

United Kingdom 2021

MSG review of the outcomes and impact of the EITI

Contents

Introduction	1
Part I: Relevance of EITI implementation	2
Work plan (Requirement 1.5).....	2
Monitoring progress	5
Innovations and impact	7
Part II: Public debate.....	12
Open data (Requirement 7.2)	12
Outreach and communications (Requirement 7.1)	14
Part III: Sustainability and effectiveness	19
Part IV: Stakeholder feedback and MSG approval	24

Introduction

Regular disclosure of extractive industry data is of little practical use without public awareness, understanding of what the figures mean, and public debate about how resource revenues can be used effectively. The EITI Requirements related to outcomes and impact seek to ensure that stakeholders are engaged in dialogue about natural resource revenue management. EITI disclosures lead to the fulfilment of the EITI Principles by contributing to wider public debate. It is also vital that lessons learnt during implementation are acted upon, that recommendations from EITI implementations are considered and acted on where appropriate and that EITI implementation is on a stable, sustainable footing.

The multi-stakeholder group may use this template to monitor the outcomes and impact of EITI implementation. Where information is already available elsewhere, it is sufficient to include a link to other publicly available documentation. The scope of this template reflects EITI Requirement 1.5 on work plan and Requirements 7.1 to 7.4 on outcomes and impact.

The MSG is required to review the outcomes and impact of EITI implementation annually (Requirement 7.4). The MSG is encouraged to update this document annually to monitor progress, keep track of efforts to improve data accessibility and inform work planning.

To inform Validation, the MSG is required to submit the completed form to the International Secretariat Validation team by the Validation commencement date. The period captured in this review may be the period since the previous Validation or the previous calendar/fiscal year. The MSG should clearly indicate the period covered by its review.

The MSG's annual review of the outcomes and impact of EITI implementation should be publicly available, and stakeholders beyond MSG members should have an opportunity to provide feedback on the EITI process (Requirement 7.4).

Part I: Relevance of EITI implementation

Work plan (Requirement 1.5)

1. Basic information about the current EITI work plan.

Period covered by the current EITI work plan	2021
Information on how the public can access the work plan.	The UK EITI Workplan is available here on the UK EITI website
Process for producing the current EITI work plan	<i>Many of the objectives are ongoing and follow-on from previous years workplans e.g. validation corrective actions. The UK Secretariat drafts the workplan and circulates to the MSG for comment and input. It is also discussed at the MSG meeting. Any agreed updates or additions are added and the workplan is circulated for final comments and approval. The workplan is then published on the UK EITI website in the "Publications and Reports" section.</i>
MSG approval of the work plan	6 th January 2021

2. Explain how the work plan's objectives reflect national priorities for the extractive industry. Provide links to supporting documentation, such as studies or national development plans, if available.

The workplan covers the corrective actions from the first UK EITI validation as well as the new requirements from the 2019 EITI Standard.

The workplan not only supports the principles of the EITI Standard (objective 1), but also reflects and highlights the rapidly changing nature of extractive sectors in the UK. The oil and gas industry is going through a major period of change with the move towards a low carbon economy, offshore decommissioning and ongoing discussions about fracking (and the controversies surrounding the latter). Similarly, the mining and quarrying sector is also going through a transformation, including the renewal of mining projects in certain areas of the UK. In addition, mining for minerals and metals will also play a key role in the transition to a low-carbon economy as the demand for green energy technologies continues to grow.

Energy transition and climate change are key policy areas for government reform and are referenced in the [Energy White Paper](#) (published in December 2020) and the [North Sea Transition Deal](#) (published in March 2021). The workplan includes an objective for the MSG to consider its role in the energy transition. The MSG are expected to discuss further in their meeting in July 2021 and a paper mapping activity in the UK has been drafted and circulated to the MSG for comment. The UK EITI website also has a dedicated section covering [Energy Transition](#).

Mapping exercise and report:



Mapping Exercise Short-term Project
for Energy Transition in EITI - Mapping Exercise

In this context of change, the actions set out in this workplan (particularly under objectives 2 & 3) are an important tool to demonstrate the importance of good governance in the UK extractives sector and helps to increase public understanding of the importance of EITI. It further illustrates the importance of the UK continuing as an EITI implementing country by showing its commitment to the global anti-corruption movement and by demonstrating solidarity and best practice to influence the worldwide agenda (objective 4).

The MSG hope to achieve an assessment of “satisfactory progress” under the revalidation taking place in July. Much of the workplan was drafted to ensure that all the corrective actions from the first validation are addressed sufficiently and also to ensure that the new requirements under the 2019 Standard are covered.

In particular we are placing high emphasis on the requirement on contract and licence transparency which requires us to publish any granted, entered into or amended contracts from 1st January 2021. This involves liaising closely with all the relevant government bodies and devolved administrations involved in the issuing of contracts and licences to ensure that they are in a position to publish the information required.

Since the previous validation representation by civil society has been put on a sustainable footing. Some work remains to be done in ensuring that all civil society seats are filled, and in particular to secure representation from local communities affected by the extractives sector.

3. Optional question: Has the MSG developed a theory of change on how EITI implementation will address the identified challenges of the sector in your country? If yes, please reference the corresponding document here.

Although the MSG has not developed a theory of change in a single document, our workplan reflects a clear and shared understanding of how and why we aim to continue to demonstrate good governance in the UK extractives sector.

The UK's participation in EITI continues to ensure that reliable data and information is made publicly available (sometimes for the first time) to inform debate. EITI data provides the UK and global public with the assurance that payments reported between industry and government are accurate. Given the context of change set out above, the EITI process provides potentially important assurance to the public over the use of the UK's natural resources, and can provide politically-neutral data to inform sometimes heated debates (e.g. the merits of continuing to extract fossil fuels given the climate crisis; the scale of revenues that might accrue to an independent Scotland).

The MSG has also grappled with specific topics which require a revised approach to ensure they best reflect the 2019 Standard and EITI's strategic ambition. In March 2021 the MSG decided to take a broad approach to interpreting the contract and transparency requirements under the new 2019 EITI Standard. Coal was therefore declared to be in scope of all contract and licence transparency, and is now required to comply with all relevant requirements (requirements 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4).

In addition to supporting the achievement of the UK Government's domestic commitments on extractives transparency, membership of EITI enables the UK Government to pursue foreign and international development policy objectives in this area. In particular, the UK Government is committed, alongside other G7 members, to establish beneficial ownership transparency as a global norm by 2023. The value of the extractives sector globally means that greater beneficial ownership transparency in the sector has the potential to drive up levels of transparency in many countries. The EITI's work in this area is of great importance to combatting the risks of corruption that extractives industries can generate, as well as contributing to better resource management to benefit the populations of resource-rich countries.

Contract and licence transparency

Significant effort has gone into working with various government organisations to ensure all requirements on contract and licence transparency are met. This has resulted in good progress on corrective actions with regards to requirements 2.2 and 2.3 and significant effort made by these organisations to comply with new requirement 2.4. Implementing these requirements is however challenging for the MSG due to the devolved nature of licensing between the four parts of the UK. Licensing responsibility is further split along commodity and marine/terrestrial lines; for example, gold and silver licences ('Mines Royal') are the responsibility of The Crown Estate and The Crown Estate Scotland respectively, and marine licences are managed by specialist organisations (Marine Management Organisation for England and Northern Ireland offshore; Marine Scotland; Natural Resource Wales and Northern Ireland's Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs for Northern Irish onshore marine licences). This means that the UK MSG needs to ensure a total of 11 government organisations are

compliant. Whilst many of these organisations report similar concerns regarding contract and licence transparency, some issues are also unique and require bespoke MSG engagement. This can include specific legislation which makes transparency harder to achieve (the Coal Industry Act 1994 as evidenced in the March 2021 MSG coal paper), or practical barriers such as master copies of some licences not having been maintained prior to devolution or having gone missing during transition.

Devolved government officials have also raised the possibility that the increased focus and action on contract and licence transparency may lead their Ministers to question their EITI responsibilities. In particular, Ministers are likely to query the level of devolved government resources required to achieve compliance with an initiative entered into by the Westminster Government, but for which they are now responsible. This is an issue the UK MSG will likely need to manage in the near-medium term future.

North Sea oil and gas

Concerns exist among some commentators and civil society in the UK and abroad that the UK may not have managed its exploitation of North Sea oil and gas very wisely over the years, for example when compared to Norway. This is not a matter on which there is consensus. UK EITI can play a role in ensuring lessons from the past are learned, not just for extractive industries in the UK, but worldwide. The UK is an influential country globally in natural resource governance. Looking forward, the UK EITI Civil Society Network considers the UK EITI to be potentially an important mechanism in making more transparent the factors and assumptions that will determine how well the UK manages the necessary winding-down of domestic fossil fuel production, as well as any future upturn in domestic solid minerals extraction, for example resulting from rising demand for certain minerals as part of the energy transition.

Monitoring progress

4. Provide an overview of activities undertaken in the period under review and progress in achieving the objectives of the previous work plan. The MSG is encouraged to provide a summary here and to document progress in more detail in the work plan itself.

The full 2020 Workplan is available [here](#).

The main workstreams were:

- Address each of the corrective actions from the first validation. Work is continuing to address the corrective actions. The MSG consider these to be mostly complete now. Full details are available on the validation tracker (attached below).



UK EITI Validation
Tracker for Template.

- Ensure that the new requirements of the 2019 EITI Standard are implemented. The Compliance subgroup and MSG have been working to ensure that the UK is compliant with the new and existing requirements. Significant work been carried out, particularly

in the area of licence and contract transparency. Full details are available on the contract tracker tab of the validation tracker (attached below).



UK EITI Validation
Tracker for Template.

- Review impact of implementation of EITI in the UK. An impact paper was drafted and agreed by the MSG. The paper is available on the UK EITI website [here](#).
- Complete and launch the UK EITI [Annual Review 2020](#). The 2019 reconciliation data and report/annual review were launched in December 2020 by the UK EITI Champion Lord Callanan and industry and civil society representatives [virtually](#) in front of an audience of 50 stakeholders.
- Review the UK EITI Terms of Reference. The ToRs were reviewed in the first half of 2020 and agreed by the MSG in August 2020. They will next be reviewed in September 2021.
- Launch UK EITI website. The new website was launched in May 2020.

5. Provide an overview of the multi-stakeholder group’s responses to and progress made in addressing the recommendations from EITI reporting and Validation and gaps in information in accordance with Requirement 7.3.

The multi-stakeholder group is required to list each recommendation and the corresponding activities that have been undertaken to address the recommendations and the level of progress in implementing each recommendation. Where the government or the multi-stakeholder group has decided not to implement a recommendation, it is required that the multi-stakeholder group documents the rationale.

Recommendation:

Progress on the eight corrective actions from the first validation is set out on the first tab of the attached Validation tracker Excel workbook. The MSG have taken onboard all aspects of the corrective actions and worked hard to address them. Some areas have been particularly challenging, notably around civil society local representation and awareness raising in light of the global pandemic. To help address these issues civil society have appointed a coordinator and the UK MSG now have their own independent [UK EITI website](#).

Status/progress:



UK EITI Validation
Tracker for Template.

6. How have lessons learned from EITI implementation informed the current work plan?

The workplan has been informed by the corrective actions from the first validation of the UK in 2019 and the new requirements of the 2019 EITI Standard. In 2020 the MSG revised its objectives to bring greater focus to its work, drawing on the experience of the first six years of UK EITI.

Innovations and impact

7. Summarise any steps taken by the MSG to exceed EITI Requirements in a way that addresses national or local extractive sector governance priorities.

UK EITI website: Raising awareness of EITI is a particular priority for us. In May 2020 the MSG made a major step forward when it launched an independent (from Government) website. The original website was housed on the Gov.uk network. The new website allows information and data to be updated as soon as it is available and allows news stories with relevance to the UK extractive sectors to be published. The website allows early publication of the annual reconciliation data. In 2020 the data was published in November on the website, but published in December in the report.

Mainstreaming: The UK MSG has been keen to be a leader in exploring how EITI requirements can be mainstreamed. In 2018 we commissioned a [Feasibility Study](#) to explore the extent to which the EITI Standard can be achieved through the systematic or 'mainstreamed' disclosure of data by companies and public authorities. The mainstreaming feasibility study is available [here](#). The study included a number of recommendations to mainstream information and data, including production, exploration and export data, beneficial ownership, legal and fiscal regime, licences and comprehensive disclosure of taxes. A Mainstreaming subgroup has been working on these recommendations and the latest progress against each is included in the attached Mainstreaming Action Plan. We believe in the UK we are establishing an effective transparency framework, comprising:



Mainstreaming
Action Plan - June 20

- data published routinely by public authorities and industry,
- the UK EITI website acting as a portal and guide to that data, and
- a swift and light-touch reconciliation process overseen by the MSG to provide additional assurance.

Energy transition: The MSG have held their first meaningful discussions on climate change and the challenges to the UK extractive sector. It was agreed that further discussions were required to define the MSG role and thinking. The Secretariat recently conducted an initial mapping

exercise of Government and other initiatives relevant to the energy transition, and will be discussing gaps and opportunities for EITI to add value at an MSG meeting later in 2021. The Secretariat remains in close touch with areas of government developing the UK's approach to climate-related financial disclosures and other areas of 'green reporting', where the UK aspires to be a world leader. The [energy transition](#) pages on the UKEITI website have also been updated with links to other ongoing initiatives, including the Task Force for Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), who also presented to the MSG in March 2021 ([minutes](#)). The UKEITI Secretariat is also part to the ongoing conversations between EITI International Secretariat and climate change colleagues at BEIS, who are discussing potential areas for collaboration. The Secretariat will update the UK MSG at the next meeting in July 2021.

Mapping exercise and report:



Mapping Exercise Short-term Project
for Energy Transition in EITI - Mapping Exe

Beneficial Ownership: The MSG has ensured that its EITI reporting draws upon and complements the UK public registry of ultimate beneficial owners ([the People with Significant Control register](#), which was established in June 2016 under the UK Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 and is part of the Companies House Register.)

8. What kind of outcomes and impact have these measures resulted during the period under review?

In December, the UK EITI Multi-Stakeholder Group published its [review](#) of the impact of the first five years of EITI implementation in the UK.

The review highlighted the following:

The MSG has enjoyed good engagement from the three constituencies and operated effectively for the vast majority of its existence. It has met regularly and provided valuable and diverse oversight of EITI implementation in the UK.

The MSG is supported by subgroups that oversee different elements of EITI implementation and make recommendations for discussion and agreement at MSG meetings. This has proved an effective and efficient model.

The UK's first EITI report was published in 2016 and annual reports have been published ever since. Recently the focus has turned towards the timely publication of data, with systematic disclosure where possible. The new EITI website, which went live in May 2020, will be a key tool in the move towards systematic disclosure going forward.

UK EITI has had a range of EITI Champions, these have been Ministers at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy or its predecessors. The Champions have provided the political backing necessary to support EITI implementation.

A range of outreach activities have taken place include:

MSG members and the UK Secretariat have raised awareness of UK EITI by organising and participating in events, written communications and social media outreach. These have included: Presentation by National Coordinator to students at Aberdeen (March 2015) and Durham (June 2015) Universities.

Launch of 2015 report in Aberdeen with UK EITI Champion and Scottish Government minister (March 2017).

Speaking slot at the Mineral Products Association (MPA) annual conference (June 2019).

Participation at EITI Global conferences and Board meetings in Burma (October 2014), Lima (February 2016), Dakar (November 2018), Paris (June 2019) and Oslo (February 2020).

Regular virtual meetings with EITI Secretariat colleagues based in Germany and the Netherlands (ongoing).

Presentation on UK EITI to Armenian Secretariat and members of their MSG (September 2019).

Article on UK EITI in Autumn 2019 edition of OGUK magazine: Wireline.

PWYP UK blog welcoming the publication of the UK EITI report covering 2018 payments data (January 2020).

UK EITI CSN's virtual meeting in 2020 with civil society organisations participating in EITI in Germany and the Netherlands (June 2020).

Statement in support of UK EITI and Tweet by new EITI Champion, Lord Callanan, Minister for Climate Change and Corporate Responsibility (July 2020).

Presentation on UK experience of mainstreaming for webinar hosted by the Colombian EITI Secretariat (September 2020).

Speaking slot at the ABC Minds Energy and Extractives Virtual Conference (September 2020).

UK implementation of EITI has supported the UK Government's ambition to promote global EITI and improve transparency and accountability in extractives industries. Through MSG's outreach activities, UK attendance at the EITI Board meetings and UK engagement with other implementing and candidate countries, the UK has encouraged others to follow the UK's example and share best practice.

Although difficult to quantify, we understand that the UK model has inspired and informed implementation elsewhere. Examples of this include Germany and the Netherlands, who have previously attended UK MSG meetings and used UK reporting systems to inform their own decisions on EITI implementation. The UK Secretariat holds regular calls with the Dutch and German Secretariats, which allow for a helpful exchange of ideas on reporting, the workings of MSG, mainstreaming and communications, amongst other topics.

The EITI network has provided opportunities for the UK to share expertise on natural resource governance, EITI implementation and wider topics of corporate transparency, with the UK EITI Secretariat providing an initial point of contact for officials from implementing countries' governments.

The UK has led the way in various aspects of EITI implementation. It was an earlier implementer of project-level reporting, both through EITI reporting and through the Payments to Governments Regulations. We have also led the way on open data: we published an Open Data Policy in 2017 and provide our payment data in CSV format as part of this commitment.

The UK has played a particularly important role on beneficial ownership. As an early implementer of a public beneficial ownership register, we have often spoken at EITI global and regional events at the request of the EITI International Secretariat. With the support of the MSG's Chair, UK experts on beneficial ownership transparency have contributed to multiple EITI conferences on the topic and provided technical assistance to other EITI nations including Argentina, Armenia, Ghana, Indonesia, Mexico, and Trinidad & Tobago.

Outside the EITI context, we have supported requests from many more countries on every continent in drawing up legislation and implementing beneficial ownership registers. We are also exploring ways of being able to offer and deliver such assistance more formally, as at present such requests can only be accommodated on an ad hoc basis.

The UK MSG will continue to explore opportunities to engage others, share knowledge and learn lessons from EITI implementation and its challenges.

9. If the MSG has plans to include new issues or approaches to EITI implementation, please describe these.

Coal contract and licence transparency: in March 2021 the MSG decided to take a broad approach to interpreting the contract and transparency requirements under the new 2019 EITI Standard. Coal was therefore declared to be in scope of all contract and licence transparency, and is now required to comply with all relevant requirements (requirements 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4). The Coal Authority have provided a holding response to Lord Callanan's letter of 20th April 2021 and will provide a full response shortly. These documents are available on request.



MSG11-Mar 21 -
Coal - contract and li

Energy transition: the MSG is aware that energy transition is an increasingly important issue for the extractives industry. The MSG held an initial discussion on this topic at their meeting in [January 2021](#).

As mentioned in Q7, the UKEITI secretariat recently conducted the initial mapping exercise requested by the MSG. The MSG will discuss this more fully later in 2021 (post validation). As articulated in the mapping exercise, significant work on energy transition is already underway in the UK in light of Government commitments on climate change and reducing emissions to net zero by 2050. The MSG does not wish to duplicate or detract from this work, especially whilst there is still ambiguity on EITI's role in this area. The mapping exercise report made several suggestions for MSG involvement, but these require further discussion and decisions on next steps.

In the meantime, the UKEITI Secretariat continues to work with relevant colleagues and provide updates on the [energy transition pages](#) of the UKEITI website. The EITI international secretariat

has also discussed their plans for an event at COP26 and other energy transition work with the UAEITI secretariat. As well as providing UK government contacts (BEIS and FCDO) on climate change and COP26, the secretariat continue to stay abreast of the international secretariat's developments via correspondence and joint meetings. The UAEITI Secretariat will update the MSG on developments at their July 2021 meeting.

10. What kind of outcomes and impact are these plans expected to result in?

Coal contract and licence transparency: the MSG's decision will ensure that coal is brought in line with other sectors, improving the UK's overall approach to contract and licence transparency so it aligns to the holistic spirit of the 2019 Standard. It shows that the UK takes contract and licence transparency seriously despite the country's every diminishing reliance on this sector. The MSG's approach further underlines that it appreciates the continuing controversial nature of coal in UK especially in light of current conversations around energy transition and recent UK Government announcements on achieving net zero carbon emissions. In practice the MSG's decision will mean that the UK public has free and online access to all aspects of coal contracts and licences, including how they are awarded, to whom and where in the UK coal extraction still occurs.

Energy transition: We hope that the MSG's plans will lead to identifying a tangible role for UAEITI in the UK's energy transition debate so EITI data can be used to its greatest effect. We believe this will also raise the profile of EITI, both in the UK and as an international initiative and improve its relevance to all extractive related topics.

11. Summarise the MSG's efforts to strengthen the impact of EITI implementation in the period under review, including any actions to extend the detail and scope of EITI reporting or to increase engagement with stakeholders. The MSG is encouraged to document how it has taken gender considerations and inclusiveness into account.

The MSG have worked in a number of areas to strengthen the impact of EITI in the UK. This includes:

TCE data. The MSG have worked closely with The Crown Estate (TCE) to ensure that their financial data was published at project level for 2019 and future years in accordance with the requirements of EITI. This project level information relating to royalty payments although published in previous years had been subsequently withheld by TCE due to commercial confidentiality reasons. The TCE project level data is available [here](#).

UK EITI Website. The UK EITI now has its own independent (from Government) website, which was launched in May 2020. The original website was housed on the Gov.uk network. The new website allows information and data to be updated as soon as it is available and allows news stories with relevance to the UK extractive sectors to be published. The website allows early publication of the annual reconciliation data. In 2020 the data was published in November on the website, but published in December in the report. The UK EITI website is available [here](#).

Terms of Reference. The MSG TORs were updated in 2020 to ensure consideration for the diversity of its members in its nominations processes, including gender balance, and will evidence and document how diversity considerations have been taken into account. Also to review membership on a regular basis to consider the diversity and gender balance of its members in order to ensure that membership reflects the changing nature of the industry and the requirements of the EITI Standard. The updated TORs are available [here](#).

Local engagement. The UK Secretariat are working closely with the civil society constituency to secure representatives from local communities affected by the extractive industries on the MSG. This included writing to local councils in Redcar and Cleveland, Aberdeen and the East Midlands. (see attached emails). This is ongoing. The CSN continues their outreach activities to engage with organisations and individuals representing local communities affected by the extractive sector in the UK. Details are available on request.

Coal transparency. in March 2021 the MSG decided to take a broad approach to interpreting the contract and transparency requirements under the new 2019 EITI Standard. Coal was therefore declare to be in scope of all contract and licence transparency, and is now required to comply with all relevant requirements (requirements 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4).



MSG11-Mar 21 -
 Coal - contract and li

Part II: Public debate

Open data (Requirement 7.2)

12. Open data policy and disclosures

<p>Provide a link to the open data policy agreed by the MSG (Requirement 7.2.a)</p>	<p>The UK EITI Open Data Policy is available here on the UK EITI website. The policy was approved in January 2017 and the objectives are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open EITI data can increase transparency about government and business activities, and increases awareness about how the UK’s natural resources are used and how extractives revenues are levied and spent. • Open data (defined at http://opendefinition.org) promotes accountability and good governance
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	<p>and enhances public debate. Providing access to EITI data can empower individuals, the media, civil society, and business to make better informed choices about the services they receive and the standards they should expect.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free access to, and subsequent re-use of, open data are of significant value to society and the economy.
<p>Is EITI data available in open data format and publicised? (Requirement 7.2.b)</p>	<p>Yes – this information is available alongside the UK EITI reports on the website here.</p>
<p>Has the MSG identified gaps in the availability of EITI data in open format? If yes, what kind of gaps? (Requirement 7.2.b)</p>	<p>Yes – project-level data from The Crown Estate was not available and withheld for commercial reasons. After MSG discussions with TCE this is now available and published here.</p>
<p>Has the MSG undertaken efforts to improve the availability of data in open format? If yes, please describe these. (Requirement 7.2.b)</p>	<p>All information from 2014 onwards is now available on the UK EITI website here.</p> <p>The MSG commissioned a mainstreaming feasibility study to explore the extent to which the EITI Standard can be achieved through the systematic or ‘mainstreamed’ disclosure of data by companies and public authorities. The study, terms of reference and mapping tool are available here.</p> <p>The mainstreamingsubgroup have also been working on a the recommendations from the feasibility study including the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainstreaming tax disclosure. • Licence registers • Link to the People with Significant Control (PSC) register. • Production, export and exploration data. <p>The latest progress are available on the attached document.</p>

	
<p>Have summary data files been completed for each fiscal year for which data has been disclosed? (Requirement 7.2.c)</p>	<p>Yes – open data files are available for each year.</p>
<p><i>What systematically disclosed data that is in the scope of EITI disclosures is machine readable and inter-operable? (Requirement 7.2.d)</i></p>	<p>For a year or two we did include a ZIP file with CSV datasets for the main charts and tables. We still maintain the ability to save out the data in CSV format as the attached example shows – these are the data which underlie Figure 1 and Table 1 in in the Sector Data section and Figure 1 in the Mining & Quarrying in the UK section. We can easily save the data for the other main charts and tables (where it’s publicly available, so not the data behind Figure 13 in the Oil & Gas in the UK section). CSV datasets for most charted/tabulated series are available on request.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  GVA for EITI v58.csv </div>

Outreach and communications (Requirement 7.1)

13. Describe the MSG’s efforts in the period under review to ensure that information published about the extractive sector is comprehensible and available in appropriate languages.

The UK generally has high standards of good governance in tax and public administration, and there are not major public concerns about corruption. Nor are extractive revenues as material to the national finances as they were some decades ago. As a result, it has been a challenge to generate community-level interest in UK EITI. The global pandemic has further contributed to the challenge of generating interest.

Nevertheless, we have taken some action where possible. The UK EITI MSG also have their own Youtube channel. This allowed the MSG to release the video of the virtual launch of the UK EITI Annual Review 2020. Lord Callanan the Minister for Corporate Responsibility and Climate Change, and UK EITI Champion has also released a tweet in support of UK EITI. An article about EITI implementation in the UK is due to be published in Mineral Products Today magazine ahead of the CBI ‘Living With Minerals’ Conference on 17th July 2021. (final draft attached):



Final draft MP Today
EITI Article.docx

In parallel the MSG has worked hard over the period in question to develop its communication channels and plans for outreach, and we believe we now have strong foundations in place to do more as Covid-related restrictions ease. In particular:

- The new UK EITI website was launched in May 2020 and allows the information and data on the UK extractives sector to be updated almost immediately. The website contains all MSG documents including reports and minutes and has a section on news items of relevance to the sector. The website is in plain English does not use jargon and ensures that all acronyms are adequately described for the reader. A recent accessibility audit was carried out to ensure that the website is accessible to all users. The findings were received on 30th June (see attachment below) and will be addressed over the coming weeks.



CIVIC_Accessibility_Progress_Report_2021

- The scope of the current independent administrator's contract (BDO) is being revised for its final year. A new position has been added to help with the work on communications and outreach during 2021-22. The position will be filled by Tim Vickery who will take over the role of Chair of both the Communications and Sectoral subgroups, with the specific aim of taking forward and implementing a more robust communications strategy and by ensuring that the website continues to evolve and provide the most useful information to UKEITI's stakeholders.
- UKEITI also provides MSG members with the opportunity to network and share information with each other. This can be via social media, direct communication/approaches or by introductions to non-MSG colleagues who are interested in the topic.

14. Describe examples of use of EITI data.

Much of the EITI data is used regularly by government for internal briefing etc. In particular the export figures available on the UK EITI website and the useful explanation of the tax regime also found on the website. This is one of the few places where tax data for the extractives sector can be located in one place.

In Jan. 2020 CSN representative Miles Litvinoff (ML) published the blog [PWYP UK welcomes fifth UK EITI report, but has the UK fiscal regime been too generous to industry?](#) He shared the blog with the full CSN membership publication and with other networks such as the PWYP UK coalition. In Nov/Dec. 2020 ML invited members of the PWYP UK coalition and UK CSO

members of the [Global Gas & Oil Network](#) to the online launch of the UK EITI Annual Review 2020

In Mar. 2021 ML used UK EITI oil and gas production data on cumulative UK North Sea production and recoverable reserves to inform email discussion among UK CSO members of the [Global Gas & Oil Network](#) in Mar. 2021 in relation to the UK's North Sea Licensing Review. A joint statement/letter was prepared but in the event not published.

Also in Mar. 2021 ML drew on UK EITI data to advise other CSOs about how to identify mining and quarrying companies operating in the UK.

In 2019-20 ML used the 2018 case study [Comparing UK EITI and Mandatory Payments to Governments Data for 2016](#) to inform research, awareness raising and advocacy with partners in two other EITI implementing countries, [Kazakhstan](#) and [Nigeria](#).

In May 2021, the NGO Oil Change International cited UK EITI North Sea oil and gas tax payment and rebate data in its blog post "[Only 6 months left till COP26. What must the UK do to make it a success?](#)". The blog post was itself cited on the civil society campaign website <https://paidtopollute.org.uk/> (stating that the UK Government "has paid £3.2bn of public money to North Sea oil and gas companies" since signing the Paris Agreement in 2016), to accompany a legal challenge to UK government financial support for North Sea production (<https://paidtopollute.org.uk/news/campaigners-launch-legal-challenge>)

Generating public debate about EITI is often challenging due to existing high levels of transparency in UK extractives sectors which results in lower demand for this data. Whilst this is welcome, we recognise that extractive industries continue to be controversial, especially in light of energy transition and a greater public focus on achieving Net Zero carbon emissions by 2050. Recent examples include criticism of the OGA Strategy, specifically as it excludes taxes and tax-breaks from the definition of 'economically recoverable':

<http://priceofoil.org/2021/05/11/uk-needs-to-act-on-oil-and-gas/> - this article specifically references UKEITI data.

<https://www.thenational.scot/news/19295641.snp-activist-takes-uk-government-high-court-oil-gas/> It has been confirmed by the OGA that court documents in this judicial review specifically refer to EITI data (the court document is not currently publicly available due to the ongoing judicial review).

Likewise, there was controversy earlier in 2021 when the Government permitted the UK's first new coal mine in 30 years. The local council is now reviewing the Government's decision, but it has still sparked a considerable debate about how this decision ties in with Government's plans for Net Zero carbon emissions by 2050 and the UK hosting the COP26 climate change conference:

<https://www.ft.com/content/5b04e813-6bdb-476a-9f4a-137432a7b314>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/explainers-56023895>

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/may/14/last-hope-over-climate-crisis-requires-end-to-coal-says-alok-sharma>

The UK is in the fortunate position to have a relatively high level of existing contract and licence transparency, with further work continuing as described above under new EITI Standard requirement 2.4. We expect that this readily available data, including links via the UK EITI website, will make it easier to have meaningful conversations around the UK's orderly energy transition away from fossil fuels.

15. Provide information about outreach events organised to spread awareness of and facilitate dialogue about governance of extractive resources, building on EITI disclosures.

Event name	Brief description of the event	Date	Location	Organiser	Number and type of attendees	Links to further information
Launch of the UK EITI Annual Review 2020	Virtual launch of the UK EITI Annual Review 2020 by the UK EITI Champion, Lord Callanan and representatives from government, industry and civil society.	9 th December 2020	Virtual	UK EITI MSG	50 from across government, industry, academia and civil society.	A video of the launch can be found here . The UK EITI Annual Review 2020 is available here .
Launch of UK EITI website	Event to promote the new UK EITI website with representatives from the three MSG constituencies.	22 nd April 2020	Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen	UK EITI MSG	Cancelled due to pandemic.	The UK EITI website is here .
Launch of UK EITI website	Event to promote the new UK EITI website with representatives from the three MSG constituencies.	4 th May 2020	Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining, London, NW1.	UK EITI MSG	Cancelled due to pandemic.	The UK EITI website is here .

Mineral Products Today

16. Describe the MSG efforts in the period under review to consider access challenges and information needs of data users, including different genders and subgroups of citizens.

The UK EITI website was designed to ensure it was accessible to all users. Users are able to adjust the font size and colours on the website and the images have descriptions. An accessibility review was commissioned in March 2021. We received the final results of the accessibility audit on 30th June from our website developers (see attachment below). Issues identified will be addressed shortly.



CIVIC_Accessibility_P
rogress_Report_2021

17. Describe other efforts by the MSG in the period under review to ensure that information is widely accessible and distributed.

The related payments data for each report is made available on the UK EITI website. The related data for the UK EITI Annual Review 2020 is available [here](#). The data is available in CSV format.

The [Payments Data](#) section of the UK EITI website not only includes the latest UK payments data, but also includes links to the Companies House extractives service, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) National Storage Mechanism and the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI) database.

The UKEITI Secretariat has made efforts to ensure the UKEITI website is more user friendly. An accessibility audit was commissioned from our external website provider in March 2021. The results of the audit were received on 30th June 2021 (see attachment below) and the issues will be addressed shortly. This will further improve the website. The MSG has also ensured that UKEITI reports are more accessible and user-friendly, including the [2020 Annual Review](#). This was more layperson friendly and easier to digest and understand, compared to previous more technically focused and harder to interpret payment reports.



CIVIC_Accessibility_P
rogress_Report_2021

18. How could the MSG improve the accessibility and distribution of information, considering the needs of different subgroups of citizens?

The MSG could potentially make use of social media (in particular Twitter) to highlight EITI work and related publications or events. This could either be a central UKEITI account, or MSG members could use their own accounts to share information more widely, including targeting material at special interest groups or geographical areas related to the UK extractive industries. MSG members could encourage colleagues to tweet/re-tweet EITI stories to further increase distribution.

The scope of the current independent administrator's contract (BDO) is being revised for its final year. A new position has been added to help with the work on communications and outreach during 2021-22. The position will be filled by Tim Vickery who will take over the role of Chair of both the Communications and Sectoral subgroups, with the specific aim of taking forward and implementing a more robust communications strategy and by ensuring that the website continues to evolve and provide the most useful information to UKEITI's stakeholders. Initial plans include carrying out a benchmarking survey amongst MSG members to better find out how members assess their sector and how they would like to receive UKEITI communications.

The UKEITI secretariat continues to work with the UK EITI Civil Society Network (CSN) Co-ordinator to secure local representation for the MSG, however this remains challenging. Action taken to date included the CSN contacting several local councils and other organisations inviting them to become MSG members (or alternate memberate), however there was little or no response. The CSN co-ordinator has recently also reached out to local communities in Aberdeenshire and NE England and is awaiting responses. CSN do however currently have a full MSG member based in Aberdeen who has knowledge of the local extractives industry (oil and gas) in that locality.

MSG members of all constituencies could be further encouraged to undertake outreach work via their own professional networks to help secure broader representation.

Part III: Sustainability and effectiveness

19. The MSG is requested to present any additional information and evidence related to the indicators for assessing the sustainability and effectiveness of EITI implementation.

Each indicator will be assigned 0, 0.5 or 1 points by the EITI Board. The points will be added to the overall score of the country. The assessment of performance on the indicators will draw on information provided by the MSG, publicly available sources, stakeholder consultations and disclosures by the implementing country and companies. Please see the EITI Validation Guide for further information about how performance on these indicators will be assessed.

- I. EITI implementation addresses nationally relevant extractive sector governance challenges. This indicator also recognises efforts beyond the EITI Standard.

The MSG has added an [Energy Transition section](#) to their website. This includes information on the latest government publications and policies as well as industry and civil society responses and publications.

The MSG has started to look in more depth at energy transition issues, with meaningful discussions at their meeting in January 2021 ([see minutes](#)).

The Secretariat has also recently completed its initial energy transition mapping and a report providing suggested next steps for the MSG to consider. MSG is now in the process of mapping energy transition activity in the UK to identify any opportunities or gaps.

Mapping exercise and report:



Mapping Exercise Short-term Project
for Energy Transition in EITI -Mapping Exe

The MSG will also be discussing energy transition at its next meeting in July 2021. This will include a presentation from the team developing the [Global Registry of Fossil Fuels](#), and an update from the UKEITI Secretariat and Tim Vickery on the ongoing discussions with EITI International Secretariat and BEIS climate change colleagues (as detailed in Q7 above).

There is also a good level of engagement on energy transition across the UK Government. The UKEITI Secretariat has had several conversations with Government colleagues on this topic, including the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and the Energy and Climate Change Trade policy team.

The UK EITI website also includes a link to the 2021 the [North Sea Transition Deal](#). The sector deal between the UK government and oil and gas industry aims to support workers, businesses, and the supply chain through this transition by harnessing the industry's existing capabilities, infrastructure and private investment potential to exploit new and emerging technologies such as hydrogen production, Carbon Capture Usage and Storage, offshore wind and decommissioning. However, several groups in the UK, especially from civil society are concerned that the Deal does not yet sufficiently take into account of the livelihoods and other needs of affected communities.

The MSG also invited a representative from the The Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), which has been set up as a part of the Government's 'pricing' of climate into the economy via disclosures by organisations of its impacts, risks and opportunities for them. TCFD spoke about the Government launching its consultation on mandatory climate-related financial disclosures by publicly quoted companies, large private companies and Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs). The MSG were invited to take part in the consultation process (information available on request). The Civil Society Network (CSN) provided their response on 5th May 2021 - available [here](#).

The UK county of Cornwall, which hosted the July 2021 G7 conference, has received positive coverage of its mining sector, especially with regards to its abundance of certain raw materials (lithium, tin, copper and tungsten) which will power UK clean growth.



Cornwall Trade and
Investment G7 doc.p

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-57444792>

<https://www.globalminingreview.com/mining/08062021/department-of-international-trade-identifies-cornwall-as-prospective-mining-area/>

<https://www.thisismoney.co.uk/money/markets/article-9669495/Electric-car-boom-ushers-new-era-Poldark-tin-mining-Cornwall.html>

- II. Extractive sector data is disclosed systematically through routine government and corporate reporting.

We believe an annual reconciliation still adds value and assurance to the end user. But we have worked hard to improve the efficiency of this exercise in order to ensure timeliness of our data. Our first reconciliation took some 16 months to conclude. Our most recent data (for 2019) was published in November 2020, 11 months after year end. At the time of writing, we anticipate publishing our reconciled 2020 data in July 2021, seven months after year end.

One enabler of this is that we are now publishing payments data (and indeed all data) directly onto the UK EITI website as soon as it is available, rather than delaying the data to coincide with a report publication or launch event. In 2020 we trialled a new model of publishing the data as soon as available, and then publicizing it again via an Annual Review which we launched with Ministerial support in December 2020.

The [Payments Data](#) section also includes useful links to the Companies House extractives service, where large and publicly listed extractives companies in the UK have been required to disclose payments they make to governments on a country-by-country and project-by-project basis.

The website also has a link to the Natural Resource Governance Institute database of Payments to Governments reports submitted by companies under EU/EEA and equivalent Canadian legislation. Resource Projects provides a platform to collect, display, download and search extractive project information using open data. It aims to harvest data on project-by-project payments to governments—based on recent mandatory disclosure legislation in the EU, U.S. and Canada as well as EITI reports—and link it to associated information about the project from a variety of sources. Additionally, the page also includes links to the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) National Storage Mechanism.

The UK MSG has been keen to be a leader in exploring how EITI requirements can be mainstreamed. In 2018 we commissioned a [Feasibility Study](#) to explore the extent to

which the EITI Standard can be achieved through the systematic or 'mainstreamed' disclosure of data by companies and public authorities. The study included a number of recommendations to mainstream information and data, including production, exploration and export data, beneficial ownership, legal and fiscal regime, licences and comprehensive disclosure of taxes .

A Mainstreaming subgroup have been looking at options for mainstreaming or the systematic disclosure of payments and repayments as well as alternative reconciliation options. These all need to be allied with the need to continue to report meaningful accurate data in as timely a manner as possible whilst fully adhering to the requirements of the 2019 standard.

From the company perspective, it is clear that only requiring companies to disclose payments they make to government without government doing the same is insufficient for EITI purposes, as borne out by the German pilot. There is no significant saving for companies other than reconciliation tweaks. A longer-term aspiration could focus around closer alignment with payments companies already need to provide under the Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014, so that only one set of data needs to be published.

Significant mainstreaming work has been carried out from the perspective of government agencies, initially focussing on tax data, initial systematic analysis of process and controls. Although further msinstreaming would initially have significant resource implications, these burden would be significantly reduced in subsequent years.

Further mainstreaming would also require input from corporate finance teams at HMRC and all other affected government agencies. Consideration would also need to be given to interaction with NAO audits. As HMRC already produce annual accounts, they are more likely to meet audit against international accounting standard, however this would still require further investigation and clarification for them and all of the other affected government agencies.

The overwhelming assessment from the mainstreaming subgroup is that the current reconciliation exercise has value, although there was also a recognition that the recent German pilot approach had some advantages.

A paper has been agreed by the mainstreaming subgroup that includes the following recommendations:



mainstreaming
update.docx

- To continue with the reconciliation exercise and subsequent publication of the report. The process for 2020 should be finalised and published in July 21, so a significant improvement in timeliness from previous years
- To continue to provide information on EITI web pages with links to other resources where further information can be found to inform public debate. A lot

of this has been achieved already, but we must continue to look for opportunities eg payments to government regulations

- To continue look at mainstreaming solutions for all the revenue streams – in particular where historic reconciliation exercises have shown little adjustment/intervention required – these would be ideal candidates for future mainstreaming whilst removing the need for reconciliation. It does not need to be a one size fits all solution

The paper was circulated to the MSG and approved on 25th June 2021.

III. There is an enabling environment for citizen participation in extractive sector governance, including participation by affected communities.

The Civil Society Network is working hard to involve local communities and generate their interest in EITI. However, other mechanisms and avenues for this already exist in the UK with regards to extractives transparency, including governance architecture (payments to Government) and other industry bodies, so EITI is essentially ‘competing’ within an already small pool of interested parties.

A further challenge to citizen participation is that the majority of the UK’s extractives sector are based offshore. This means that there is inevitably less community engagement as extraction takes place further away. There are however positive examples of the UK onshore oil and gas industry having open dialogue with communities about what oil and gas activities mean in the local area:

<https://www.ukoog.org.uk/community>

As UK onshore mining and quarrying increases, we also expect to see more community engagement on the topic, especially around its environmental and socio-economic impacts. Some initiatives between the mining and quarrying industry already exist (<https://britishlithium.co.uk/about-us/community/>) and UK Civil Society stands ready to engage with affected communities on this topic.

IV. Extractive sector data is accessible and used for analysis, research and advocacy.

UKEITI data has been used on page 10 of the following article (Indonesia’s Oil and Gas Revenues: Unising Payments to Governments Data for Accountability):



indonesia-oil-and-g
as-revenues-using-p

The following article on the effectiveness of EITI was co-authored by Benjamin K. Sovacool from the University of Sussex in the UK, however it does not specifically reference any UK data.



EITI Article, B.k.
Sovacool and others.

Benjamin K. Sovacool also wrote this September 2020 article on evaluating the global effectiveness of EITI, although there is again no specific mention of any UK data:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S2214790X20302586>

V. EITI has informed changes in extractive sector policies or practices.

The UK's approach to developing policy is inherently consultative. This includes Government policy, which incorporates broad stakeholder engagement, including engagement with Civil Society. Government also frequently publishes Green and White Papers when proposing legislative changes, which help to inform citizens of its proposals. This input then permeates down into operational practices and procedures, including in the extractives sector.

Specifically with regards to UKEITI, the UK's first reporting year saw two large-scale oil companies refrain from participation. Since the UK's second year, we have enjoyed consistently high levels of participation from companies whose payments meet the materiality threshold.

As mentioned in Q8 above, the UK's implementation of EITI has supported the UK Government's ambition to promote global EITI and improve transparency and accountability in extractive industries. Through MSG's outreach activities, UK attendance at the EITI Board meetings and UK engagement with other implementing and candidate countries, the UK has encouraged others to follow the UK's example and share best practice. We also understand that the UKEITI implementation model has inspired and informed implementation elsewhere, including in Germany and the Netherlands, who remain close working partners.

Part IV: Stakeholder feedback and MSG approval

20. Describe opportunities provided to stakeholders beyond MSG members to give feedback on the EITI process, including the EITI work plan.

The MSG has endeavoured to ensure all relevant organisations are involved and its membership has evolved to reflect this. The Crown Estate are now part of the Government constituency, as well as all of the Devolved Administrations are now represented on the MSG.

Other stakeholders that the MSG have engaged with outside of MSG during this period include:

Civil Society Network (CSN)

- As well as the core CS MSG members, the CSN members are also consulted on various aspects of the MSG's work and on wider related issues. For example, the CSN recently provided a [coordinated response](#) to the government consultation on mandatory climate-related financial disclosures by publicly quoted companies, large private companies and Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs).

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS):

- Business Frameworks Directorate – frequent engagement with the teams that cover Beneficial Ownership and those responsible for the Payments to Governments regulations and the Task Force on Climate-related financial Disclosures (TCFS – this is a joint project with the Clean Growth directorate).
- Oil and Gas Team – to ensure that sector data is up to date, including the update of the section on shale gas.
- International Climate Change team and International Energy Unit (the latter is joint BEIS and FCDO) – mainly in relation to energy transition and COP26
- Energy and Climate Change Trade policy team (advance the UK's climate change and energy policy through Free Trade Agreements) – general overlap of work especially around fossil fuel subsidies/greater transparency

The Crown Estate (TCE):

Contact on a regular basis ensure that TCE payments are disclosed each year. This included discussions and agreement to ensure that their financial data is published in accordance with the requirements EITI, i.e. project level information relating to royalty payments.

During the period of this validation TCE were invited to participate on the MSG. A representative was identified and appointed as a Government member and started in February 2021.

Crown Estate Scotland (CES):

Frequent contact with colleagues at Crown Estate Scotland to discuss the requirements under the EITI Standard for contract and licence disclosure, as well as to up-date the sector information on the UK EITI website.

Welsh Government:

Frequent contact with colleagues in the Welsh Government to discuss the requirements under the EITI Standard for contract and licence disclosure, as well as to up-date the sector information on the UK EITI website.

During the period of this validation the Welsh Government were invited to participate on the MSG. Representation was appointed as an alternate Government member and started in September 2020.

Scottish Government:

Frequent contact with colleagues in the Scottish Government to discuss the requirements under the EITI Standard for contract and licence disclosure, as well as to up-date the sector information on the UK EITI website.

Department for the Economy Northern Ireland (DfENI):

Frequent contact with colleagues in the Northern Ireland Government to discuss the requirements under the EITI Standard for contract and licence disclosure, as well as to up-date the sector information on the UK EITI website.

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO):

In contact with the MMO to discuss the requirements under the EITI Standard for contract and licence disclosure.

Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA):

In contact with the DAERA to discuss the requirements under the EITI Standard for contract and licence disclosure.

Coal Authority:

Frequent contact with colleagues in the Coal Authority to discuss the requirements under the EITI Standard for contract and licence disclosure.

Task Force for Climate-related Financial Disclosure (TCFD):

Contact with BEIS colleagues in TCFD. Invited to provide an overview of their work at the March 2021 MSG.

MSG were invited to contribute to the consultation that took place in April 2021 (information available on request). A link to the [TCFD Interim Report and Roadmap](#) were added to the UK EITI website.

Joint Anti-Corruption Unit (JACU), Home Office:

Frequent contact with colleagues in JACU, including providing annual updates for the EITI section of their Anti-Corruption strategy.

Up until September 2020 JACU were represented on the MSG.

EITI International Secretariat:

Frequent contact with the EITI Comms team and Sam Bartlett to discuss issues around validation, awareness raising etc.

German and Dutch EITI Secretariats:

Monthly meetings with colleagues in the German and Dutch Secretariat's to discuss issues of mutual interest and concern.

21. Describe how any feedback from stakeholders beyond MSG members have been considered in the review of the outcomes and impact of EITI implementation.

The MSG has continued to evolve to become more inclusive – The Crown Estate now has a member, and representatives from all of the Devolved Administrations are also now on the MSG.

The MSG better reflects all the relevant interests. Civil Society now has a network and a Co-ordinator. The Co-ordinator uses the Civil Society Network to ensure it responds inclusively to consultations and requests for information, such as input into EITI and the recent response to Government on TCFD.

The UKEITI website also includes a clear [contact details](#) section which members of the public can use to provide feedback or ask questions. A link to the contact details is also available on the [‘About us/MSG’ page](#) to make them easier to find.

22. Date of MSG approval of this submission and information on how the public can access it, e.g. link to national EITI website.

Approved by the UK EITI MSG 30th June 2021.

The above information is available on the EITI International website here [\(add link to templates\)](#).