



Humber Nature Forum

Terms of Reference

1. Background

- 1.1 The Humber Estuary is important for people, wildlife and the economy. It is a nationally important trade route and is designated as a European Marine Site for its conservation importance.
- 1.2 The Humber Nature Partnership works with a diversity of organisations around the Humber Estuary to protect and enhance the Estuary's world class environment for wildlife, the UK economy and people, gaining benefits for all.
- 1.3 The Humber Nature Partnership delivers the Humber Management Scheme¹, ecological services for business, projects and supports the Humber Nature Forum.
- 1.4 The Humber Nature Forum has been established to ensure that all organisations or individuals with an interest in the Humber Estuary have an opportunity to become involved and influence the work of the Humber Nature Partnership. It subsumes the Humber Advisory Group which was established in 2002 to support the work of the Humber Management Scheme.
- 1.5 The Humber Nature Forum is open to all organisations and individuals with an interest in the Estuary and works with the Humber Nature Partnership staff to meet the aims of the organisation.

2 Role of the Humber Nature Forum

- 2.1 Provide a forum to share information and best practice on estuary management.
- 2.2 Provide two-way dialogue between statutory organisations and estuary stakeholders.
- 2.3 Engage with and disseminate information to estuary stakeholders with an interest, knowledge and/or expertise.
- 2.4 Assist, where appropriate, in the delivery of Humber Nature Partnership actions.

3 Role of Humber Nature Partnership staff

- 3.1 Organise and provide secretariat for Humber Nature Forum meetings.
- 3.2 Promote the Humber Nature Forum and associated meetings.
- 3.3 Actively encourage a diversity of organisations and interests to be involved in the Humber Nature Forum
- 3.4 Share and engage the Humber Nature Forum in the work of the Humber Nature Partnership.

¹ The Humber Management Scheme is the management plan for the Humber Estuary European Marine Site

3.5 Ensure that the outputs of the Humber Nature Forum meetings are shared with the Humber Nature Partnership Board.

4 Conduct of Business

- 4.1 Members of the Humber Nature Forum will be required to register as a member of the Humber Nature Partnership. The Humber Nature Forum will aim to meet at least three times a year
- 4.2 Humber Nature Forum meetings will include a presentation relevant to the sustainable management of the Humber Estuary and will allow opportunity for open discussion on wider estuary issues.
- 4.3 Humber Nature Forum meetings will provide an opportunity for the Humber Nature Partnership to share progress against set priorities as set out in the business plan. They also provide an opportunity for the Humber Nature Forum to influence the Humber Nature Partnership priorities.
- 4.4 A Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson will be elected annually from within the Humber Nature Forum.
- 4.5 Any Humber Nature Forum member may propose relevant items for discussion on the agenda, and particular notice will be paid to the current priorities of the Humber Nature Partnership as outlined in the most up-to-date business plan.
- 4.6 The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson is invited to attend all Humber Management Scheme Management Group² meetings and, as agreed by the Humber Nature Forum, may propose relevant items for discussion on the agenda of these meetings.
- 4.7 A member of the Humber Nature Partnership Board will be nominated to act a representative of the Humber Nature Forum at Humber Nature Partnership Board meetings.
- 4.8 At least one member of Humber Estuary Relevant Authority Group will attend each Humber Nature Forum meeting.

5 Finance

- 5.1 The Humber Nature Partnership will provide an annual budget for HNF to support meetings and cover the cost of insurance for any Humber Nature Forum activities.
- 5.2 The Humber Nature Forum may seek funding from the Humber Nature Partnership or externally for project work.

6 Acceptance and Amendment of Terms of Reference

² The HMS Management Group contains representatives from the Humber Estuary Relevant Authorities Group (HERAG). Relevant Authorities are organisations with statutory responsibilities in relation to the Humber Estuary European Marine Site. The Management Group is responsible for the management plan for the Humber Estuary European Marine Site.

These Terms of Reference can only be approved and amended with the agreement of Humber Nature Forum members at a Humber Nature Forum meeting. If future changes are proposed, Humber Nature Forum members will be made aware before a meeting.

Terms of Reference agreed by the HNF:

Chair Date

Vice Chair Date