

Coastal protected landscapes and the marine planning system

a report from a workshop held at Losehill Hall, May 2010



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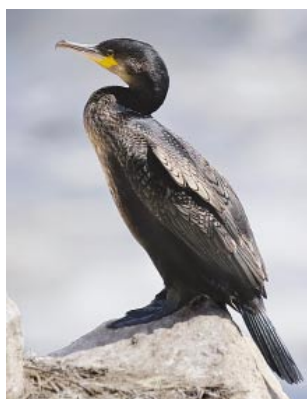
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Key to abbreviations used

AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	MCZ	Marine Conservation Zone
BSAC	British Sub-Aqua Club	MHWM	Mean High Water Mark
CCW	Countryside Council for Wales	MLWM	Mean Low Water Mark
C-SCOPE	Combining Sea and Coastal Planning in Europe	MMO	Marine Management Organisation
DCF	Dorset Coastal Forum	MSP	Marine Spatial Planning
EAI	Europarc Atlantic Isles	NE	Natural England
ELC	European Landscape Convention	NIEA	Northern Ireland Environment Agency
EMS	European Marine Site	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management	PL	Protected Landscape
IFCA	Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities	SAC	Special Area of Conservation
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature	SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
		SPA	Special Protection Areas



The new marine planning system

The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 provides the framework for a new planning system in the marine environment. The arrival of the new system has significant implications for those involved in the planning and management of coastal protected landscapes. The workshop was planned with their needs and interests in mind and builds on the work undertaken by the Coastal and Marine Working Group of Europarc Atlantic Isles (EAI) over the last few years.

The 'interests' of coastal protected landscapes include the interaction between them and the marine environment and activities, the character of the seascape and the special qualities they derive from the marine environment and association with it. They were described in generic terms in the EAI publication *Connecting land and sea: the place of coastal protected landscapes in the marine environment* (see the EAI website www.europarc-ai.org).

The aim of the workshop was to enable participants to spend significant time considering the implications of the new system of planning and managing the marine environment, from the point of view of protected landscapes collectively and individually. In particular it enabled them to:

- explore the new system and its relationship with coastal protected landscapes and how best they might interact with it
- identify the 'interests' of coastal protected landscapes in the marine environment
- hear from marine planners how they envisage the system working and what contribution they expect from the managers of coastal protected landscapes

- consider what they need to communicate individually and collectively to marine planners and other stakeholders in the marine environment

- help in the formulation of a work programme to assist them in this new area

The workshop sessions addressed three questions:

- what are the interests of protected landscapes derived from the marine environment and their association with it?
- where and how should protected landscapes fit in with the marine planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) processes now and in the future?
- what messages should protected landscapes be sending about their interests collectively and individually to influence policy development nationally, regionally and locally?

Each session was introduced by a presentation designed to stimulate discussion.

This report sets out

- the background to coastal protected landscapes and marine planning
- the key points made by the speakers who introduced each workshop session
- the conclusions of the workshop
- the next steps

The aim of the workshop was to consider the implications of the new system of planning and managing the marine environment, from the point of view of protected landscapes



background



Coastal protected landscapes and marine planning

In making an introduction to the workshop Edward Holdaway, chairman of EAI's Coastal and Marine Working Group, emphasised a number of points:

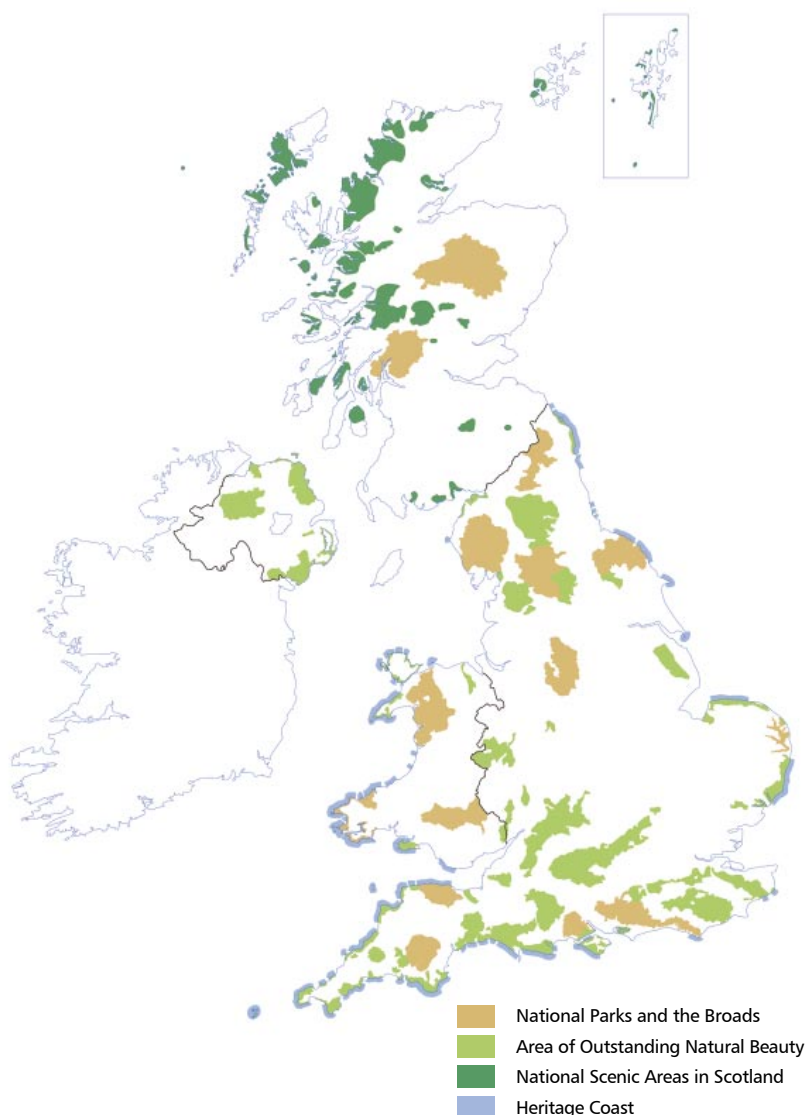
- the fact that so many of UK's protected landscapes have a coastline (see map below) – 9 out of 15 National Parks, 25 out of 46 AONBs,

27 out of 40 NSAs in Scotland – and that a great majority of them have all or part of their adjacent waters designated as European Marine Sites

- coastal protected landscapes have a marine dimension and are part of the seascape – even though the marine environment below mean low water mark (MLWM) is not included in designated areas, it is possible to define an area of sea from which a coastal protected landscape derives some of its special qualities

- at the European level the emphasis is on the conservation of marine biodiversity and good environmental status of marine waters – this is achieved primarily through the Natura 2000 process and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Apart from the European Landscape Convention which embraces the marine area as far as territorial limits, there is no mention of landscape/seascape.

- the introduction of marine planning and marine conservation zones (MCZs) under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 is very important but it has shortcomings – the land/sea divide is perpetuated with separate planning systems for each and only a requirement for each to have regard to the other; MCZs are usable only for nature conservation; and seascapes will have to be dealt with by the new marine planning system, though quite how remains an important question.



the need is to secure formal recognition of nationally important seascapes, of which coastal protected landscapes would undoubtedly be part



■ in the UK linking land and sea in the context of coastal protected landscapes is not totally new:

- the objectives for Heritage Coasts include the maintenance of the environmental health of the inshore waters adjacent to them – a question arises as to how useful the concept is now that they have largely been absorbed within National Parks and AONBs with only five Heritage Coasts lying completely outside other protected areas
- Scotland already has powers to create coastal and marine national parks, but has yet to use them
- the Countryside Councils for Wales and Scottish Natural Heritage have undertaken work on seascape assessment though mainly in the context of the visual impact of offshore windfarms
- Natural England has plans for undertaking seascape assessments using a wider approach to the concept
- the case for including a marine area in a coastal protected landscape, using National Park criteria, was made in the inquiry into the South Downs National Park. The inspector agreed with the argument but could not recommend it because no powers existed to make it possible.



■ terminology in relation to the word 'seascape' is an issue which needs to be clarified:

- a useful definition of landscape exists in the European Landscape Convention (ELC): *'an area as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors'* (Article 1).
It is important to note that the Convention applies not only to land and inland water but also to **marine** areas. A possible definition of seascape derived from the above definition might be as follows:
'an area of sea, coastline and land as perceived by people, whose character results from the actions and interactions of land with sea, by natural and/or human factors'.
This has already used by the Europarc Working Group and Natural England.
- IUCN has a very helpful definition of a protected landscape/seascape which demonstrates the breadth of what seascapes are all about i.e. more than just the view:
*'an area of land, with coasts and seas as appropriate, where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant **aesthetic, ecological and/or cultural value**, and often with high biological diversity. Safeguarding the integrity of this traditional interaction is vital to the protection, maintenance and evolution of such an area'*.



In conclusion

Edward Holdaway emphasised two challenges for coastal protected landscapes, which were at the heart of what the workshop was all about:

- the need to be prepared for the advent of the marine planning system by addressing the connection with the sea in their management plans
- the need to secure formal recognition of nationally important seascapes, of which coastal protected landscapes would undoubtedly be part.



workshop presentations



Integrated planning in practice

Northumberland AONB and Berwick & Northumberland European Marine Site

Mel Nicholls, the AONB Manager, described the process of preparing a joint plan for the two designations, one land-based (the AONB) and the other marine-based (the EMS) which overlap between MHW and MLWM. He made a number of key points about this process:

- there was much in common between the two – shared projects and offices, compatible schedules for review of their plans and stakeholders common to them both; they were also keen to broaden their horizons
- an integrated plan seemed logical but there were many questions – can two plans be put together, can two different pieces of legislation be implemented by one plan, how can the identity of each designation be retained, how can all stakeholders be accommodated when some have very focused responsibilities?
- four strategic management policies were devised – addressing integrated coastal management, climate change, community involvement and sustainable development

■ it was worth the effort – integrated working was warmly embraced by stakeholders and many environment, cultural and socio-economic benefits will begin to flow



■ there is a lot of exciting work to be done – establishing an environmental baseline and state of the environment report, developing mechanisms to monitor historic sites affected by environmental change, protecting the quality of waters, assessing the impact of recreational activities, promoting good practice in environmental management and guide

- three issues need to be addressed:
 - the formalisation of the relationship by merging governance structures
 - the future of the Heritage Coast concept
 - the integration of town and country planning with marine planning

■ overall the interests of the two designations are largely the same – they will never be dealt with separately again

integrated working was warmly embraced by stakeholders and many environment, cultural and socio-economic benefits will begin to flow





Dorset AONB and the C-SCOPE project

Tom Munro, the AONB Manager, introduced the C-SCOPE marine spatial planning project, with which the AONB is involved. He emphasised the following points:

■ the Dorset coastline is an important feature of the AONB, including parts of Poole Harbour and the Fleet and long stretches of two Heritage Coasts. It also includes most of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site and significant sections of coastal SAC, SPA and Ramsar sites. The AONB also extends inland up to 40km

■ the importance of the coastal zone is reflected in the management plan, with a headline policy to achieve greater integration between marine and terrestrial planning

■ the C-SCOPE project is led by the Dorset Coastal Forum (www.dorsetcoast.com), a Strategic Coastal Partnership which is very successful in bringing interests together – the AONB is a DCF member and is just one of those interests

■ the Dorset AONB Team is involved in C-SCOPE as a Steering Group member and member of the various Task & Finish Groups

■ a marine spatial plan (MSP) is needed because of the diversity of assets, uses and interests in the area, including:

- archaeology and culture
- dredging and disposal
- fishing
- recreation and tourism
- military activities
- mineral extraction
- oil and gas
- ports, navigation & shipping
- renewable energy
- submarine cables and pipelines
- nature conservation

■ data gathering and analysis has been a major activity, including an offshore renewable energy capacity study, seabed mapping and a land and seascape assessment. This forms a sound knowledge base upon which policy can be formulated.

■ the process has involved

- the establishment of a stakeholder network
- scenario planning with terrestrial planners
- policy objective development – building on Defra's Higher Level Management Objectives

■ C-SCOPE's MSP Task & Finish Group is currently working on

- specific policy development
- spatial expression of those policies

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the importance of the coastal zone is reflected in the management plan, with a headline policy to achieve greater integration between marine and terrestrial planning



workshop presentations



The Marine Management Organisation and marine planning

In introducing the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), **Steve Brooker**, the MMO Chief Planner, emphasised that:

- it had been established
 - to make a significant contribution to sustainable development in the marine area
 - to promote the UK Government's vision for clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas
 - as a cross-government delivery partner
- it is the Government's strategic delivery body for England, undertaking enforcement in relation to marine planning, fisheries management, marine licensing, marine nature conservation and emergencies. In Scotland and Wales it would only be involved in non-devolved matters.

In relation to marine planning he explained that:

- the overarching driver is the increased use of marine space and resources impacting on the sustainability of the marine environment, exemplified by the need for ICZM, the impact of climate change, low carbon and secure energy generation, depletion of fish stocks and impacts on marine biodiversity
- benefits would be derived from it through:
 - forward planning, including anticipation of new activities and changing technologies
 - balancing economic, social and environmental gain
 - early involvement of stakeholders
 - greater certainty and consistent evidence-based decision-making
 - sustainable use of marine resources
 - cohesion with coastal, estuarine and terrestrial plans

marine planning would provide an opportunity to ensure the interests of coastal protected landscapes are looked after

- marine plans would:
 - translate at local levels the policies in the UK Marine Policy Statement
 - be subject to sustainability appraisals
 - provide the basis for decisions on marine licensing
- preparations are underway for starting marine planning in 2011, with
 - the preparation of the evidence base
 - a technical scoping exercise
 - nationwide stakeholder engagement
 - the development of the plan-making process, including the choice of the first two plan areas and the engagement of stakeholders in those areas
 - publication of a Statement of public participation to be agreed by the Secretary of State – including identification of opportunities for engagement by stakeholders
 - preparation for appraisals of sustainability (including SEA and Habitat Regulations Assessment)
- so far as coastal protected landscapes are concerned marine planning would provide an opportunity to ensure their interests in the coastal and marine area are looked after through engagement with the marine plan and ICZM process, especially:
 - via coastal partnerships, for which the establishment of a comprehensive network will be very important
 - with the MMO, and through
 - the requirement in the marine plan process for regard to be had by the marine planning authority for any plan prepared by a public or local authority relating to the management or use of coastal and marine areas
- in conclusion he expressed the desire, on behalf of the MMO, to establish a good working relationship with coastal protected landscapes and to work with Natural England and others to ensure that a seascape character assessment methodology is developed and piloted



North York Moors National Park and North Yorkshire & Cleveland Heritage Coast

John Beech, the Heritage Coast Officer, described the way in which the National Park has been engaging with marine issues through the North Yorkshire and Cleveland Heritage Coast and the North Yorkshire and Cleveland Coastal Forum. He emphasised a number of key points:

■ Heritage Coasts were all about the management of the finest stretches of undeveloped coast – its 2008-13 management plan is still significant embracing conservation, enjoyment and the health of waters and beaches

in future it will be important to ensure that a better understanding is gained of the inter-relationships that influence the coast



■ the Coastal Forum, with 51 organisations and 162 individual members, is run on a modest scale by officers from the National Park and Scarborough Council. The four local authorities contribute £1500 annually and take turns in organising an annual conference. It has a working budget of £6000 to cover the costs of speakers, leaflets and a website. Its deliberations range over a large number of issues – including bathing water quality, renewable energy, sustainable fisheries, coastal defence, tourism, pollution, heritage protection and habitat management

■ connection with the sea is made in a variety of ways, including

- involvement with interest groups – ‘Adopt a beach’, BSAC undertaking SEASEARCH projects and volunteer shoresearch identifying and monitoring intertidal species
- involvement in the planning process for marine conservation zones
- education – school visits, education centre at Robin Hood’s Bay
- public information – promoting the importance and uniqueness of the coast and codes of conduct for specific activities
- archaeology – shipwrecks and evidence of the jet, alum and ironstone industries in the intertidal area
- catchment-sensitive farming – reducing diffuse pollution

■ In future it will be important to ensure that:

- full recognition is given to the land and adjoining seascape of the National Park and Heritage Coast
- the Park and Heritage Coast engage with the marine planning process
- full use is made of the Coastal Forum in bringing interests together to ensure mutual respect and understanding and to keep people informed
- a better understanding is gained of the inter-relationships that influence the coast e.g. a clean environment and scenic beauty is good for tourism and the local economy



workshop conclusions



Caring for the special qualities

The special qualities of coastal protected landscapes derived from the marine environment

In considering the special qualities of coastal protected landscapes that are derived from the marine environment and their association with it, the workshop participants identified a wide range of facets that contribute to them (*see below*).

In doing so they concluded that:

- the key relationship is that between land and sea
- special qualities are more than just the view
- the value derived from combinations of these qualities is particularly significant, including the mix of natural and cultural qualities
- the identification of generic special qualities need to be balanced by the identification of those underpinning each coastal protected landscape

The relationship between the special qualities, and coastal and marine activities

Participants also identified examples of a wide range of terrestrial and marine activities that might have positive and negative impacts on these special qualities (*see table opposite*).

In doing so they concluded that:

- whilst it is relatively easy to identify a list of activities generic to coastal protected landscapes, it will be important for an assessment of each protected landscape to be undertaken to identify the activities affecting its area
- the impact of most of the activities identified can vary from place to place and, depending on the circumstances, can have varying degrees of either positive or negative impact on them – raising the question of how best to measure impact and to establish carrying capacity of marine resources
- many of the threats emanate from the land



A great mix of emotional connections

- 'The Last Common'
- an island nation, a maritime nation, coastal heritage
- wildness, tranquillity, openness, survival, extremes, ever-changing moods – rough and calm
- natural forces, dynamism of coastal processes, grandeur of steep cliffs, endless mudflats and visible geology
- untamed, absence of development

Physical connections

- landforms and geology part of a continuum between land and sea
- geological and geomorphological features on the coast and under the sea

Ecological connections

- habitat transition - marine to land and vice versa
- wildlife depending on land and sea
- underwater habitats, flora and fauna

Cultural connections

- maritime landmarks
- arts, literature, music and songs
- myths and legends

Special resource for many activities, often underpinning the economy of many remote rural communities

- recreation and tourism
- boating and sailing
- traditional fishing
- source of local food





Some examples of the impact of marine and terrestrial activities on the special qualities		
Activity	Positive impact	Negative impact
Tourism and recreation	Enjoyment of special qualities; significant benefits for local economy and communities	Development of accommodation and facilities; excessive concentration of visitors and activities in sensitive areas
Sailing	Enables enjoyment of special qualities; supports local economy	Development of marinas, location of moorings and anchoring in sensitive places, disturbance of wildlife
Motor boating	Enables enjoyment of special qualities; supports local economy	Noise impact on enjoyment and on wildlife; conflicts with other users; development of marinas, moorings and anchoring in sensitive places
Fishing	Colour and interest of ports, harbours and boats, part of local culture and local communities; sustainable fishing especially at the local scale	Damage to environment; litter; industrial-scale fishing depleting stocks
Ports and shipping development and activity	Colour and interest of ports, harbours and boats, part of local culture and local communities	Development; rubbish; air and water pollution
Renewable energy (offshore and onshore)	Mitigation of climate change	Links to land from offshore; sub-stations and other facilities on land; transmission lines; particular impact on views
Oil and gas		Links to land and facilities on land; visual impacts
Aggregates and dredging		Destruction of seabed environment (natural and cultural), including loss of fish spawning grounds
Coastal defence and erosion	Opportunities for creating new habitats and landscapes	Coastal squeeze; loss of habitats; visual impact of artificial defences; loss of landscape and cultural features
Agriculture		Adverse affect on water quality and consequently on wildlife and fisheries, through diffuse pollution

deciding how best to measure the impact of marine and terrestrial activities on the special qualities will be crucial

continued ►

workshop conclusions



Are coastal protected landscapes equipped to deal with their marine dimension?

In answering this question participants concluded that coastal protected landscapes are not well-placed to deal with their marine dimension, especially in terms of

- the lack of both qualitative and quantitative information – in this context they emphasised the need to take into full account the qualitative values in the marine environment
- the lack of clarity about what seascapes are, what is special about them and what protected landscapes want to achieve through the marine planning process
- the lack of comprehensive seascape assessment techniques
- the lack of awareness amongst stakeholders and policy makers (national and local) that coastal protected landscapes are an integral part of the character of seascapes
- the lack of recognition, so far, in the marine planning process of the national importance of many of our seascapes, especially those related to coastal protected landscapes



- the lack of national guidance for protected landscape managers on making the link between land and sea, and on engagement with the marine planning process

- the lack of clarity as to responsibility for achieving integration between land and sea at a national, regional or local level

- the lack of well-established relationships with stakeholders in the marine environment

Looking to the future

In looking to the future, the workshop participants recognised that:

- the workshop was particularly timely – the marine planning process is just getting underway and there is a major opportunity for protected landscapes to secure their long-term interest in the marine environment by influencing the new process
- working with the MMO will be very important – the relationship has got off to a good start with the presence of a senior member of the MMO staff at the workshop and needs to be developed as a matter of priority
- activity in the marine environment, and the protected landscapes' association with it, is complex
- land and sea is one system, with many interactions that are at times very complex
- there are many tasks (*see opposite*) to be undertaken by, or on behalf of, protected landscapes

the marine planning process is just getting underway and there is a major opportunity for protected landscapes to secure their long-term interest in the marine environment by influencing the new process



Developing a manifesto for seascapes

This was identified as a major priority by participants. **They considered that it should be developed by the Coastal & Marine Working Group of Europarc Atlantic Isles in association with PL Groups and key NGOs for adoption by Government (UK & devolved), government agencies (including the Marine Management Organisation), local government associations, local authorities and local Protected Landscapes authorities and partnerships.**

In summary they concluded that the main messages in the manifesto should be:

- **all seascapes matter** and those of national importance need to be identified, recognised formally and protected – coastal protected landscapes will be key components of nationally important seascapes
- **comprehensive assessment of the character of seascapes needs to be undertaken** as a baseline for marine plans and for establishing what is special about particular areas
- **their future depends on the integration of planning and management between land and sea**, with particular implications for marine plans, terrestrial plans and protected landscape plans
- **successful integration between land and sea depends on relationships between stakeholders** – the formation of new ones (e.g. MMO) and the re-orientation of existing ones

They agreed that the manifesto should contain the following in relation to:

Seascapes

Seascapes exist, they matter and some are of national importance – they are more than just the view, embracing ecological and cultural resources in the marine and coastal environment. People care about them, access to them is fundamental to health and well-being and they have a positive impact on the economy, especially in more remote areas. They need to be sustained for future generations.

To secure their sustainable future it will be very important that:

- seascapes are recognised as a key resource in the marine and coastal environment and their interests are addressed in policy at all levels, especially in the Marine Policy Statement, in marine plans and in planning policy guidance on land
- a clear definition of what is meant by seascape is adopted nationally, building on the definition of landscape in the European

continued ►



the next steps



Landscape Convention (already used by Europarc and NE) and on the breadth of definition devised by IUCN

- a basis for the recognition of 'nationally important seascapes' – and the means of looking after them – is agreed nationally
- coastal protected landscapes are recognised as an integral part of the wider seascape, at the crucial place where land meets the sea, and that they are more than likely to be key components of nationally important seascapes. They will be key elements of marine plans, especially those covering inshore areas
- the principles underpinning the Heritage Coast concept, which has served as an important link between land and sea in England and Wales, is refreshed – their status and remit in the future need to be clarified

Seascape character

The assessment of seascape character will be crucial to the marine planning process; a consistent all-embracing methodology is needed:

- to define seascape character areas which will provide a valuable framework for considering all aspects of the marine and coastal environment and their interaction with both maritime and terrestrial activities; and
- to provide a starting point for the identification of the special qualities that would underpin the recognition of nationally important seascapes.

Time is of the essence in developing the methodology, if it is to be used in the first tranche of marine plans in England in 2011.

Integrated planning and management

Integrated planning and management will be essential both in the marine environment and between land and sea. It will be very important for terrestrial planning to play a leading role in optimising the links between land and sea. To achieve that in the context of coastal protected landscapes:

- protected landscape management plans should be used as a tool for integration as they are already on land; they should reflect their relationship with the marine environment and should be underpinned by a thorough assessment of the special qualities they derive from the marine environment and their association with it and the risk posed to those qualities by marine, marine-related and terrestrial activities
- national guidance will be needed to reflect this relationship between protected landscapes and the marine environment, and to encourage protected landscapes to overcome any reluctance to address issues beyond their boundary at the mean low water mark





■ members of protected landscape partnerships will need to buy into this relationship between land and sea; similarly protected landscapes will have to engage with stakeholders in the marine environment – in particular the renewable energy sector – to ensure that their interests are fully understood and taken into account in the planning and management process

■ those responsible for the planning of the marine environment will have to ensure that their 'duty of regard' towards any plan prepared for the marine area or adjacent coast embraces the statutory plans prepared for protected landscapes; similarly, local planning authorities should have regard not only for the 'special qualities' of protected landscapes on land but also for their marine dimension when preparing their plans. To help integration, full use should be made of the seascape character assessment process and coastal protected landscapes should engage with marine and land planners

■ good quality data and research will underpin the success of an integrated approach to marine and terrestrial planning necessitating:

- protected landscapes working together and sharing information across UK
- the collation of data and making it accessible
- full recognition of the importance of subjective and qualitative data (e.g. cultural and literary matters)
- the unravelling of the mismatch between OS and UK Hydrographic Office data

Relationships between stakeholders

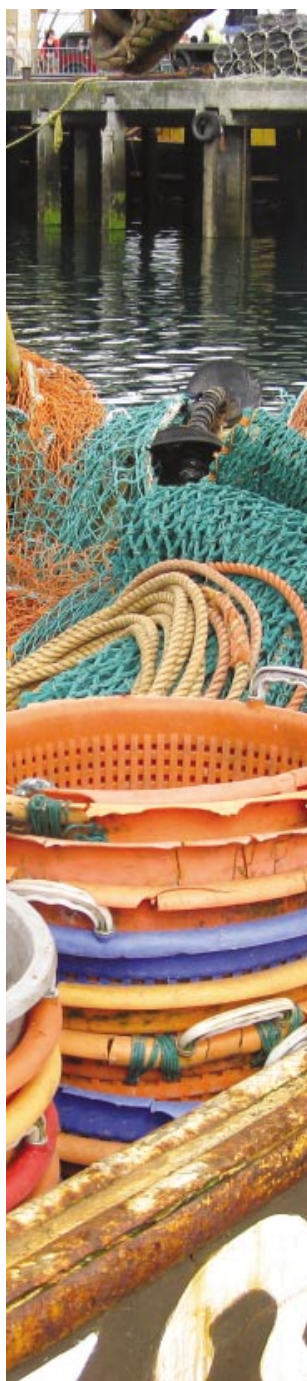
Successful integration will be achieved by close working between stakeholders in protected landscapes and in the marine environment. To assist this:

- an open and supportive relationship between Government (and its agencies) and PL consortia
- the valuable role that can be played by coastal partnerships and fora in bringing stakeholders to the table should be capitalised upon around the whole of the UK coast – their current geographical extent and capacity to fulfil the role and the best way to secure full coverage of the coast needs to be assessed
- coastal protected landscapes should be major players in such partnerships – they are there to help facilitate an integrated approach as they do on land
- each protected landscape partnership needs to be strengthened to reflect the nature of their particular link between land and sea – potential new members include the MMO, Crown Estates, IFCAs and European Marine Sites
- consideration needs to be given to the joint management of coastal protected landscapes and European Marine Sites adjacent to them, building on the experience of the Northumberland coast
- coastal protected landscapes will need to work closely together where there is more than one in any marine plan area, and will need to ensure the exchange of information and experience
- coastal protected landscapes, collectively and individually, need to establish a close working relationship with those responsible for marine planning (MMO in England and devolved administrations in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales)

it will be very important for marine and terrestrial planning to work together to optimise the links between land and sea



key tasks



What action needs to be taken, and by whom

The workshop participants identified the tasks that should be undertaken to implement the manifesto by the following bodies:

■ Government

(including the devolved administrations) should

- ensure that the Marine Policy Statement recognises seascapes as a key resource in the marine and coastal environment that provides a framework for an integrated and sustainable approach to its planning and management
- ensure that the Marine Policy Statement provides guidance on the conservation of their special qualities
- ask the National Agencies to develop a definition of seascape and the methodology and associated guidance for undertaking seascape character assessment for use by those responsible for marine plans
- ask the National Agencies to develop the basis for recognising nationally important seascapes and for ensuring the conservation of their special qualities
- create the policy climate within which coastal protected landscapes are actively encouraged to promote and influence the protection of the special qualities they derive from the marine environment and their association with it through their management plans and the marine planning process
- ensure that local planning authorities make the link between land and sea through their involvement in the marine planning process and the plans they prepare for the planning and management of the coast

■ Marine Management Organisation

(and those responsible for marine plans within the devolved administrations) should:

- ensure that seascapes – and particularly those of national importance – are treated as key marine resources to be conserved and enhanced through the marine plan process
- assist national conservation agencies in developing techniques of seascape character assessment
- ensure that seascape character assessments are undertaken for each marine plan area as part of the planning process
- engage with coastal protected landscapes collectively to ensure a full understanding of their interests
- ensure that individual protected landscapes are drawn into the marine planning process
- engage with coastal protected landscapes during the preparation of their management plans

Government and the Marine Management Organisation should ensure that seascapes are treated as key marine resources to be conserved and enhanced through the marine plan process





■ **national conservation agencies**

(CCW, NE, NIEA, SNH) should

- develop (with MMO and other marine planners) seascape assessment techniques as fundamental tools of marine planning
- develop the basis for the recognition of nationally important seascapes and for the way in which they should be looked after
- provide advice for coastal protected landscapes on how they should address coastal and marine issues in their management plans and development plans especially in relation to seascapes
- review the Heritage Coast concept in England and Wales and consider its relevance elsewhere in UK

■ **local planning authorities** should

- ensure not only that plans have particular regard to the character and importance of adjacent seascapes – including the special qualities of protected landscapes derived from the coastal and marine environment – but also play a leading role in making the connection between land and sea, through the development of (a) coastal partnerships/fora; (b) an integrated approach to seascape and landscape character assessment
- encourage the coastal protected landscape partnerships, with which they are involved, to develop their role in integrating the planning and management of land and sea through their management plans

■ **national bodies for AONBs and National Parks** should:

- promote the manifesto to national agencies, MMO, Government, local government associations, local partnerships and coastal partnerships
- work with national agencies in developing seascape character assessment techniques and in using them as the basis for the recognition of nationally important seascapes and devising the best means for looking after them
- forge a working relationship with the MMO and marine planning organisations in the devolved nations
- review the relationship between coastal protected landscapes and coastal fora/ partnerships, and identify the ways in which they can best help to promote integration between land and sea through them
- support Natural England in the review of the Heritage Coast concept and encourage CCW to undertake a similar review

continued ►

seascape character assessment techniques should be developed by the national conservation agencies as fundamental tools of marine planning



key tasks



■ **protected landscapes individually** should:

- promote their connection with the marine environment within their partnerships/ authorities, local communities and amongst key stakeholders
- ensure that their management plans (a) reflect their association with the marine environment (this will vary from area to area) using seascape character assessment as the basis for the identification of the special qualities they derive from that association; (b) identify the risk to those special qualities posed by marine and terrestrial activities, and the policies and actions needed to secure their long-term conservation
- consider the preparation of joint plans where there are European Marine sites or Marine Conservation Zones covering adjacent waters
- highlight the existence of Heritage Coasts within their areas and the principles that underpin them – unspoiled/undeveloped coast, public access and enjoyment and high water quality in the adjacent sea
- review the membership of their partnerships to ensure that marine interests are represented and should consider joint management where European Marine Sites or Marine Conservation sites adjoin them
- establish a positive relationship with marine stakeholders as they do now with the likes of farming and forestry
- encourage their local authorities to make the link with the marine environment through the marine planning process and through their development plans
- engage with, assist with, assist in or lead the establishment of a coastal forum/partnership in their area
- engage with the preparation of any marine plan relevant to their coastline and, where necessary, work jointly with other protected landscapes where there are more than one in a marine plan area

protected landscapes should ensure that their management plans and the make-up of their partnerships reflect their association with the marine environment and marine planning





The workshop was held at Losehill Hall, Castleton, Derbyshire on 26 and 27 May, 2010.

The participants were:

Name	Organisation
John Beech	North York Moors National Park
Phil Belden	South Downs Joint Committee
Niall Benson	Durham Heritage Coast
Steve Brooker	Marine Management Organisation
June Crossland	Cornwall AONB
Howard Davies	National Association for AONBs
Phil Dyke	National Trust
Paula Freeland	New Forest National Park
Tony Flux	National Trust
Edward Holdaway	Europarc Atlantic Isles
Nick Johannsen	Kent Downs AONB
Ros Love	CEU Ltd (facilitator)
Jenny Ludman	National Trust
Sarah Manning	Natural England
Katherine Masser	Scarborough Borough Council
Efan Milner	Anglesey AONB
Tom Munro	Dorset AONB
Mel Nicholls	Northumberland AONB
Helen Noble	Causeway Coast & Glens Trust, Northern Ireland
Tim Russell	Quantock Hills AONB
Alec Taylor	Countryside Council for Wales
Christine Tudor	Natural England
Tim Venes	Norfolk Coast AONB



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