

The Crown Estate and the University of the Highlands and Islands

A Memorandum of Understanding

The Highlands and Islands region of Scotland is at the heart of the European low carbon energy revolution, assisted by its expanse of coastal waters, strong winds, waves and tides.

There are unparalleled opportunities for the people of the Highlands and Islands to benefit and drive the necessary shift towards renewable energy and a low carbon economy.

There is significant planned investment in the energy industry over the next ten years.

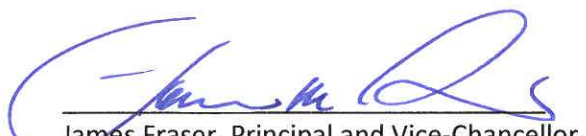
Both The Crown Estate and the University of the Highlands and Islands recognise the importance of collaboration to ensure the skills and people are in place to take advantage of this opportunity.

This memorandum commits both parties to work together. A steering group will be formed to oversee collaboration and to instigate co-operation not just between The Crown Estate and the University of the Highlands and Islands, but also to ensure that local businesses and communities are engaged. Key areas for collaboration and opportunity exist across offshore energy generation, both in creating the right training infrastructure and in promoting innovation and research.

We have already started working together, and we are encouraged by what has been achieved. This memorandum is intended to formalise, co-ordinate and expand our work together. The overall objective is to ensure that the people of the Highlands and Islands are well placed to benefit from the opportunities that are presented as we deliver the energy revolution in the Highlands and Islands, Scotland and the rest of the United Kingdom..

The University of the Highlands and Islands acknowledges that The Crown Estate has entered into a framework document with HM Treasury which describes the working relationship between The Crown Estate and HM Treasury. The parties recognise that the HM Treasury framework document will take precedence over this memorandum.

The University of the Highlands and Islands and The Crown Estate agree that this memorandum is not legally binding between them and does not create any legal rights or obligations. It is however a statement of their shared intention to work together in a spirit of co-operation in pursuance of the matters outlined above.



James Fraser, Principal and Vice-Chancellor,
University of the Highlands and Islands



Alison Nimmo CBE, Chief Executive
and Second Commissioner, The
Crown Estate