

Environment and Rural Affairs EU Transition Roundtable

Seas and Coast Subgroup

Tuesday 20 June 2017 11:00 - 15:00

Cilgerran Room
Welsh Government Offices, Rhodfa Padarn, Aberystwyth, SY23 3UR

Note of meeting and actions

Attendees

Graham Rees – Welsh Government (Chair)
Andy Fraser – Welsh Government
Welsh Government
Welsh Local Government Association
Milford Haven Port Authority
Marine Energy Wales
Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
Natural Resources Wales
Wales Wildlife Trust
RSPB
Welsh Fishermens Association

Apologies

PD Partnership
Chair of WMFAG
RSPB

Key priorities for EU Exit from each sector – Subgroup members

Welsh Local Government Association

- Need to have a clear long-term vision on what we're trying to achieve for marine and fisheries beyond EU Exit. (Neville referred to 2050 throughout the meeting)
- Our deliberations should not be unduly influenced by politics / politicians...we are considering constitutional issues which will outlive short-term political perspectives.
- We need to avoid focusing solely on Brexit; Brexit is the catalyst for change, but we need to focus on working together to with a focus on what's best for Wales in the long-term.
- Improvement of the environment should remain a key priority

Milford Haven Port Authority

- We need to maintain the free movement of people, goods and services between Wales and the Republic of Ireland
- Need to ensure we maintain legislative regimes to ensure continued good management of MPAs

Marine Energy Wales

- Need to be clear on Wales' aspiration to pursue sustainable renewable marine energy (in line with decarbonisation obligations)
- Need to be clear on policy and revenue levers
- Maintain good working relationships with UK Govt and other DAs

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park

- Need to be clear and have a plan for Day 1 and where the gaps are in our preparations
- Ensure we maintain environmental protections and protection of important biodiversity sites
- Consider Ireland as an example?
- Reiterates earlier point on free movement of people, goods and services to Ireland, with suggestion for Wales to support case for a soft border.

Natural Resources Wales

- Maintain MPAs
- Continued implementation of Wales Act given questions / uncertainty on devolution?
- Need to maintain current level of EU structural funds
- Need to consider potential loss of access to single market

Wales Wildlife Trust

- Need to maintain ambition and commitment to deliver MSFD requirements
- Need to maintain "right to challenge"
- Need a regime that ensures the sustainable management of our seas

RSPB

- Need to maintain ambition on MSFD, Natura 2000 sites and MCZs
- Need outcome that is compatible with Env Act requirements, specifically ecosystem resilience and ecosystem approach
- Want to secure sustainable fisheries, with UK level approach to achieve this.
- Need clarity on governance and institutional authority through the Repeal Bill

Welsh Fishermens Association

- Need to ensure viability and prosperity of Welsh fishing communities
- Ensure fisheries are well-managed for the longer-term through use of reliable evidence base.
- Need to protect rural communities and their way of life that are part of the fabric, culture and heritage of Wales.

Actions

Number	Description	Owner
(20/06/17) 1	Provide list of other stakeholder groups	GR
(20/06/17) 2	Ensure representation of the academic sector is achieved by appointing appropriate representative	GR
(20/06/17) 3	Change 'background' title to 'context' in ToR	GR
(20/06/17) 4	Environment Act to be included in bullet point 3, page 3	GR
(20/06/17) 5	Group to send any further amendments to the ToR to ZS	All
(20/06/17) 6	Circulate <i>Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Wales</i> slides to group	AF
(20/06/17) 7	Circulate actions to group following meeting	WG