

The Essential Guide to

cameras

A CO-ORDINATED AGENDA FOR MARINE, ENVIRONMENT & RURAL AFFAIRS SCIENCE

What is CAMERAS?

The Coordinated Agenda for Marine, Environment and Rural Affairs Science (CAMERAS) is a partnership initiative which was initiated by the Scottish Government after consultation with the partner organisations. CAMERAS is not an organisation and it does not have any staff.

What is the purpose of CAMERAS?

The purpose of CAMERAS is to align and coordinate the scientific activity of the CAMERAS partners to ensure best use of existing resource and provide enhanced support to Scottish Government policy development and delivery, primarily in the rural, environmental and marine areas.

What is meant by scientific activity?

The scientific activity covered by CAMERAS includes:

- research and analysis (strategic, applied, natural and social science – including economics)
- knowledge exchange
- monitoring and surveillance
- the more effective use of existing data and information.

Who are the CAMERAS partners?

The CAMERAS partner organisations are:

- Food Standards Agency Scotland (FSAS)
- Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS)
- Quality Meat Scotland (QMS)
- Scottish Government, including:
 - Marine Scotland Science (MSS)
 - Rural and Environment Directorate
 - Rural and Environment Science and Analytical Services (RESAS)
 - Science and Advice for Scottish Agriculture (SASA)
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- Scottish Water
- Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH).

Why is this being done?

The CAMERAS partners want to:

- make better use of their collective resource and capacity in the face of tighter budgets – doing better with less
- maximise the impact of evidence and analysis
- provide improved support to Ministers and policy makers
- provide a more coordinated response to relevant wider UK and global issues e.g. climate change, food security.

How is CAMERAS being managed?

CAMERAS is managed by a Board made up of senior staff from the partner organisations. The Board is responsible for identifying and managing projects which focus on a number of areas:

- improving evidence
- contributing to policy development and delivery
- horizon scanning
- building efficient, joined up and effective communications.

These projects will be delivered by staff from the CAMERAS partner organisations.

What does CAMERAS mean for me?

If you work for a CAMERAS partner organisation in a scientific or analytical area then chances are that the CAMERAS initiative touches upon the work that you do. This could mean that you will become involved in one of the specific CAMERAS projects or that you will be expected to take a 'CAMERAS approach' to the work that you already do. This way of working will help you to provide policy customers with a better service and will allow you to call upon a wider array of knowledge and expertise from across the partnership.

If you work in a policy area the CAMERAS initiative will, over time, mean that you can more easily draw upon the capacity that exists across the partnership to provide evidence and advice that supports your work.

What is meant by a 'CAMERAS approach'?

The CAMERAS approach is about the three Cs: Consultation, Collaboration and Creativity.

- Consultation – have you consulted with relevant staff from the other CAMERAS partners? Has someone already done this type of work? Do CAMERAS partners want to be involved?
- Collaboration – can the piece of work be delivered collaboratively by drawing upon skills and expertise from across the partnership? Can you provide a better service to Ministers and policy makers through collaboration? Will a joint approach enable resource savings?
- Creativity – are there new approaches and methods of partnership working that could be adopted that would deliver a better service or save money?

The ambition is that the CAMERAS approach will become the normal way of working across the CAMERAS partner organisations.

Where should I go to get more information?

Each CAMERAS partner organisation has a CAMERAS Coordinator who can provide you with more information about the initiative. The list of coordinators and their contact details can be found on the following page of the CAMERAS Website:-

<http://www.camerasscotland.org/about/who's-who-cameras>

The CAMERAS website is also a good place to find links to further information such as publications and events:

<http://www.camerasscotland.org>.