



## **NON-EXECUTIVE CHAIR, SEA FISH INDUSTRY AUTHORITY (SEAFISH)**

**£18,000 p.a. based on 30 days per year**

**Edinburgh, Grimsby and Nationwide**

The UK fisheries administrations are appointing a new Chair of the Board for the Sea Fish Industry Authority (Seafish). The successful candidate will provide strategic direction and leadership to the organisation which balances the priorities of the seafood industry. We invite applications from individuals who work well within a group, participate in strategic discussion, think analytically, contribute to collective decision-making, are good communicators and have an ability to build relationships with a diverse range of stakeholders.

### **Seafish**

Seafish is an industry-levy funded body jointly sponsored by the four fisheries administrations; Scottish Government, Welsh Government, the Northern Ireland Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and Defra.

Seafish carries out a wide range of activities aiming to promote the consumption of seafood, enhance the reputation of the industry and support the collection of data and provision of information, evidence and advice for decision-making in the supply chain. It offers regulatory guidance and services to all parts of the seafood industry, including catching and aquaculture, processors, importers, exporters and distributors of seafood, as well as restaurants and retailers.

One of the key challenges for Seafish in the next five years will be to support and guide the seafood industry through the changing landscape that leaving the EU presents.

### **Description of Role**

The non-executive Chair of Seafish will be responsible for:

- providing effective leadership and strategic direction to develop a cohesive and focused Board which recognises the need to work collaboratively with levy payers, industry, Government, delivery bodies and stakeholders to deliver Seafish's objectives effectively and efficiently;
- leading the formulation of the Board's strategy, ensuring Seafish discharges its statutory duties;

- leading the Board in overseeing the timely production of realistic and costed business and forward corporate plans, monitoring in-year performance and examining change proposals with rigour to maintain focus on delivery;
- leading the Board in scrutinising and holding the Executive to account;
- ensuring that the Board, in reaching decisions, taking proper account of evidence and any guidance provided by Ministers or the sponsor departments;
- encouraging high standards of governance, propriety and promoting the efficient and effective use of staff and resources throughout Seafish including promoting openness and transparency in how Seafish conducts its business and financial strategy;
- taking a key role in representing the Board and Seafish in communications with key senior stakeholders and partners.

## Qualities and experience required – essential criteria

Candidates must be able to demonstrate all of the following essential criteria:

1. The ability to provide effective strategic leadership and support the reform of a complex and dynamic UK-based delivery organisation during a challenging period of change in a political and stakeholder influenced environment.
2. The ability and capacity to champion and be an ambassador for Seafish by clearly communicating its strategic direction and mission to support a profitable, sustainable and socially responsible future for the seafood industry.
3. The ability to engage and influence a diverse group of senior stakeholders and partners to deliver a top-quality service to customers.
4. The ability to build an effective team culture, create consensus and find practical solutions both within the Board and in the way the wider organisation does business.
5. Proven expertise in financial and resource management, audit and governance.

For further information about this role, please visit:

<https://publicappointments.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/about-appointments/>

Closing date for applications: 12:00 noon on Friday 6 November 2020.

We anticipate the interviews will be held in early January, normally in Defra's head office in London; Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR. We are looking at alternative arrangements to take account of restrictions imposed in managing the Covid-19 pandemic, including the use of Skype or Zoom. We will discuss arrangements with candidates as necessary. The interview will last approximately 45 minutes.

We actively encourage applications from individuals from a diverse range of backgrounds. Defra operates a guaranteed interview scheme for disabled people.

