



HM Government

South Marine Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment: Appropriate Assessment 2018



Foreword

In developing the South Marine Plans on behalf of government, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) has appraised whether the marine plans (alone, or in combination with other plans or projects) are likely to have a likely significant effect (LSE) on any European sites, and, if so, whether they may have an adverse effect on the integrity (AEOI) of such sites. This report presents the final conclusions of the Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken.

The appraisal was carried out under requirements of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora ('the Habitats Directive'), the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (SI 2010/490) for European sites within 12 nautical miles of territorial sea baselines (i.e. the south inshore plan area) and the Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats Regulations 2007 - SI 2007/1842) for European sites outside 12 nautical miles (i.e. the south offshore plan area).

The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) followed a standard iterative process and to date has produced the following outputs: a Pre-Screening Review Report; Screening Report and Appropriate Assessment Information Report (AAIR). All reports were prepared by ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd (ABPmer) on behalf of the MMO. This report, the Appropriate Assessment (AA) was completed by the MMO. It reviews the final South Plan policies and undertakes a final assessment to determine if a further AAIR is required. The statutory consultees, the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) and Natural England (NE) agreed the findings reported and conclusions drawn.

On the 7th November 2016, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) published the draft South Marine Plan and Sustainability Assessment for consultation. The comments put forward and subsequent amendments did not alter the original findings from the Habitats Regulations Appraisal undertaken in August and October 2015.

As a result, the MMO has concluded that, subject to identified mitigation measures, there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of a European site arising from the draft South Marine Plans.



Amanda Desmond
Head of Marine Planning and Licensing
Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

Contents

Acronyms	1
1 Introduction	2
2 Legal context and HRA approach	4
3 South Marine Plan HRA process.....	5
3.1 Pre-Screening Review	5
3.2 Screening	5
3.3 Appropriate Assessment Information Report (AAIR)	8
3.4 Appropriate Assessment.....	10
4 References.....	11
Annex.....	13
Figure 2: Stages of the HRA process for marine plans in England (adapted from David Tyldesley Associates, 2012).....	13
Figure 3: Policy screening and assessment process	13
Table 2: Appropriate Assessment policy screening review	15

Acronyms

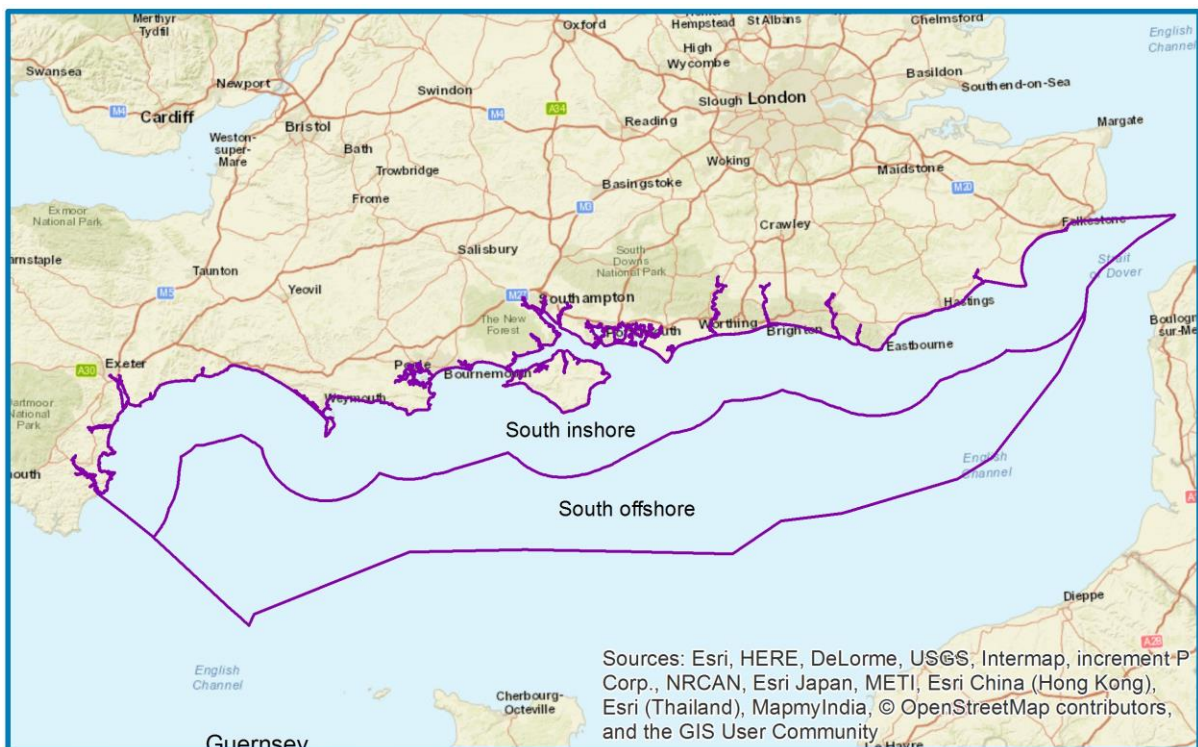
Acronym	Term
APBmer	ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd
AEOI	Adverse Effect On Integrity
AA	Appropriate Assessment
AAIR	Appropriate Assessment Information Report
cSACs	candidate Special Areas of Conservation
EC	European Commission
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
IPR	Iterative Plan Review
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
LSE	Likely Significant Effect
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
NE	Natural England
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
NAEOI	No Adverse Effect on Integrity
OGD	Other Government Departments
pSPAs	potential Special Protection Areas
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SCI	Sites of Community Importance
SAC	Special Areas of Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Areas
SNCBs	Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SA-AG	Sustainability Appraisal Advisory Group

1 Introduction

Following public consultation on the draft South Marine Plan the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) has undertaken an Appropriate Assessment (AA) as part of the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). As a result of this assessment, the MMO has concluded there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of a European site arising from the draft South Marine Plan. This decision is reliant on the application of two key mitigation measures, Iterative Plan Review (IPR) and project-level HRAs. This report sets out the approach taken and reasons underpinning the drawn conclusion.

Under the EC Habitats Directive a HRA is required in order to assess the Likely Significant Effect (LSE) of a plan or project either individually or in combination with other plans or projects on protected nature conservation sites (European/Ramsar sites). A single AA was completed for both the south inshore and south offshore marine plan areas (hereafter referred to as the South Marine Plan), the locations of which are shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: South marine plan areas



Copyright statement: Map produced in ETRS89 UTM 30N. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. Reproduced with the permission of the Marine Management Organisation, Ordnance Survey and UK Hydrographic Office.

The HRA method used is a standard iterative process for undertaking plan-level HRAs and follows the guidance set out by David Tyldesley Associates (2009 and 2012), see Figure 2 in the Annex for a visual representation of the process. A

summary below identifies all the key deliverables of a HRA and how they relate to the stages of the process (outlined in Figure 2 in the Annex).

- Report 1 **Pre-Screening Review Report** (HRA Stages 1 to 3) - (MMO, 2014a).
- Report 2 **Screening Report** (HRA Stages 4 to 7) – (MMO, 2015a).
- Report 3 **Appropriate Assessment Information Report (AAIR)** (HRA Stages 8 to 11) – (MMO, 2015b).
- Report 4 **Appropriate Assessment** (Stages 12 and 13) - (this report)

This report uses the outputs produced in the first 11 stages of a HRA to assess if post consultation amendments to the plan policies require them to be screened in for LSE. Following the MMOs assessment the Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies (SNCBs), Natural England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) were provided with the policy screening table to seek their views. If it is determined that a policy will have a LSE then the MMO are required to complete an AAIR for that policy and identify the appropriate mitigation measures.

2 Legal context and HRA approach

Under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive, an Appropriate Assessment is required where a plan or project is likely to have a significant effect upon a Natura 2000 site (also known as a 'European Site', http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/index_en.htm). Natura 2000 is a network of areas designated to conserve natural habitats that are in danger of disappearance in their natural range, have a small natural range, and/or present outstanding examples of typical characteristics of the biogeographic region and species that are rare, endangered, vulnerable or endemic within the European Community. This includes Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated under the Habitats Directive for their habitats and/or species of European importance and Special Protection Areas (SPA) classified under Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds for rare, vulnerable and regularly occurring migratory bird species and internationally important wetlands. In addition candidate SACs (cSACs) and Sites of Community Importance (SCI) are given the same protection as fully designated European sites. This is also the case under UK Administration policy for sites designated under the 1971 Ramsar Convention for their internationally important wetlands (Ramsar sites) and potential SPAs (pSPAs).

In addition to designated and proposed European/Ramsar sites, it is policy in England (DCLG, 2012) that sites identified, or required, as compensatory measures for adverse effects on European sites should be given the same protection as European sites. On this basis, and following advice from Natural England during the early stages of the HRA consultation process, ABPmer identified all completed managed realignment or regulated tidal exchange sites that have been created for compensatory purposes in the UK and within the 100km pre-screening buffer. All those designated, proposed and compensation sites are collectively referred to as European/Ramsar sites in this report.

Guidance on the methods for undertaking plan-level HRAs has been prepared for Natural England, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and Natural Resources Wales (NRW) (David Tyldesley Associates, 2009a, 2009b and 2012). Guidance has also been produced by the European Commission (EC) on the assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites (EC, 2001). This guidance provides clear advice on the steps and process to be followed in undertaking plan-level HRA which is directly applicable to Marine Plan HRAs. The iterative process that is recommended for plan-level HRAs has been adapted for the South Marine Plan from David Tyldesley Associates (2012). This process has been effectively applied to a number of plan-level HRAs for example The Crown Estate for wave and tidal leasing (ABPmer, 2014); the East Marine Plans (MMO, 2013) and for wind, wave and tidal energy in Scottish waters (ABPmer, 2013 a and b).

3 South Marine Plan HRA process

This report is the final stage of the HRA process, below is a summary of the previous stages and their outputs. For further information refer to the [individual reports](#).

3.1 Pre-Screening Review

The pre-screening review report covers Stages 1 to 4 of the HRA guidance (Figure 2 in the Annex) and was published in July 2014 (MMO, 2014a). This set out, in very broad terms, the European/Ramsar sites and interest features that needed to be considered in the South Plans HRA as well as the proposed methods for screening and assessment.

An updated version of the pre-screening review was undertaken in 2015 and included in the Screening Report. This updated version reviewed advances in scientific understanding of interest features and their interactions, and lessons learnt from more recent plan-level HRAs. It also took account of the advice provided by the Sustainability Appraisal Advisory Group (SA-AG), which included the SNCBs (NE and JNCC).

In light of this, the screening methodologies for bottlenose dolphin and bats were updated accordingly. The ecological screening methodology proposed for bottlenose dolphins now takes into account the final Management Units which were published by the UK Inter-Agency Marine Mammal Working Group (2015). The updated ecological screening methodology for bats takes account of new evidence on their potential foraging and migratory behaviour in coastal regions (BSG Ecology, 2014).

In addition, the update identified any new designated or proposed European/Ramsar sites upon which the South Marine Plan could have a LSE. Two candidate SACs (cSACs) were upgraded to Sites of Community Importance (SCI) status since the original publication of the report. As a result a total of 295 European/Ramsar sites were identified at pre-screening for consideration at the next screening stage. These included 188 SACs/cSACs/SCIs, 66 SPAs, 33 Ramsar sites and 8 compensatory sites.

3.2 Screening

The Screening stages were undertaken in August 2015 (MMO, 2015a) and identified the European/Ramsar sites and interest features for which there is a LSE from the draft South Marine Plan, or where a LSE cannot be excluded, and further consideration is required.

The screening process (figure 3 in the Annex) involved the following two stages:

1. A policy screening process in which the policies of the draft South Marine Plan were reviewed to identify those that need to be assessed (based on

agreed pre-determined criteria that are explained further below). This resulted in a final list of those policies which are not 'criteria-based' and which result in a material change to existing activities and for which there may be a LSE.

2. An ecological screening process which identified European/Ramsar sites and interest features for which there is a potential for a LSE (or where such a LSE cannot be excluded) from the areas of the marine and coastal environment where activities will occur as a result of the 'screened in' policies.

The relevant policies for which a LSE could occur were those which fulfil Screening Criteria 1 to 3 (as shown in Figure 3 in Annex), because they identify discrete areas where activities will, or may, take place as a consequence of the South Marine Plan but for which no previous HRA has been undertaken. The results of the policy screening report were based on a review of the marine plan policies provided in the first draft version of the South Marine Plan. Following a review of the South Marine Plan by the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Advisory Group and Other Government Departments (OGD) a second draft was produced. This was reviewed by ABPmer to ensure any amended policies were appropriately screened and informed the AAIR. It was concluded that the original assessment remained the same and no further policies were screened in. The two policies screened in were S-AQ-1 and S-DD-2 listed in table 1 and described below.

Policy S-AQ-1 is designed to enable aquaculture to continue, and to realise new opportunities subject to meeting legislative requirements. This policy was screened into the HRA on the basis that areas of potential aquaculture production have not previously been subject to HRA and are spatially explicit (MMO, 2015a). Areas of potential aquaculture production are based mostly on the biophysical envelope of species and specific consideration of other activities known to be incompatible (MMO, 2015b).

Policy S-DD-2 encourages the re-use of dredged material in an alternative way, whilst aiming to reduce the number of new disposal sites being created, along with existing sites currently being used (MMO, 2015b). Although a map was not provided in the draft South Marine Plan, spatial information on the shoreline stretches which could benefit from future beneficial re-use is available from the MMO1073 study (MMO, 2014b). This spatial information is limited to areas which could benefit from beach nourishment and mud recharge. Although policy S-DD-2 includes other types of beneficial re-use (e.g. subtidal deposition and land claim/raising), these are not included in the scope of this HRA given the lack of spatial information as to where these might occur in the future.

It is important to note that the South Marine Plan policies were draft (second version) at the time of undertaking the policy screening. Prior to publication the plan policies were finalised and any changes made have not affected the outcome of the policy screening review.

Table 1: ‘Screened in’ policies (APBmer, 2015a)

Plan objective	Policy	Description	Inshore/ Offshore Plan Areas
Objective 1: Co-existence	S-AQ-1	<p>Sites of existing aquaculture production will be protected and proposals for aquaculture in identified locations of potential aquaculture production will be supported. Other proposals within these areas must demonstrate consideration of and compatibility with aquaculture production. Where compatibility is not possible, proposals will demonstrate in order of preference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That they will avoid adverse impacts on the areas identified for aquaculture • How, if there are adverse impacts that cannot be avoided they will minimise these impacts on aquaculture industry growth • How, if adverse impacts cannot be minimised they will be mitigated • If mitigation is not possible they should state the case for proceeding. 	Inshore and Offshore
Objective 12: Space for nature	S-DD-2*	Proposals must identify where use of disposal sites can be minimised by pursuing re-use opportunities through matching of spoil to suitable sites	Inshore and Offshore
<p>* The marine plan policy for re-use opportunities was S-DD-1 in the first draft version of the South Marine Plan (as reported in the screening report; MMO, 2015a). This policy was modified to S-DD-2 in the second draft version of the South Marine Plan.</p>			

Following the ecological screening process, a final list of European/Ramsar sites and interest features were identified for which a LSE could occur from the screened in draft South Marine Plan policies. From the original 295 European/Ramsar sites identified at pre-screening, a revised total of 196 European/Ramsar sites were screened in for consideration at the assessment stage. These include 105 SACs/cSACs/SCIs, 53 SPAs, 30 Ramsar sites and 8 compensatory sites.

3.3 Appropriate Assessment Information Report (AAIR)

Following the outcomes of the Screening Report an Appropriate Assessment Information Report (AAIR) was produced by completing a series of 5 steps as described below.

Step 1: Impact pathways review

This step involved identifying and understanding the generic impact pathways of the 'screened in' policies which might have an effect on European/Ramsar sites and their associated interest features. A total of 20 generic impact pathways were identified.

Step 2: Identify activities to which features are sensitive

The individual activities associated with the aquaculture and beneficial re-use sector that might result in a LSE on European/Ramsar sites and their interest features were reviewed for each of the 20 generic impact pathways identified in step 1.

Step 3: Activity-based screening of European/Ramsar sites

Based on a greater understanding of the environmental changes that might be brought about by aquaculture and beneficial re-use activities, the original screening process was revisited to confirm the potentially affected European/Ramsar sites and their interest features.

There are no significant above water structures associated with aquaculture and beneficial re-use activities that would interact with the flight behaviour of bats and therefore there is no longer considered to be any potential ecological connectivity between these features and the draft South Marine Plan. Bat interest features were therefore screened out of the assessment at this stage resulting in a revised total of 179 European/Ramsar sites 'screened in' (see table 1) for consideration at the assessment stage.

The potential for a LSE to occur as a result of the draft South Marine Plan (or the potential that a LSE cannot be excluded) still remains for all other European/Ramsar sites and interest features which were identified at the screening phase. Summary screening schedules that present the specific interest features that could potentially be affected by either and/or both aquaculture and beneficial re-use activities is presented in the AAIR.

Step 4: Detailed pathway-feature sensitivity review

This step involved a more detailed review of the sensitivities and potential vulnerabilities of the interest feature habitats and species to the activities associated with the 'screened in' sectors. The outcomes were presented in a series of 'pathway-

sensitivity' tables for each broad category of habitat or species interest feature group in Sections 3.4 to 3.8 of the report.

Step 5: Assessment of effects on European/Ramsar sites

The final step was to assess the impacts that will or could occur via each of the 20 generic impact pathways against the conservation objectives of European/Ramsar sites. An initial view was then taken about the effect on site integrity of the South Marine Plan both alone and in-combination with other extant plans or projects. This was made in advance of the formal judgment that is to be made by the MMO, in consultation with the SNCBs for the AA (this document) in Stage 12 of the HRA.

The assessment has concluded that it is not possible to be certain of No Adverse Effect On Integrity (NAEOI). This is because of the uncertainties that exist about the draft South Marine Plan and other plans and projects. The level of certainty required under the habitat regulations that NAEOI will occur cannot be achieved as it cannot be guaranteed there will be no analysis gaps or a lack of evidence between the different assessment processes and methods leading to an in-combination effect (even though each assessment considers these effects).

Based on lessons learnt and approaches followed in past plan-level HRAs, two key mitigation measures are proposed to provide the necessary assurances that the adopted South Marine Plan as a whole will have NAEOI on European/Ramsar sites either alone or in-combination with other plans or project. These are as follows:

1. Monitoring and Review

An Iterative Plan Review (IPR) process will involve a phased and iterative approach to plan-implementation which is linked to ongoing project developments and their associated monitoring work and with the findings from such project-level work feeding back into the next phases of plan-implementation. This is done so that results from monitoring data from consented projects and on-going research programmes can be fed into subsequent developments in order for lessons to be learnt and evidence gaps filled, thus reducing potential impacts to European/Ramsar sites.

2. Project-level HRA

Further assurances that there will be NAEOI on European/Ramsar sites is provided by the fact that each individual development that is undertaken within the south marine plan areas will be legally required to undergo an HRA process in its own right.

It is recognised that a range of non-statutory mitigation measures also exist and have been identified for previous aquaculture and beneficial re-use projects. Such measures were therefore identified as part of the assessment to assist with future project developments and associated licensing.

3.4 Appropriate Assessment

Following public consultation on the draft South Marine Plan the MMO reviewed the comments raised by stakeholders and made amendments where appropriate to the plan and its policies. On completion of the amendments, the final policies were reassessed (Table 2) using the assessment process outlined in Figure 3.

Once reviewed the table was shared with JNCC and NE for review in their role as statutory consultees. A meeting was held on 29th March 2017 between the MMO, JNCC and NE where the initial review undertaken by the MMO was discussed. In conclusion the SNCBs agreed with the assessment of the amended plan policies and it was determined that there was no change to the original screening views and therefore no further AAIR is required.

As a result of the HRA and AA, the MMO has concluded that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of a European site arising from the draft South Marine Plan. This decision is reliant on the application of two key mitigation measures, the Iterative Plan Review (IPR) and the application of project-level HRAs.

4 References

ABPmer (2013a). Habitats Regulations Appraisal of the Draft Sectoral Plans for Wind, Wave and Tidal Energy Generation in Scottish Waters. Report for Marine Scotland 2013; ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd, Draft Final Report Nos: R.2121a (Pre-Screening); R.2121b (Screening); and R2121c (Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment).

ABPmer (2013b). Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Draft Plan for Wave and Tidal Energy in Scottish Waters: Appropriate Assessment Information Review. Report for Marine Scotland 2013; ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd, Final Report January 2013 Report No. R.1863c.

ABPmer (2014). Wave and Tidal Further Leasing: HRA Principles Document, Screening Report and Appropriate Assessment Information Report. Reports for The Crown Estate. ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd. Report numbers R.2160a c.

BSG Ecology, 2014. Bat migration research (2012 -2014). Available online at: <http://www.bsg-ecology.com/research/bsg-ecology-bat-migration-research-2012-2014/>, accessed on 27 April 2015.

David Tyldesley and Associates (2009a). Revised Draft Guidance, The Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents. Report for Natural England, February 2009.

David Tyldesley and Associates (2009b). Guidance for Plan Making Authorities in Wales. The appraisal of plans under the Habitats Directive. Report for Countryside Council for Wales, November 2009.

David Tyldesley and Associates (2012). Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Plans. Guidance for Plan-making Bodies in Scotland Version 2.0, August 2012 SNH Ref 1739.

DCLG, Department for Communities and Local Government (2012). National Planning Policy Framework. Available online at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf, accessed on 13 July 2015.

EC (2001). Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites.

English Nature (1999), The Determination of Likely Significant Effect under The Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994.

Marine Management Organisation (2013). East of England Marine Plans Habitats Regulations Assessment - Pre-Screening, Screening and Appropriate Assessment Information Review. Reports Prepared by ABP Marine Environmental Research, Hartley Anderson and Hyder Consulting (UK) Ltd ABPmer Report No.R.2020a-c. March 2013.

Marine Management Organisation (2014a). South Marine Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment – Pre-Screening report. Report prepared by ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd. Report No.2219. July 2014.

Marine Management Organisation (2014b). Use of beneficial dredged materials in the South Inshore and South Offshore Marine Plan Areas. MMO Project No. 1073. Report prepared by ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd. Report No.2242. September 2014.

Marine Management Organisation (2015a). South Marine Plans Habitats Regulations Assessment: Screening Report. Report prepared by ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd. Report No.2470b. August 2015

Marine Management Organisation (2015b). South Marine Plans Habitats Regulations Assessment: Appropriate Assessment Information Report. Report prepared by ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd. October 2015

Annex

Figure 2: Stages of the HRA process for marine plans in England (adapted from David Tyldesley Associates, 2012).

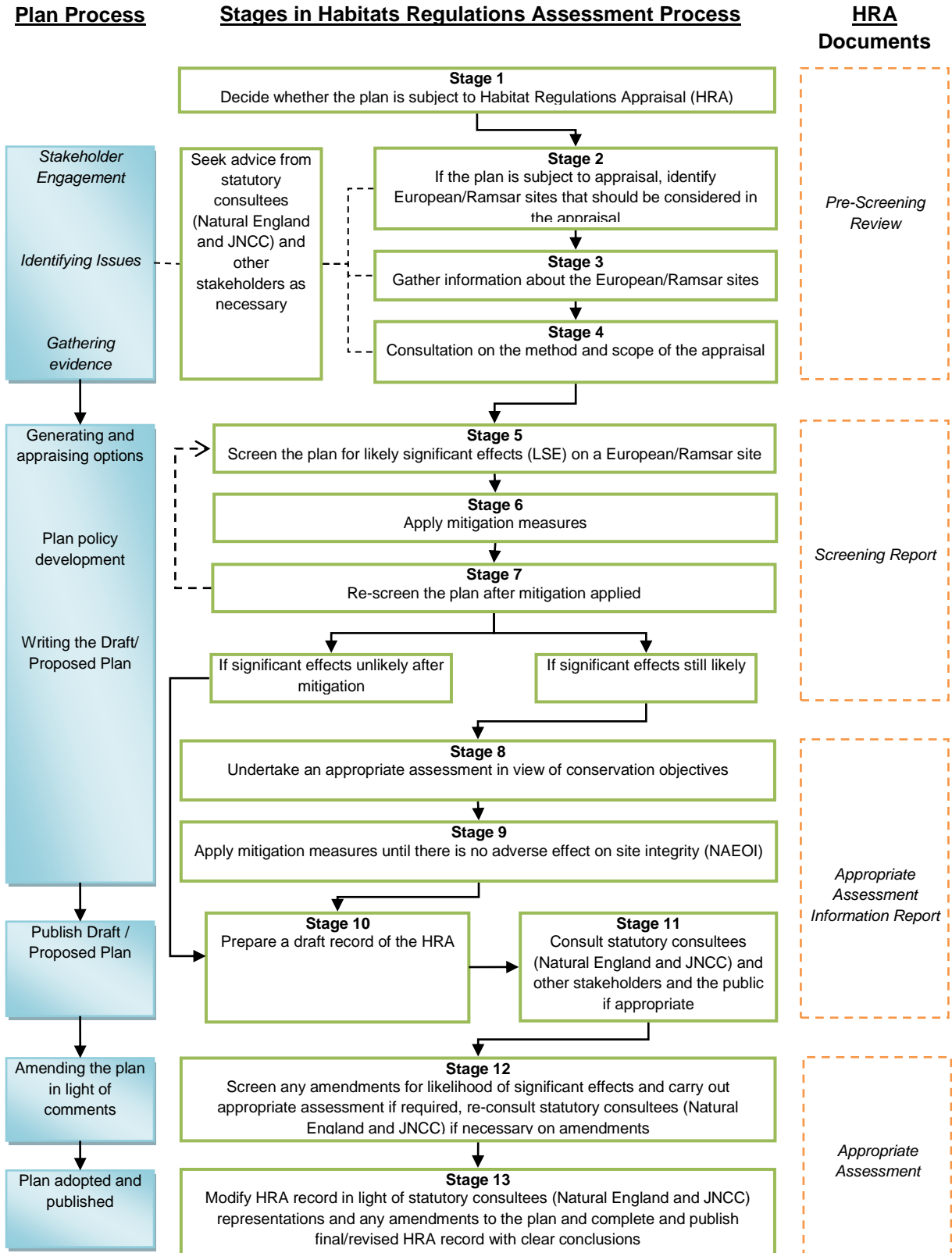


Figure 3: Policy screening and assessment process

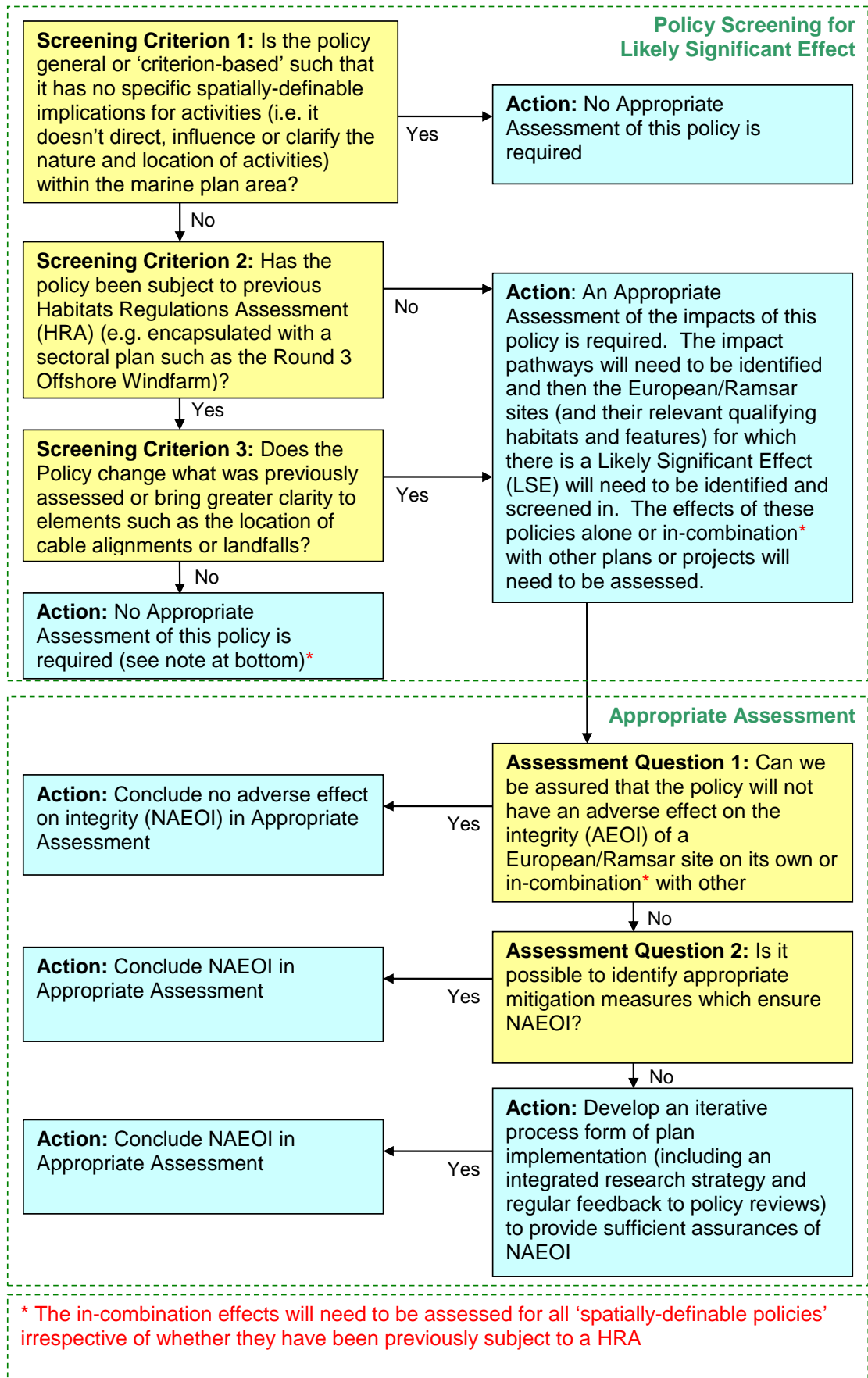


Table 2: Appropriate Assessment policy screening review

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-CO-1	Proposals will minimise their use of space and consider opportunities for coexistence with other activities	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	No change	None
S-DEF-1	Proposals in or affecting Ministry of Defence Danger and Exercise Areas should only be authorised with agreement from the Ministry of Defence	Should be screened out because MOD activity is not very spatially explicit over a large area, plus the nature of the potential development is unclear.	Proposals in or affecting Ministry of Defence Areas should only be authorised with agreement from the Ministry of Defence	None
S-OG-1	Proposals for new and existing oil and gas activity (production areas identified within known licensing blocks) should be supported over proposals for other development.	Should be screened out because HRAs have been produced for licensing blocks already.	Proposals in areas where a licence for oil and gas has been granted or formally applied for should not be authorised unless it is demonstrated that the other development or activity is compatible with the oil and gas activity.	Intent is the same - None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-TIDE-1	<p>In areas holding a seabed lease for tidal energy generation (see figure 5), proposals should demonstrate, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not compromise development of a tidal project. b) how, if there are any adverse impacts on tidal projects, they will minimise them c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	<p>Should be screened out because an HRA has been produced for tidal lease areas already. Furthermore, other proposals are unspecified and therefore it is not possible for them to be assessed</p>	<p>Proposals in areas under seabed agreement for tidal energy generation should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts d) if it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding.</p>	None
S-PS-1	<p>Proposals should demonstrate, in order of preference: a) that they will not adversely impact the economic viability of passenger services; b) how, if there are adverse impacts, these will be minimised; c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised they will be mitigated; d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts</p>	<p>Should be screened out because HRAs have previously been prepared for passenger services that were deemed to have a LSE on European/Ramsar sites. Furthermore, other proposals are unspecified and therefore it is not possible for them to be assessed.</p>	<p>Proposals that may have a significant adverse impact upon port and harbour activities should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts d) if it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding.</p>	<p>Policy has changed but the second half of the screening view is still valid - "Furthermore, other proposals are unspecified and therefore it is not possible for them to be assessed." - None</p>

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-AGG-1	Proposals in areas where a licence for extraction of aggregates has been granted or formally applied for should not be authorised.	Should be screened out because HRAs have been produced for aggregate areas which have been granted and formally applied for. Furthermore, other proposals are unspecified and therefore it is not possible for them to be assessed.	Proposals in areas where a licence for extraction of aggregates has been granted or formally applied for should not be authorised, unless it is demonstrated that the other development or activity is compatible with aggregate extraction.	None
S-AGG-2	Proposals within an area subject to an Exploration and Option Agreement with The Crown Estate should not be supported unless it is demonstrated that the other development or activity is compatible with aggregate extraction.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	No change	None
S-AGG-3	Proposals in areas where high potential aggregate resource occurs should demonstrate in order of preference: a) that they will avoid adverse impacts on aggregate extraction; b) how, if there are adverse impacts on aggregate extraction, they will minimise these; c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated. d) the case for proceeding if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the impact.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals in areas where high potential aggregate resource occurs should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts on aggregate extraction d) if it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding.	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-DD-2	<p>Licensed dredging and disposal areas will be protected. Proposals within or adjacent to licensed dredging and disposal areas should demonstrate, in order of preference; a) that they will not adversely impact dredging and disposal activities b) how, if there are adverse impacts on dredging and disposal, they will minimise these c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised they will be mitigated; and d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	<p>Should be screened out because HRAs have been produced for licensed dredging and disposal areas. Furthermore, other proposals are unspecified and therefore it is not possible for them to be assessed.</p>	<p>Proposals within or adjacent to licenced dredging and disposal areas should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference; a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts on licenced dredging and disposal areas d) if it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding.</p>	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-AQ-1	<p>Areas of existing aquaculture production will be protected and proposals for aquaculture in areas of potential aquaculture production will be supported. Other proposals within these areas must demonstrate consideration of and compatibility with aquaculture. Where compatibility is not possible, proposals will demonstrate in order of preference: a) that they will avoid adverse impacts on the areas identified for aquaculture b) how, if there are adverse impacts that cannot be avoided they will minimise these impacts on aquaculture industry growth c) how, if adverse impacts cannot be minimised they will be mitigated d) if mitigation is not possible they should state the case for proceeding.</p>	<p>Screen in on the basis that areas of potential aquaculture production have not previously been subject to HRA and are spatially explicit.</p>	<p>Proposals for sustainable aquaculture in identified areas of potential sustainable aquaculture production will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals in existing or within potential sustainable aquaculture production areas must demonstrate consideration of and compatibility with sustainable aquaculture production. Where compatibility is not possible, proposals must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts on sustainable aquaculture d) if it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding. 	<p>Policy text has been amended but screening view is still valid - none</p>
S-INF-1	<p>Land-based infrastructure supporting decisions and proposals in the marine area (and vice versa) will be supported.</p>	<p>Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit.</p>	<p>Land based infrastructure which facilitates marine activity (and vice versa) should be supported.</p>	<p>Intent is the same - none</p>

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-PS-2	Proposals should demonstrate, in order of preference: a) that they will not interfere with current activity and future opportunity for expansion of ports and harbours; b) how, if the proposal may interfere with current activity and future; c) how, if the interference cannot be minimised, it will be mitigated; d) the case for proceeding if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the interference.	Should be screened out because HRAs have been produced for current licensable activities of ports and harbours as well as future opportunities for port expansion identified in Port Master Plans already. Furthermore, other proposals are unspecified and therefore it is not possible for them to be assessed.	Proposals that require static sea surface infrastructure or that significantly reduce under-keel clearance must not be authorised within International Maritime Organization routing systems unless there are exceptional circumstances.	Policy has changed but the second half of the screening view is still valid - "Furthermore, other proposals are unspecified and therefore it is not possible for them to be assessed." - None
S-PS-3	Proposals that require static sea surface infrastructure or that significantly reduce under-keel clearance should not be authorised within International Maritime Organization routing systems.	Screen out as it is about not supporting proposals and so there is nothing to assess.	Proposals that require static sea surface infrastructure or that significantly reduce under-keel clearance which encroach upon high density navigation routes, or that pose a risk to the viability of passenger ferry services, must not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.	Policy has changed but the proposals are unspecified and therefore it is not possible for them to be assessed. - None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-PS-4	Proposals that require static sea surface infrastructure or that significantly reduce under-keel clearance that encroaches upon important navigation routes (see map) should not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. Proposals should: a) be compatible with the need to maintain space for safe navigation, avoiding adverse economic impact; b) anticipate and provide for future safe navigational requirements where evidence and/or stakeholder input allows and; c) account for impacts upon navigation in-combination with other existing and proposed activities.	Screen out on the basis that it is supporting proposals only in exceptional circumstances which are unlikely to occur and for this reason, are therefore unlikely to require assessment. Furthermore, proposals are unspecified and therefore it is not possible for them to be assessed.	Removed	N/A
S-CAB-1 (Previously S-CAB-2)	Proposals that have an adverse impact on landfall sites for subsea cables (telecoms, power and interconnectors) should in order of preference demonstrate: a) how the adverse effects will be avoided; b) how, if adverse effects cannot be avoided they will be minimised; c) how, if adverse effects cannot be minimised they will be mitigated; d) the case for proceeding if it is not possible to avoid these landfall sites using consultation with affected parties where known.	Should be screened out because HRAs have been produced for subsea cables. Furthermore, other proposals are unspecified and therefore it is not possible for them to be assessed.	Preference should be given to proposals for cable installation where the method of installation is burial. Where burial is not achievable, decisions should take account of protection measures for the cable that may be proposed by the applicant. Where burial or protection measures are not appropriate, proposals should state the case for proceeding without those measures.	Intent is the same - please refer to S-CAB-2 for original screening view - none

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-CAB-2 (Previously S-CAB-1)	Preference should be given to proposals for cable installation where the method of installation is burial. Where burial is not achievable, decisions should take account of protection measures for the cable that may be proposed by the applicant	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that have a significant adverse impact on new and existing landfall sites for subsea cables (telecoms, power and interconnectors) should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts d) if it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding	Intent is the same - please refer to S-CAB-1 for original screening view - None
S-AQ-2	Proposals that enable the provision of infrastructure for fisheries and aquaculture and related industries will be encouraged	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that enable the provision of infrastructure for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture and related industries will be supported.	None
S-REN-1	Proposals that support the development of supply chains associated with the deployment of renewable energy will be considered favourably.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that support the development of supply chains associated with the deployment of renewable energy will be supported.	None
S-AGG-4	Preference should be given to proposals requiring marine aggregates as part of their construction using marine aggregates sourced from the South Marine Plan area. If this is not appropriate, proposals should state why.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Where proposals require marine aggregates as part of their construction, preference should be given to using marine aggregates sourced from the South Marine Plan areas. If this is not appropriate, proposals should state why.	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-FISH-4(Renamed S-FISH-1)	Proposals that support the diversification of the fishing industry and or enhance fishing industry resilience to the effects of climate change should be supported.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that support the diversification of a sustainable fishing industry and or enhance fishing industry resilience to the effects of climate change should be supported.	None
S-TR-1 (Previously S-TR-2)	Proposals for development must demonstrate that during construction and operation, in order of preference: a) they will not adversely impact tourism and recreation activities b) how, if there are adverse impacts on tourism and recreation activities, they will minimise them or c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals supporting, promoting or facilitating tourism and recreation activities, particularly where this creates additional utilisation of related facilities beyond typical usage patterns, should be supported.	None
S-EMP-1	Proposals that provide skills development related to marine activities will be supported particularly where these benefit communities adjacent to the South Inshore plan area.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that develop skills related to marine activities, particularly in line with local skills strategies, will be supported.	Intent is the same - None
S-EMP-2	Proposals that provide additional employment benefits will be supported, particularly where these benefits have the potential to meet employment needs in localities close to the South Marine Plan areas.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals resulting in a net increase to marine related employment will be supported, particularly where they are in line with the skills available in and adjacent to the south marine plan areas.	Intent is the same - None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-SOC-1	Proposals should be supported where they can demonstrate in order of preference: a) that they will avoid adverse impacts resulting in displacement of other existing or authorised (but yet to be implemented) activities that generate social benefits; or b) how, if there are adverse impacts resulting in displacement by the proposal, they will minimise them; or c) how, if the adverse impacts resulting in displacement by the proposal, cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated against.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that enhance or promote social benefits will be supported. Proposals must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts which result in the displacement of other existing or authorised (but yet to be implemented) activities that generate social benefits.	Intent is the same - None
S-TR-2(Previously S-TR-1)	Proposals that support, promote, or facilitate tourism and recreation activities, particularly where this creates additional utilisation of related facilities beyond typical usage patterns, should be supported.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that enhance or promote tourism and recreation activities will be supported. Proposals for development must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts on tourism and recreation activities.	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-FISH-2	Proposals must demonstrate in order of preference: a) that they will avoid adverse impacts to fishing or aquaculture activities in, or access to, fishing grounds and aquaculture sites respectively; b) how, if there are adverse impacts, they will minimise them; c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised they will be mitigated; or d) the case for proceeding with their proposals if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on access to, or within, sustainable fishing or aquaculture sites must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts d) if it is not possible to mitigate the significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding.	Policy text has changed but the intent is the same - None
S-FISH-3	Proposals may be supported where they can demonstrate how they will enhance access for fishing or aquaculture activity in, or to, fishing grounds and aquaculture sites respectively.	Screen out on the basis that the proposals are not spatially explicit.	Proposals that enhance access to, or within sustainable fishing or aquaculture sites should be supported.	Intent is the same - None
S-ACC-1	Proposals, including in relation to tourism and recreation, must demonstrate that during construction, operation and decommissioning, they will in order of preference: a) avoid adverse impacts on public access to the marine area; or b) how, if there will be adverse impacts on public access to the marine area, they will minimise them; or c) how, if the adverse impacts on public access cannot be minimised they will be mitigated.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals, including in relation to tourism and recreation, should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts on public access.	Intent is the same - None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-ACC-2	Proposals will be supported where they can demonstrate how they will enhance public access to the marine area.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals demonstrating enhanced public access to and within the marine area will be supported.	None
S-CC-1	Proposals must consider their contribution to emissions arising from indirect or unintended effects on other activities or interests. Where such effects are likely to result in increased emissions, the following should be applied in order of preference: a) that the increased emissions are avoided b) how if the increased emissions cannot be avoided they will be minimised c) how if the increased emissions cannot be minimised they will be mitigated.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals must consider their contribution to greenhouse gas emissions arising from unintended consequences on other activities. Where such consequences are likely to result in increased greenhouse gas emissions, proposals should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate unintended consequences on other activities.	Intent is the same - None
S-CC-2	Proposals shall: a) Ensure they are resilient to the effects of climate change for the lifetime of the proposal b) Demonstrate they have taken practicable steps to ensure they will not detrimentally affect climate change adaptation measures elsewhere during the course of their lifetime. Where detrimental impacts on climate change measures are identified evidence must be provided as to how the proposal will mitigate such impacts.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals should demonstrate that for the lifetime of the proposal that: 1) they are resilient to the effects of climate change 2) they will not have a significant adverse impact upon climate change adaptation measures elsewhere In respect of 2) proposals should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate the significant adverse impacts upon these climate change adaptation measures.	Policy text has changed but the intent is the same - None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-CC-3	Proposals in and adjacent to the Inshore South Marine Plan areas that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on coastal change should not be supported.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals in and adjacent to the south marine plan areas that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on coastal change should not be supported.	None
S-CC-4	Proposals that may have adverse impacts on habitats that provide a flood defence or carbon sequestration service must demonstrate, in order of preference: a) that there are no adverse impacts on these ecosystem service(s) b) how if there are adverse impacts they will be minimised c) how if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised how they will be mitigated to ensure the continuation of the ecosystem service(s).	Screen out on the basis that it is aimed at reducing human pressures in the marine environment and therefore consistent with the achievement of Conservation Objectives for European/Ramsar sites.	Proposals that may have a significant adverse impact on habitats that provide a flood defence or carbon sequestration ecosystem service must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts.	Intent is the same - None
S-HER-1	Proposals that do not adversely affect newly-discovered heritage assets or other non-designated assets that are yet to be assessed for designation are more likely to be supported if they demonstrate in order of preference: a) the measures taken to avoid adverse impacts; or b) how, if there are adverse impacts, they will minimise them; or c) how, where these adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated against; d) the public benefits for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate adverse impacts.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that may compromise or harm elements contributing to the significance of heritage assets should demonstrate, that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate compromise or harm If it is not possible to mitigate, the public benefits for proceeding with the proposal must outweigh the compromise or harm to the heritage asset	Policy text has changed but the intent is the same - None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-SCP-1	Proposals that may adversely affect the seascape of an area are more likely to be supported if they demonstrate, in order of preference: a) the measures taken to avoid adverse impacts on the seascape of an area; or b) how, if there are adverse impacts on the seascape of an area, they will minimise them; or c) how, where these adverse impacts on the seascape of an area cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated against; d) the public benefits for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate adverse impacts on the undeveloped coast.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that may have a significant adverse impact upon the seascape of an area should only be supported if they demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts d) if it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding	Intent is the same - None
S-LAN-1	Proposals that may adversely affect the undeveloped coast are more likely to be supported if they demonstrate in order of preference: a) the measures taken to avoid adverse impacts on the undeveloped coast; or b) how, if there are adverse impacts on the undeveloped coast, they will minimise them; or c) how, where these adverse impacts on the undeveloped coast cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated against; d) the public benefits for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate adverse impacts on the undeveloped coast.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Removed	N/A

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-MPA-1	Proposals must take account of any adverse impacts on the overall Marine Protected Area network, with due regard given to any current agreed advice on an ecologically coherent network.	Screen out on the basis that European/Ramsar sites are subsets of all MPAs and provisions of the Habitats and Birds Directive are more stringent than being suggested here.	Proposals that support the objectives of marine protected areas and the coherence of the overall marine protected area network will be supported. Proposals that may have adverse impacts on the objectives of marine protected areas and the coherence of the overall marine protected area network must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate adverse impacts, with due regard given to any current agreed advice on an ecologically coherent network.	Policy text has changed but the intent is the same - None
S-MPA-2	Proposals that may have adverse impacts on individual Marine Protected Areas ability to adapt to climate change and so reducing the resilience of the Marine Protected Area network must demonstrate in order of preference: a) how adverse impacts will be avoided b) how, if there are adverse impacts, they will be minimised c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised they will be mitigated.	Screen out on the basis that European/Ramsar sites are subsets of all MPAs and provisions of the Habitats and Birds Directive are more stringent than being suggested here.	Proposals that enhance a marine protected area's ability to adapt to climate change and so enhance the resilience of the marine protected area network will be supported. Proposals that may have adverse impacts on an individual marine protected area's ability to adapt to the effects of climate change and so reduce the resilience of the marine protected area network, must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate adverse impacts.	Intent is the same - None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-MPA-3	Where statutory advice is provided that site condition is deteriorating due to climate change and requires a suitable boundary change to be put in place, this will be supported where consistent with other policies in the plan.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Where statutory advice states that a marine protected area site condition is deteriorating, or that features are moving or changing due to climate change, a suitable boundary change will be supported to ensure continued protection of the site and coherence of the overall network.	Policy text has changed but the intent is the same - None
S-MPA-4	Until it becomes possible to assess the coherence of the marine protected area network (once all Marine Conservation Zone tranche designations from the current recommended sites are complete), proposals should demonstrate they will not prevent the future inclusion of identified features within the network.	Screen out on the basis that MCZs are aimed at protecting the environment and reducing human pressures and therefore consistent with the achievement of Conservation Objectives for European/Ramsar sites.	Until it becomes possible to fully assess the coherence of the marine protected area network, proposals should demonstrate they will not prevent the future inclusion of features within the network.	None
S-BIO-1(Renamed S-NIS-1)	Proposals must put in place appropriate measures to avoid and minimise adverse impacts on the marine area that would arise through the introduction and transport of non-indigenous species, particularly when moving equipment, boats or live stock (e.g. fish and shellfish) from one water body to another or introducing structures suitable for settlement of non-indigenous species, or the spread of invasive non-indigenous species known to exist in the area.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals must put in place appropriate measures to avoid or minimise significant adverse impacts on the marine area that would arise through the introduction and transport of non-indigenous species, particularly when: 1) moving equipment, boats or livestock (for example fish and shellfish) from one water body to another 2) introducing structures suitable for settlement of non-indigenous species, or the spread of invasive non-indigenous species known to exist in the area.	Policy text has changed but the intent is the same - None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-BIO-2 (Renamed S-ML-1)	Public Authorities must ensure adequate, year round provision for and removal of beach and marine litter, on prioritised beaches.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Public authorities should ensure adequate provision for and removal of beach and marine litter on amenity beaches.	None
S-BIO-3 (Renamed S-ML-2)	The introduction of litter as a result of new proposals should be avoided or minimised and activities that help reduce marine litter will be supported.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	The introduction of litter as a result of proposals should be avoided or minimised where practicable and activities that help reduce marine litter will be supported.	None
S-DIST-2 (Renamed S-UWN-1)	Proposals generating impulsive noise, must contribute data to the noise registry as per any currently agreed requirements. Decision makers must take account of any currently agreed targets under MSFD descriptor 11.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals generating impulsive sound, must contribute data to the UK Marine Noise Registry as per any currently agreed requirements. Public authorities must take account of any currently agreed targets under the UK Marine Strategy part one descriptor 11.	None
S-DIST-3 (Renamed S-UWN-2)	Proposals that generate impulsive and or ambient noise will demonstrate in order of preference; a) that there are no adverse impacts of noise b) how if there are adverse impacts they will be minimised; c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated or d) the case for proceeding with a proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that generate impulsive sound and/or ambient noise must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts on highly mobile species d) if it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals must state the case for proceeding.	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-BIO-4 (Renamed S-BIO-1)	Proposals that may have adverse impacts on natural habitat and species adaptation, migration and connectivity must demonstrate, in order of preference: a) how such impacts will be avoided; or b) if they cannot be avoided, how they will be minimised; or c) if they cannot be minimised, how they will be mitigated.	Screen out on the basis that it is aimed at reducing human pressures in the marine environment and therefore consistent with the achievement of Conservation Objectives for European/Ramsar sites.	Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on natural habitat and species adaptation, migration and connectivity must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts	None
S-BIO-5 (Renamed S-BIO-2)	Proposals that incorporate features that enhance or facilitate natural habitat and species adaptation, migration and connectivity will be supported.	Screen out on the basis that it is aimed at reducing human pressures in the marine environment and therefore consistent with the achievement of Conservation Objectives for European/Ramsar sites.	Proposals that incorporate features that enhance or facilitate natural habitat and species adaptation, migration and connectivity will be supported.	None
S-BIO-6 (Renamed S-BIO-3)	Proposals must take account of the space required for coastal habitats where important in their own right and/or for ecosystem functioning and provision of services. Proposals must (in order of preference): a) avoid net loss of habitat extent b) minimise net loss of habitat extent. c) mitigate for net loss in habitat extent.	Screen out on the basis that it is aimed at reducing human pressures in the marine environment and therefore consistent with the achievement of Conservation Objectives for European/Ramsar sites.	Proposals that enhance coastal habitats where important in their own right and/or for ecosystem functioning and provision of goods and services will be supported. Proposals must take account of the space required for coastal habitats where important in their own right and/or for ecosystem functioning and provision of goods and services and demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate for net loss of coastal habitat.	Policy text has changed and includes reference to proposals that enhance coastal environments. This is intended to protect the environment - None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-BIO-7 (Renamed S-BIO-4)	Proposals must take steps to avoid reducing the distribution and net extent of priority habitats.	Screen out on the basis that it is aimed at reducing human pressures in the marine environment and therefore consistent with the achievement of Conservation Objectives for European/Ramsar sites.	Proposals that enhance the distribution and net extent of priority habitats should be supported. Proposals must demonstrate that they will avoid reducing the distribution and net extent of priority habitats.	Policy text has changed and includes reference to proposals that enhance priority habitats. This is intended to protect the environment - None
S-DIST-1	Proposals, including in relation to tourism and recreational activities, within and adjacent to the South plan areas must demonstrate in order of preference: a) that there are no cumulative adverse physical disturbance impacts on highly mobile species of importance; b) how if there are cumulative adverse impacts they will be minimised; or c) how if the cumulative adverse impacts cannot be minimised how they will be mitigated	Screen out on the basis that it is aimed at reducing human pressures in the marine environment and therefore consistent with the achievement of Conservation Objectives for European/Ramsar sites.	Proposals, including in relation to tourism and recreational activities, within and adjacent to the south marine plan areas must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant cumulative adverse physical disturbance or displacement impacts on highly mobile species.	Intent is the same - None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-FISH-1 (Renamed S-FISH-4)	Proposals that may adversely affect areas of essential fish habitat, including spawning, nursery, feeding grounds and migration routes, will not be supported unless they demonstrate, in order of preference: a) how adverse impacts will be avoided b) how, if there are adverse impacts, they will be minimised c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised they will be mitigated	Screen out on the basis that it is aimed at reducing human pressures in the marine environment and therefore consistent with the achievement of Conservation Objectives for European/Ramsar sites.	Proposals that enhance essential fish habitat, including spawning, nursery and feeding grounds, and migratory routes should be supported. Proposals must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impact on essential fish habitat, including, spawning, nursery, feeding grounds and migration routes.	Intent is the same - None
S-FISH-1-HER (Renamed S-FISH-4-HER)	Proposals will consider herring spawning mitigation in the area highlighted on figure 26 during the period 01 November to the 31 of January annually.	Screen out on the basis that it is aimed at reducing human pressures in the marine environment and therefore consistent with the achievement of Conservation Objectives for European/Ramsar sites.	Proposals will consider herring spawning mitigation in the area highlighted on figure 26 during the period 01 November to the last day of February annually.	None
S-DD-1 (Renamed S-DD-2)	Proposals must identify where use of disposal sites can be minimised by pursuing re-use opportunities through matching of spoil to suitable sites.	Screen in because potential beneficial use sites are spatially explicit and have not been subject to HRA previously.	Proposals must identify, where possible, alternative opportunities to minimise the use of dredged waste disposal sites by pursuing re-use opportunities through matching of spoil to suitable sites.	Intent is the same - None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
S-WQ-4(Renamed S-WQ-1)	Proposals that may have adverse impacts upon those habitats and species assemblages that provide a water filtration, nutrient assimilation or hazardous chemical sequestration ecosystem service must demonstrate (in order or preference): a) that there are no adverse impacts on these ecosystem services; b) how if there are adverse impacts they will be minimised; or c) how if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised how they will be mitigated to ensure continuation of the ecosystem service(s). Proposals that maintain or enhance habitats and species assemblages providing water filtration, nutrient assimilation or hazardous chemical sequestration ecosystem services will be supported.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts upon water quality, including upon habitats and species that can be of benefit to water quality must demonstrate that they will, in order or preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate significant adverse impacts.	Policy text has changed however screening view has not changed and the policy is about improving the environment - None
S-WQ-2	Proposals which have an adverse impact upon estuarine water quality, individually or cumulatively should demonstrate (in order or preference): a) how the impacts will be avoided b) how if there are adverse impacts they will be minimised; or c) how if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised how they will be mitigated; and d) the case for proceeding if mitigation is not possible	Screen out on the basis that it is aimed at improving environmental conditions and therefore consistent with the achievement of Conservation Objectives for European/Ramsar sites.	Activities that can deliver an improvement to water quality, or enhance habitats and species which can be of benefit to water quality should be supported.	Policy text has changed however the screening view still stands as the policy is about improving the environment - None