

**NSHC WORKING GROUPS**

**North Sea ENC Harmonisation Working Group**

**Report by the Chairman of the North Sea ENC Harmonisation Working Group**

*(Paul Barrett; June 2014)*

**Background**

Mr Paul Barrett was appointed Chairman of the NSEHWG in June 2013. The outgoing chairman was Mr Mark Aspen.

The HSSC Action Item B3 “Develop guidelines for preparation and maintenance of small and medium scale ENC schemes” was placed on the Chart Standardization and Paper Chart Working Group (CSPCWG) who then tasked the NSEHWG.

**Actions**

The NSEHWG Chairman produced a revised version of Part A of IHO Publication S-11 Guidance for the Preparation and Maintenance of International Chart Schemes. This document was reviewed by the outgoing Chairman of the CSPCWG Mr Peter Jones. The draft S11 Part A now incorporates guidelines for the preparation and maintenance of ENC Schemes into the existing guidance for INT paper chart schemes.

The draft S11 Part A has been circulated to the NSEHWG members. The feedback has been excellent and very detailed (all members contributing). However there is still some difference of opinion among the NSEHWG members over the structure of the paper. A meeting will be convened to discuss them. This is likely to take place in Copenhagen in August.

**Future plans**

The NSEHWG Chair was invited to attend the Baltic Sea International Chart Coordination Working Group meeting as an observer in April 2014. In an attempt to improve ENC Harmonisation in the North Sea region, plans are in place to conduct a survey similar to the one carried out by the BSICCWG.

Juha Korhonen (BSICCWG Chair) suggested the NSEHWG should adopt their ENC Harmonisation questionnaire as a template in an attempt to create improved consistency between the two RHC areas. This will be on the agenda for the NSEHWG August meeting.