
Staff	€ 201,893.04	€ 76,560	€ 190,000
Reimbursements	€ 75,249.60	€ 6,711	€ 75,000
Interpretation & Translation	€ 66,597.80	€ 12,869	€ 70,000
Meetings and Information	€ 9,946.24	€ 8,133	€ 12,000
Operating costs	€ 16,345.32	€ 9,914	€ 16,032
Chairman Fees / Audit	€ 20,000.00	€ 8,690	€ 22,000
Other contracts	€ 7,000.00	€ 1,504	€ 15,000
Total	€ 397,032	€124,381	€ 397,032

Surplus from Year 19: €33,961

- Opportunity to move the website to open source
 - Keep in savings account as buffer in case payment from the Commission is delayed
 - Other suggestions?
-

7 NWWAC Chair Nomination

8 Election of NWWAC ExCom Vice Chairs

The Vice Chairperson(s) of the Executive Committee

42. Three members, two nominated from within the industry college and one nominated from within the OIG college, shall be appointed by the members of the Executive Committee for a (renewable) term of three years. The Vice-Chairperson(s) shall be a member(s) of the Executive Committee and shall have a vote.
 43. Nominations must be made by Executive Committee members during the first meeting of the newly elected Executive Committee and seconded by another Executive Committee member.
 44. Members of the Executive Committee will vote for Vice-chairpersons in an open ballot.
 45. If the same amount of votes is received by two or more candidates, the Secretariat shall initiate a secret second ballot via electronic procedure within one week of the first ballot held.
- Procedure based on AC Chair being a member of the industry college
 - Proposal to amend procedure and elect three Vice-Chairs from industry college as Chair is now from OIG college





9

AOB

10

Summary of actions agreed and decisions
adopted by the Chair



Thank you.

North Western Waters Advisory Council 