

MPA Management Steering Group

Key messages and Actions

Title of Meeting	MPA Management Steering Group		Date	02.02.2018
Meeting Number	9	Start Time	10:30	End Time 14:30
Attendance	Graham Rees (Welsh Government - Chair), Louise George (Welsh Government), Richard Lowcock James (Welsh Government), Alison Palmer Hargrave (Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau SAC – advisor to the Steering Group), Trevor Theobald (Welsh Local Government Association/Pembrokeshire County Council), Jonathan Monk (Welsh Ports Group/Milford Haven Port Authority), Helen Bloomfield (Natural Resources Wales), Maggie Hatton-Ellis (Natural Resources Wales - advisor), Rhian Jardine (Natural Resources Wales), Lindsey Powles (Welsh Government).			
Telecon	Eve Read (Dŵr Cymru/ Welsh Water), Michel Regelous (Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority/Snowdonia National Park Authority)			
Apologies	Rosie Kelly (The Crown Estate), Tegryn Jones (Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority/Snowdonia National Park Authority)			

	Agenda Item
1.	Welcome and housekeeping
2.	EU transition (verbal update)
3.	Key messages and actions from previous meeting (paper 1)
4.	The Marine Protected Area Network Management Framework (paper 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Views on latest version • Populating the Action Plan • Engagement
5.	Feedback on NRW's indicative feature-level site condition reports
6.	Welsh Government action in response to the CCERA inquiry report (paper 3)
7.	Review of MPAMSG terms of reference (paper 4)
8.	Items to note, any other business and date of next meeting

Introduction

The Marine Protected Area Management Steering Group (MPAMSG) provides strategic co-ordination for the management of all MPAs in Welsh seas. The Group provides advice, guidance and a collective steer to authorities involved in the delivery of MPA management actions. It champions effective MPA management, and is tasked with raising the profile of MPA management and increasing buy-in from management authorities and wider stakeholders across Wales.

Membership of the MPAMSG is drawn from the key management authorities in Wales, as defined by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

The Steering Group held its ninth meeting on 02 February 2018 at the Welsh Government Offices in Aberystwyth. Key messages and actions from the meeting are found within this document. Members of the MPAMSG have a responsibility for disseminating consistent messages with their respective networks.

Should you wish to discuss any of the agenda items in more detail please contact your sector lead. If you require the contact details of your sector lead, please contact the Marine and Fisheries Ministerial Mailbox:
(MarineandFisheriesMinisterialMailbox@gov.wales)

Key Messages and Actions

Item 2: EU transition (verbal update)

Key messages	Actions
Steering Group members received a verbal update on progress related to preparations for EU exit.	N/a

Item 3: Key messages and actions from previous meeting (paper 1)

Key messages	Actions
Key messages and actions from the previous meeting were agreed by all members of the Steering Group as a true record. All actions were considered complete. In future, key messages and actions will be cleared in correspondence to allow for swifter publication on the Welsh Government's website.	N/a

Item 4: The Marine Protected Area Network Management Framework (paper 2):

Key messages	Actions
<p>Group members discussed the latest iteration of the draft Framework and made a number of suggestions to improve the document further, including a Glossary of Terms and a table to show management actions currently being delivered.</p> <p>The Group also discussed how the Action Plan section of the Framework could be populated, with a focus on actions that would have benefits for multiple sites or at the national level; this would include local actions with the potential to be rolled out on a</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. RLJ to circulate a revised version of the Framework to Steering Group members by 08 February.

<p>wider scale.</p> <p>Wider engagement was discussed, including the possibility of Steering Group members to deliver a presentation on the Framework at a future meeting of the Wales Marine Advisory and Action Group.</p> <p>Group members confirmed that, subject to internal sign-off processes within their respective sectors/organisations, the final Framework would be published as a document produced by the Steering Group and its member organisations, rather than the Welsh Government.</p> <p>The next agreed step was to redraft the Framework on the basis of comments made at the meeting, and circulate the revised Framework to members for further comment.</p>	
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Item 5: Feedback on NRW's indicative feature-level site condition reports:

Key Messages	Action
Steering Group members gave positive feedback on NRW's indicative feature-level site condition reports and confirmed they are already being used by some management authorities to influence site-level work programmes.	N/a

Item 6: Welsh Government action in response to the CCERA inquiry into MPA management (paper 3)

Key Messages	Actions
The Steering Group received an update on the actions undertaken and planned by the Welsh Government in response to the recommendations of the CCERA Committee's report of its inquiry into MPA management.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. LG to circulate the network gap analysis carried out by JNCC. 3. MHE to circulate the link to the draft Harbour Porpoise SAC conservation objectives.

Item 7: Review of MPAMSG terms of reference (paper 4)

Key Messages	Actions
<p>The Steering Group discussed the Terms of Reference and agreed that the JNCC should be invited to join the Group, given the Welsh Government's expanded remit for offshore conservation.</p> <p>The WLGA and Welsh Ports Group representatives agreed to ask their organisations if additional sectoral representation on the Group would be beneficial.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. RLJ to invite JNCC to send a representative to future Group meetings.5. TT and JM to discuss additional sectoral representation on the Group with their organisations.

Item 8: Items to note, any other business and date of next meeting

Key Messages	Actions
<p>The Group received a brief update on the Expressions of Interest received for NRW's Commissioning Plans funding.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. RLJ to circulate a Doodle Poll for the next meeting.