

REMIT AND TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE NERC SPACE GEODESY FACILITIES STEERING COMMITTEE

Remit

The NERC Space Geodesy Facilities Steering Committee:

- a) will provide advice to Director, Science Delivery on broad aspects of UK involvement in Space Geodesy;
- b) has specific responsibility to review work proposals of both the NERC Space Geodesy Facility (SGF) and the British Isles GPS archive Facility (BIGF) and to monitor outputs from each.

Director, Science Delivery, in turn provides advice to the Science and Technology areas of Council on services and facilities relevant to their remit; Space Geodesy is within the remit of both the NERC Marine and Earth Sciences.

Terms of Reference

1. To promote awareness in the UK scientific community of activities in space geodesy by:
 - a) reviewing multi-technique space geodesy initiatives;
 - b) organising, in collaboration with relevant learned societies, technical meetings and appropriate review papers.
2. To review work proposals of BIGF and establish priorities, for the Head of the BIGF Facility, for the allocation of resources funded from the NERC Science Delivery science budget.
3. To review work proposals of NSGF and establish priorities, for the Head of NSGF, for the allocation of resources funded from the NERC Science Delivery science budget, from the British National Space Centre and from the Ministry of Defence, taking into account recommendations made through those agency's peer review mechanisms.
4. To monitor the level of user satisfaction with and the quality of output from the NSGF and BIGF services and to analyse the user bases.
5. To give guidance to the Heads of both NSGF and BIGF on improvements of the Facilities' equipment and service functions.
6. To advise Director, Science Delivery on:
 - a) broad aspects of UK involvement in Space Geodesy;
 - b) the level and direction of the internal R&D programmes for both NSGF and BIGF;
 - c) anticipated changes in requirements from each of the two Facilities and the anticipated levels of future demand for each of them;
 - d) technical developments in the precise tracking of satellites and on procurement in this area.
 - e) technical developments in the use of networks of continuous receivers for scientific applications of GNSS satellites and on procurement in this area
7. To receive annually, and comment upon, reports from both the Head of NSGF and from the Head of BIGF before they are submitted to Director, Science Delivery, and to provide advice at other times to each Facility as appropriate.

Membership Constraints

Membership of the Committee will be decided by the Director, Science Delivery, with advice from the appropriate Science and Technology areas and suggestions from the Committee itself. It will include the Head of NSGF and of BIGF and representatives from NERC Science Delivery, from the BNSC and from the MoD. Members, other than *ex officio*, will be invited to serve for a term of up to four years with a maximum extension of a further two years. The Chairman will serve a maximum of four years.