



**Marine Planning Stakeholder Reference Group (MPSRG)  
Sustainable Management of Natural Resources workshop  
1 August 2018**

**Purpose:** Discuss the definition of Blue Growth the ecosystem interactions and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the context of draft Welsh National Marine Plan.

**Attendees**

**John Hamer** (Welsh Government), **Emily Finney** (Welsh Government) **Rebecca Rees** (Welsh Government), **Rachel Mulholland** (Cefas), **Mark Russell** (Mineral Products), **Peter Barham** (SUDG), **Christopher O'Brien** (RSPB / WEL), **Lee Murray**(NRW), **Kirsty Lindenbaum** (NRW), **Mike Butterfield** (RYA), **Duncan Savage** (RYA), **Alexander Phillips** (WWF/WEL), **Clare Reed** (MCS/WEL), **Jim Evans** (Fisherman's association), **Mike Frost** (Wood Group), **Neville Rookes** (WLGA)

1. Following the initial workshop on Sustainable Development in Llandudno Junction in July, members of the Marine Planning Stakeholder Reference Group considered use of the term Blue Growth in the Welsh National Marine Plan and how to take forward planning policy relating to ecosystem interactions.
2. WG gave an update on the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and the progress to date on Natural Resources Policy (NRP). Explaining how NRP was linked to area statements and the State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR).
3. There was a joint presentation from members of the Wales Environment Link (WEL) – RSPB, WWF and MCS. In the presentation WEL highlighted their concerns that the current Plan 'will not result in the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources'.
4. There was a presentation from NRW on SoNaRR, their advice on SMNR in relation to the WNMP and feedback from Area Statements on Marine Planning.
5. The group discussed a number of papers related to the draft plan text on Blue Growth, policy interaction and coherence – including cross cutting policies, sector policies and SMNR and setting the direction of travel.



6. Following feedback from attendees at the sessions Welsh Government proposed to:

- *Remove ecosystem interactions text from the plan;*
- *To produce a separate supporting document on ecosystems interactions and to include it as part of the planning framework;*
- *To produce this document within a year of the plan adoption;*
- *Provide further definitions for both Blue Growth based upon that of Green Growth;*
- *Include clearer statements that all policies apply equally and not include a hierarchy of policies;*
- *To review the targets currently included in the plan and refer back/discuss with policy colleagues;*
- *To not set limits or targets for sectors which do not already have them set or have any precedent on this;*
- *To continue to develop the evidence base for the sectors of the Welsh Plan and will not rule out setting targets or limits in the future if the evidence supports this.*

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