This memo is to provide a short overview of the ECDF ORG group for existing and new members.

It is instructive to recall the original definition set out in documents going as far back as 2007 (reduced version):

Oversight by academic researchers is crucial to assess whether ECDF services meet research requirements. Academic and Service Directors, Team leaders, and Convenors of other groups will present to the Oversight by Researchers Group (for approval or to note where appropriate) plans, prioritisations, progress and outcomes. The ORG will give guidance and help prioritise when requirements exceed resources, or where there are other conflicts.

This definition still holds essentially unchanged today – which is good, as it attests to the fundamental role of ORG i.e. to help to ensure that ECDF remains fit for purpose, hence be supported by its users and hence be sustainable.

The original ToR were:

- Advise the ECDF Service Director in any way necessary.
- Receive, approve, and give guidance where relevant,
  - high level results of requirements aggregation;
  - proposals for service definitions (both hardware and software to be supported);
  - proposals for fEC grant costs and similar financial matters insofar as they must be acceptable to the research community;
  - progress reports;
  - prioritisations;
  - guidance on how to promote ECDF to the diverse research community.
- Enact a feedback mechanism to assess delivered performance against research requirements.
- Receive reports and proposals from time to time from other ECDF groups in respect of any matter concerning research direction.
- Bring matters to the SPC if they must be escalated within the University.
- Develop its ToR.
These are now slightly modified in the light of evolved circumstances:

**ORG ToR**

- Advise the ECDF Service Director.

- Receive, approve, and give guidance where relevant,
  - high level results of requirements aggregation;
  - proposals for service definitions (both hardware and software to be supported)
  - proposals for fEC grant costs and similar financial matters insofar as they must be acceptable to the research community
  - progress reports
  - prioritisations
  - guidance on how to promote ECDF to the diverse research community

- Enact a feedback mechanism to assess delivered performance against research requirements and provide reports to be made available to Colleges and Schools.

- Receive, advise upon, and endorse capital refresh plans.

- Receive any other reports and proposals from time to time from other ECDF groups in respect of any matter concerning research direction.

- Report to the funders (Colleges, ITC and SRF clients) as requested.

- Develop its ToR.

**Membership**

The ORG membership consists of:
- Chair (2 years duration)
- ECDF Service Director
- CSE representatives
- Users representing Schools in CSE
- Users from CMVM and CHSS
- ECDF Team

Others will be in attendance as appropriate depending upon business.

This membership reflects the fact that CSE and IS are (at present) the primary funding source of both recurrent and replacement funds. Membership will be adjusted according to any evolution in use across Colleges.

Current members of ORG as of Spring 2009

Peter Clarke (Chair)
Jean Ritchie (ECDF Service Director)
John Martin (CSE)
Chris Adie (CSE-ALD)
Peter Sandercock (CMVM)
Rolly Wiegand (CMVM)
Carole Morrison (Chemistry)
Steve Renals (Informatics)
Simon Tett (Geosciences)
Lev Sarkisov (Engineering)
Davide Marenduzzo (Physics)
Max Ruffert (Maths)
Andrew Millar/Juri Rappsilber (Biological Sciences)
Alex Weiss, PPLS
Brian Gilmore (IS)
Tony Weir (IS)
Orlando Richards (IS-Systems team)
Mike Baker (IS-Middleware team)
John Blair-Fish (IS-User liaison)

If members are unable to attend meetings they are requested to send suitable deputies.

The following will have access to agenda and papers, and would normally attend for specific business upon request.

Jeff Haywood (CIO)
Richard Kenway (VP HPC and eScience)
Chris Rushbridge (DCC)
Arthur Trew (National Supercomputing)