

EOSC.ie Project: Advisory Group

Terms Of Reference

Background

Nominated by DFHERIS, Asiera (formerly HEAnet & EduCampus) is the EOSC Association Mandated Organisation for Ireland. As a result of a concerted engagement with the Irish research community a national position paper was published in July 2025 and a business case for a Co-ordination and Support Action (CSA) submitted to DFHERIS.

Funded by DFHERIS, the 12-month EOSC.ie project will provide detailed planning for an EOSC-Ireland node to occur via the CSA which will evaluate and recommend architectural and technical solutions through user trials, propose governance, business, and funding models for sustainable operations and drive stakeholder engagement and cross-departmental alignment to support research-enterprise digital integration.

Purpose

The Advisory Group will provide strategic and expert guidance across all work packages to ensure alignment with:

- Project objectives and deliverables
- National Open Science priorities, including Ireland's National Action Plan for Open Research 2022-2030
- National research priorities, including Impact 2030: Ireland's Research and Innovation Strategy
- Alignment across national investments, e.g. EuroHPC, European Health Data Spaces (EHDS), national ESFRI Research Infrastructures
- Alignment with other EOSC nodes

Scope

The Advisory Group will provide advice on:

- Technical architecture and trials (WP1 & WP2)
- Governance and sustainability (WP3)
- Federation strategy (WP4)
- Sensitive data integration (WP5)

They will also

- Identify risks and opportunities across the project lifecycle
- Validate project direction and major decisions
- Provide feedback on key milestones (e.g., governance model, technical roadmap)
- Ensure stakeholder perspectives are represented

- Support dissemination and advocacy for EOSC Ireland
- Ensure alignments and avoid redundancy with EOSC Europe wider outputs

Members

The group is convened and chaired by Asiera. Members are drawn from representatives from RPOs, RFOs, research support staff and user communities. Broad representation is sought from across the research community.

The Committee will apply the 40:40:20 gender balance principle, aiming for a minimum of 40% representation of women and 40% representation of men, with the remaining 20% flexible to accommodate overall diversity and inclusion.

Term

The Advisory Group will be established for the project lifetime which is expected to run from February 2026 for 15 months.

Meetings

The Advisory Group shall meet as required, in line with project milestones. We anticipate approximately 6 meetings. Meetings will be hosted online by Asiera. Recommendations must be approved by a quorum of half the number of members plus one.

Certain issues may not require a meeting and so may be addressed remotely via email (or similar). In such instances, decisions and/or recommendations must be approved by a quorum of half the number of members plus one