



North Sea
Transition
Authority

2023 UKCS Stewardship Survey

Summary of Changes from the 2022 Survey

October 2023, Rev 1.0

Contents

1.	Introduction.....	3
2.	General.....	3
3.	Licensing/Exploration & Appraisal.....	4
4.	Reserves and Resources	4
5.	Activity	4
6.	Decommissioning.....	4
7.	Production Efficiency	5
8.	Technology.....	5
9.	Supply Chain	6
10.	Wells.....	6
11.	Emissions GHG.....	7
12.	Master Data.....	7
13.	Help & Support.....	7
14.	Summary	8

1. Introduction

The 2023 UKCS Stewardship Survey has been enhanced considering feedback received from Operators during and after the 2022 Survey.

This document defines the main changes that have been made to the survey.

2. General

1. The Survey is open for the same length of time as last year:
 - a. The main Survey will start on Tuesday 1st November 2023 and will close on Friday 23rd February 2024.
 - b. The Activity section of the survey will also start on Tuesday 1st November 2023 but will close on Friday 12th January 2024. This section closes earlier than the rest of the Survey so that up-to-date data can be used to inform the NSTA's estimates and projections of expenditure and production which it provides to the Office for Budget Responsibility ahead of the Spring Statement.
2. Each year we try to improve the quality of the master datasets used in the survey, but some issues still occur, including missing wells, missing fields and facilities and incorrect status. A lot of work has gone into improving these, where we are able to. However, the master datasets are still not perfect and we would ask again that, when the survey goes live on 1st November, you check the data for your company and advise us, via the survey mailbox (stewardshipsurvey@nstauthority.co.uk), as soon as possible of any anomalies.
3. Most survey sections will benefit from enhanced quality checks. Not only does this improve data quality, but we hope it will also reduce the number of correction requests raised by the NSTA. **Please note that it is the responsibility of the Operator/Licence holder SPA (Single Points of Accountability) to ensure that the data submitted is accurate.**
4. A full review of section guidance has been completed and enhanced where deemed appropriate, based on the types of queries received during the 2022 survey. As with the 2022 survey, some of the guidance is on the survey screens, whilst extended section notes can be found in separate documents that are linked to from the [survey webpage](#) (This will be fully updated prior to survey launch.) We now have individual survey guides for each section, along with a **SPA 'checklist'** of common checks that can be done before the submission on the section.

3. Licensing/Exploration & Appraisal

The following changes are being implemented in the Licensing and E&A sections of the survey:

1. All sections have enhanced guidance and explanatory notes.

4. Reserves and Resources

The following changes are being implemented in the Reserves & Resources section of the survey:

1. All sections have enhanced guidance and explanatory notes.

5. Activity

The following changes are being implemented in the Activity section of the survey:

1. You will no longer be able to enter negative Tariff Income values.
2. Addition of guidance specific to Probability of Proceeding and estimated CoP responses.
3. All sections have enhanced guidance and explanatory notes.

6. Decommissioning

The following changes are being implemented in the Decommissioning section of the survey:

1. Well P&A Cost Estimate: Please record the platform and subsea wells forecast cost by mechanical status (AB1, AB2, AB3) where applicable. Previous years costs will be copied forward as follows: Rig upgrades (£MM) (Survey 2022) copied into Facilities upgrades (£MM) (Survey 2023). Conductor Removal (Survey 2022)

copied into AB3 (Survey 2023). There is an additional question about forecast date of completion for well P&A work.

2. Well P&A Actuals Costs: There is now a new dropdown for recording the status of the well as of 31st December 2023 for any well P&A work carried out in 2023. There is also a Y/N question about additional work carried out for Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS) repurposing potential and a campaign question.
3. Updated total duration guidance: this should be the cumulative time of all well activities from the well being inactive to fully abandoned, disregarding any large breaks of time without active work on the well for 2023 only.
4. Post CoP Running Costs & PoB: PoB will now be required to be reported on an annual average basis, as opposed to a total average. Please record your actual/anticipated PoB (annual average) of the installation in the period from late life operations pre-CoP to time of disembarkation.
5. New question requiring the change in Decom Costs from prior year: once all Field-level information has been submitted the system will automatically populate your 2022 overall decom costs and compare them with your 2023 costs.
6. Topsides and substructure onshore disposal: Negative values can now be accepted. Where relevant please indicate scrap values for onshore disposal by adding as a negative value.
7. All sections have enhanced guidance and explanatory notes.

7. Production Efficiency

The following changes are being implemented in the Production Efficiency section of the survey:

1. All sections have enhanced guidance and explanatory notes.

8. Technology

The following changes are being implemented in the Technology section of the survey:

1. 'Technology category' now renamed to 'Technology sub-category'.
2. Additional options added to 'Deployment status'.
3. You will no longer be able to select 'Technology Gap' under 'Maturity Stage'.
4. The 'Preparation and Removal' option under 'Technology Deployment' has now been split into two variations. You will be required to select the appropriate version.
5. 'Carbon Storage' now added as a 'Technology sub-category' option.
6. New question added to collect 'Digital and Data sub-category'.
7. New question added to collect 'Net Zero sub-category'.
8. All sections have enhanced guidance and explanatory notes.

9. Supply Chain

The following changes are being implemented in the Supply Chain section of the survey:

1. New questions added to collect invoice payment timings and values.
2. Breakdown of goods and services have been removed as we can get this detail from SCAPs.
3. All sections have enhanced guidance and explanatory notes.

10. Wells

The following changes are being implemented in the Wells section of the survey:

1. **The master well data in WONS continues to be enhanced to improve its quality. However, as stated above, the data are not perfect, and you should ensure data are up to date in WONS throughout the year. This should minimise changes once the survey is open. However, we ask that you also review your data as soon as the Survey launches.**

2. Within the 'issues' form, several options have been adjusted to reflect industry feedback.
3. Warning messages added to prevent misreporting of Well and issue types.
4. New questions have been added to collect Wellhead/Tree data.
5. All sections have enhanced guidance and explanatory notes.

11. GHG Emissions

The following changes are being implemented in the Emissions GHG section of the survey:

1. The 'Indirect Emissions: Drilling, Aviation, and Shipping' section has been removed.
2. New box and drop-down requesting the Plan name and Plan status of Emissions Reduction Plans.
3. All sections have enhanced guidance and explanatory notes.

12. Master Data

The 2022 survey master data lists will again be reviewed during 2023. That said, we cannot guarantee that all the master data is correct as some of the data is reliant upon Operators and Licensees ensuring that the data is correct.

If, after logging into the Stewardship Survey, you find that some of the master data (fields, hubs, facilities, wells etc) are incorrect or possibly incorrect, please contact the Help & Support using the details in the next section and the NSTA will be able to fix any issues.

13. Help & Support

Help and support will be available through the usual UK Operations helpdesk, the details for technical/IT issues are:

- ukop@nstauthority.co.uk
- 0300 067 1682

And the details for help regarding question queries are:

- stewardshipsurvey@nstauthority.co.uk

14. Summary

All the survey changes implemented this year have been based on industry feedback or changing NSTA requirements. All data will be used to contribute directly to the NSTA strategy.

Note

It is the NSTA's intention to maintain a broadly standard survey from this point forward for its annual UKCS Stewardship Survey so that data collected from surveys can be collated, compared, and contrasted with past annual datasets. There will, however, continue to be some small changes over time, but the basic survey should remain the same. Any future changes that are made will be communicated at the appropriate time.