



Marine Management Organisation

Draft Vision and Objectives for the South Inshore and South Offshore Marine Plan Areas

July 2014

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1 Introduction and how to get involved

1.1 Work towards producing the South Inshore and South Offshore marine plans, formally began in April 2013¹. The 'steps' in the planning process are indicated in Figure 1, however there is overlap and iteration between them. Stakeholder engagement, policy analysis and evidence gathering carried out to date have been drawn together in the [South Plans Analytical Report](#). This was subject to formal consultation supported by the [South Inshore and South Offshore Marine Plans Evidence and Issues Workshops](#), held in October 2013 across the South coast. This led to a revised South Plans Analytical Report. Defining a draft vision, goals and objectives is the next step in the process of plan production.

Figure 1: Steps in the marine planning process

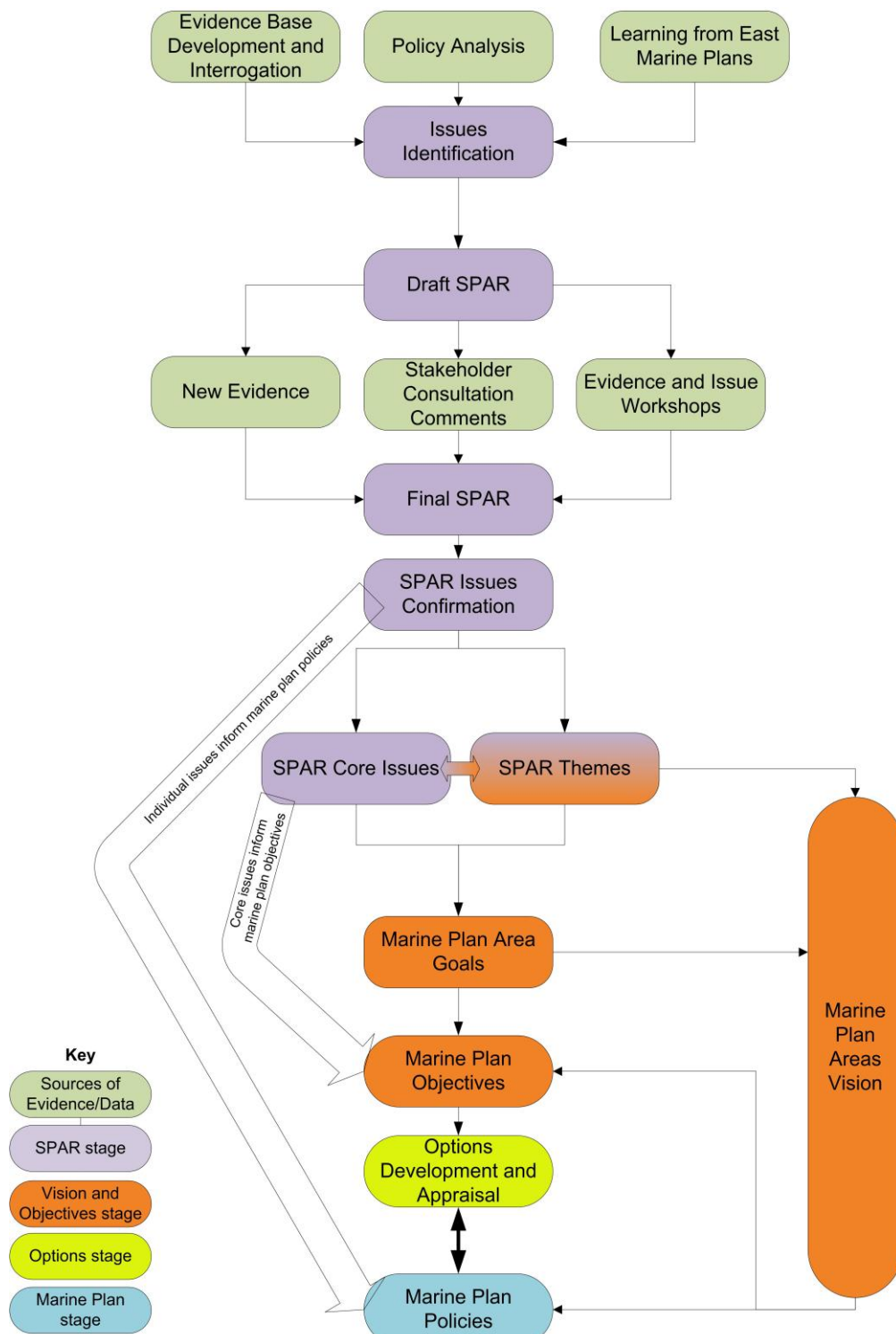


1.2 This document provides the draft vision, goals and objectives for comment together with details of their development which are outlined in Sections 3, 4 and 5 respectively. The relationship between the issues identified in the South Plans Analytical Report, through analysis of evidence and national and local policy, and the vision, goals and objectives is shown in Figure 2. In summary issues for management have been grouped into themes and core issues. The themes have then been translated into goals and the core issues into objectives for the South marine plan areas. The approach also draws on experiences from the development of the East marine plans, terrestrial plans in England and marine planning in the UK and elsewhere. This consultation (in accordance with the [South Inshore and South Offshore Marine Plan Areas Marine Plans Statement of Public Participation](#)) provides

¹ Further information on marine planning in general, and in the South plan areas in particular, can be found at www.marinemanagement.org.uk/marineplanning/index.htm

an important opportunity for stakeholders to provide views on the direction the plans take, building on their input to date, and to highlight details to be considered in the further development of the plans. Figure 4 shows the proposed structure of the South marine plans.

Figure 2: Relationships between South Plans Analytical Report, Issues, Vision and Objectives



1.3 How to get involved

The vision, goals and objectives will evolve during the planning process, both as a result of responses to this consultation and as they are tested in the development and assessment of alternative options to achieve the objectives and policies. Stakeholders will be kept informed of progress and opportunities for further comment as appropriate. For many issues, marine plans may make only a contribution along with other measures that are already in place. Respondents are asked to bear these considerations in mind in compiling their submissions to this consultation.

1.4 The consultation will run until 31 July 2014. The MMO encourages submission of responses through [MMO Connect](#). Responses in alternative formats will be accepted through contacting the MMO (planning@marinemanagement.org.uk or 0191376 2790). We suggest it would be helpful if the following points and questions were considered in making a response, together with other comments you may wish to make:

1.4.1 Vision

The approach to describing a draft vision for the South marine plan areas is outlined below (see section 3). It is detailed in Appendix 1 in terms of the definitions provided in Figure 3.

- a) Does the draft vision address the core issues facing the South marine plan areas?
- b) If not, how can it be amended to include or remove core issues?
- c) The South marine plans have a 20 year time horizon. Does the draft vision reflect your view of the South marine plan areas in 2036?
- d) If not, please offer alternative text or suggestions.
- e) In the 'How will this look in 2036' section, should there be any reference to specific places?
- f) If so, which places and why?

1.4.2 Objectives

The approach to developing goals and objectives for the South marine plan areas is outlined below (see sections 4. and 5. respectively). It is detailed in Appendix 2 in terms of the definitions provided in Figure 3.

- a) Do you agree with the draft objectives listed under each theme and goal and consider them appropriate for the core issues facing marine planning in the South plan areas?
- b) If not, how would you reword them or what objectives would you add, move or remove?

2 Background

2.1 Marine plans will set out how to achieve the plan outcomes, policies and objectives ([Marine Policy Statement](#) 2.2.1). A brief description of producing marine plans is set out in '[A description of the marine planning system for England](#)' (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs 2011). Definitions of the various terms that form the basis for the planning framework for this document, and the South marine plans that are in development, are provided in Figure 3.

Figure 3: Definitions, adapted from Defra (2009) and Planning Advisory Service guidance

High Level Marine Objectives – are for the marine area as a whole as set out in the MPS and Defra (2011), sometimes labelled as "principles" or "benefits", with the overall aim of contributing to delivering sustainable development. For example, "Achieve integration between different objectives", "greater certainty for developers" and "ensuring use of resources is 'within environmental limits'".

Issues - Issues are opportunities or threats that affect achievement of the UK Vision and the Marine Policy Statement HLMOs in the South marine plan areas.

Themes – broad groupings derived from the HLMOs and used to categorise issues.

Core Issues – The core issues are those arising from the present, or potential future, situation that are influencing major changes in the plan areas and which can be addressed partly or wholly by marine planning in some way.

Vision – is a statement about what will characterise an area at a given point in the future: what will the area look like (once plan policies have been applied and goals and objectives achieved)?

Goal – a high-level statement of a general desired outcome that is intended to be achieved. Goals provide the umbrella for development of objectives and reflect the principles upon which subsequent objectives are based. In terrestrial planning goals are sometimes referred to as "strategic objectives". In the South marine plans goals are derived from the South Plans Analytical Report themes.

Objective – a more detailed statement of desired outcomes or observable behavioural changes that the plans are seeking to achieve. Objectives represent achievement of a Goal, and identify where marine plans are able to "add value" in terms of initiating or complementing responses to core issues. They are (as far as practicable) specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound ("SMART"). Objectives can include targets, such as interim steps to achieving the outcome and goal. They provide a framework within which policies are to be set out. In the South marine plans objectives are derived from the South Plans Analytical Report core issues.

Non-Marine Plan Matters – plans, decisions and management measures that affect the marine plan area, and are already existing, in development or required without need for an operative marine plan. Such activities, together with the marine plan objectives, contribute to achievement of the goals.

Plan policy – supports the delivery of the marine plan objectives and addresses the issues outlined.

Signpost – Explicit links to the non-marine plan matters. This avoids replication of policies and ensures new marine plan policies and supporting information focus on issues where they can add value or are not otherwise addressed.

Figure 4: Plan structure



2.2 The [South Plans Analytical Report](#) presents a summarised view of national and local planning policies, evidence and marine related issues that affect society, the environment and the economy within and adjacent to the South marine plan areas. The evidence and issues are set out by individual sector and topic as listed in the [Marine Policy Statement](#).

Following the consultation and evidence and issues workshops in October 2013, stakeholder views have been incorporated into the revised [South Plans Analytical Report](#) together with consideration of new evidence and further analysis of the issues.

The [South Plans Analytical Report](#) does not provide an exhaustive list of issues relating to every aspect of every sector or topic. More issues are expected to be highlighted during the future stages of plan making and following stakeholder engagement, with some issues likely to need further investigation through more detailed analysis.

In order to facilitate a cross-cutting approach to marine planning that advances the achievement of balanced sustainability, issues were categorised into four themes in the [South Plans Analytical Report](#). Based on our experience of the East marine plans, we felt it necessary to look for common characteristics between issues to derive a shorter list of core issues that sit under a theme and can then be used to

help drive the planning process and inform the development of vision and objectives. The core issues are those arising from the present, or a potential future situation that are influencing major changes in the plan areas and which can be addressed partly or wholly by marine planning in some way. Detail from the sector or topic-level issues will help develop the options process and more focused and spatially specific plan policies.

The themes are:

- enabling sustainable economic growth
- protection of the natural marine environment
- opportunities for employment, investment and regeneration
- maintaining and enhancing social benefits.

In the consultation version of the [South Plans Analytical Report](#), there was a fifth theme focused on climate change. This is now considered to be addressed more effectively by embedding within the four themes listed above to ensure integration with the relevant issues where appropriate.

In categorising the sector or topic-level issues into themes and core issues, we have sought to be objective, but there are many different ways of categorising the issues given their complexity and diversity. Some issues may also be elements of more than one core issue. We have used our experience and judgement, along with comments from the workshop and consultation, to derive the themes and core issues from a “best fit” of the issues. Each core issue has associated descriptive text, providing a summarised explanation linking it to the contributing sector or topic-level issues.

2.3 The planning process for the development of the South marine plans will follow similar steps to that for the [East marine plans](#) (see Figure 1). However, the vision and objectives step in the East provided learning points which have been addressed.

The differences in approach are:

- responses to the East consultation recommended a more integrated approach with less “sectoral” and more “cross-cutting” objectives
- an earlier focus on sustainability and the three pillars: environmental, social and economic
- the derivation of “core issues” from the long list of issues identified for the South marine plan areas based on groupings under the themes closely linked to the High Level Marine Objectives (see appendix 4)
- improved clarification within objectives of outcomes more able to be delivered through marine planning (leaving responses to issues that are either not within the remit of marine planning or already addressed through existing measures such as Marine Protected Area management plans to signposts under the goals)
- an aim to make the objectives more ‘SMART’ (see Figure 3), and that can be monitored

- embedding across all objectives the outcomes sought for the High Level Marine Objectives (appendix 4) for climate change and using sound science (rather than having their own separate objectives)
- an overall enhanced ambition (in terms of the scope and anticipated results delivered by the marine plans) that is an evolution of the approach in the East

2.4 There is, therefore, a direct link from the [South Plans Analytical Report](#) themes to the draft South marine plans: the themes link to plan area goals and the core issues to the marine plan objectives. The detailed issues will form the basis for the policies that will be developed in future as part of the development of the consultation draft South inshore and offshore marine plans.

3 Vision

3.1 The UK vision for the marine environment is for ‘clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas’. The UK Government has set out High Level Marine Objectives to achieve the broad outcomes of the UK vision for the marine environment (see Appendix 4). The South marine plans will contribute to achievement of this UK vision.

3.2 The South plan areas’ draft vision (see Appendix 1) is a statement of the particular characteristics that will describe the plan areas after 20 years of contribution from plan-led decision-making and management together with the non-planning matters. The draft vision has been developed from two main sources of information:

- comments from a range of stakeholders who participated in the South Marine Plans Evidence and Issues Workshops in October 2013. Comments made have been summarised in the [Summary Report](#); and
- an analysis of the core issues identified through the South Plans Analytical Report to glean matters that have a bearing on the draft vision and what the South plan areas will look like in 2036.

3.3 The draft vision is supported by a detailed statement of what the South plan areas will look like in 2036. The draft vision presented here will be revised following this consultation, and may be revisited and refined further as work towards production of the draft plans for formal consultation progresses where further comments will be invited. In response to stakeholder views expressed at the Evidence and Issues workshops, the use of images to support the narrative vision statements will be explored as the planning process progresses.

4 Goals

4.1 Goals are high level statements of the outcomes sought in relation to themes identified for the marine plan areas. They are closely linked to the High Level Marine Objectives (appendix 4). The goals are achieved through marine planning objectives (for those matters for which marine plans are able to ‘add value’) as well as all the existing ‘non-marine plan matters’ that are underway without the prompt of the

marine plans (see Figure 3). For completeness, signposts will be provided in the marine plans to all the non-marine plan matters. Goals have been formed for each of the four themes in the [South Plans Analytical Report](#):

- to protect the natural and historic environment
- to maintain and enhance social benefits
- to enable sustainable economic development
- to promote opportunities for employment, investment and regeneration.

The more detailed plan objectives (see section 5) are grouped under the goals to which they principally contribute.

5 Objectives

5.1 There is a wide variety and diversity of good practice in the formulation of planning objectives. The approach adopted here provides for an increasing ability to monitor the marine plans when moving from goals to objectives and finally policies. As defined above (see Figure 3) the objectives are more measurable and generally more 'SMART' than the goals, with further specificity provided by the policies. The draft marine plan objectives and supporting text have been developed from the [South Plans Analytical Report \(2014\)](#) the [South Inshore and South Offshore Marine Plans Evidence and Issues Workshops](#), and associated discussions with stakeholders. The objectives are those outcomes that are sought to be achieved through implementation of the marine plans, in order to contribute to the achievement of the plan area goals, and provide a framework within which policies can be set out. Such objectives may include specific sectors or topics. There is a direct link from the [South Plans Analytical Report](#) core issues to the draft South marine plan objectives. In particular, although not exclusively, they cover spatial use, or decision-making that is amenable to being addressed by marine planning, including by adding value to existing measures.

5.2 The following should be noted in considering objectives for the South plan areas. Objectives must:

- contribute to achievement of the High Level Marine Objectives (appendix 4), and the plan areas' vision and goals
- draw out the added value that marine planning can deliver in the South plan areas
- be based on the core issues that can be influenced by the marine plans (derived from the existing context, legislation, external objectives, available evidence and stakeholder views). They cross-cut the contributing sectors or topics as far as possible and are focussed on the marine plans with a view to implementing the plan areas' vision. In comparison to topic- and sector-based objectives, integrated cross-cutting objectives offer benefits including:
 - an improved basis for recognising and addressing interdependencies between sectors and topics
 - providing a focus on issues to do with what influences the plan can have on the plan areas rather than sectors or topics in isolation (some of which have different primary drivers)

- enable generation of options to achieve the objectives and to inform testing of these through sustainability appraisal (which is a separate, but closely related statutory requirement under the [Marine and Coastal Access Act](#) that incorporates strategic environmental assessment)
- provide a basis for marine plan policies
- be as 'SMART' (specific, measureable, achievable, relevant and time bound) as possible which will assist implementation and monitoring. However, in keeping with the practice in many existing terrestrial plans, they are a mix of broad and specific objectives. However, the potential to be fully 'SMART' is reduced due to limitations conferred by the scale and strategic nature of the South marine plans, deficiencies in the evidence base, and limited stakeholder 'appetite'
- take a long-term view (20 years) while recognising that this is difficult for some issues, topics or sectors.

5.3 Appendix 2 lists the draft objectives. The objectives mainly relate to the High Level Marine Objectives (appendix 4) to do with 'Achieving a sustainable marine economy', 'Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society' and 'Living within environmental limits'. The two remaining High Level Marine Objectives ('Promoting good governance' and 'Using sound science responsibly') are not considered to warrant separate plan objectives. As cross-cutting High Level Marine Objectives (appendix 4), it is proposed that consideration of these be integrated across the themes and, therefore, delivered effectively as part of all the plan objectives and their associated policies.

Appendix 2 has the following structure:

- South Plans Analytical Report theme;
- plan area goal;
- South Plans Analytical Report core issue and description;
- draft marine plan objective
- justification and
- illustrative policy.

5.4 The relationship between the High Level Marine Objectives (appendix 4), the core issues identified for the South marine plan areas (in the [South Plans Analytical Report](#)) and the draft objectives is shown in Appendix 3. The white cells in the matrix show which draft objectives are offered in response to the core issues and indicate the High Level Marine Objectives (appendix 4) to which they principally contribute (recognising that all will contribute to most in some way). For example, [South Plans Analytical Report](#) Core Issues 11 and 14 (listed at Appendix 2) are those linked to achievement of High Level Marine Objective A1 'Infrastructure is in place to support and promote safe, profitable and efficient marine businesses'. Draft objectives 11 and 14, categorised under Core Issues 11 and 14, are the principal responses proposed within the draft vision and objectives.

6 Policies

6.1 To fully implement the marine plans it will be necessary to develop policies that will deliver the objectives. The policies will be developed through further analysis (following the options phase) and will respond to the detailed issues identified in the South Plans Analytical Report.

6.2 Three types of policy could be developed that detail the:

- i. general decision-making framework set out for public authorities
- ii. spatial or temporal constraints on activities
- iii. methodological requirements to be considered in determination of a proposal.

6.3 To enhance understanding, it is considered worthwhile to include examples of potential plan policies to illustrate the style and scope of policy that will be developed. The aspiration to develop plan policies that are more prescriptive and/or spatially expressed, as affirmed through stakeholder feedback on the East marine plans, has been partly addressed in the illustrative policies shown in Appendix 2. There is potential to develop policies that are even more prescriptive/spatially expressed such as in this example for an alternative illustrative policy for Objective 1:

Proposals and activities should not affect the integrity and extent of seagrass beds, saltmarsh and intertidal mudflats (which provide ecosystem goods and services and a natural defence to climate change).

In the meantime, the illustrative policies included in Appendix 2 are considered to be an appropriate step towards meeting the aspiration while recognising the limits of the evidence base and not seeking to create an unsustainable burden on developers and public authorities.

6.4 Please note that the illustrative policies included in Appendix 2 are not a comprehensive or formal set of draft plan policies and should not be treated as being a material consideration for decision-making.

This is a consultation on the draft vision and draft objectives only, although comments relating to the style and scope of the illustrative policies provided will be noted and considered. All alternatives will be explored in the development of policies following-on from the options phase.

7 Non-marine plan matters and signposting

7.1 This document demonstrates that the South marine plans will focus on the value that can be added through responding to issues that are currently (wholly or partly) not being addressed through existing plans, decisions and management measures. Such issues are to be addressed through the marine plan objectives and the policies to follow. As outlined above (Figures 3 and 4) there is a considerable amount of activity (including plans, decisions and management measures) that are existing or in development without need for an operative marine plan. These have been defined as 'Non-marine plan matters'. Such activities, together with the marine

plan objectives, nonetheless contribute to achievement of the plan area goals. River Basin Management Plans, produced to contribute to achievement of an objective of the [Water Framework Directive](#) to prevent deterioration of water bodies, including coastal, marine and transitional waters) are an example of a non-marine plan matter.

Information on the non-marine plan matters has been recorded to provide wider context to plan objectives and to aid integration between marine plans and other activity. For reasons of clarity, and the need to focus on the marine plan vision and objectives, details of the non-marine plan matters have not been included in this document. Signposting, to provide explicit links to the non-marine plan matters, will, however, be included in the draft South marine plans when they are released for formal consultation.

8 Next steps

8.1 The draft vision and objectives will be amended after full consideration of all comments made during the consultation period and at the workshops in July 2014. As demonstrated above (see Figure 3) the amended objectives will feed into the options phase which will begin the process of developing plan policies. The complete draft South marine plans will then be subject to formal public consultation as required by the [Marine and Coastal Access Act \(2009\)](#).

Appendix 1 A draft vision for the South marine plan areas

As stated in the marine policy statement, the United Kingdom vision for the marine area is for 'clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas'. The South Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan Areas will play their part in delivering this high level United Kingdom vision. The Vision for the plan areas covers many of the significant issues from economic growth to environmental protection while taking into account the distinctive characteristics of the South plan areas.

The vision for the South marine plan areas in 2036

By 2036, sustainable use of the South Inshore and South Offshore Marine Plan Areas has continued to be achieved. Growth in marine sectors such as tourism, recreation, and shipping has contributed to economic development. Opportunities for employment, investment and regeneration have been achieved through infrastructure development in ports, coastal towns and villages and for renewable energy. Social benefits for the health and well-being of those who live on, or visit, the South coast are supported through access to the marine area, support of a vibrant fishing industry and maintenance of the areas' specific qualities. The protection of the natural and historic environment has been enhanced including those habitats, species or heritage assets that are not currently protected through existing designation or law.

How will this look in 2036 if the vision is achieved?

By 2036, sustainable economic development has been achieved through the growth of new and existing marine activities including tourism, recreation and shipping. The competition for space required for new or growing activities such as ports and renewable energy development has been managed and potential for displacement of existing activities has been reduced. The supporting infrastructure has been maintained and enhanced to support this growth.

Marine developments in ports, shipping, fishing, aquaculture, renewables, tourism and recreation have provided employment opportunities in coastal communities and diversification opportunities for new and emerging businesses. Diversification of existing activities such as fisheries and reuse of ports along with the use of existing skills provides opportunities for employment or growth. The development of some seaside towns has helped to attract investment for regeneration, resulting in an increase in tourism and recreation activities that stimulate local economies. Military defence and national security activities continue to be important for employment opportunities in the plan area.

Coastal communities, and those with interdependencies with them, have prospered from the development of marine industry and activities such as ports, shipping, fishing, aquaculture, renewables, tourism, recreation and defence. Communities have a sense of ownership of the marine area through the employment, enjoyment and prosperity it brings. A clean, diverse marine environment alongside improved access (through improved infrastructure and more access points to the water)

enables enjoyment of the marine area for local communities and visitors which in turn provides health benefits.

Important elements of the coastal landscape, adjoining seascape and historic environment have been conserved. As a result health, well-being and enjoyment of the area have improved bringing significant social and economic benefits.

The high quality environment that exists has been maintained and enhanced, both for its intrinsic value and for the important role it plays in providing ecosystem goods and services. The protection of the natural environment has been maintained and, for those areas that are not currently afforded protection, enhanced. The physical growth of marine development and its impact on the natural environment has been managed and encroachment reduced. Impacts on migratory or nesting birds, fish species, cetaceans and seals are given greater consideration from pressures such as collision, disturbance, pollution, underwater noise and cumulative effects.

Ongoing practices for the protection of species and habitats have enhanced their resilience to combat the effects of climate change. Across other sectors steps have been taken to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change, and pursue positive opportunities it presents.

Appendix 2 Draft objectives to achieve the South marine plan areas' vision

The draft objectives follow on the next page.

Protection of the natural marine environment

Plan Area Goal

To protect the natural marine environment

SPAR Core Issue

Core issue 1: To deliver a coherent network, designated areas and non-designated areas and species need to be afforded protection. Furthermore, the ability for these areas to adapt to future changes and grow is needed to achieve the delivery of a coherent network.

The South coast has a large number of designated sites contributing to a coherent network of protected areas to support rare and endangered species and habitats of international importance. There are also many species and habitats not protected under European or UK law that are important to the marine environment. The continued, flexible approach to protection and enhancement of these areas, species and habitats is required to maintain the unique and valuable nature of the marine environment in the South plan areas.

1

Pressures such as increased storminess, sea level and sea temperature rise, as a result of the impacts of climate change, may affect species and habitats. Increased storminess and flooding may affect nesting birds; changes in sea temperature may affect the distribution of species, migratory routes for mobile species and the potential range for invasive species; and increased coastal squeeze from sea level rise could reduce existing habitat and the potential for future habitat creation. These will all prove a challenge in the ongoing protection of the marine environment and will require innovative adaptation methods to enable the enhancement of the natural marine environment.

Objectives

1A: To support the delivery of a well-managed ecologically coherent MPA network, with enhanced resilience, and the capability to adapt to the effects of climate change.

1B: To have a healthy, resilient and adaptable marine ecosystem, recognising the importance of wider biodiversity and the role it plays in an ecologically coherent MPA network and climate change adaptation.

Justification

1A: The South plan areas have a large number of designated sites contributing to a well-managed network of marine protected areas. In order to enhance resilience of the MPA network and maintain protection, flexibility is needed to take account of the effects of climate change.

1B: The importance of protecting wider biodiversity beyond designated sites is well recognised through many existing measures. Given the number of designated sites, and the predicted effects of climate change within the South plan areas it is particularly important to ensure that the marine ecosystem is healthy, resilient and adaptable.

Illustrative Policy

The designation, review and management of marine protected areas should take account of potential climate change effects based on best available projections.

SPAR
THEMES

Protection of the natural marine environment

Plan Area
Goal

To protect the natural marine environment

SPAR Core
Issue

Core issue 2: Existing activities are putting a degree of pressure on habitats (and the associated species that live within them). These activities need to be managed to reduce this pressure.

Irrespective of future development opportunities, there is currently a degree of physical impact on the natural marine environment from existing activities and industries, particularly habitats and species not protected by designations, e.g. sea grass areas damaged by trawling, dredging and anchoring activities.

2

Activities that cause abrasion, such as fishing with mobile gears, aggregate dredging, anchoring and dredging and disposal can impact on natural sedimentary systems, causing physical changes to benthic habitats and altering channel depths. This in turn can affect the species associated within or near these habitats. Coastal development can also cause squeeze on habitats and heritage assets, affect water quality and disturb species. These assets and natural resources need to be maintained and enhanced where possible for the benefit of the marine environment and for the continued provision of goods and services, for example to activities such as tourism and recreation.

Objectives

2: To support achievement of good environmental status through avoiding, minimising or mitigating the collective pressures of human activities and facilitating adaptation to climate change.

Justification

Managing activities and adapting to climate change effects requires taking an ecosystem approach to ensure that collective pressure is kept within levels compatible with achieving good environmental status under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Some habitats which are not currently afforded protection are important for the provision of ecosystem goods and services and play an important role as a natural defence to climate change. The plan objective is required to ensure collective pressures are considered in line with MSFD.

Illustrative
Policy

Proposals and activities should not affect the integrity and extent of seagrass beds, saltmarsh and intertidal mudflats (which provide important ecosystem goods and services and a natural defence to climate change).

SPAR
THEMES

Protection of the natural marine environment

Plan Area
Goal

To protect the natural marine environment

SPAR Core
Issue

3

Core issue 3: The physical growth of industry into new areas may cause encroachment on the natural marine environment.

Potential residential and industrial growth on the South coast could conflict with areas or species protected for their environmental importance, as well as areas that are not protected but play an important role in providing environmental goods and services and for their intrinsic value.

There are locations within and adjacent to the South marine plan areas which have potential for growth in marine industries. For example, areas of the Solent naturally lend themselves to development of existing ports to support increased ship movements, there are renewable energy opportunities off the coast of Brighton and the Isle of Wight and aquaculture is a growing industry with much potential. These, coupled with development on land (both residential and infrastructure to support marine sectors) and the increasing need for managed realignment schemes to address flooding, may put increased pressure on the environment, some of which is nearing its environmental carrying capacity.

Potential for growth in these areas poses challenges to the natural environment such as the introduction of new and invasive species, limited areas for habitat creation (often used as mitigation for development) and encroachment into designated areas.

A balance needs to be struck between enabling development and growth to provide jobs and create revenue nationally and locally and the health of and space for the marine environment; a resource in itself crucial to many marine activities and industries.

Objectives

3: To safeguard space for the natural marine environment to enable continued provision of ecosystem goods and services, and adaption to climate change.

Justification

A balance needs to be struck between enabling development and growth and ensuring that the marine environment has the space and ability to continue providing ecosystem goods and services on which many marine activities and industries rely. Without the plan objective, growth may encroach on the marine environment and/or suitable locations for compensatory habitats may not be available.

Illustrative
Policy

To safeguard areas for habitat creation through ensuring fringing habitats are not reduced to less than 75% of their area in 2016.

SPAR
THEMES

Protection of the natural marine environment

Plan Area
Goal

To protect the natural marine environment

SPAR Core
Issue

4

Core issue 4: Impact of industry and activities on mobile and highly mobile species are hard to predict, understand and account for.

Migratory and breeding birds, fish species, cetaceans and seals are resident or regular visitors to waters off the South coast of England. Their presence indicates the health of the marine environment and attracts people to the area. Conversely, these species are vulnerable to pressures such as collision, disturbance, pollution and underwater noise caused by many marine activities, e.g. construction of renewable energy infrastructure, port and shipping activity, sonar and tourism and recreation activity. The consideration of mobile species during construction, operation and decommissioning of marine industry will be important to maintain healthy populations of mobile species and the contribution they make to the wider marine ecosystem.

There are still challenges around predicting the spatial distribution and future trends of seals and cetaceans before further work can be done to understand fully the impacts of pressures such as noise on cetaceans. This is especially relevant to the cumulative/in combination effect of either a number of different pressures on a species or the impact of a number of activities causing the same pressure. This is something marine planning can contribute towards.

Objectives

4: To support achievement of good environmental status through improving the evidence base and reducing the impacts of proposals, development and activities on mobile species.

Justification

Mobile species are indicators of the health of the natural marine environment and are afforded protection under a range of existing measures. However, lack of evidence on the distribution of mobile species and understanding their vulnerability to pressures remains a challenge in maintaining healthy populations of mobile species and the contribution they make to the wider marine ecosystem.

Illustrative
Policy

Proposals should demonstrate how they will in order of preference avoid, minimise or mitigate adverse effects on mobile species during construction, operation and decommissioning stages in line with MSFD descriptor 11.

SPAR
THEMES

Protection of the natural marine environment

Plan Area
Goal

To protect the natural marine environment

SPAR Core
Issue

5

Core issue 5: Current marine industry and activities, the potential growth of these and the impacts of climate change will cause cumulative and in-combination effects on the natural marine environment.

The growth of different industries in and adjacent to the South marine plan areas will cause cumulative pressures on the marine environment. Multiple activities causing the same pressure (cumulative) or those that create different pressures in the same area (in combination) will risk damage to habitats and species. Pressures during construction and operation, the potential associated displacement and disturbance from activities such as tourism and recreation could cumulatively effect visual impacts, marine noise, mobile species, habitats and potentially as-yet unquantified effects could also arise.

Current and future impacts of climate change create a further level of complexity to understanding and beginning to address cumulative effects. Sea level and sea temperature rises and increased storminess will add to the pressure on the marine environment, thus exacerbating the pressures covered in this theme, on the marine environment.

Cumulative/in combination effects of activities is an important and varied topic with many different examples and scenarios, existing legislation through the marine licensing process requires consideration of their effects on the marine environment (through environmental impact assessments). Marine planning can play a strategic role in assessing and mitigating cumulative effects through signposting existing evidence, highlighting evidence gaps and contributing to addressing this by working with others to improve decision making around cumulative effects.

Objectives

5: To ensure strategic consideration of cumulative and in-combination effects of activities, proposals and climate change on the natural marine environment.

Justification

The growth of industries and number of activities competing for similar areas in and adjacent to the south marine plan areas may cause cumulative or in-combination effects on the natural marine environment. Lack of evidence and understanding of such effects and prediction of the future potential effects upon the natural marine environment remains a challenge to assess and manage. Marine planning can take a strategic approach to assessment, management and ultimately decision-making regarding cumulative effects so the impacts on the wider ecosystem and natural marine environment can be managed appropriately within those decision making processes.

Illustrative
Policy

To promote research programmes that improves understanding of cumulative and in-combination effects on the natural marine environment, and their effective consideration by decision-makers.

Core issue 6: Marine activities provide social benefits for coastal communities. The growth of marine industry and activities may lead to competition between them, causing conflict and displacement. Consideration and sustainable provision of these social benefits is required to ensure they are not lost.

All the marine activities that go on in the South marine plan areas provide social benefits for people living on the South coast of England and beyond. These benefits include:

- the enjoyment of being able to engage and interact with the natural marine environment and its views through activities such as tourism, recreation and fishing and the health and wellbeing benefits known to accompany these activities
- the importance and attraction of an areas cultural heritage , character and identity and sense of place due to the activities carried out there for many years
- the contribution of local revenue to the coastal communities, from both tourists and local people engaging with the marine area.
- Many marine activities contribute to these benefits; particularly tourism, recreation, fishing and seascape/cultural heritage which are the main drivers of these recognised social benefits on the South coast of England.

The predicted growth of these and other activities, and the interaction between them, poses risks to the current social benefits realised in the South marine plan areas. Competition for space between different types of recreational activities, coupled with the predicted growth of industries such as renewables and aquaculture may squeeze some of these activities into smaller areas. This may reduce the participation levels and enjoyment and wellbeing received from such activities and raise concerns over navigational safety.

Displacement of fishing, which many people see as inherent to local areas, could impact on the character of the area and sense of place and thus on the enjoyment of many visiting the area. Furthermore the many marine and terrestrial designations which drive the tourism industry, provide recreational opportunities for people and protect many seascapes and features could be impacted from the growth of marine activities.

Activities which predominately drive social benefits need to be managed to ensure their future growth is sustainable. Industry-focussed activities also need to be managed to find a balance between growth and the potential impact they may have on those activities driving the important social benefits on the South coast.

6: To avoid, minimise or mitigate displacement of marine activities that provide social benefits (especially to coastal communities).

Activities which predominately drive social benefits need to be managed to ensure their future growth is sustainable. Industry-focussed activities also need to be managed to find a balance between growth and the potential impact they may have on those activities driving the important social benefits on the South coast.

Proposals that include provision of sea surface infrastructure that have the potential to adversely affect recreational boating should demonstrate engagement with and provision for these users.

SPAR
THEMES

Maintaining and enhancing social benefits

Plan Area
Goal

To maintain and enhance social benefits

SPAR Core
Issue

7

Core issue 7: The natural marine environment provides goods and services which some activities rely on. These activities provide important social benefits, such as access, health, wellbeing, enjoyment and support to coastal communities to visitors and local communities.

The attraction of the South coast of England for many marine activities is largely due to the quality of the natural marine environment and the designated areas providing views of the marine area. People want to 'access' the area for these reasons and utilise the natural resources for jobs and income but this in turn can pose a risk to the very attraction drawing people to the coastline. Finding the balance between enhancing and improving access for social benefits while protecting the natural environment is a challenge, partly for marine planning and will be key to the sustainable development of the South marine plan areas.

Being able to reap the social benefits from the South marine plan areas hinges on the ability for people to use, access and enjoy it. Access to the natural marine environment is known to improve health and wellbeing and supports coastal communities through jobs and revenue. Access could include physical access to the water to participate in recreational activities or associated facilities and infrastructure on land to facilitate and support activities in the marine area.

Objectives

7: To support vibrant, sustainable communities through maintaining and increasing the health, well-being, enjoyment and other social benefits of ecosystem goods and services, seascape and designated landscapes.

Justification

This objective aims to increase opportunities for activities that improve the health and well-being of local people, and their enjoyment of the marine plan areas by recognising the importance of a healthy natural marine environment, providing access to marine-related recreational activities, improved health and well-being and ensuring that coastal communities have equal opportunities to benefit from marine activities that provide jobs and revenue.

Illustrative
Policy

Proposals that support recreational access to the marine plan areas for the purposes of improving health, well-being and enjoyment through the maintenance and development of facilities (eg marinas, clubs) and infrastructure (eg slipways, moorings), both on land and in the sea, should be supported.

SPAR
THEMES

Maintaining and enhancing social benefits

Plan Area
Goal

To maintain and enhance social benefits

SPAR Core
Issue

Core issue 8: Existing marine activities coupled with their predicted growth may impact on the historic environment and the goods and services it provides. Maintaining access and safeguarding the historic environment for both its own protection and to service other activities will be important.

8

The historic environment and heritage assets attract people to an area and drive tourism and some forms of recreation in the South plan areas. There are many wreck sites which attract divers and are important habitats for many species, buried prehistoric remains and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, National Parks and a World Heritage Site attract visitors and drive local economies. Tourism and recreation can in themselves cause damage to these assets if they are not managed sustainably. This, coupled with the current activity and predicted growth in marine industry, poses an increasing threat to the historic environment and heritage assets.

Objectives

8: To conserve designated and undesignated heritage assets for their:

- a) intrinsic value;**
- b) contribution to designated landscapes, seascapes and their setting;**
- c) socio-economic value for tourism and recreation.**

Justification

This objective recognises the need to consider the effects of existing and proposed activities on the value of designated and undesignated assets. Maintaining access and safeguarding historic assets for both their own protection and to service other activities such as tourism and recreation will be important. For existing activities consideration should be given by relevant authorities to the potential to minimise or mitigate adverse effects. For proposals the adverse effects should in order of preference and as far as practicable, be avoided as well as minimised and mitigated.

Illustrative
Policy

Proposals that may affect heritage assets should demonstrate, in order of preference:

- a) that they will not compromise or harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset;*
- b) how, if there is compromise or harm to a heritage asset, this will be minimised;*
- c) how, where compromise or harm to a heritage asset cannot be minimised it will be mitigated against; or*
- d) the public benefits for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate compromise or harm to the heritage asset.*

Enabling sustainable economic development

To enable sustainable economic development

Core Issue 9: Growth in marine activities often requires exclusive use of space, or access to space, which will often lead to competition between sectors and a need for decisions to be made about where space is used by different sectors.

Therefore there is a need to understand the growth of new and existing sectors, in terms of the amount of growth and where this growth might occur. Sectors that are expected to grow need space to do so and have particular requirements and individual issues. New sectors such as tidal or offshore wind energy projects, have need for exclusive use of the seabed, though there may be potential for other sectors such as shipping, fishing or aquaculture to share some space, depending on the type of fishing or shipping in question (gear type or draught will decide this).

Competition for space may lead to more sectors in close proximity, which may impact the ability of some sectors to function, for example increased use of estuaries may impact water quality, damaging the ability of shellfisheries to maintain or grow their businesses. It could also limit the ability of some sectors to expand, for example where no more dredging is allowed for water quality reasons, yet is needed for continued growth of ports. Competition for space also has another aspect, which is where it is likely to come into conflict with existing or planned areas of environmental protection or social benefit, for example where port activity may want to use space currently protected for nature conservation. Climate Change is predicted to lead to increased storminess, with increased potential for damage to businesses. Sea level rise will create greater coastal squeeze; this will mean less space for growth and mitigation for development (habitat creation/compensatory habitat). Increased sedimentation from flooding and erosion may increase costs for shipping and ports through additional maintenance dredging. Changes in sea temperature may change the geographical opportunities for aquaculture. There may be economic opportunities from climate change, such as increased potential for some types of tourism.

9: To promote the sustainable development of economically productive activities, taking account of spatial requirements of other activities, habitats and species of importance to the South marine plan areas.

This objective anticipates the growth of a number of marine activities, including but not limited to: Ports (and related dredging activities), Shipping (and shipbuilding/ maintenance), Offshore wind, Tidal energy, Tourism, Recreation. These activities all need to be given space to grow, in order to meet local and national policy aims for economic development, with its attendant benefits for the local and national economies. It specifically highlights the need to allocate space for activities in order to encourage development and to try to avoid future conflicts by anticipating need in advance.

To maximise opportunities for co-existence proposals should demonstrate in order of preference:

- a) that they will avoid displacement of other existing or authorised (but yet to be implemented) activities;*
- b) how, if there are adverse impacts resulting in displacement by the proposal, they will minimise them;*
- c) how, if the adverse impacts resulting in displacement by the proposal, cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated against; or*
- d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts of displacement.*

Enabling sustainable economic development

To enable sustainable economic development

Core Issue 10: Many sectors are dependent on the high quality environment that exists in the South marine plan areas. Their future growth relies upon access to and use (in terms of amenity value and use values) of the marine environment.

Many industries rely upon the environment for their goods or services. These same industries have impacts on the environment, and growth in those sectors could therefore increase those impacts. Sectors such as tourism and recreation rely upon the ability of those involved to be able to enjoy the environment and to use it in a number of ways, be this passive use through enjoyment of views and the wider setting, to the need for clarity in the water column for diving, or for high quality water for all water sports. Fishing and aquaculture both rely upon the ability of the environment to support fish stocks, which relates to both the habitats that support fish stocks and the quality of the water and levels of nutrients and pollutants in it. Aggregate extraction also impacts on the environment but can also support it through the use of dredged material in habitat creation and natural flood defences.

Some activities, such as fishing and aggregate extraction, may impair the ability of certain areas to support viable fisheries through impacts to stocks and important nursery and spawning grounds. If growth in all activities is to be achieved or supported in order to maximise economic benefits, then the impact upon the environment needs to be understood, avoided or minimised and mitigated where appropriate.

Climate change has potential to impact on the marine environment, thus affecting the goods and services it supports.. Some impacts may be seen as opportunities, i.e. increased sea and air temperatures may attract more tourism and encourage people to participate in marine recreational activities, with others posing further risks to the marine environment and activities reliant on it. For example, increases in sea temperature may encourage invasive species, increase levels of water-borne diseases, change the growth rate of aquaculture species and affect migratory fish routes impacting on fishing opportunities. This emphasises the fragile nature of the marine environment in relation to climate change and its ability to have significant knock-on effects on marine activities which provide a wealth of socio-economic benefits to visitors and coastal communities alike.

10: To protect and where possible enhance the ecosystem goods and services that enable the growth of economically productive activities.

This objective highlights the linkage between the environment and the activities that depend upon it. It aims to protect and enhance the ecosystem goods and services that provide economic benefit (other goods and services are protected in different objectives) to industries such as tourism, recreation, fishing and aquaculture. It also encourages industries to enhance environmental benefit where there may be potential, such as dredging and aggregates extraction, in order to help combat the effects of climate change, or mitigate other environmental impacts.

Proposals that maximise the economic development opportunities provided by the positive effects of climate change should be supported.

SPAR
THEMES

Enabling sustainable economic development

Plan Area
Goal

To enable sustainable economic development

SPAR Core
Issue

Core Issue 11: Economic growth is reliant upon existing and new infrastructure. The position, scale and magnitude of impact of new infrastructure cannot always be predicted currently.

11

All economic activities in the South marine plan areas depend on some form of infrastructure. As the majority of sectors expect to grow, requirements for additional infrastructure are likely; this will have a physical impact which will vary by sector. Some types of infrastructure require exclusive use of an area and may impair the growth of other sectors, both where they are physically located and beyond. For example, if a substation for electricity transmission is sited in an area where tourism is dependent upon the natural environment, it may impair the enjoyment of tourists and result in a decline in their numbers.

Furthermore, new and existing infrastructure needs to be resilient and flexible to the changing climate. Increased risk of flooding and coastal erosion and sea level rise, as a result of climate change, has the potential to impact on infrastructure and therefore the location and level of risk needs to be considered.

Objectives

11: To provide and maintain infrastructure that is resilient to climate change and on which sustainable economic development is dependent.

Justification

This objective reflects the necessity for all marine activities and development to be supported on land and particularly relates to the need to ensure appropriate provision of onshore infrastructure to allow activities to take place. This could be in the form of landing, storage and processing facilities for catch, aggregates handling facilities, slipways and boat repair facilities or electricity transmission equipment. It also places an emphasis on supporting developments which may have both a marine and terrestrial aspect, such as port facilities, particularly where there is a strong economic reason to do so. The objective also encourages infrastructure to be resilient to the potential effects of climate change, through location, adaptation and mitigation.

Illustrative
Policy

Proposals that make appropriate provision for infrastructure on land which supports activities in the marine area, and vice versa, particularly for ports, energy, recreation and tourism should be supported.

SPAR
THEMES

Opportunities for employment, investment and regeneration

Plan Area
Goal

To promote opportunities for employment, investment and regeneration

SPAR Core
Issue

Core Issue 12: Some seaside towns are in decline and need regeneration and investment. Growth in key marine sectors can help to drive this investment.

12

Parts of the south coast where traditional industries such as 'seaside' tourism and fishing dominate the local economy are experiencing decline as a result of overdependence on one or two sectors of the economy, especially where those industries are undergoing change. New and emerging industries such as tidal and offshore wind energy along with continued growth of ports and shipping and new forms of tourism and fishing, offer opportunities for these areas to diversify, building on their existing skills.

For example Newhaven has been selected as the preferred operations and maintenance base for the Rampion offshore wind development, with expected resultant benefits for local businesses. Some opportunities will need investment, for example in dockside infrastructure, for their benefits to be maximised and through this regeneration of under-used space could occur. Regeneration and reuse of existing marine infrastructure and space is highlighted in several local plans and economic strategies as a key objective for economic development.

Objectives

12: To support sustainable regeneration and investment to address socio-economic decline in seaside towns.

Justification

This objective reflects the need to encourage the diversification of existing activities in seaside towns, as well as to anticipate and provide for scope to grow new activities. This will need to be aligned with existing and planned regeneration opportunities on land, as well as similar opportunities elsewhere in the South marine plan areas.

Illustrative
Policy

Proposals which promote diversification of the economies of coastal communities through support for emerging industries such as tidal, offshore wind energy, ports and new forms of tourism and fishing should be supported.

SPAR
THEMES

Opportunities for employment, investment and regeneration

Plan Area
Goal

To promote opportunities for employment, investment and regeneration

SPAR Core
Issue

Core Issue 13: Marine developments can provide opportunities for access to employment for coastal communities, who may have a skills base that match those needed by marine sectors

13

These opportunities can offer local employment as well as growth and diversification chances for local businesses, bringing significant economic benefits to communities. Portsmouth and Gosport are deprived areas with opportunities to use existing skill sets to contribute towards marine manufacturing, through the reuse of ports and associated infrastructure to attract businesses to the area and support new job opportunities. Expansion of the aquaculture industry is likely to lead to increased jobs in coastal communities at various skill levels, especially if combined with the capture fisheries sector. Opportunities at a variety of skill levels is important, especially in areas with a diverse labour market; 'matching' economic opportunities to areas most suited to them from a skills viewpoint, increases the chances for local economic benefit to be realised.

Objectives

13: To encourage activities that create employment opportunities for coastal communities, by allocating space for them, whilst taking account of the needs of the marine environment and other activities using the South marine plan areas.

Justification

This objective reflects the need for activities that generate employment to be supported, through the allocation of space for future growth and to maintain existing levels of activity without detriment to the marine environment. Tourism and port related activity are particularly important in terms of the number of people employed and their development aspirations. These and other activities with the potential for significant job creation such as offshore wind and tidal energy will need to be addressed through plan policies.

Illustrative
Policy

Proposals should demonstrate how consideration has been given to the available skills, labour and space so as to maximise local social and economic benefits.

SPAR
THEMES

Opportunities for employment, investment and regeneration

Plan Area
Goal

To promote opportunities for employment, investment and regeneration

SPAR Core
Issue

Core Issue 14: Investment in maintaining or enhancing infrastructure associated with marine sectors is necessary to ensure future employment opportunities.

Infrastructure needed for marine activities in coastal areas can often be complementary (such as facilitating access to the sea), but the use of such infrastructure is often exclusive to one activity (for example marinas and ports serve very different markets, despite both facilitating access to the sea.).

It is important that associated facilities (marinas, clubs) and infrastructure (slipways, moorings), both on land and in the sea, are maintained and developed to facilitate growth within the marine recreation and tourism industries, which are important economic contributors to the South plans' economy. Tourism and recreation are also reliant upon landward infrastructure such as transport networks.

Other forms of infrastructure, such as cable landfalls or substations that are linked to other industries, are not complementary and can impact negatively upon opportunities for tourism and recreation, whilst themselves having the potential for generating employment opportunities in their own right. Coastal defences and protection can attract investment by providing certainty for developments, though they may limit the opportunities available through their visual impact. Development of infrastructure that is linked to existing and potential business opportunities is key to achieving economic growth.

14

Objectives

14: To support co-ordinated and integrated use of existing and new infrastructure that guarantees access to the South marine plan areas for activities that provide employment.

Justification

This objective aims to highlight the need for the provision of access to the South plan areas through marine and coastal infrastructure to support economic development, in particular for ports, tourism and recreation. It recognises that non-access infrastructure should be planned sensitively to reduce the impacts on sectors such as tourism and recreation, and to maximise opportunities for integration and coexistence. The objective highlights the need to protect existing infrastructure and aims to encourage activities to maximise opportunities and reduce risk through consideration of the best locations for future infrastructure.

Illustrative
Policy

Proposals should demonstrate consideration of impacts on tourism and recreation and in order of preference avoid, minimise, or mitigate any detrimental impacts. Proposals which demonstrate positive impacts for tourism and recreation should be supported.

Appendix 3 Table showing draft plan objectives compared to High Level Marine Objectives (as shown in appendix 4) and SPAR core issues (highlighted in appendix 2)

High Level Marine Objectives	SPAR Core Issues													
	Core Issue 1	Core Issue 2	Core Issue 3	Core Issue 4	Core Issue 5	Core Issue 6	Core Issue 7	Core Issue 8	Core Issue 9	Core Issue 10	Core Issue 11	Core Issue 12	Core Issue 13	Core Issue 14
A1: Infrastructure is in place to support and promote safe, profitable and efficient marine businesses.											11, 14			14
A2: The marine environment and its resources are used to maximise sustainable activity, prosperity and opportunities for all, now and in the future.									9	10A, 10B	6	8, 12	7, 13	
A3: Marine businesses are taking long-term strategic decisions and managing risks effectively. They are competitive and operating efficiently.					5				9	10B	11, 14			14
A4: Marine businesses are acting in a way which respects environmental limits and is socially responsible. This is rewarded in the marketplace.						6			9	10A		12	13	

	SPAR Core Issues													
High Level Marine Objectives	Core Issue 1	Core Issue 2	Core Issue 3	Core Issue 4	Core Issue 5	Core Issue 6	Core Issue 7	Core Issue 8	Core Issue 9	Core Issue 10	Core Issue 11	Core Issue 12	Core Issue 13	Core Issue 14
B1: People appreciate the diversity of the marine environment, its seascapes, its natural and cultural heritage and its resources and act responsibly.							7	8		10A				
B2: The use of the marine environment is benefiting society as a whole, contributing to resilient and cohesive communities that can adapt to coastal erosion and flood risk, as well as contributing to physical and mental wellbeing.						6	7	8		10A		12	13	
B3: The coast, seas, oceans and their resources are safe to use.							7							
B4: The marine environment plays an important role in mitigating climate change.			3		5					10B				

High Level Marine Objectives	SPAR Core Issues													
	Core Issue 1	Core Issue 2	Core Issue 3	Core Issue 4	Core Issue 5	Core Issue 6	Core Issue 7	Core Issue 8	Core Issue 9	Core Issue 10	Core Issue 11	Core Issue 12	Core Issue 13	Core Issue 14
B5: There is equitable access for those who want to use and enjoy the coast, seas and their wide range of resources and assets and recognition that for some island and peripheral communities the sea plays a significant role in their community.						6	7	8		10A				
B6: Use of the marine environment will recognise, and integrate with, defence priorities, including the strengthening of international peace and stability and the defence of the UK and its interests.			3			6	7		9	10A	11		13	
C1: Biodiversity is protected, conserved and where appropriate recovered and loss has been halted.	1A, 1B	2							9					
C2: Healthy marine and coastal habitats occur across their natural range and are able to support strong, biodiverse biological communities and the functioning of healthy, resilient and adaptable marine ecosystems.	1B	2	3	4	5									

	SPAR Core Issues													
High Level Marine Objectives	Core Issue 1	Core Issue 2	Core Issue 3	Core Issue 4	Core Issue 5	Core Issue 6	Core Issue 7	Core Issue 8	Core Issue 9	Core Issue 10	Core Issue 11	Core Issue 12	Core Issue 13	Core Issue 14
C3: Our oceans support viable populations of representative, rare, vulnerable, and valued species.	1A, 1B			4										
D1: All those who have a stake in the marine environment have an input into associated decision-making.							7		9	10A			13	
D2:L Marine, land and water management mechanisms are responsive and work effectively together, for example through integrated coastal zone management and river basin management plans.									9	10B				14
D3: Marine management in the UK takes account of different management systems that are in place because of administrative, political or international boundaries.													13	
D4: Marine businesses are subject to clear, timely, proportionate and, where appropriate, plan led regulation.		2	3		5	6			9				13	14

High Level Marine Objectives	SPAR Core Issues													
	Core Issue 1	Core Issue 2	Core Issue 3	Core Issue 4	Core Issue 5	Core Issue 6	Core Issue 7	Core Issue 8	Core Issue 9	Core Issue 10	Core Issue 11	Core Issue 12	Core Issue 13	Core Issue 14
D5: The use of the marine environment is spatially planned where appropriate and based on an ecosystems approach which takes account of climate change and recognises the protection and management needs of marine cultural heritage according to its significance.							7	8			11			11
E1: Our understanding of the marine environment continues to develop through new scientific and socio-economic research and data collection.				4	5									
E2: Sound evidence and monitoring underpins effective marine management and policy development.				4	5									
E3: The precautionary principle is applied consistently in accordance with the UK Government and Devolved Administrations' sustainable development policy.	1B	2	3	4	5			8	9					

Appendix 4 High Level Marine Objectives²

NB – numbering added for ease of reference in this document.

A: Achieving a sustainable marine economy

1. Infrastructure is in place to support and promote safe, profitable and efficient marine businesses.
2. The marine environment and its resources are used to maximise sustainable activity, prosperity and opportunities for all, now and in the future.
3. Marine businesses are taking long-term strategic decisions and managing risks effectively. They are competitive and operating efficiently.
4. Marine businesses are acting in a way which respects environmental limits and is socially responsible. This is rewarded in the marketplace.

B: Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society

1. People appreciate the diversity of the marine environment, its seascapes, its natural and cultural heritage and its resources and act responsibly.
2. The use of the marine environment is benefiting society as a whole, contributing to resilient and cohesive communities that can adapt to coastal erosion and flood risk, as well as contributing to physical and mental wellbeing.
3. The coast, seas, oceans and their resources are safe to use.
4. The marine environment plays an important role in mitigating climate change.
5. There is equitable access for those who want to use and enjoy the coast, seas and their wide range of resources and assets and recognition that for some island and peripheral communities the sea plays a significant role in their community.
6. Use of the marine environment will recognise, and integrate with, defence priorities, including the strengthening of international peace and stability and the defence of the UK and its interests.

C: Living within environmental limits

1. Biodiversity is protected, conserved and where appropriate recovered and loss has been halted.
2. Healthy marine and coastal habitats occur across their natural range and are able to support strong, biodiverse biological communities and the functioning of healthy, resilient and adaptable marine ecosystems.
3. Our oceans support viable populations of representative, rare, vulnerable, and valued species.

D: Promoting good governance

1. All those who have a stake in the marine environment have an input into associated decision-making.
2. Marine, land and water management mechanisms are responsive and work effectively together, for example through integrated coastal zone management and river basin management plans.
3. Marine management in the UK takes account of different management systems that are in place because of administrative, political or international boundaries.
4. Marine businesses are subject to clear, timely, proportionate and, where appropriate, plan led regulation.
5. The use of the marine environment is spatially planned where appropriate and based on an ecosystems approach which takes account of climate change and recognises the protection and management needs of marine cultural heritage according to its significance.

E: Using sound science responsibly

1. Our understanding of the marine environment continues to develop through new scientific and socio-economic research and data collection.
2. Sound evidence and monitoring underpins effective marine management and policy development.
3. The precautionary principle is applied consistently in accordance with the UK Government and Devolved Administrations' sustainable development policy.

² Marine Policy Statement, HM Government (2011)