



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

**Bass Management Group 6th Meeting Agenda**

**Date: 5 May 2026**

**Location: Online – Teams**

| <b>Time</b> | <b>Item</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Lead</b>                                                                  |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:00       | <b>Welcome, introduction and updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Actions from previous meeting</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Phil McBryde                                                                 |
| 10:05       | <b>FMP updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Recreational handling guidance and data collection.</li><li>- MMO Authorisation Review and Management Measures task-and-finish group</li><li>- IFCA short-term measures updates</li><li>- Defra updates<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o ICES allocation tool</li><li>o EU data sharing</li><li>o Closed Season</li><li>o Shore-based netting</li><li>o Discards infographic</li></ul></li></ul> | Gareth Henson<br><br>Chris Collins<br><br>Rob Pearson<br><br>Grant Horsburgh |
| 10:30       | <b>REM</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• REM policy team presentation on opportunities and barriers</li><li>• How REM may support Bass FMP objectives</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Elinor Brett<br><br>Group discussion                                         |
| 11:00       | <b>Closed Season</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Essex University study on sea bass spawning and timing of the closure period</li><li>• Future implications</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Anna Sturrock<br>Joseph Dawson<br><br>Group discussion                       |
| 11:30       | <b>Alternative Harvest Strategy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Review Of Sea Bass Harvest Strategies and Alternatives”</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | David Curtis<br>Laurie Kell<br><br>Group discussion                          |

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|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 12:10 | <b>Break for lunch</b>                                                                                                                                                                  |                           |
| 13:00 | <b>Medium/long-term measures</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Priority sequencing</li> <li>- Proposed future work on measures</li> <li>- Establishing a timeline</li> </ul> | Defra<br>Group discussion |
| 14:20 | <b>AOB</b>                                                                                                                                                                              |                           |
| 15:00 | <b>Close</b>                                                                                                                                                                            |                           |