



Marine Planning – Update on the English Programme

EAI CMWG 18 Jan 2016

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Overview

- East Marine Plans
- South Marine Plan
- Future plans to 2021 and MSPD
- Marine Information System
- Integration
- Seascape
- Lessons Learned



Legislative basis for marine planning and plans

MCAA

 Marine and Coastal Access Act provides legislative basis for a marine planning system

MPS

 Marine Policy Statement (SoS) is the framework for marine plans and taking decisions

Marine Plans

 Marine Plans (MMO) will translate the MPS into detailed policy and spatial guidance for each Marine Plan area to guide and direct decision-making

Effect

Public authorities (not just the MMO) must take account of the plans (in various ways, with exceptions) when making decisions (MACAA s58)

Application of marine plans (MCAA S.58)

- Principally through decisions made by public authorities
- Authorisation or enforcement decisions must be "in accordance with" the marine plans and MPS unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise (S.58(1))
- Decisions not taken in accordance with the marine plans and MPS, the public authority must state its reasons (S.58(2))
- A public authority must have regard to marine plans and MPS in taking any decision which relates to the exercise of any function capable of affecting the UK marine area (S.58(3))
- Exception: decisions on NSIPs under the Planning Act 2008 which have to have regard to marine plans (S.58(4))



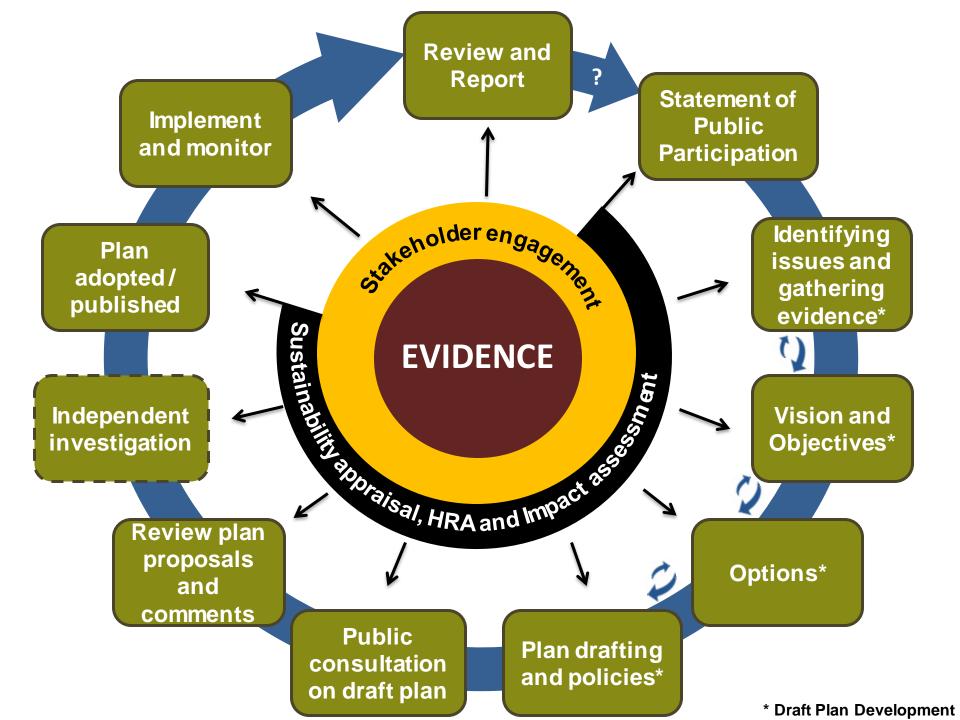
Relevant decisions

- LA (development management) Planning permissions
- LA (strategic planning) & CC Plan making, waste and minerals plans
- EA Planning, water discharges (environmental permitting), and development application (FCRM)
- IFCA Drafting bylaws based upon local evidence, knowledge of habitats and stocks (a potential to impact or effect the marine plan area)
- Government Departments Regard to the marine plans in Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs)
- PINs Planning authority for NSIPs and lead authority for MMO Licensing appeals
- TCE Inform future leasing decisions (custodial role for seabed management)
- NE and JNCC Statutory nature advisory body

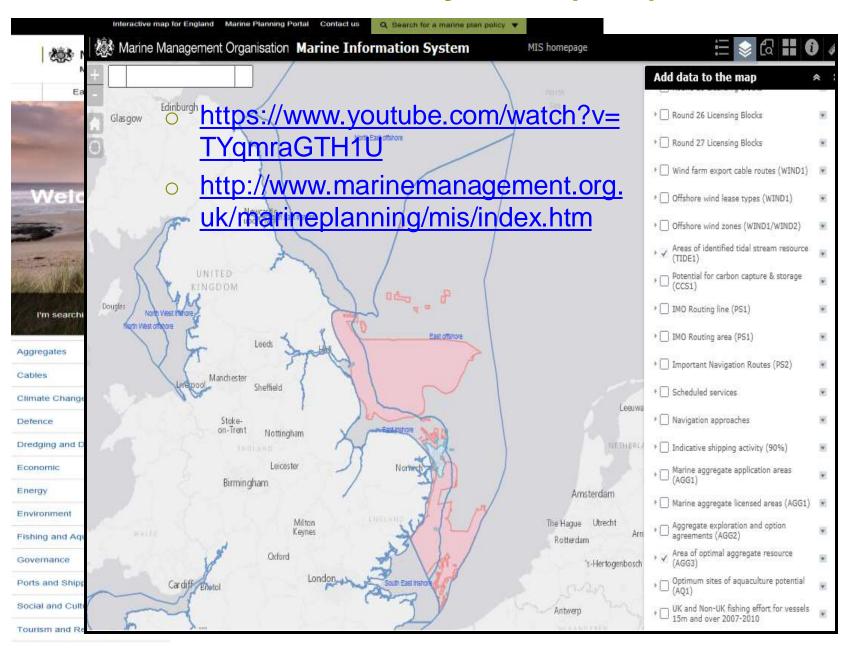
Marine plan areas

- East Marine Plan adopted
- South marine plan in progress
- Plans used to help determine decision-making by relevant authorities
- All marine plans by 2021
- Landward limit: mean high water springs



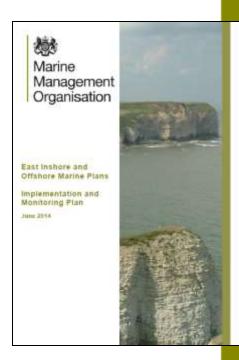


Marine Information System (MIS)



East Plans Monitoring

- MCAA S.61
 - Report at 3 years intervals on effectiveness of policies to secure objectives and progress toward MPS HLMOs
 - MMO responsible but dependent on others' info
 - External input (Monitoring Advisory Group, SFG)
 - Attribution, contribution, time lags etc



- Customer survey (decision-makers, applicants)
 - Late 2014: low returns despite follow up
 - About equal numbers +ve and –ve about effects of the plans
 - Free text responses invaluable, eg early days, plans for training

Duties to cooperate

- The Localism Act 2011 places a legal duty on local planning authorities, county councils in England and public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis to maximise the effectiveness of Local and Marine Plan preparation in the context of strategic cross boundary matters.
- The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 requires the marine plan authority to notify local planning authorities of its intention to prepare a marine plan, whose area of jurisdiction adjoins the marine plan area and to assess plans for marine relevance
- Coastal Concordat

Integration with terrestrial and other plans

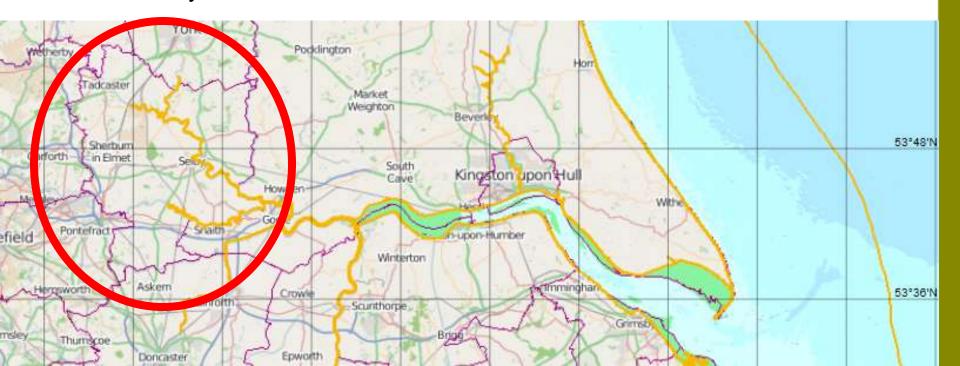
- Sub-national policy analysis
- Marine Information System/Planning Portal
- A Guide for LA Planners
- Planning Advisory Service Soundness Checklist
- Duty to Cooperate Protocol Devon CC/MMO



Work by Local Authorities

Example: Selby

- Produced internal guidance for planning policy and development management teams – an operational document
- Provides an overview of marine plans and supporting legislation (docs)
- Identifies where East plans apply geographically
- Sets out requirements, tool, and potential areas of specific interest (whilst highlighting that marine plans should be viewed in totality)
- Currently in draft



Swale Borough Local Plan

- The MMO will deliver UK marine policy objectives for English waters through statutory Marine Plans and other measures. Swale is within the South East Inshore Marine Plan area and a plan for this area will be prepared at a future date. Until a Marine Plan has been prepared, the Marine Policy Statement should be referenced for guidance on any planning activity that includes a section of coastline or tidal river;
- The Coastal Concordat is an agreement between the Department for Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs, the Department for Transport, the Department for Communities and Local Government, the Marine Management Organisation, Natural England, the Environment Agency, the Local Government Association and National Parks England. Council's are encouraged to adopt the Concordat and its principles.

Cross-border integration

- MPS in common
- UK Marine Planning Liaison Group
- Compatibility first, integration over time
- WG and MMO are working together on the Welsh NMP
- Way of Working document
- Focus on evidence and issues, especially in Severn and Dee.
- Severn Estuary Partnership/Strategy
- Learning from each other's plans
- Co-ordination of Stakeholder
 Engagement for cross-border matters
- Sustainability Appraisal Advisory Group
- Implementation and Monitoring



Seascape

- Published studies include East and South
- Completed NE, NW and SE in 2015
- Expecting to complete SW by April 2016
- Publish all remaining studies together
- Considering how to integrate marine and terrestrial planning with LAs using seascape



Longer term – the road to 2021

- Challenges
 - 4 plans for 7 areas in 5 years
- Opportunities
 - Build on learning
 - Draw on evidence and analysis thus far
 - Economies of scale
 - Pursue complementary funding
 - Strengthen team
 - Minister & MMO share ambition for more practical guidance
- Deciding on approach
 - All remaining marine plans for England at the same time?
 - Increased stakeholder engagement
- Cross-border work
 - Welsh NMP
 - Severn Strategy
 - SIMCelt?

International experience

2015 International Marine Spatial Planning Symposium in Rhode Island, USA. Headlines:

- process is as important as the output
- marine planning is an 'investment to save' but time lag
- Need to move from 'planning to plan' to 'planning to implement'
- need to integrate into 'mainstream' coastal management, taking account of other plans and better 'signposting' to marine plans
- MMO monitoring was considered to be ahead of most others

Lessons Learned

- Issues pivotal
- Higher Level Marine Objectives?
- Bank compatible policies
- Desire to make plans more approachable
- Digital by default?
- Cross-government Board required
- Stakeholders like engagement throughout the process!!
- Officers at the coast are vital
- Social media
- Fixed timelines

Challenges

Marine Plans

- What (more) can the MMO do, through marine plans, to recognise and support Protected Landscapes?
- How can EAI, and Protected Landscapes, promote awareness and understanding of marine plans and their implementation?

Seascape

 How can Seascape support integration between marine and terrestrial planning?