**Supporting material**

*Seasonal trends*

Density was relatively stable throughout summer months in the Celtic Sea, with potential decreases either end of the survey season, which contrasts with findings from a study that used opportunistic sightings from the same ferry route in 2006 and 2017 which suggested common dolphins were more abundant here during the winter (Leeney *et al.*, 2012). Whilst we didn’t include November - March in our models, there are signs of reduced densities on either side of this period. However, 2006 - 2007 are poorly represented in our data, and seasonal patterns may show inter-annual variation.

Density in the Bay of Biscay peaked in May, and showed little variation throughout the summer months, with considerably lower densities prior to April, and after August. These results support previous studies that showed increased abundance in the summer, with lower numbers occurring here during winter (MacLeod, Brereton & Martin, 2009).