MEDIN Standards Working Group Remit:

Objective: 'To establish and secure the widespread use of standards needed to support the search, evaluation and interoperability of data leading to efficient exchange and reuse of data and information'

Rational: A full range of standards are required to allow users to locate, assess and use the marine data sets they need, to provide guidelines for the generation and preparation of data according to recognised standards and best practice, and to help partners meet their obligations under the INSPIRE directive. The standards will cover, in an order to be agreed with reference to sponsors' priorities:

- Discovery metadata – broad summary level descriptions of a dataset that allow the user to locate data sets of interest.

- Evaluation metadata – the more detailed metadata associated with any dataset that is needed to decide whether it is fit for purpose.

- Data product specifications – the detailed formats for the actual data within a dataset which is required to use the data.

Terms of Reference:
- o Maintain an overview of standards and standard related initiatives relating to marine environmental data. In particular this includes INSPIRE and UKMMAS (especially the protocols group)

- o Identify those standards which are available and should be promoted further across the community as 'MEDIN approved'.

- o Identify gaps in the available standards and, informed by the other working groups within MEDIN and the sponsors requirements, identify the priority areas that should be filled

- o Develop a strategy and plan for filling the gaps identified and monitor progress towards the delivery of this

- o Publicise and promote the use of MEDIN approved standards in the marine community.

- o To review the uptake of the standards promoted with data generators and users and identify any additional action required to encourage adoption.

- o To identify any issues which will affect delivery of a coherent suite of standards and where necessary raise these with the Executive Group.

Meeting Schedule: The standards working group will meet at least every 6 months. Membership will be across all devolved administrations and represent a balance between users of standards and technical expertise.

Reporting: The group reports progress to the Executive Group every quarter.