

# Coastal Partnerships Network

## Baseline report for developing Partnership working at the coast

REFERENCE RMP6320



Compiled by the Coastal Partnerships Network Summer 2012

Commissioned by:





## **Executive Summary**

### **i) Background**

Coastal Partnerships have played an influential role in the development and delivery of the management of coastal areas for a number of years. As a whole, and individually, CPs represent experienced and diverse hubs at strategic locations around the coasts of the UK. Whilst the UK-wide geographical coverage of these partnerships is not entirely complete, they have generally developed to exist in areas of intense land and marine activity where there are high levels of potential for conflict between stakeholders and users. There are opportunities to address these gaps as discussed in Chapter 4.0.

Coastal Partnerships have focused on the delivery of local objectives operating in the absence of an over-arching national framework or steering body, and as such there has been little integration or thinking on a national scale – hence the establishment of the CPN. This network of CPs represents a resource for public bodies with a national remit. They have a detailed understanding of local issues; utilising established relations with key personnel and key stakeholders involved in the management or use of their area. This level of knowledge developed over many years, is valuable in today's market and acts as a fundamental building block within the marine planning process. This is illustrated by the projects and services CPs have successfully delivered, (examples of which can be found in the individual CP descriptions in Appendix 1).

The shared, common values and services of CPs span different applications of communication, all of which can be of value to the MMO – namely:

- Stakeholder engagement and consultation
- Communication, awareness-raising and networking
- Bringing sectors together at the land sea interface
- Provision of information and data

### **ii) Aims and Objectives**

This report set out to provide a technical analysis of the levels of activity and engagement within CPs and identify gaps in spatial coverage around England in relation to the current and proposed MP areas. In addition, the report has identified the potential of CPs to contribute to the marine planning process and overall sustainable management of our coastal resource. The reports aims and objectives are identified in Chapter 1.2. The CPN believes that this report has addressed all of these aims. CP officers would welcome continued joint working with the MMO and the opportunity to share knowledge and best practices through the CPN annual forum event.

### **iii) Methodology**

A questionnaire was drafted and electronically distributed on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012, to all CP representatives on the CPN database (99). The closing date for responses was 20<sup>th</sup> April 2012. Several contacts were made to all CPs to encourage participation. A total

of 42 CPs and coastal organisations – 37 English (2 of which are cross border), 3 Scottish and 2 Welsh – responded to the questionnaire. For the purpose of this report, only the responses from the 37 English CPs and coastal organisations have been analysed. A full list of the contacts and those that responded is attached as Appendix 9 and 10 respectively.

The report was later developed through wide and extensive consultation with all CPN Members, consisting of over 40 individual CP officers. The questionnaire findings, in conjunction with the comments received from CPs throughout the consultation phase, were incorporated into an analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for each marine plan (MP) area. Once this analysis had been performed for all CPs within each MP area in turn, a final analysis of the overall strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for all participating CPs was completed. This analysis was used as the baseline from which all recommendations and proposals were made.

All participating CPs also provided Geographic Information System (GIS) shape files and/or annotated maps indicating the extent of their Partnership's remit. These remits – along with Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and National Parks (NPs) – were combined onto a master map of England, as well as onto individual maps; displaying current and proposed MP area remits.

#### iv) Identified common strengths of CPs

CPs promote neutrality in all Partnership workings, in order to facilitate the fair and open debate on coastal issues.

The wide and varied services that are currently provided by CPs demonstrate the scope of the CPN and the ability of individual partnerships to contribute to communications on marine planning. Main CP services include: stakeholder engagement; informing coastal/maritime planning, policy and legislation; providing a facilitation role and the communication and dissemination of relevant information.

With the exception of a few coastal locations, the overall geographic coverage of CPs within England is extensive; with some CPs having 'overlapping' remits. The presence of this overlapping illustrates how CPs can successfully work in partnership together, complementing each other's purposes and services.

#### v) Identified common weaknesses of CPs

The CPN is starting to address the lack of a centralised role, identified during the development of the report. This was found to lead to marginalisation during tight financial times and subsequent lower sustainability rates – resulting in experienced CP officers moving on. The CPN therefore needs a stronger working relationship with and influence in the marine planning process itself.

Certain communication mechanisms – such as Coastal Surgeries – were identified as being underutilised. This was most often attributed to limited staff and financial

resources; resulting in CPs focusing time and money on more standardised forms of communication; such as e-news, Forums and newsletters.

There is a lack of coordination between some CPs in certain geographical areas. This regional and national coordination could be provided by the CPN and regional partnership hubs (see Appendix 2) to help strengthen the coverage, services and consistency of all CPs.

#### vi) Identified common opportunities for CPs

There is an opportunity to standardise CPs databases to aid joint working and communication throughout an entire MP area. Creating and standardising a partnership database would also allow each and every CP to send, receive and publish information and data *from* and *to* all CPs within the CPN, therefore maintaining the high levels of communication and information dissemination already illustrated by the CPs which participated in this report. Partnerships would also be readily able to join resources and communicate to specific sectors across an MP area, if databases and sector definitions were defined.

Future development of regional Coastal Forums (such as the North West Coastal Forum) would provide further opportunities for inter-body communications and for CPs of all scales to develop and become more efficient.

#### vii) Identified common threats for CPs

Funding cuts have consistently been identified by CPs as being the main threats facing successful Partnership working, in both the short and long term. During the development of this report, certain CPs underwent further funding issues resulting in the reduction of both services and staff; in addition to (in some cases) the dissolution of some CPs completely. The loss of staff and the associated high staff turnover can also result in a loss of momentum and corporate knowledge.

#### viii) Identified geographic gaps

Gaps in the spatial distribution of the participating CPs were identified in MP areas 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. Some of these geographic gaps are not covered at all by any form of CP or coastal management forum; however, certain gaps *do* in fact contain a number of CPs and other coastal bodies, which simply were unable to participate in this report due to resourcing issues.

The overall spatial coverage of CPs was found to be extensive. The MMO can further exploit this extensive coverage, through the many cases of 'overlap', identified in a number of MP area maps. The presence of these CP remit overlaps illustrates the ability of CPs to successfully collaborate with one another; actively complementing the range of services each one provides to a stretch of coastline, which another CP may not.

Furthermore, coastal interest groups, environmental groups and other groups – such as Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs) – could be utilised to 'fill' or assist with filling these gaps where appropriate; although a

further detailed study at individual MP area scale would be necessary to determine this once the relevant LEPs and LNPs were fully established and operational.

#### ix) The need for central coordination

The CPN has recommended constructing a framework for CPs that will deliver a service for a wide range of outside organisations. This 'joint venture' approach has the potential to be adopted by local authorities and others as a future delivery model in this time of change. Working in partnership at the coast has long been proven as a means of delivery, with risks and burdens shared. The same approach can be applied to the CPN itself. A national perspective is required as each partnership itself will reflect the specific conditions found within its own locale, whilst the national picture aims to collectively represent the range of different services and benefits on offer from CPs.

The CPN coordinator can save resources and add value by advising on the viability, costs and range of options for individual CPs who are approached for specific project work. This would help to standardise the business model for individual partnerships and help to ensure a consistent and transferable approach throughout the UK.

#### x) Key recommendations

The CPN, are keen to help find the best solution for the coasts and seas of England, and are happy to support open, honest and detailed discussions. Marine planning itself will require open, honest public participation, and as neutral, honest brokers for decision-making on the coast the CPN is there to help achieve a sustainable framework for marine and coastal management in the future.

Use of the established and trusted networks and mechanisms already in place within the CPN, to deliver aspects of Marine Planning, can avoid the creation of unnecessary costs and help to prevent stakeholder fatigue.

#### **Key Points**

- CPs have been working to generate social capital and integration on the coast for almost two decades and have developed information networks.
- They represent a unique resource and offer the potential to increase efficiency.
- CPs embody the Localism Act (2011) and contribute to ideas about the Big Society Agenda.
- There exist precedents for successful partnership working on the coast – for example CPs and the Environment Agency on Shoreline Management Plan II; CPs and the Water Framework Directive; CPs and the Common Fisheries Policy.
- CPs are impartial and have a proven role in conflict resolution and consensus building.
- CPs have the ability to work across sectors and between all levels of decision-making; with experience at local, regional and national levels.
- CPs provide a 'bottom-up' conduit to government.



- CPs provide a local gateway service for information and contacts.
- CPs have a proven track record of horizon scanning to inform organisations of coastal issues.
- CPs have experience in raising awareness of issues and a mechanism for community engagement.
- CPs can and do learn from each other through the CPN structure
- Fully utilising the services of CPs could:
  - make a contribution to the MMO fulfilling their Corporate Plan commitments and to the development and adoption of marine plans as per MMO and Government timetable;
  - enable the full benefits of the marine plan and the process to be realised with plans that contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the marine area;
  - ensure community and stakeholder 'buy-in' to the marine process and marine plans so that possibilities for challenge are reduced and mitigated.
- The Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009) requires that all public bodies must make all decisions capable of affecting the marine area with regard to the MPS and marine plans (HM Government, 2009). CPs can assist in making sure local bodies are *aware* of the need to consider plans, MPS etc; providing an instant point of reference for information and advice on how to engage with the MMO and MPS

## The CPs and the CPN Product

### CPs

- A network of experienced coastal communication hubs with expertise in stakeholder engagement, awareness-raising and information provision.
- Experience in facilitating conflict resolution and bringing stakeholders together to agree common objectives and voluntary codes of conduct.
- A proven track-record in delivery in these areas with coverage around the coastline of England (CPs also have strong links with networks throughout the devolved administrations, thereby aiding cross-boundary integration).
- Strategic locations/partners within Local Government that enable CPs to:
  - Apply Localism Act/Big Society Agenda
  - Inform and influence through stakeholder engagement
  - Help to integrate policy and wider coastal initiatives within and between sectors – across the land-sea boundary
  - Develop strong links with planning and other Local Government functions
  - Be trusted partners
- Links with the devolved administrations (Solway, Severn etc).
- Potential to adapt to changing priorities as required.
- High levels of social capital together with un-equalled stakeholder buy-in and trust on coastal and marine issues.
- A business-model that delivers value-for-money to partners demonstrated by a Defra commissioned project.

- The ability to identify and reach the stakeholders and communities needed to participate in marine planning.
- A local point of contact for all with an interest in marine and coastal areas.

### CPN

- Two way access to all CPs.
- Promoting/sharing of best practice amongst all UK CPs to aid consistency of approach and excellence of service.
- Previously supported by Defra to bring all CPs together – worked as a delivery partner with Defra and LGA on financial benefits project (CPN, Defra, 2008).

### **Potential routes for MMO-CPN working links:**

1. CPs could be commissioned by the MMO as neutral, 'honest brokers' for stakeholder engagement within the marine planning process and other consultations as required (An SLA or contract).
2. The CPN could seek to secure third party funding for the creation of a fixed term CPN coordinator post to establish and maximise the contribution of CPs. This would provide a single managed route between CPN members and other parties, including the MMO, who are in full support of CPN's procurement of funding for this role.

### xi) Conclusions

The CPN believes that this initial analysis of the work of CPs, and opportunities for development and delivery of aspects of marine planning, forms a useful baseline. It will act as a document to help the MMO and CPN develop future working relationships, in order to strengthen the sustainable management of the coastal resource.

This report set out to provide a technical analysis of the levels of activity and engagement within CPs and identify gaps in spatial coverage around England in relation to the MP areas. In addition, the report has identified the potential of CPs to contribute to the marine planning process and overall sustainable management of our coastal resource. The CPN has also recommended proposals to develop the effective engagement of partnerships in order to help improve the marine planning process (see Chapter 5.0). The CPN welcomes continued joint working with the MMO and the opportunity to share knowledge and best practices through our annual forum event. We welcome feedback and direction from the MMO on how we can develop our services and support the MMO further in the delivery of marine plans across England.



## Summary of existing CPs/CPN & MMO activities and potential new CPs/CPN & MMO collaboration

**Table 1: Summary of existing CPs/CPN & MMO activities and potential new CPs/CPN & MMO collaboration**

<i>Existing</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>
Annual CPN Forum where all CP officers have the opportunity to meet to share best practices and discuss ways forward for Partnership working at the coast to aid the sustainable management of the coastal resource.	CPN & MMO	Ongoing
<i>Opportunity</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>
Seek third-party funding for the creation of a fixed term CPN coordinator post.	CPN & MMO	Short-Medium
Review how CPs manage their databases (especially in terms of categorisation and sector definition) to aid joint working and communication.	All CPs	Short
Review Sector representation as appropriate.	All CPs	Medium
Service delivery agreements with CPs on specific coastal stakeholder engagement.	CPs & MMO	Short – Medium

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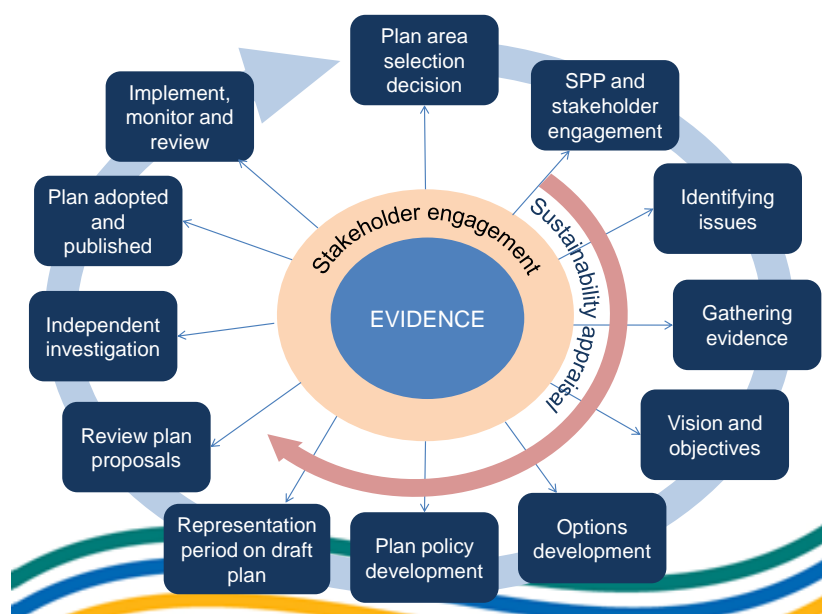
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## Introduction

In March 2011 all UK Administrations agreed on and published a UK-wide Marine Policy Statement (MPS), which provides the framework for the development of marine plans and all decisions by public bodies capable of affecting the marine area (HM Government, 2011). The MPS sets out the issues for consideration in the preparation of marine plans and sets out the approach that needs to be followed during their development. The MPS was the first step in the preparation of marine plans in the UK. Since the beginning of the process, to prepare the East Inshore and East Offshore marine plans, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) has been considering the way forward for the development of a further eight marine plans which will cover the rest of the English marine area (Defra, 2011). The Government commitment is that all marine plans for England will be completed by 2022 (S.Collins, Defra, 2012). A complete suite of marine plans will provide a clear framework for sustainable development in the English marine inshore and offshore marine areas. This will therefore enable the sustainable and innovative use of marine resources, so as to make an increased contribution to national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the green economy within environmental limits (HM Government, 2011).

Marine plans will inform, guide and if communicated correctly inspire and enthuse all who use, manage or aid development in the marine area.

To date the MMO has worked in close collaboration with a broad range of stakeholders, including local authorities and communities to ensure that everyone is given the opportunity to participate in the planning process. To further these opportunities, the CPN has been approached by the MMO to conduct this study into developing partnership working at the coast.



**Figure 1: Marine Management Organisation's Marine Planning process.**  
Source: <http://www.marinemangement.org.uk/marineplanning/process.htm>

## 1. Coastal Partnerships

Coastal Partnerships (CPs) have evolved at most of the key strategic locations around the coasts of the United Kingdom. A variety of different CP models exist, and each has developed to reflect local circumstances based on local issues and the requirements of local stakeholders. However, all CPs share common values and common core services that they provide. CPs have been the main local delivery agents for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in the UK for many years - the policy considered throughout the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (S.Collins, Defra, 2012). Their relevance and importance has been highlighted in the UK Government and Devolved Administration commissioned UK ICZM Stock take, completed in 2004 (Defra, 2009), and in the 2009 UK Government *'Strategy for Promoting an Integrated Approach to the Management of Coastal Areas in England'* (Defra, 2008).

The value of CPs and the services they provide were examined and where possible quantified in the Defra commissioned [Financial Benefits](#) project taken forward by Defra in 2008; and were later summarised in the document *'Profiting from Partnership – putting a price on member benefits'*. The member benefits received from partnerships were identified (see Table 1) across three broad areas: engaging with others within the partnership; receiving a helping hand from partnership officers; and being represented by the partnership amongst local communities and organisations as well as at a regional/national level.

**Table 1: Summary of the benefits provided by CPs under three key themes.**

**Source: CPN, Defra 2008**

Engaging with others	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform on policy decisions</li> <li>• Learn about others' activities</li> <li>• Giving talks to inform and consult</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share data</li> <li>• Work in collaboration</li> <li>• Make new contacts</li> </ul>
A helping hand	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making legislation locally relevant</li> <li>• Project co-ordination</li> <li>• Neutral facilitation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acting as an intermediary body</li> <li>• Informing on local activities</li> <li>• Contacts list</li> </ul>
Representation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging and educating the public</li> <li>• Community events and learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take viewpoints to central Government</li> <li>• Address un-resolved issues</li> </ul>

CPs are at the heart of the management of coastal areas. Their networks, contacts and experience are extensive; their social capital and influence has no comparable model. Together they represent a unique and vital resource that is perfectly placed to play a central role in the development and delivery of marine management practices around the coast. Their locally focused approach echoes the move towards greater empowerment of local communities through the Localism Act (2011) and Big Society agenda.

In order that CPs achieve the coherence that effective and successful marine resource management demands, there is a need to coordinate their work centrally

and promote their services collectively. This coordination is currently only provided on a voluntary basis by the Coastal Partnership Network.

### **1.1 Coastal Partnership Network**

Originally called the Coastal Partnerships Working Group, the Coastal Partnerships Network (CPN) was established in 2006 to increase communication and collaboration between CPs, to share good practice, to provide a collective voice for CPs at national level and to seek to influence the development of ICZM strategies. The CPN represents 42 CPs existing around the whole of the UK coast, many with up to 20 years experience (CPN, 2011). Their work is often targeted towards local or specific communities and sectors through a 'bottom-up' approach. Many CPs are now regularly used by organisations to deliver balanced and neutral stakeholder engagement.

The CPN encourages the exchange of information and debate between Coastal Partnership Officers in England, Wales and Scotland and where necessary provides linkages to a wider range of local and national coastal and marine stakeholders. The CPN represents the value of the work of the different CPs and provides a central point of contact which other organisations, such as the MMO, can reference, to find out information, ranging from the services offered to the geographical coverage, of any UK CP.

### **1.2 Aims and Objectives**

The aims of this report, which was commissioned by the MMO, are to provide a technical analysis of the levels of activity and engagement within CPs and identify gaps in spatial coverage around England in relation to the MP areas. In addition, the report aims to describe the potential of CPs to contribute to communications on marine planning and recommend proposals for future engagement. The report is designed to be a technical document for the MMO and UK CPs; for which public friendly information can be found on the [CPN website](#) as well as within Appendix 1 of this report. This report is intended to be used as a useful reference document between the MMO and CPN throughout the development of marine planning in England.

Specific project objectives are as follows:

- Spatially identifying the geographic coverage of each English CP, identifying where there are geographic gaps.
- Where gaps in coverage have been identified, proposing a method of engagement in these areas and analysing how important the lack of coverage is in marine planning communication terms.
- Provide details of member organisations for each partnership including the diversity of membership and frequency of meetings.
- Provide details of how each CP communicates its news, meetings, minutes etc.
- Provide details of any sub groups/thematic groups that report to the CP.

- Provide details as to whether CPs are solely issue based and report any specific pieces of work that have been completed.
- Describe how a CP uses any web based resources (own website, part of council website or none).
- Identify how many of the partnerships are members of Local Nature Partnerships (LNP) or Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP) or are proposing to become members.
- Provide analysis and recommendations on how CPs and the CPN can contribute to communications on current and future MP areas.
- Describe proposals for future engagement between the CPN, CPs and the MMO.



## 2. Research Methodology

A conceptual meeting took place between representatives of the CPN and a representative from the MMO to establish the most effective method of collecting data on all aspects representing CPs. After this meeting, a questionnaire (see Appendix 4) was drafted and electronically distributed on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012, to all CP representatives on the CPN database (99). The closing date for responses was 20<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

A total of 42 CPs and coastal organisations – 37 English (2 of which are cross border), 3 Scottish and 2 Welsh – responded to the questionnaire (see

Table 2). For the purpose of this report, only the responses from the 37 English CPs have been analysed. Please note that the Devon Maritime Forum and the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) have geographical coverage which extends into MP areas 6, 7, 8 and 9.

**Table 2: Participating Coastal Partnerships and their respective MP Areas.**  
Source: CPN

Marine Planning Areas	Coastal Partnerships that responded to Questionnaire
1 & 2	Berwickshire & North Northumberland Coast EMS
	Druridge Bay Partnership
	Durham Heritage Coast Partnership
	North Yorkshire & Cleveland Coastal Forum
	Teessmouth and Cleveland Coast EMS (& Industry for Nature Conservation Association)
	Wear Estuary Forum
3 & 4	Humber Advisory Group
	Humber Management Scheme
	Norfolk Coast Partnership
	Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB
	The Wash and North Norfolk Coast EMS Management Scheme
5	Colne Estuary Partnership
	Kent Coastal Network
	Medway Swale Estuary Partnership
	Thames Estuary Partnership
	Thanet Coast Project
	White Cliffs Countryside Partnership
6 & 7	Devon Maritime Forum
	Dorset Coast forum
	Exe Estuary Partnership
	Hamble Estuary Partnership
	Isle of Wight Estuaries Project
	Manhood Peninsula Partnership
	SeaTorbag
	Solent Forum
South Devon AONB	
8 & 9	Devon Maritime Forum
	Fowey Estuary Partnership
	North Devon AONB
	North Devon World Biosphere Reserve
	Severn Estuary Partnership
	South Devon AONB
Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum	
10	Copeland Coastal Partnership
	Duddon Estuary Partnership
	Morcombe Bay Partnership
	North West Coastal Forum
	Solway Firth Partnership
	Wirral Coastal Partnership

The data provided by CPs through the questionnaire, underwent extensive collation and analysis to delineate information in an effective and easily accessible format. Data incorporated a range of topics including; CP structure, CP governance, CP purpose, services provided by CPs, communication mechanisms adopted by CPs, network interactions and geographic coverage of CPs.

The report was then developed through wide and extensive consultation with all CPN Members, consisting of over 40 individual CP officers. This process was undertaken to cross check data and gather comments and recommendations from all CPs (both those who directly responded to the questionnaire and those who did not) on the report's initial findings and raw data. The consultation feedback was incorporated

into the final report to ensure the report is representative of the strengths and services CPs offer. The questionnaire findings, in conjunction with the comments received from CPs throughout the consultation phase, were incorporated into a SWOT analysis for each MP area.

A SWOT analysis is a strategic plan method used to evaluate the Strengths, Weaknesses/limitations, Opportunities and Threats involved in a project or organisation (Mind Tools, 2012). The analysis involves specifying the objective of the project or organisation – in this case the ability of a Coastal Partnership to act as a tool for communicating information during the marine planning process – and identifying the internal and external factors that are favourable and unfavourable to achieve that objective.

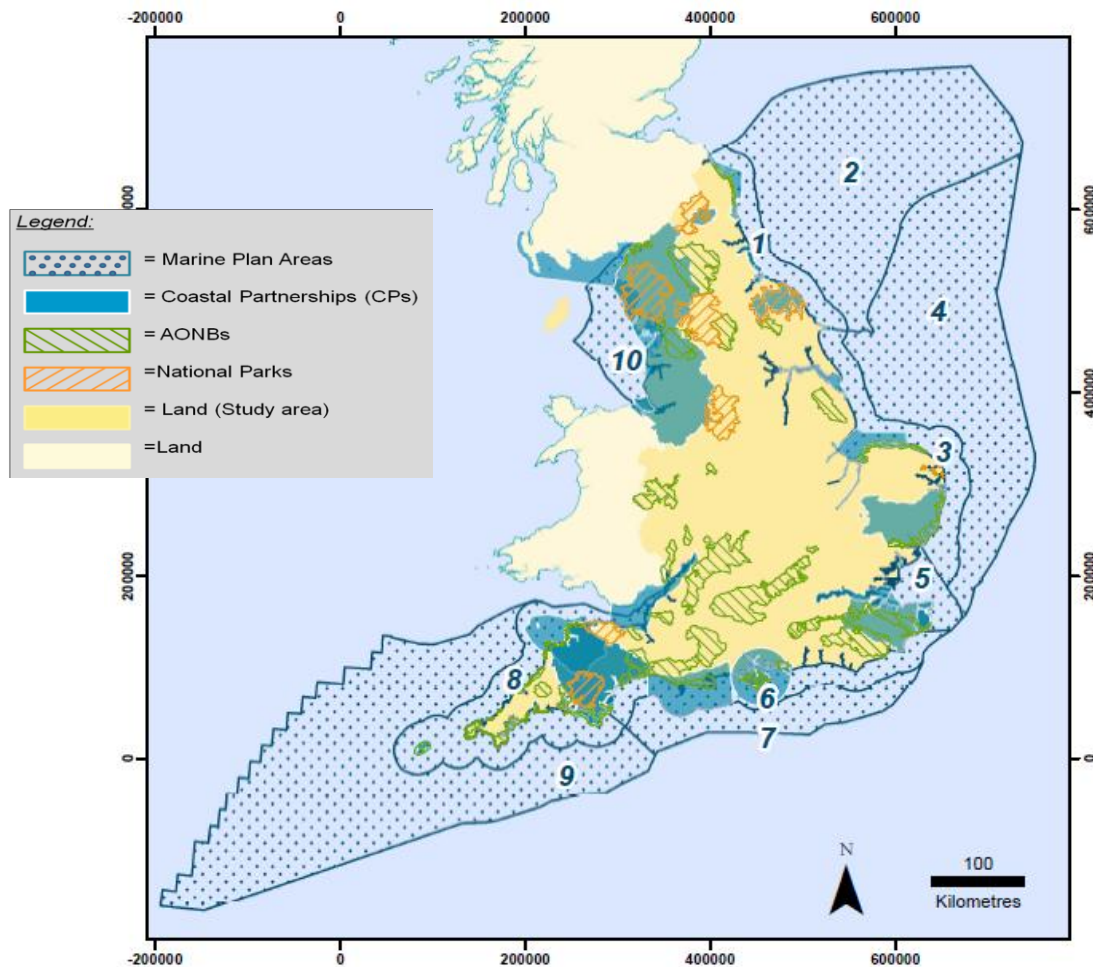
- Strengths: Characteristics of the organisation, or project team that give it an advantage over others
- Weaknesses: are characteristics that place the organisation or team at a disadvantage relative to others
- Opportunities: are *external* chances to improve an organisation's performance in the environment
- Threats: *external* elements in the environment that could cause issues for the organisation or project.

Once the SWOT analyses had been performed for all CPs within each MP area in turn, a final analysis of the overall strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for *all* participating CPs was completed (see Chapter 4.0). This final analysis was used as the baseline from which all recommendations and proposals were made (see Chapter 5.0). Key cross cutting findings have been identified and discussed on a national scale. Descriptions of all participating CPs and examples of some best practices can be found in Appendix 1.

## 2.1 Geographical coverage of Coastal Partnerships

All participating CPs provided Geographic Information System (GIS) shape files and/or annotated maps indicating the extent of their partnership's remit. These remits were combined onto a master map of England (see Figure 2) as well as onto individual maps; showing current and proposed MP area remits (see Chapter 3.0). Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and National Parks (NPs) were also plotted onto these maps, due to CPs often working in close collaboration with the bodies managing these designated areas. By displaying these bodies on the maps, multi use areas can be easily identified.

Figure 2 illustrates the geographical extent of CPs together with the current and proposed MP areas, AONBs and NPs. More detailed maps showing specific MP areas can be found in Chapter 3.0.



**Figure 2: Country wide spatial distribution of participating Coastal Partnerships in England.**  
 Source: © Natural England copyright. Contains ordinance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012]. Other data from CPN members contains Ordinance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012].

### 3. Results

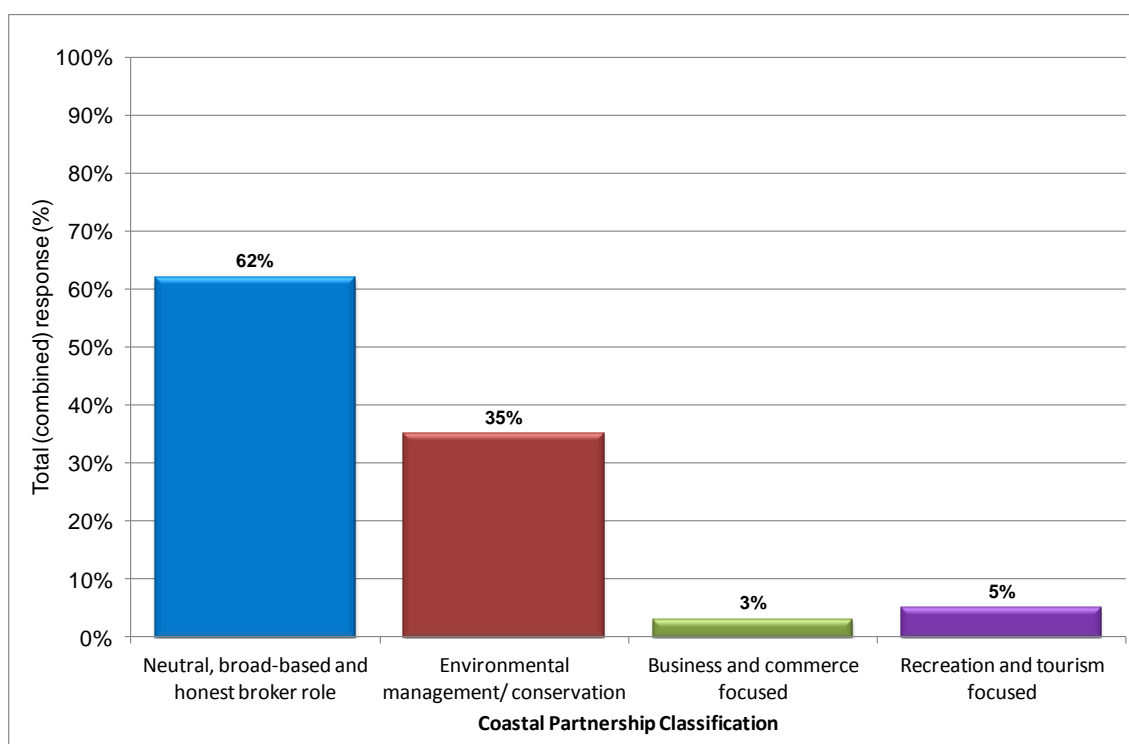
The following chapter presents and briefly describes data collected and collated through phase one of this report. Section 3.1 covers all MP areas and provides a representation of the broad classification, governance, geographic scope, purposes and services offered by CPs nationally. From Section 3.2 onwards the data has then been split into MP areas representing all responses from the partnerships located within each MP area in England.

It should be noted that the following data in this section, which combines responses from *all* participating CPs in England, includes graphs showing ‘multiple CP responses’; i.e. some CPs gave more than one answer to the same question, or individual CP percentages have been combined to create a national total, where appropriate. Therefore, certain graphs may display combined response rates which total *more* than 100%.

#### 3.1. National overview

##### i) Coastal Partnership classification

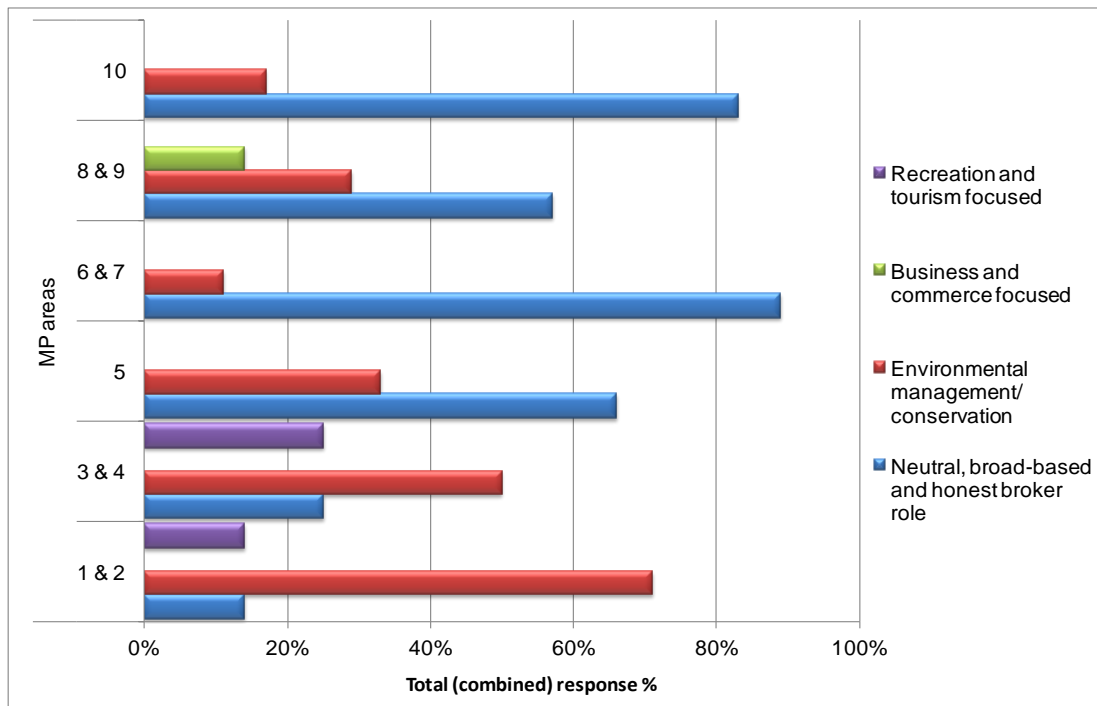
Figure 3 illustrates that the majority of CPs in England consider themselves as providing a neutral, broad-based and honest broker role.



**Figure 3: Classification of all participating Coastal Partnerships in England.**  
Source: CPN

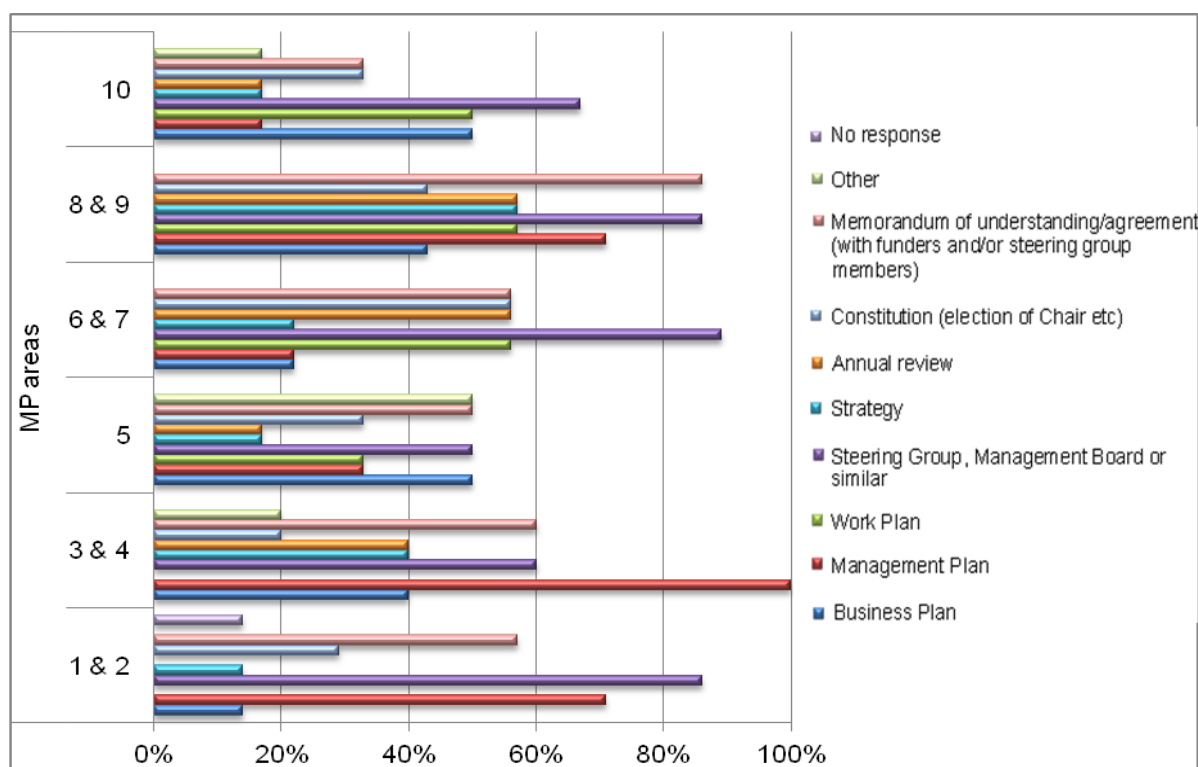


Figure 4 displays the partnership classification data by MP area and affirms that the majority of partnerships across all MP areas consider themselves as providing a neutral, broad-based and honest broker role. MP areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 are the only regions to contain CPs that consider themselves as having a recreational and tourism focus; with MP areas 1 and 2 also hosting the greatest number of partnerships who consider themselves as having an environmental management/conservation remit.



**Figure 4: Classification of all Coastal Partnerships within their respective MP areas.**  
Source: CPN

## ii) Governance



**Figure 5: Types of Governance for all Coastal Partnerships within their respective MP areas.**  
Source: CPN

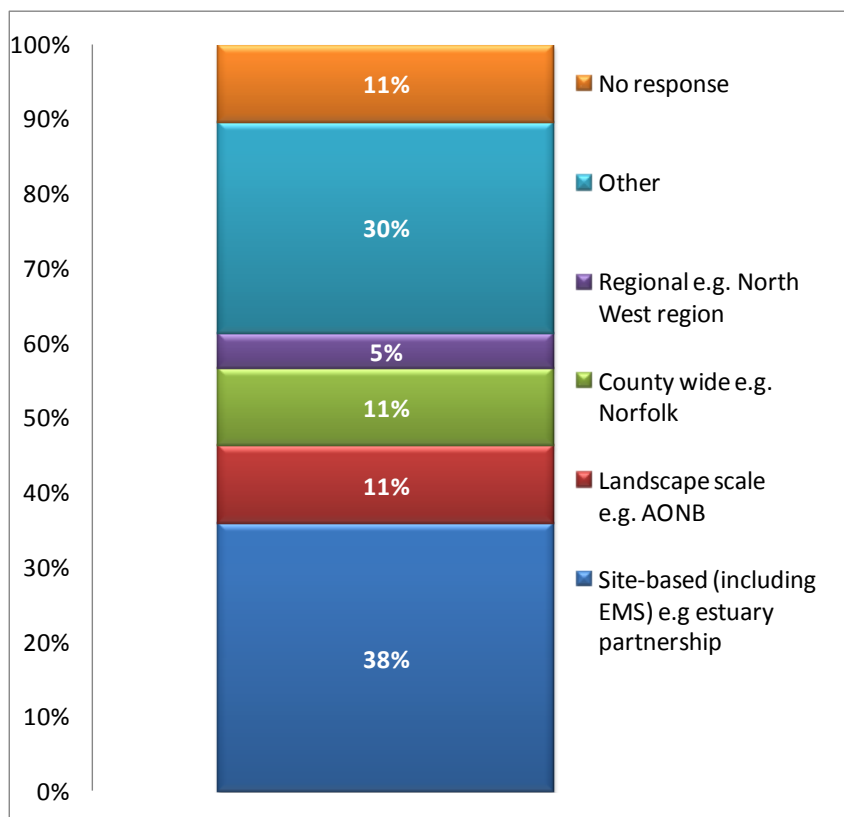
There were 5 'Other' responses given to the question regarding partnership governance: currently, the Kent Coastal Network is governed as a communication tool. Thanet Coast Project has a Business Plan, a Work Plan and an Action Plan of the Management Scheme (2007-12), which is now being reviewed for the next 6 years – there was a Memorandum of Understanding but this has now expired. The Thames Estuary Partnership is a registered company and a registered charity; therefore it has directors and trustees – and is governed by company law and charity law. Copeland Coastal Partnership signed up to broad aims and better information sharing upon its establishment in 2011. The Colne Estuary Partnership simply stated '*none of the above options*'.

It is important to note that some CPs operate strategies, plans *and* reviews; illustrating that they are responsive within their plans. Although CPs are predominantly locally specific, there is a lot of shared functionality – meaning services can be replicated on a national scale – guaranteeing consistency and highly trained partnership staff throughout the UK. Although funding can be uncertain, CPs are always working on a temporal scale; with a long term vision.

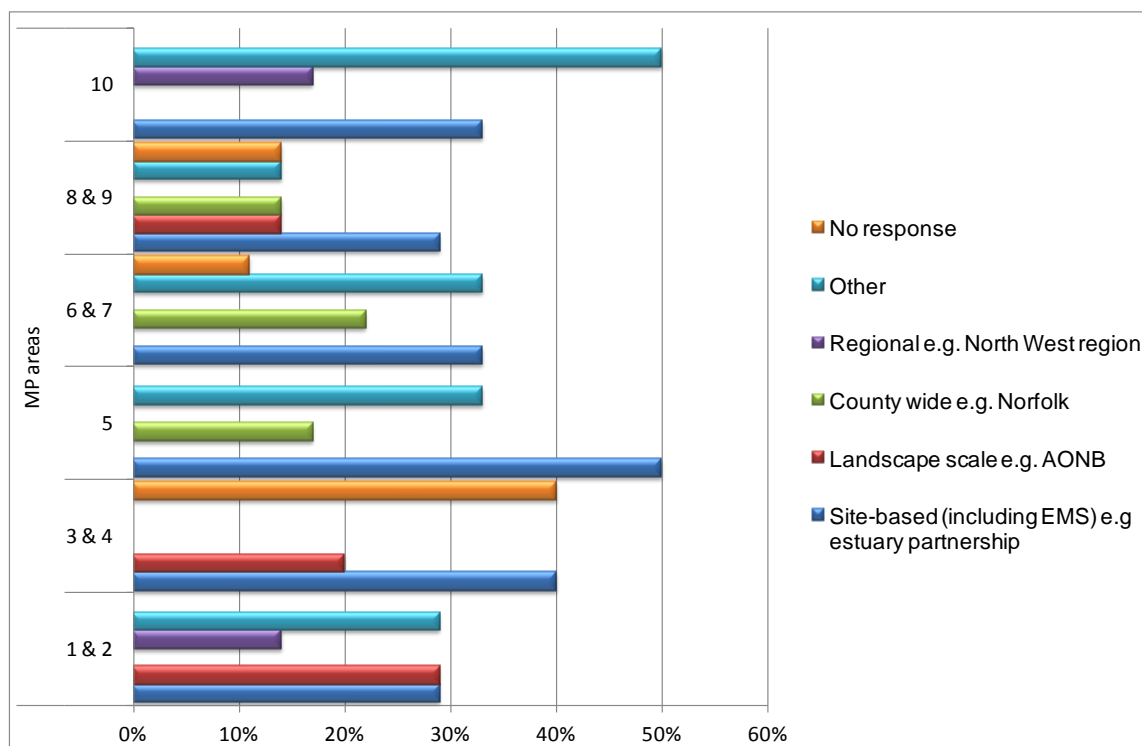
## iii) Geographic Scope

Figure 6 and Figure 7, illustrate the geographic scope of all participating CPs. '*Site-based partnership*' – referring to those partnerships' operating on a

local/small/concentrated scale – was the term used to describe the majority (38%) of CPs in England.



**Figure 6: Geographic scopes of all participating Coastal Partnerships in England.**  
Source: CPN

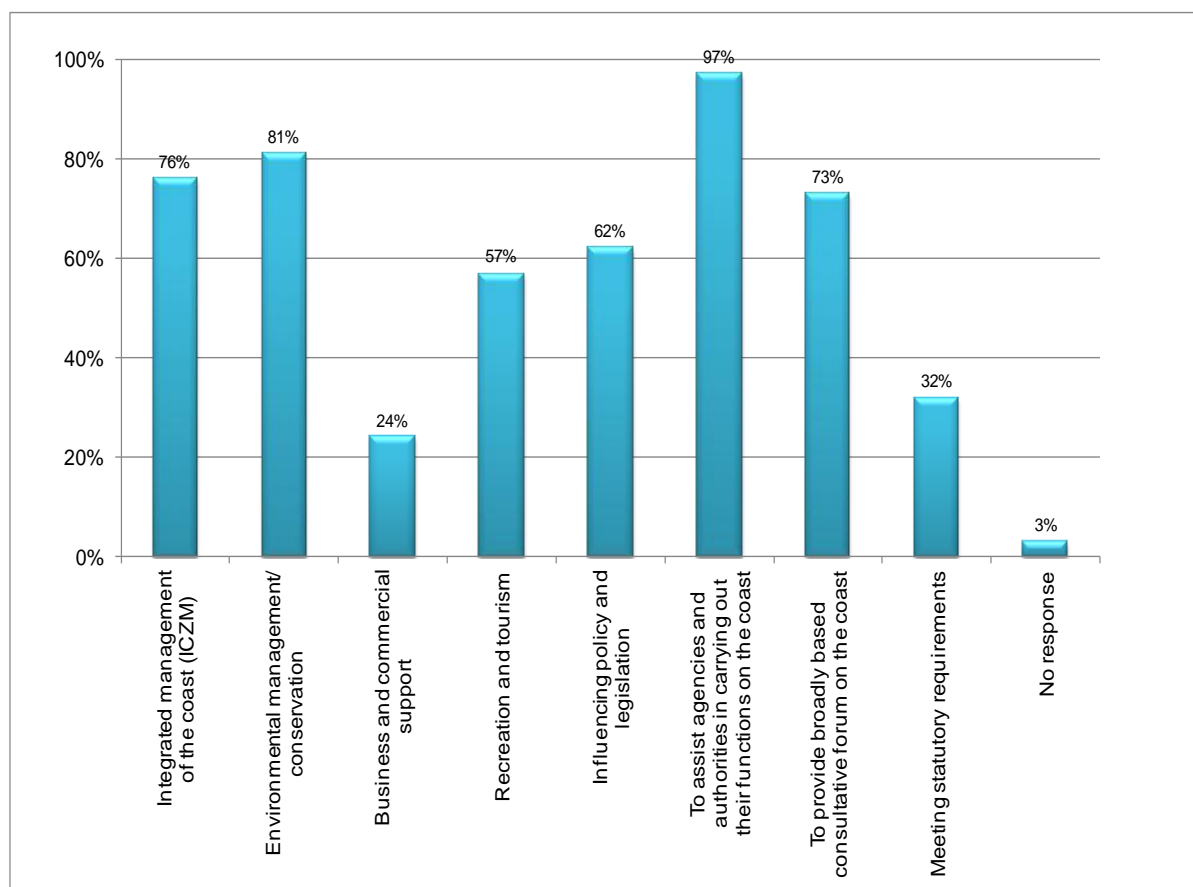


**Figure 7: Geographic scopes of all contributing Coastal Partnerships in their respective MP AREAS.**  
Source: CPN

The option of 'Other' was the second highest value with specific responses from 11 CPs: the Wear Estuary Forum '*lies within the boundaries of Sunderland City*'. Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast European Marine Site (EMS) scope is '*cross-border between England and Scotland – 15km offshore from Almouth in Northumberland to Fast Castle Head in Scotland, out to 3NM covering the Farne Islands and Holy Island*'. The geographic scope of the Thames Estuary Partnership '*extends from Tower Bridge to Southend and Shoeburyness, working with partners all the way upstream*'.

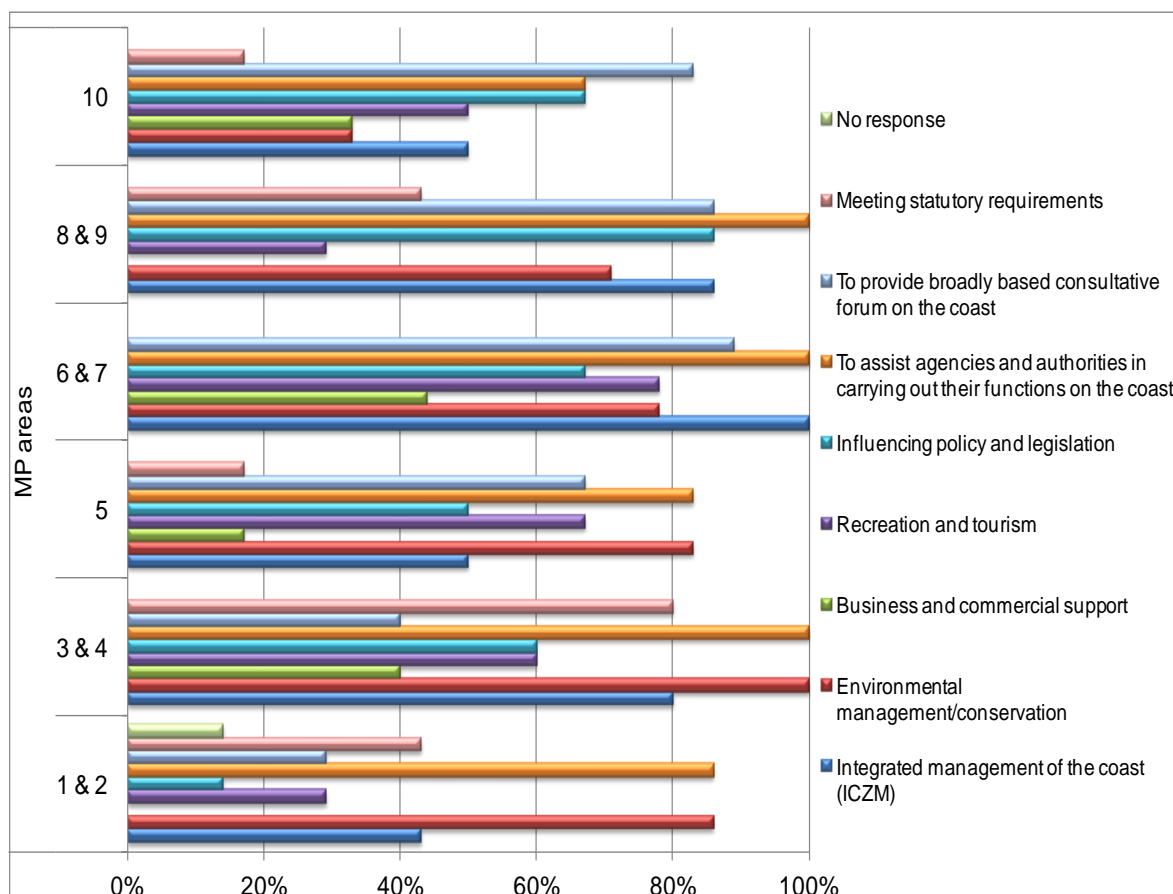
The White Cliffs Countryside Partnership '*covers the Dover and Shepway districts*'. The Devon Maritime Forum's scope incorporates '*Plymouth Sound, Tamar Estuaries and the EMS*'. SeaTorbay covers the '*Torbay Local Authority Area*'. The North Devon World Biosphere Reserve '*exists on an 'ecosystem scale'; from the catchment to the receiving marine area*'. The '*whole of Copeland Borough*' is covered by the scope of the Copeland Coastal Partnership. The Wirral Coastal Partnership is '*limited just to the Wirral itself*'. Solway Firth Partnership is '*considered to be on a 'national' scale as well as being cross-border*'. The Solent Forum remit '*focuses only on the Solent*'.

#### iv) Purposes



**Figure 8: Purposes of all participating Coastal Partnerships in England.**  
Source: CPN

When asked what were the main purposes of their partnership, 97% of all participating CPs responded; *'to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast'*; with every individual CP in MP areas 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9 all stating this. This was closely followed by four other purposes; *'environmental management/conservation'*, *'ICZM'*, *'to provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast'* and *'influencing policy and legislation'*.

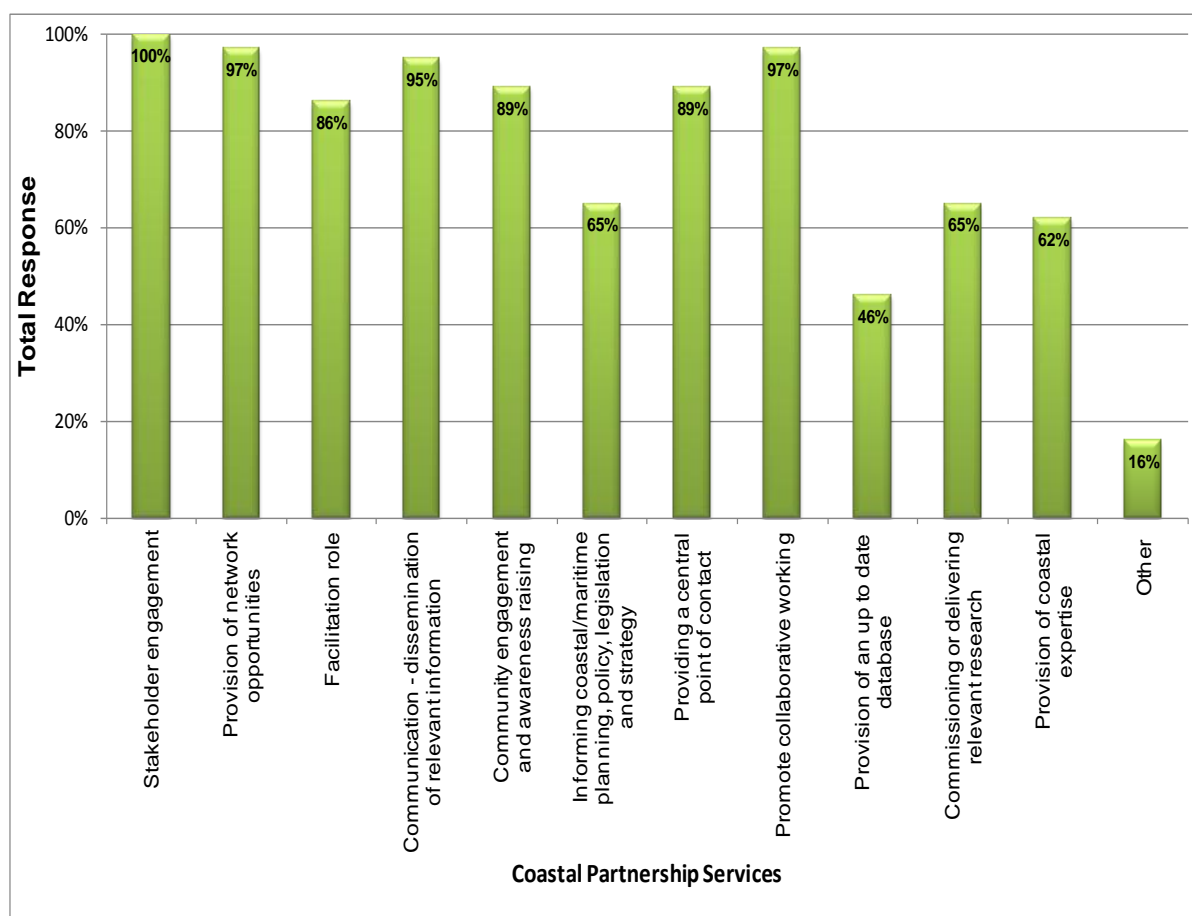


**Figure 9: Purposes of all Coastal Partnerships within their respective MP areas.**  
Source: CPN

With the exception of the CP's in MP area 10, the purpose *'to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast'* is the highest or joint highest ranking answer given by CP's in all other MP areas. Whilst not one CP stated that they would classify their partnership as *'Business and commerce focused'* (see Figure 4), MP areas 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 10 all demonstrate responses from CP's which state that their purposes include providing *'business and commercial support'* – with four out of the nine CPs in MP areas 6 and 7 responding in this way.



## v) Services

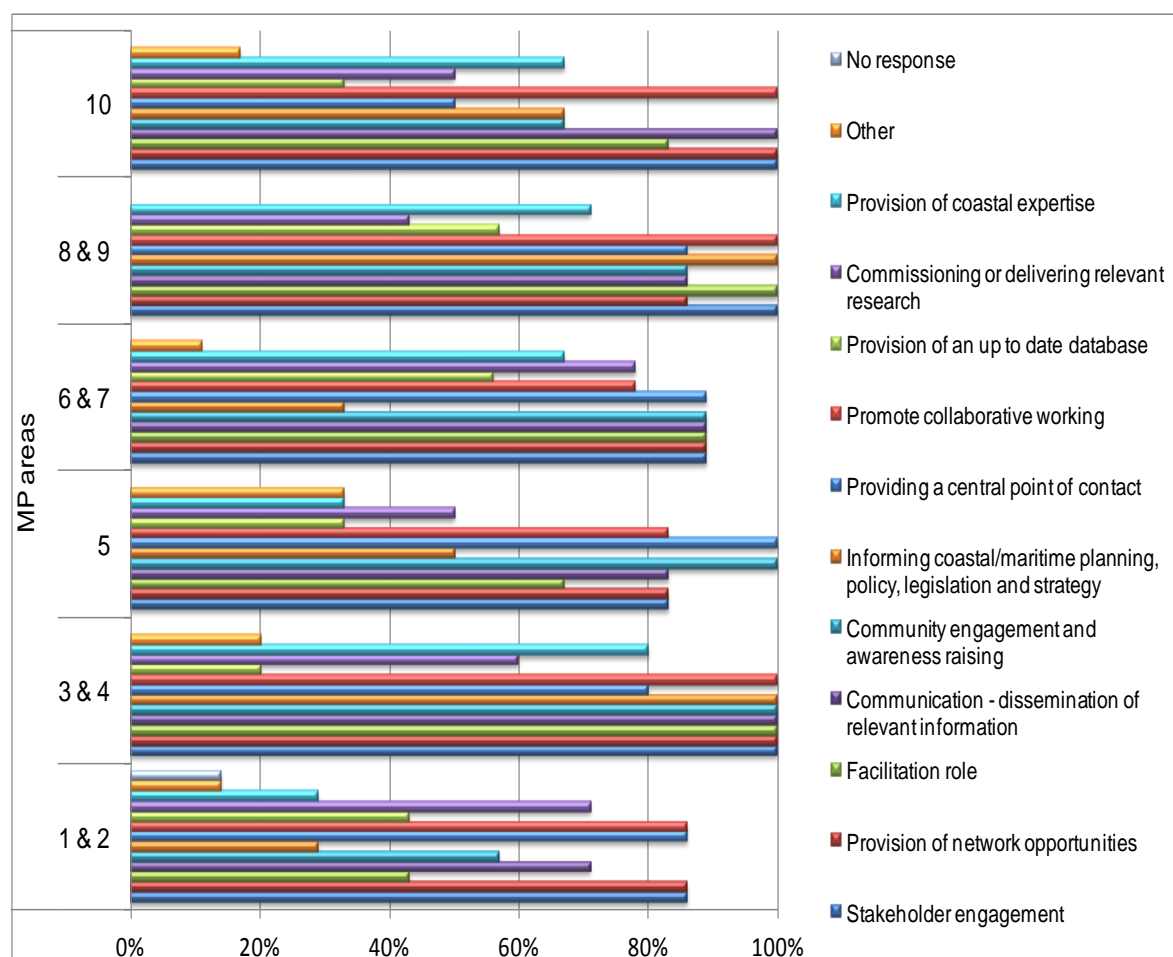


**Figure 10: Services provided by all participating Coastal Partnerships in England.**  
Source: CPN

A 100% response rate was given for ‘*Stakeholder engagement*’ by all participating CPs when asked to identify their partnerships main services. Six responses were given in the ‘*Other*’ category, by CPs from every MP area, except 8 and 9. The Durham Heritage Coast indicated that ‘*Partnership services linked to socio-economic regeneration*’. Norfolk Coast Partnership stated that its core service is to ‘*coordinate the management of and action in, the Norfolk Coast AONB in order to conserve and enhance its natural beauty*’. Thanet Coast Project core services include the ‘*promotion of research, the running of volunteer involvement schemes and coastal codes*’.

The Thames Estuary Partnership ‘*circulate dredging notices and applications on behalf of the port authority and run charitable projects funded by external bodies, whilst providing a neutral chair role for specific projects e.g. river freight through wildlife areas and understanding of flood risk changes*’. The Isle of Wight Estuaries Project ‘*provides assistance with coastal projects and grant applications*’. Citing ‘*Other*’ core services and activities, the North West Coastal Forum said ‘*running of*

relevant events – this is a major activity for the Forum and a major way of communicating to a range of audiences; it is also the activity which gets the most outside interest and funding.’ Figure 11 demonstrates that CPs provide a full range of services across all MP areas.



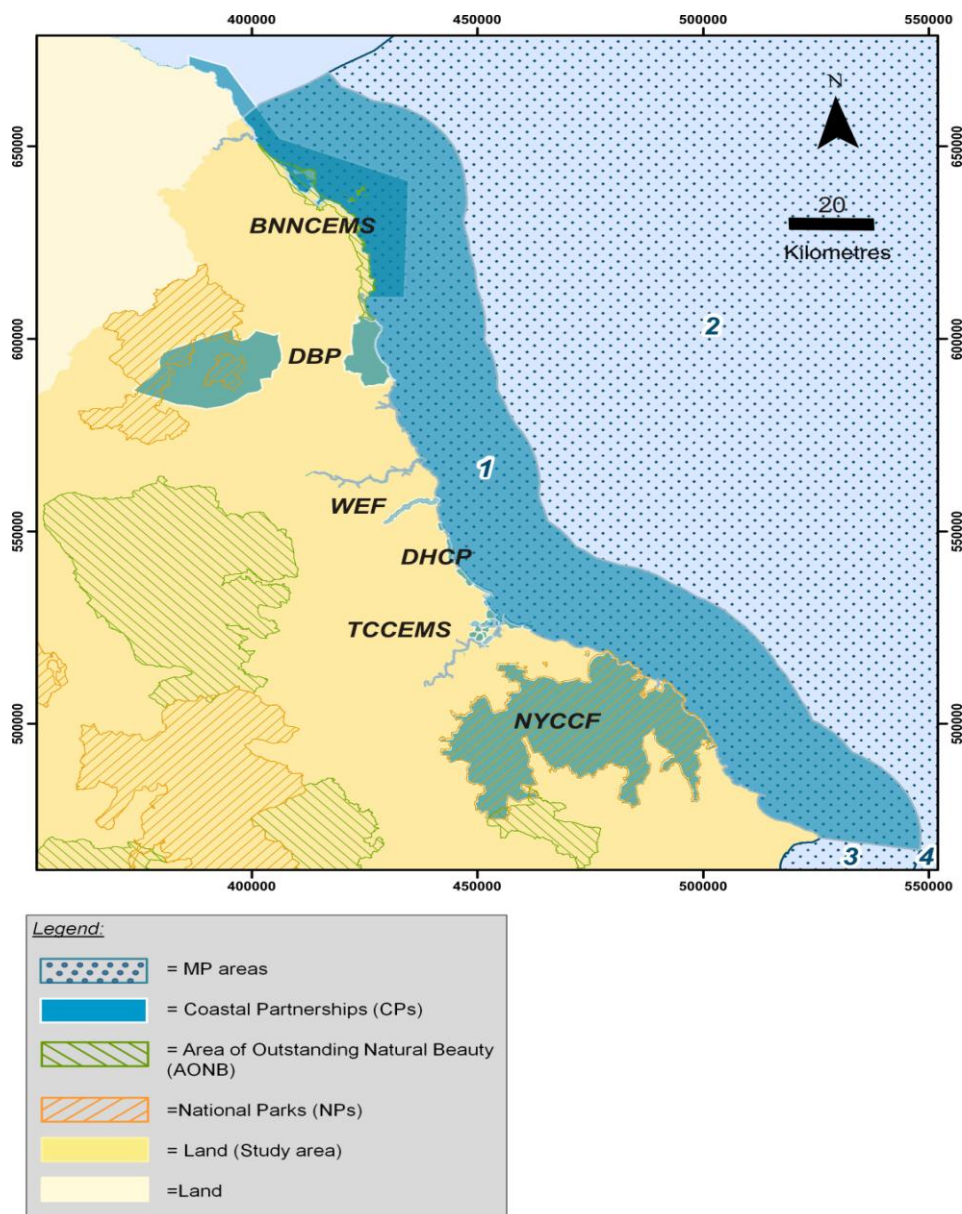
**Figure 11: Services provided by all the participating Coastal Partnerships in England within their respective MP area. Source: CPN**

### 3.2. North East Inshore & North East Offshore Marine Plan Areas: 1 & 2

The North East of England MP areas cover Northumberland, County Durham, Tyne and Wear and Teesside (including parts of North Yorkshire). There are currently six CPs operating in the region (with one conservation association being included in the Questionnaire results due to its collaborative work on the coast).

Figure 12 shows MP areas 1 and 2 that contain the following CPs:

- Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast EMS – BNNCEMS
- Druridge Bay Partnership (c/o Northumberland Wildlife Trust) – DBP
- Durham Heritage Coast Partnership – DHCP
- North Yorkshire & Cleveland Coastal Forum (c/o Moors National Park Authority) – NYCCF
- Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast EMS (& Industry Nature Conservation Association) – TCCEMS
- Wear Estuary Forum – WEF



**Figure 12: Remits of the Coastal Partnerships within MP areas 1 & 2.**

**Source: © Natural England copyright. Contains ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012]. Other data from CPN members contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012].**

An inland area can be identified on Figure 12; this is part of the remit for the Druridge Bay Partnership. The two separate remits shown, cover the full extent of the partnership's area, which officers see as one unit.

#### i) Geographical Coverage Gaps

The coverage along the coast of MP areas 1 and 2 by CPs is extensive. The area is covered by a combination of local CPs and regional networks; allowing for effective partnership working to take place over a range of organisational levels.

ii) Purposes & Services:

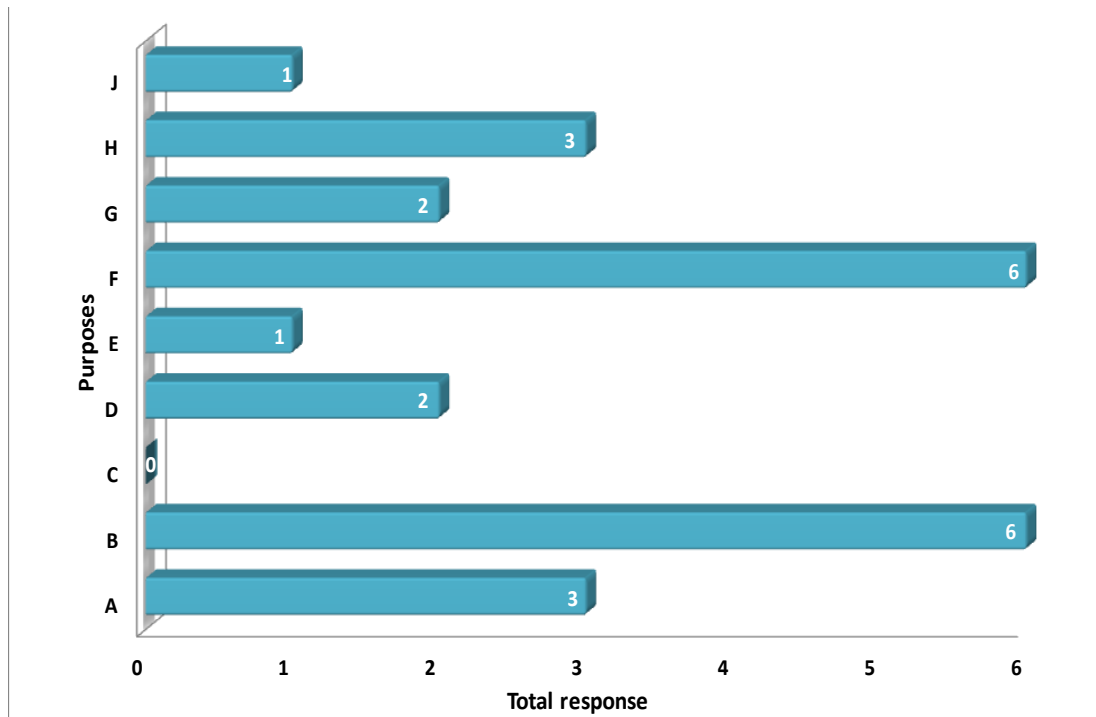
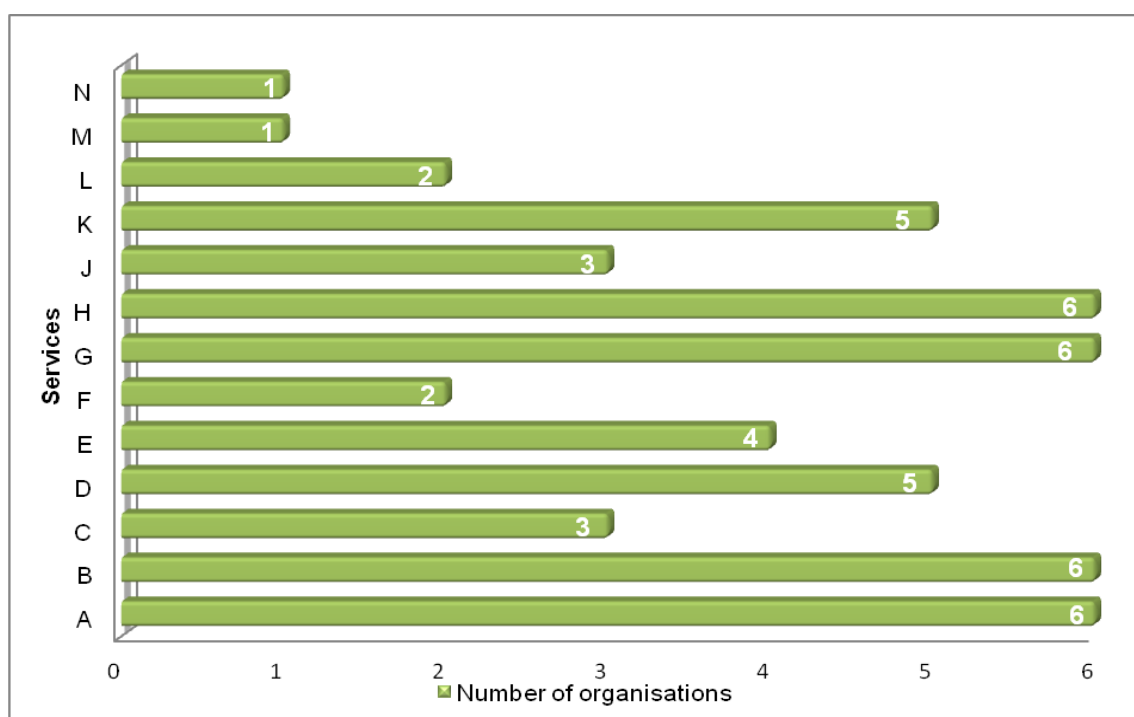


Figure 13: Purposes of the Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 1 & 2.  
Source: CPN.

**LEGEND**

<b>A</b>	Integrated management of the coast (ICZM)
<b>B</b>	Environmental management/conservation
<b>C</b>	Business and commercial support
<b>D</b>	Recreation and tourism
<b>E</b>	Influencing policy and legislation
<b>F</b>	To assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast
<b>G</b>	To provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast
<b>H</b>	Meeting statutory requirements
<b>J</b>	No response

CPs were allowed to give more than one answer when asked about their purposes, with all six partnerships stating that their main purposes are *'to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast'* and *'environmental management/conservation'*. Half of the CPs in this MP area stated that *'ICZM'* and *'Meeting statutory requirements'* were also among their main purposes. None of the partnerships indicated that providing *'Business and commercial support'* was a main purpose.



**Figure 14: Services provided by Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 1 & 2.**  
Source: CPN

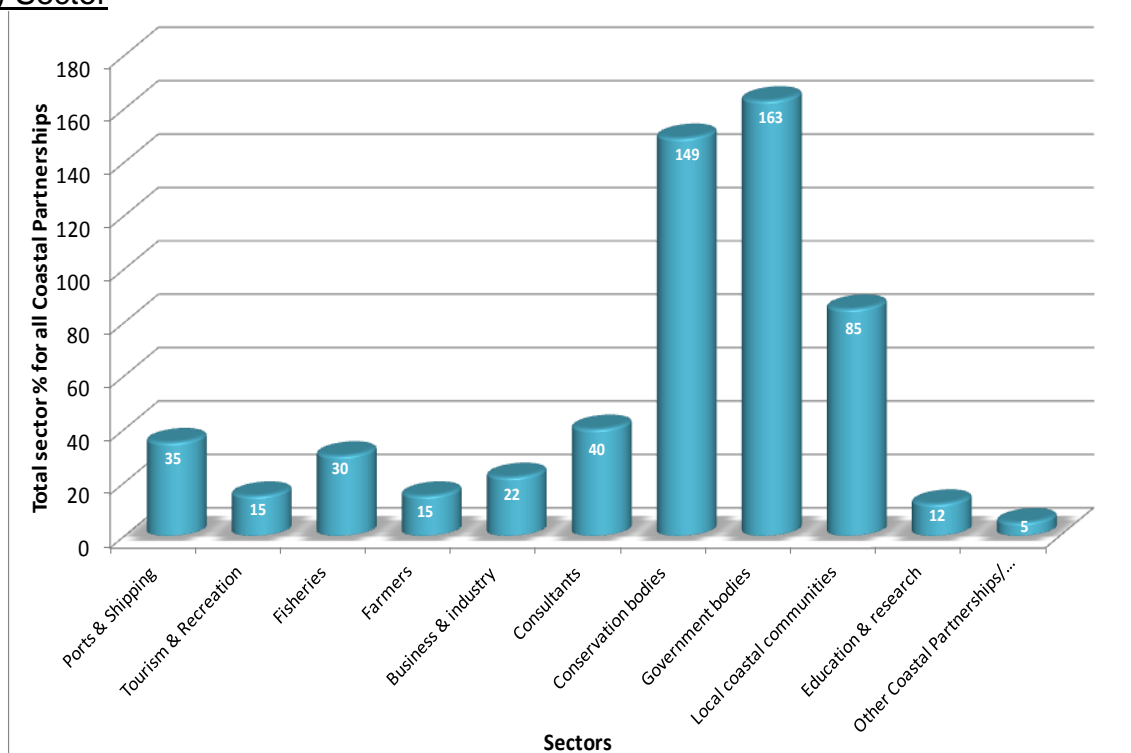


**LEGEND**

<b>A</b>	Stakeholder engagement
<b>B</b>	Provision of network opportunities
<b>C</b>	Facilitation role
<b>D</b>	Communication - dissemination of relevant information
<b>E</b>	Community engagement and awareness raising
<b>F</b>	Informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy
<b>G</b>	Providing a central point of contact
<b>H</b>	Promote collaborative working
<b>J</b>	Provision of an up to date database
<b>K</b>	Commissioning or delivering relevant research
<b>L</b>	Provision of coastal expertise
<b>M</b>	Other
<b>N</b>	No response

When asked to describe the services offered; *'to promote collaborative working'*, *'to provide a central point of contact'*, *'to provide network opportunities'* and to offer *'stakeholder engagement'* gained 100% response rate from all CPs in the area. Only two out of the six participating CPs for this MP area stated that *'Informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy'* was a main partnership service. The one *'Other'* response given, was from the Durham Heritage Coast Partnership, which stated that it also provides *'links to socio-economic regeneration'*.

### iii) Sector

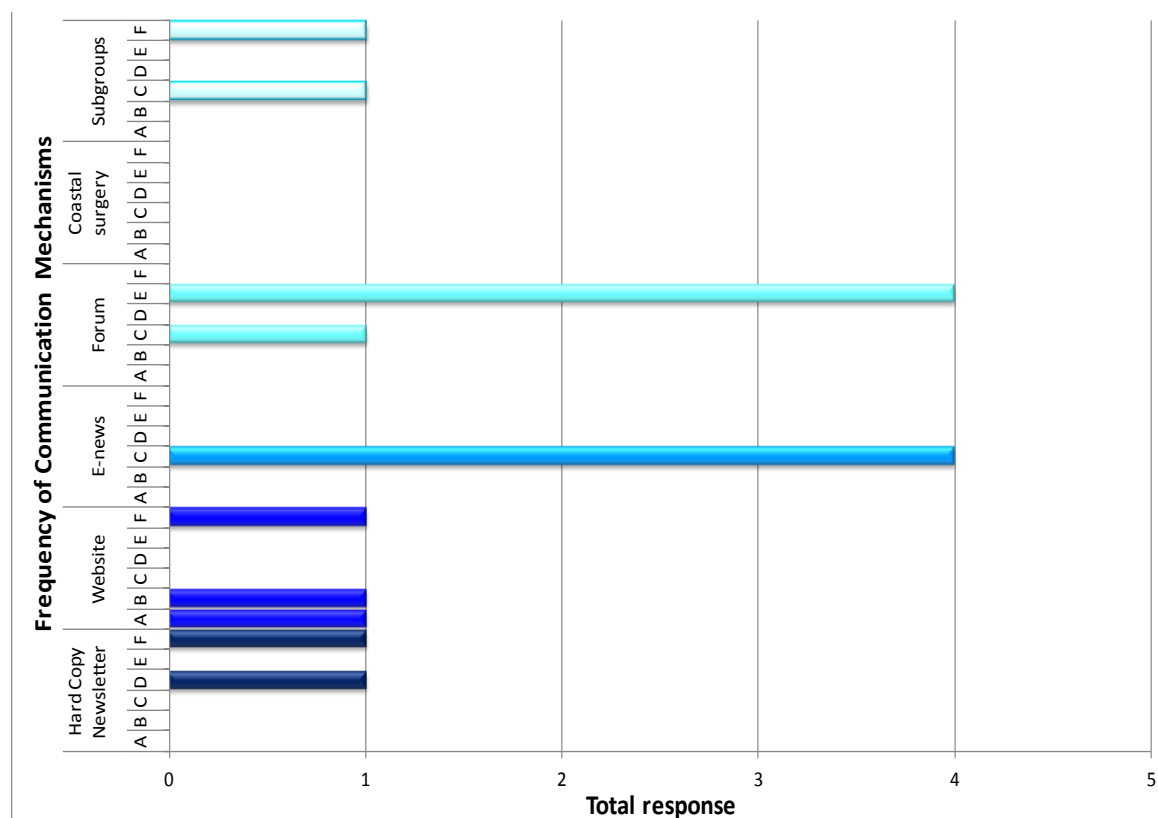


**Figure 15: Sectors represented in all Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 1 & 2.**  
Source: CPN

CPs were asked to indicate the % represented by each of the listed sectors within their partnership. The values given in Figure 15 denote the *combined* total percentages for each sector represented in the CPs in this MP area. Government bodies and conservation bodies were found to be the sectors which represented the majority of the CP networks in this MP area.

The greatest individual % stated by a CP (of 40%) for Government body representation within its network was given by the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Management Scheme. The greatest individual % stated by a CP (of 70%) for Conservation body representation within its network was given by the Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast EMS.

## iv) Communications:



**Figure 16: Communication mechanisms used by Coastal Partnerships in the proposed MP areas 1 & 2.**  
Source: CPN.

**LEGEND**

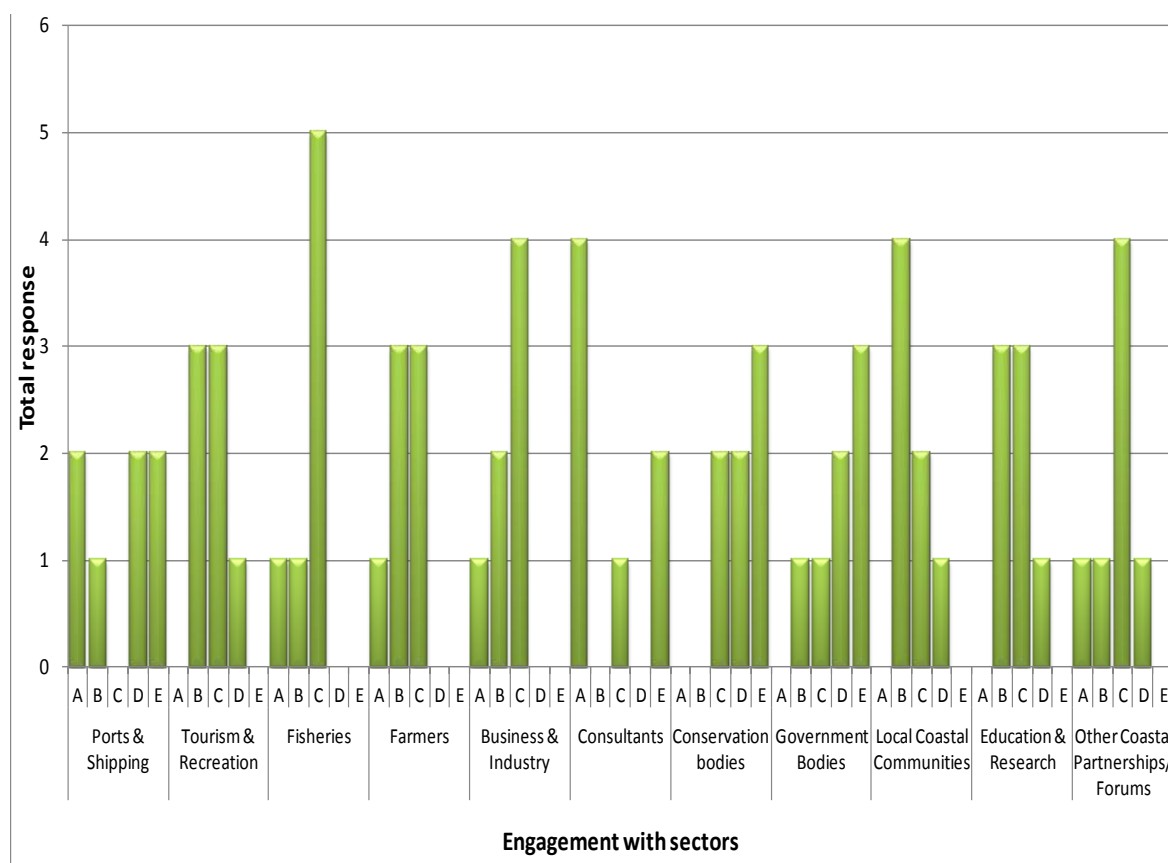
<b>A</b>	Weekly
<b>B</b>	Monthly
<b>C</b>	Quarterly
<b>D</b>	Bi-annually
<b>E</b>	Annually
<b>F</b>	On an 'ad-hoc' basis

CP's were asked to identify which communication mechanisms they used and how often these mechanisms were employed. E-news and Forum's were found to be utilised the most in this MP area. Currently, Coastal Surgeries are not utilised by any of the participating CPs.

Coastal Surgeries are designed to facilitate the dissemination of information to members of the public and coastal stakeholders alike, through the use of specifically created 'Coastal Surgery events'. During these events, anyone with an interest or concern in a particular coastal topic can attend a 'drop-in' session – usually approximately 10 minutes in duration – in which they can discuss their chosen

subject with a professional within that field. These surgeries provide a chance for the open and fair debate and exchange of information between all coastal parties and are an excellent means of publicising coastal issues.

Two 'Other' responses were given by the Durham Heritage Coast Partnership and the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Management Scheme, who both stated that 'social networks such as Facebook and Twitter' were utilised as a form of communication.



**Figure 17: Effectiveness of engagement between various sectors and Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 1 & 2. Source: CPN**

#### LEGEND

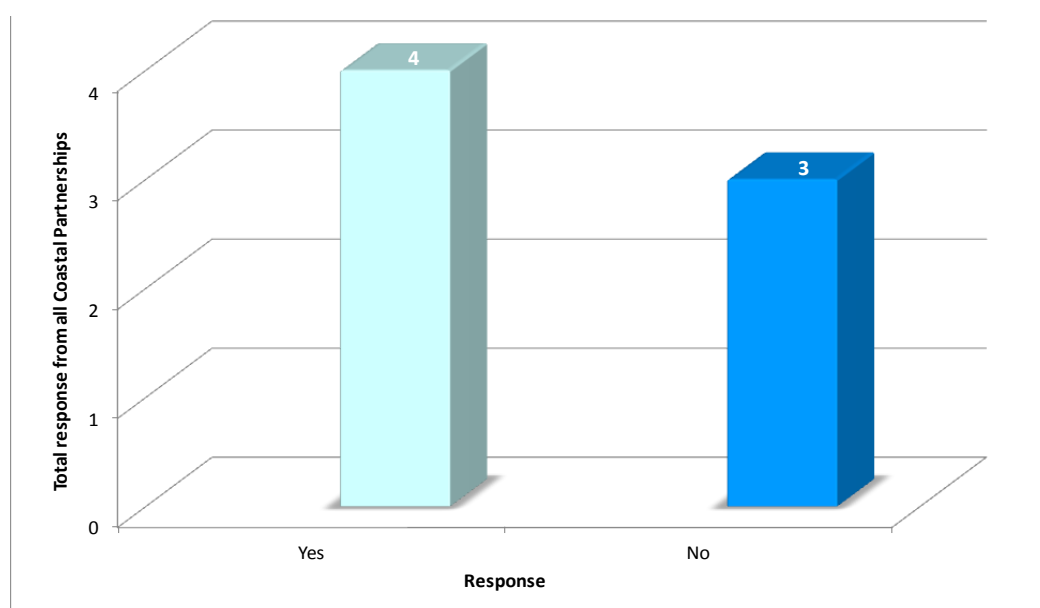
<b>A</b>	Not at all
<b>B</b>	Not very well
<b>C</b>	Well
<b>D</b>	Very well
<b>E</b>	Fully

CP's were asked to indicate the degree in which engagement with other sectors was effective. (It should be noted that this response will be highly dependent on a CP's

geographic location; i.e. if a CP is not near a port, then engagement with the 'ports and shipping' sector may be poor if not non-existent).

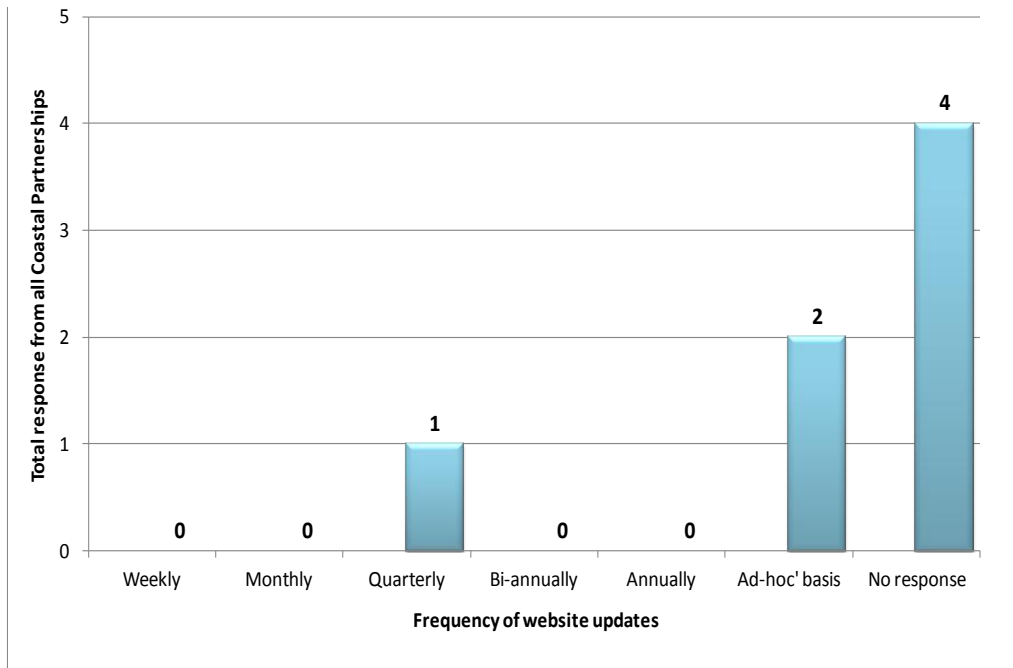
The greatest level of 'positive' interaction, identified by five out of the six participating CPs, was with the Fisheries sector. Half of the CPs in this MP area - Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Management Scheme (and its partner, Industry for Nature Conservation Association) and the Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast EMS - stated that Government bodies interacted 'fully' with partnership activities.

#### v) Website

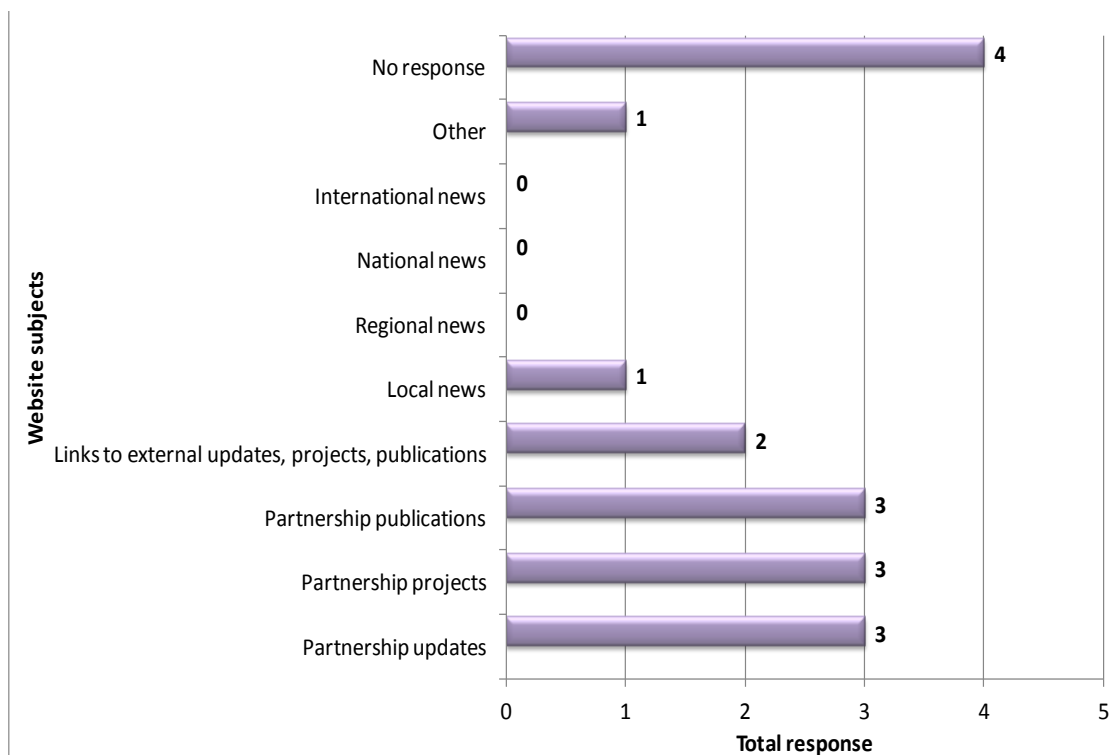


**Figure 18: Number of Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 1 & 2 which have their own website.**

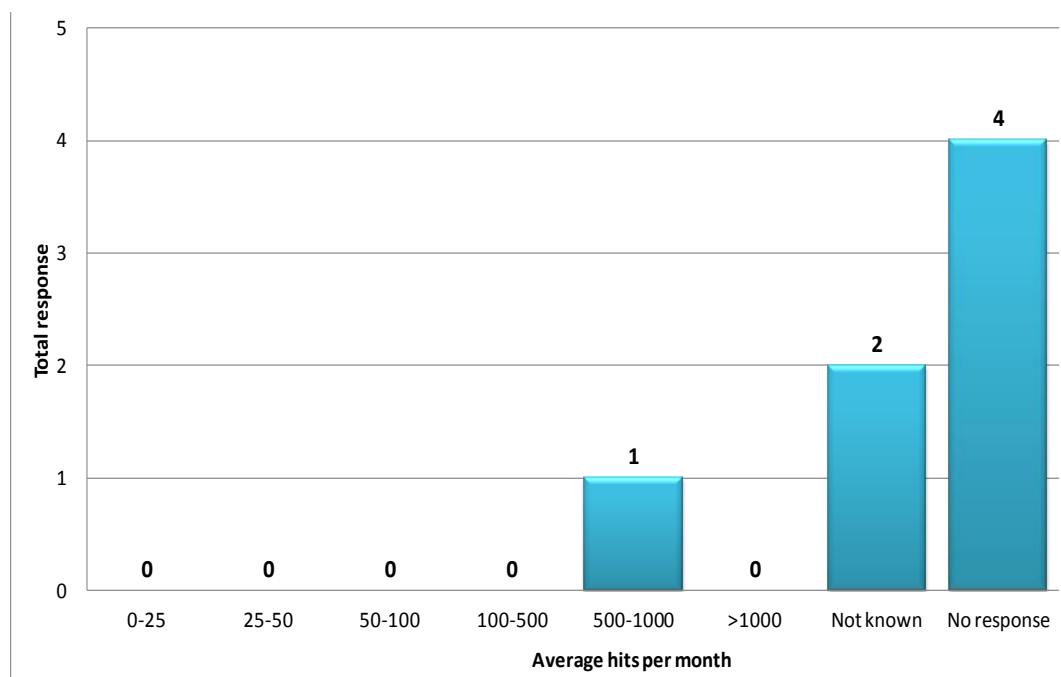
**Source: CPN**



**Figure 19: Frequency of website updates from all Coastal Partnerships in the proposed MP areas 1 & 2. Source: CPN**



**Figure 20: Subjects published on the websites of Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 1 & 2. Source: CPN**



**Figure 21: Average number of hits per month received by the websites of all Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 1 & 2.**

**Source: CPN**

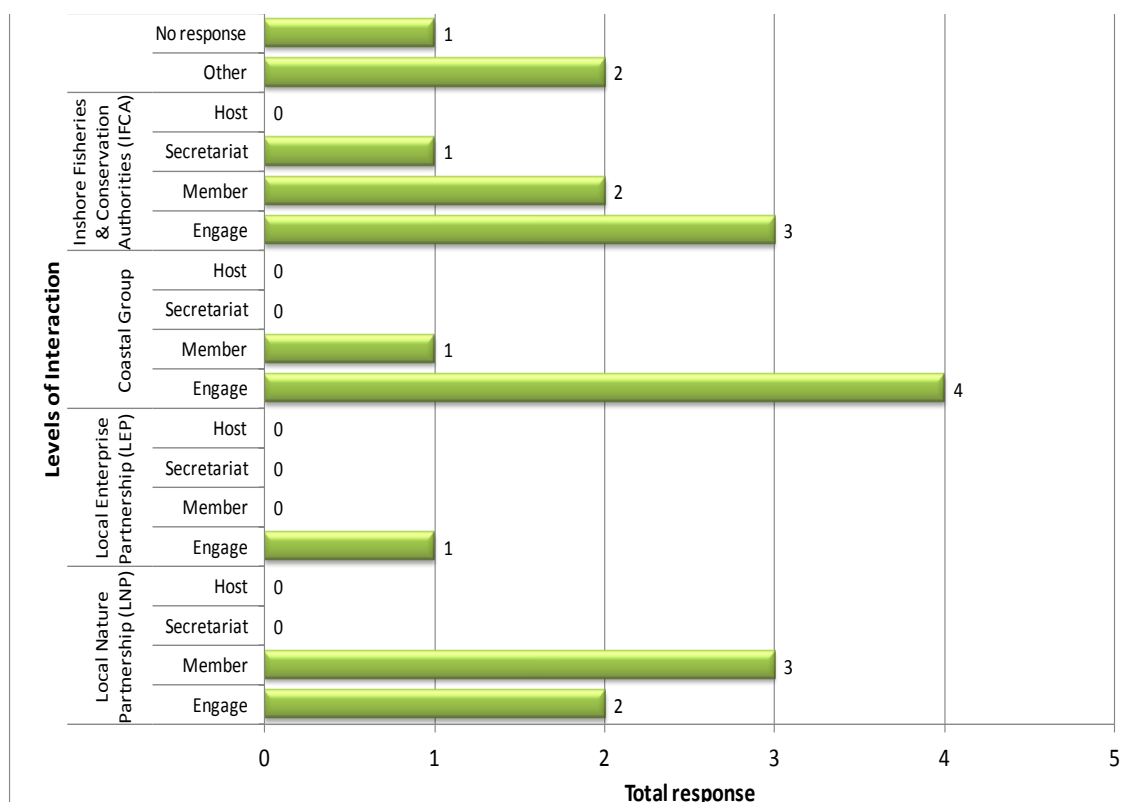
The high value for 'No response' for Figure 21 is due, in part, to 3 out of the 7 participating CPs (6 CPs and 1 INCA) not having their own website (see Figure 18).

With regards to the topics displayed on partnership websites; 'Partnership publications', 'Partnership projects' and 'Partnership updates' gained the greatest response. No CPs in this MP area currently publishes regional, national or international news. One 'Other' response was given, by the Durham Heritage Partnership, which also publishes visitor information, heritage interest features and articles on local history.

The Durham Heritage Coast Partnership was also the only CP to specifically state how many hits their website receives on average per month (500-1000). The lack of data provided by the majority of CPs in response to these questions indicates a great potential to develop web resources in this MP area.



## vi) Interactions



**Figure 22: Levels of interaction between various bodies and all of the Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 1 & 2.**

Source: CPN

The greatest level of 'engagement' was identified as being with '*coastal groups*'; followed closely by that with '*Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authorities (IFCAs)*'. Three out of the seven CPs are currently members of LNPs with two others stating that they engage with LNPs.

The lowest level of interaction by CPs in this MP area was found to be with LEPs; with only one CP – the Druridge Bay Partnership – engaging with them.

Two '*Other*' responses were given. The first, by the Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast EMS, stated that the CP '*engages with the North Northumberland AONB; engages with the Voluntary Marine Reserve and is a member of the Heritage Lottery Landscape Partnership*'. The second response was from the Durham Heritage Coast Partnership, who currently hosts the North East Coastal Network – an '*embryonic regional forum that assists communication between all coastal bodies in the region*'.

## viii) SWOT analysis

Table 3: SWOT analysis for all participating CP's in future MP areas 1 &amp; 2.

Source: CPN

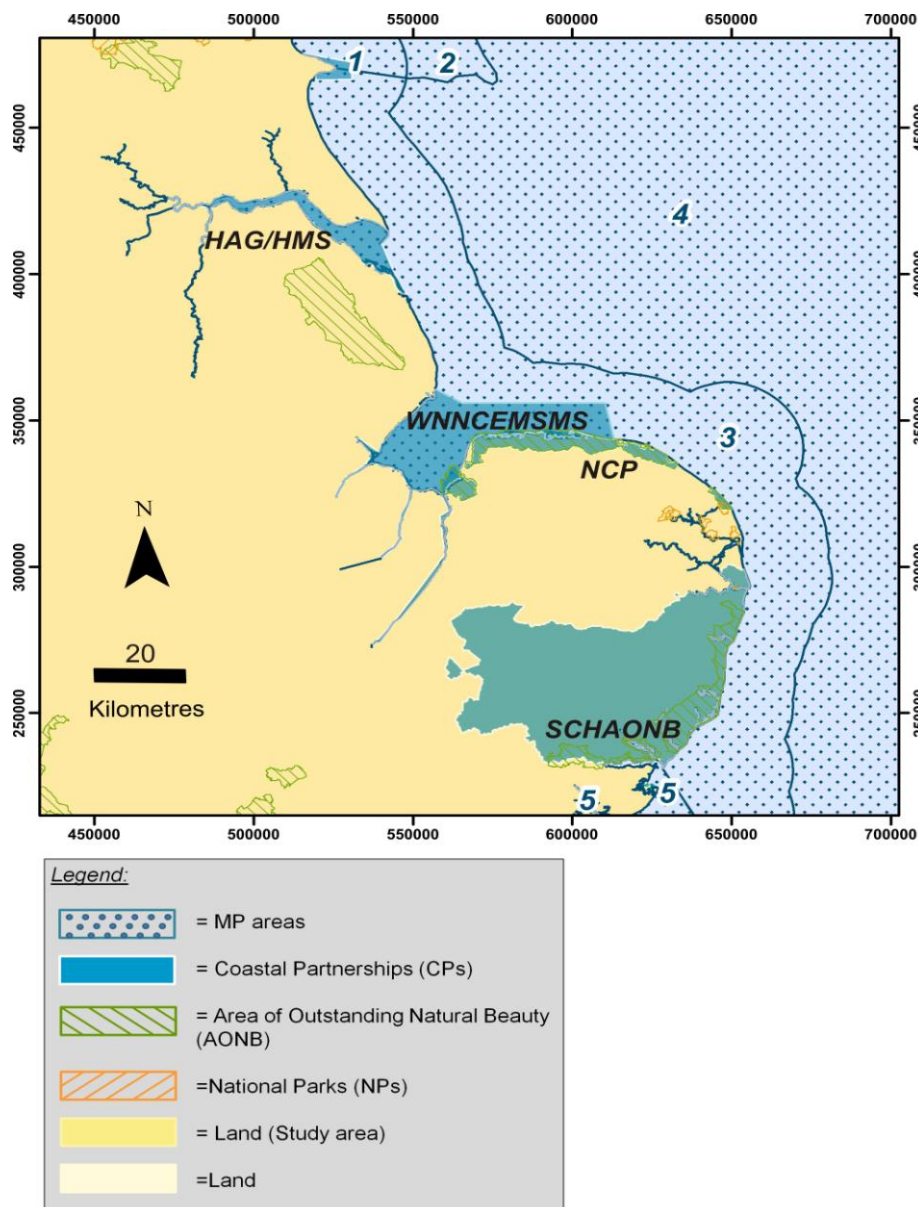
	<i>Helpful</i>	<i>Harmful</i>
<b>Internal Origin</b>	<p><b><u>Strengths</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purposes: assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions at the coast; environmental management/conservation; ICZM; meeting statutory requirements.</li> <li>• Services: communication/dissemination of information; stakeholder engagement; commissioning/delivering relevant research; central point of contact; network opportunities; collaborative working; community engagement and awareness raising; links to socio-economic regeneration.</li> <li>• Sector representation: greatest within – government bodies; conservation bodies; local coastal communities.</li> <li>• Good communications.</li> <li>• Engagement: good with other CPs; conservation bodies; government bodies.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Weaknesses</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Web resources: not fully utilised/developed.</li> <li>• Engagement: with local coastal communities; farmers; tourism and recreation; ports and shipping (could be site specific).</li> </ul>
<b>External Origin</b>	<p><b><u>Opportunities</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interaction: coastal groups; LNP's; IFCA's.</li> <li>• Development of web resources.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Threats</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding cuts; lack of resources and associated staff security.</li> </ul>

### 3.3. East Inshore & East Offshore Marine Plan Areas: 3 & 4

The East Inshore and East Offshore marine plan areas are the first areas in England to be selected for marine planning. The East Inshore area includes a coastline that stretches from Flamborough Head to Felixstowe.

Figure 23 shows MP Areas 3 and 4 that contain the following Coastal Partnerships and organisations:

- Humber Advisory Group – *HAG*
- Humber Management Scheme – *HMS*
- Norfolk Coast Partnership – *NCP*
- Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB – *SCHAONB*
- The Wash and North Norfolk Coast European Marine Site Management Scheme – *WNNCEMSMS*



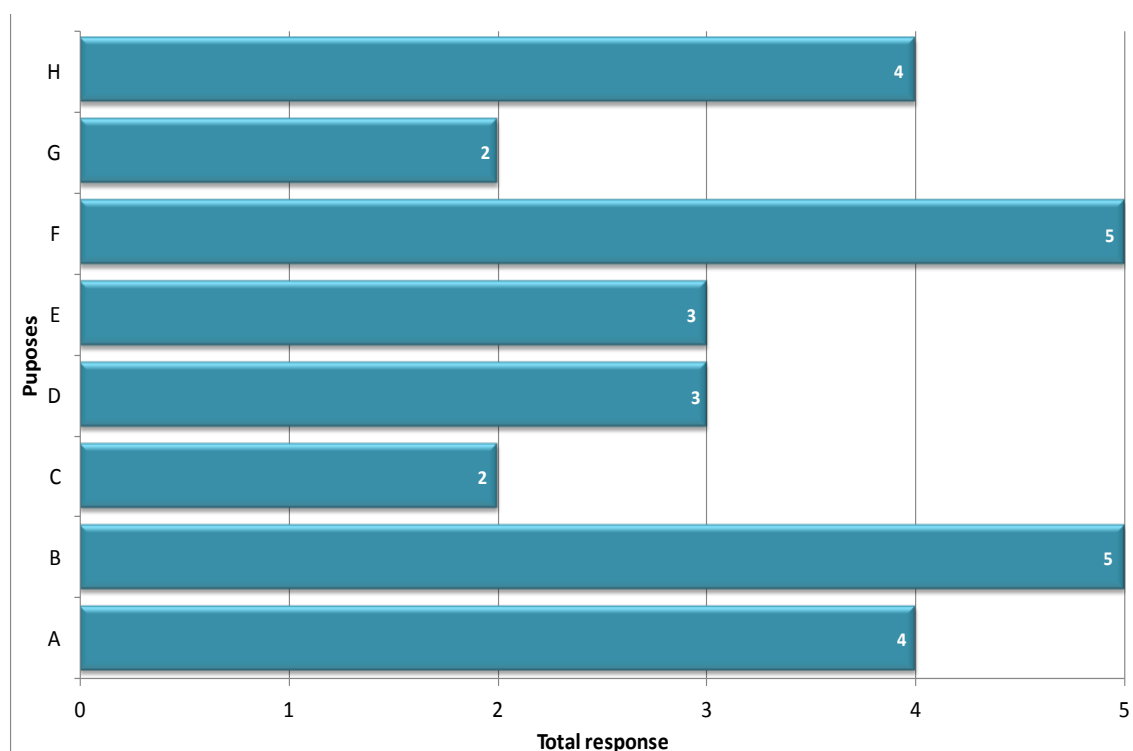
**Figure 23: Remits of the Coastal Partnerships within MP areas 3 & 4.**

**Source: © Natural England copyright. Contains ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012]. Other data from CPN members contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012].**

#### i) Geographical Coverage Gaps

The Norfolk Coast is relatively well covered however a large proportion of this inshore and offshore coverage is solely by the Wash and North Norfolk Coast EMS Management Scheme and the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB. There is scope for CP development in the areas to the North and South of the area covered by the Humber Advisory Group/Humber Management Scheme.

## ii) Purposes & Services:

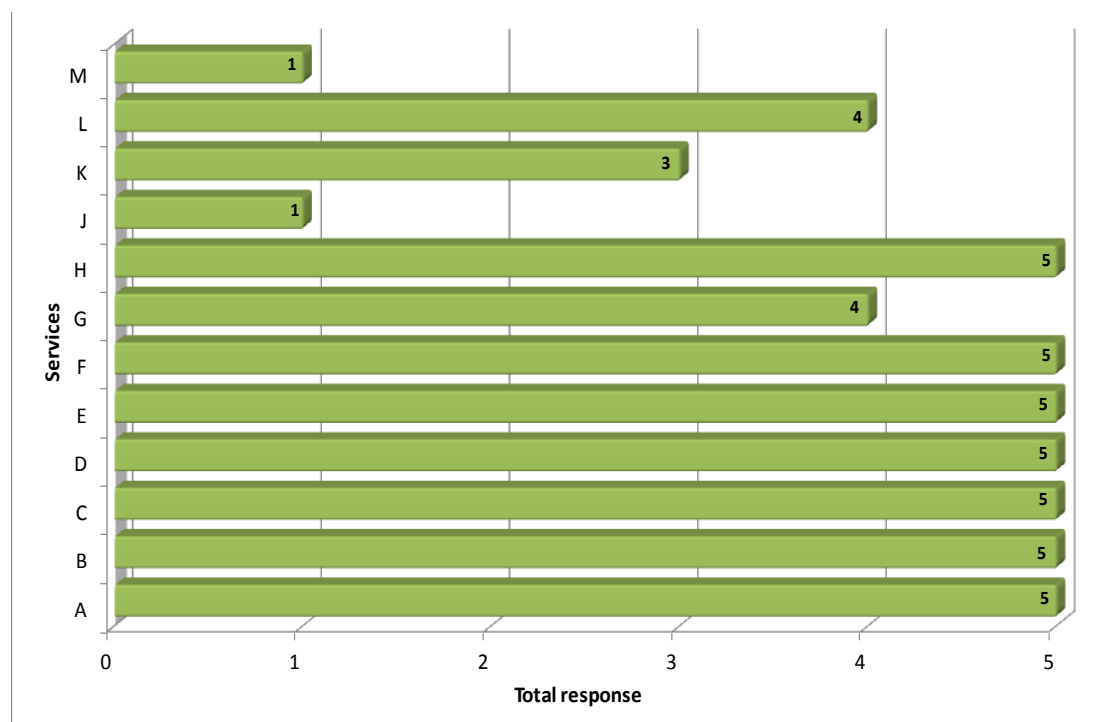


**Figure 24: Purposes of the Coastal Partnerships within the current MP areas 3 & 4.**  
Source: CPN

### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Integrated management of the coast (ICZM)
<b>B</b>	Environmental management/ conservation
<b>C</b>	Business and commercial support
<b>D</b>	Recreation and tourism
<b>E</b>	Influencing policy and legislation
<b>F</b>	To assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast
<b>G</b>	To provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast
<b>H</b>	Meeting statutory requirements

All CPs in this MP area stated that their main purposes are *‘to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast’* and *‘environmental management/conservation’*. Four out of the five participating CPs stated that *‘Meeting statutory requirements’*, and *‘ICZM’* were the other main partnership purposes.



**Figure 25: Services of the Coastal Partnerships in the current MP areas 3 & 4.**  
Source: CPN

#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Stakeholder engagement
<b>B</b>	Provision of network opportunities
<b>C</b>	Facilitation role
<b>D</b>	Communication - dissemination of relevant information
<b>E</b>	Community engagement and awareness raising
<b>F</b>	Informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy
<b>G</b>	Providing a central point of contact
<b>H</b>	Promote collaborative working
<b>J</b>	Provision of an up to date database
<b>K</b>	Commissioning or delivering relevant research
<b>L</b>	Provision of coastal expertise
<b>M</b>	Other

Regarding the services provided by CPs in this MP area, the greatest number of responses were found to be for all the services which link directly to the main purposes previously identified in Figure 24. All five participating CPs stated that their main services were; *'to promote collaborative working'*; *'informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy'*; *'community engagement and awareness raising'*; *'communication – dissemination of relevant information'*; *'facilitation role'*; *'provision of network opportunities'* and *'stakeholder engagement'*.

Before the report was commissioned, MP areas 3 & 4 were the only areas around the UK that had been selected for the marine planning process. The East of England area in the UK is currently undergoing Marine Planning and was [selected](#) due to:

- its wide range of marine activities, and its potential for future sustainable development and its contribution to the national economy
- major wind farms are planned for the region, and this provides an ideal opportunity for the MMO to sustainably manage the competing uses of this area prior to a key development
- its range of communities, including less well off areas that will benefit from economic confidence in sustainable development (MMO, 2012).

### iii) Sectors

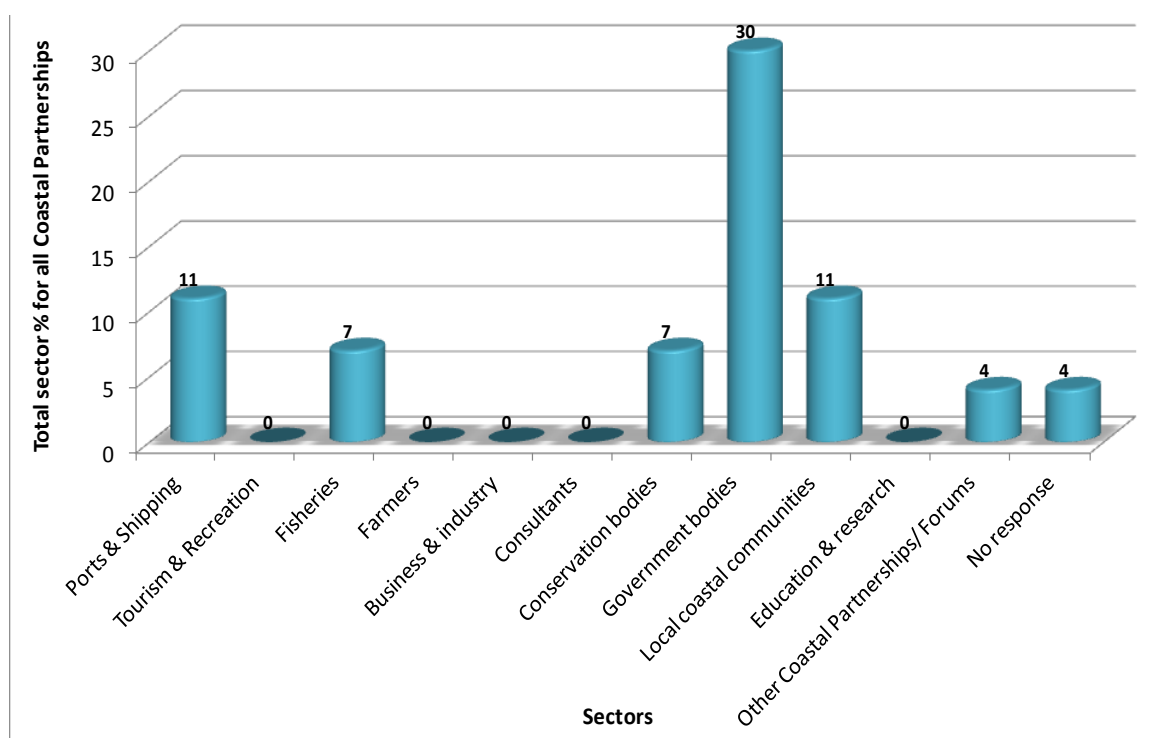


Figure 26: Sectors represented in all Coastal Partnerships within the current MP areas 3 & 4.  
Source: CPN

Only one CP in this MP area – The Wash and North Norfolk Coast EMS Management Scheme – responded to this question. The sector with the greatest % represented in the CPs network was Government bodies. This is potentially to be expected, given that this is the only area to currently be undergoing marine planning with the MMO. ‘Ports and shipping’ and ‘Local coastal communities’ were the two sectors which had the second highest % representation; whilst a total of five other sectors – tourism and recreation, farmers, business and industry, consultants and education and research – do not represent any part of The Wash and North Norfolk Coasts EMS Management Scheme’s network.

## iv) Communications:

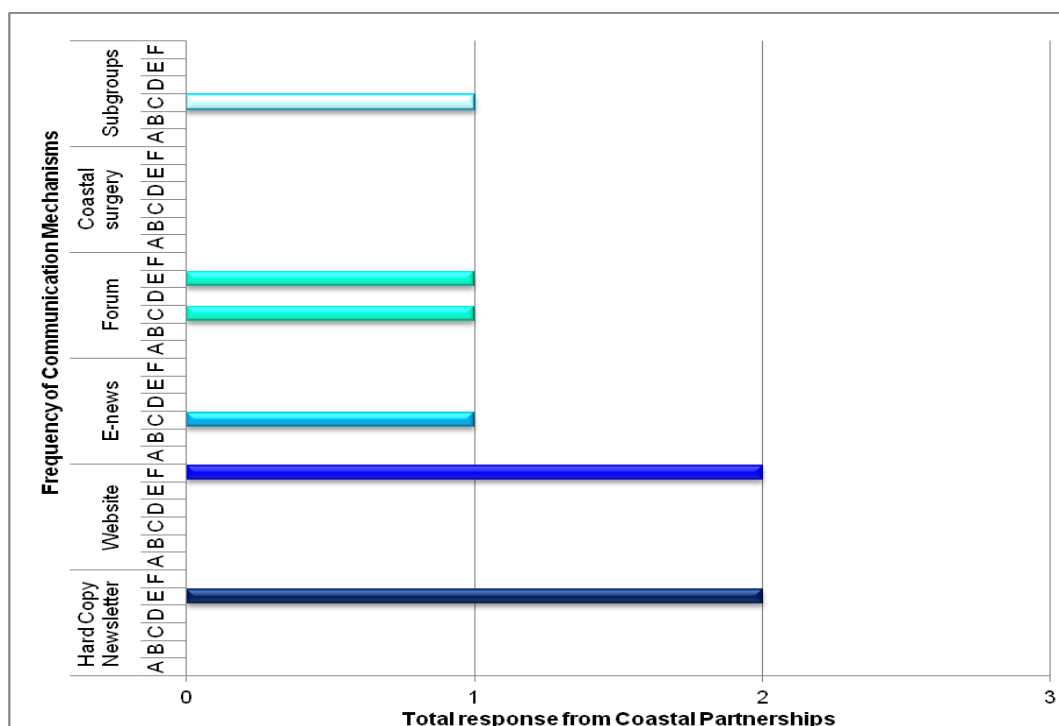


Figure 27: Communication mechanisms used by Coastal Partnerships in the current MP areas 3 & 4.

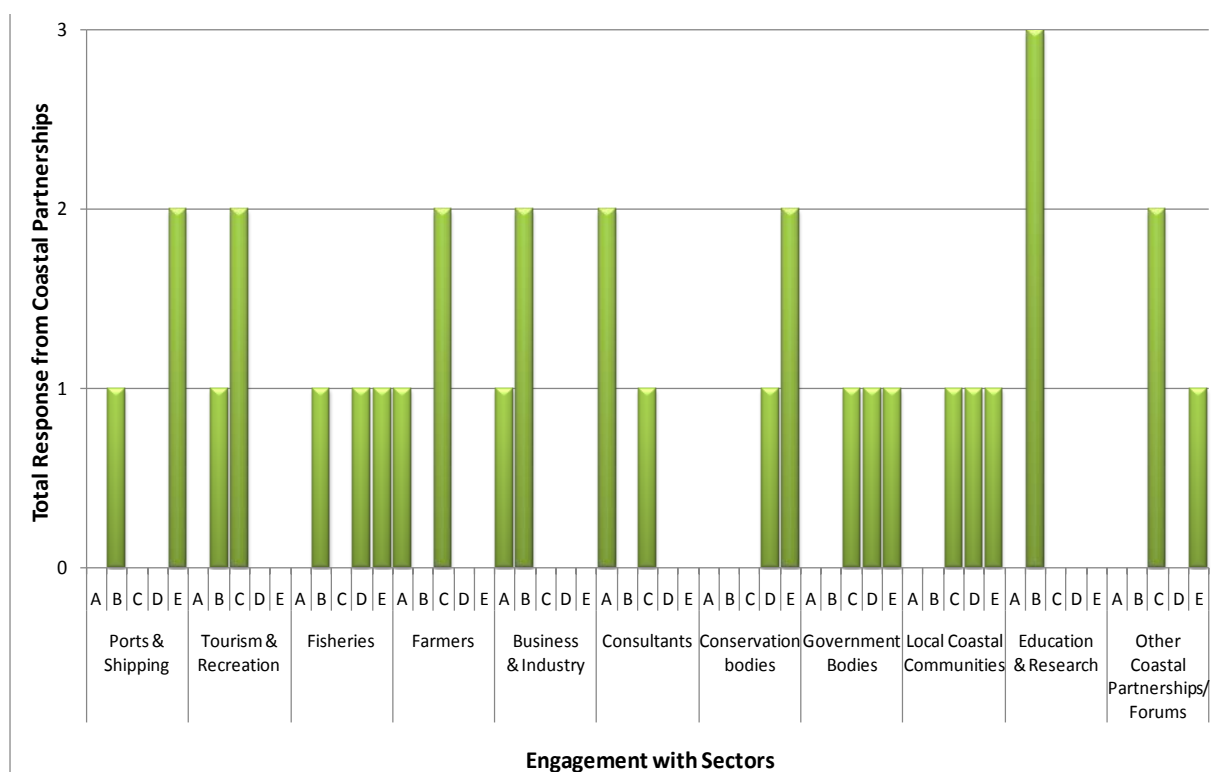
Source: CPN

#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Weekly
<b>B</b>	Monthly
<b>C</b>	Quarterly
<b>D</b>	Bi-annually
<b>E</b>	Annually
<b>F</b>	On an 'ad-hoc' basis

Only three out of the five CPs in this MP area responded to these questions; of those three, two use a partnership website as a communication mechanism. Only two out of the five CPs – Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Norfolk Coast Partnership – host a Forum. The Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB is also the only organisation to utilise subgroups. None of the CPs in this MP area currently utilise Coastal Surgeries.





**Figure 28: Effectiveness of engagement between various sectors and Coastal Partnerships within the current MP areas 3 & 4.**  
Source: CPN

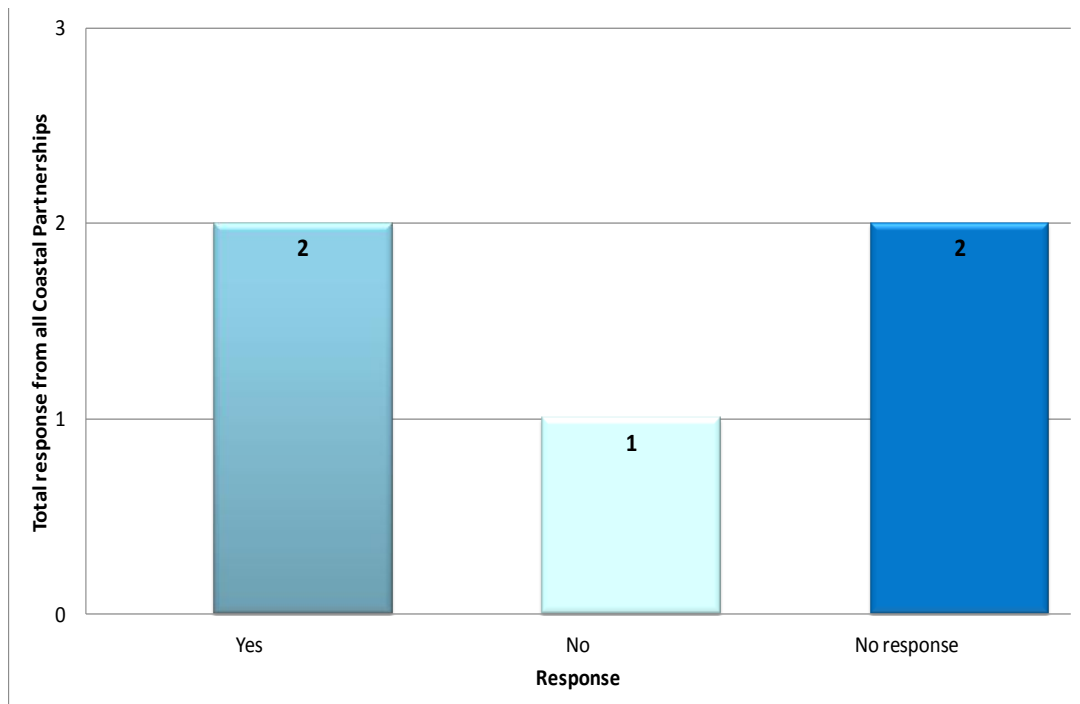
#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Not at all
<b>B</b>	Not very well
<b>C</b>	Well
<b>D</b>	Very well
<b>E</b>	Fully

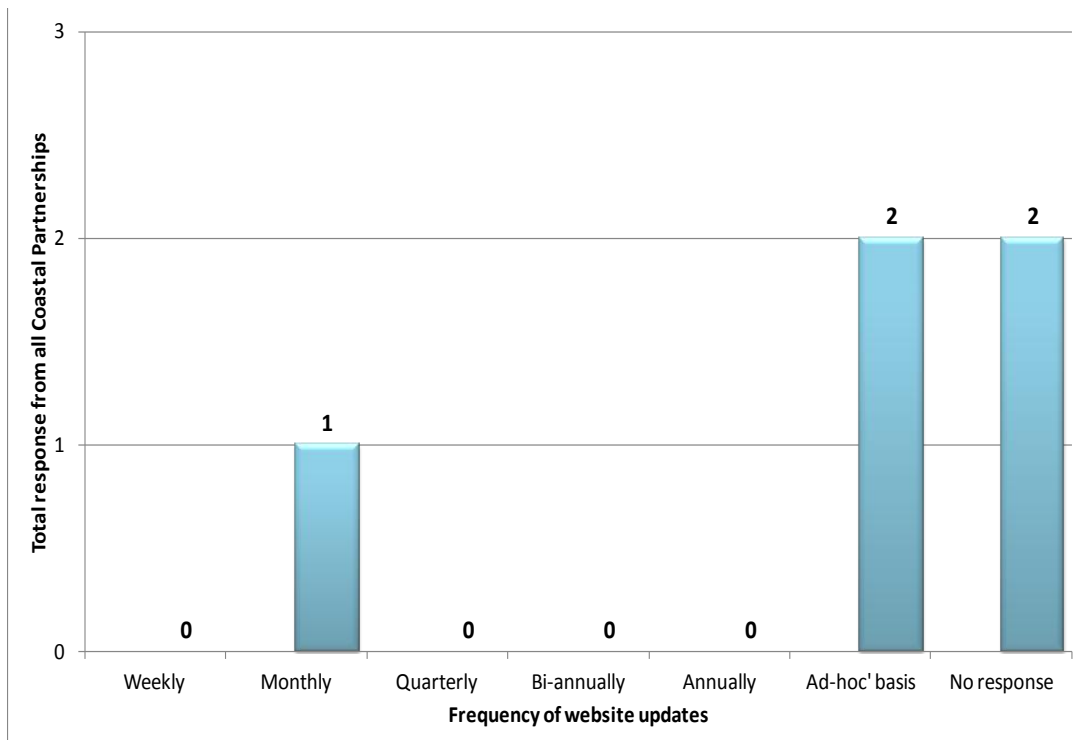
There were two 'Other' responses given to this part of the Questionnaire; the Norfolk Coast Partnership distribute a free annual newspaper; and the Wash and North Norfolk Coast EMS Management Scheme delivers an annual report on the organisations' actions. The Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB provide a biannual Newspaper and assist in supporting estuary partnerships in producing newsletters.

Two out of the five participating CPs stated that they interact fully with two sectors in particular – Ports and Shipping and Conservation bodies. Three out of five CPs also stated that they did not interact very well with the education and research sector. The sectors which were identified as having no interaction with at least one CPs in this MP area were; consultants, business and industry and farmers.

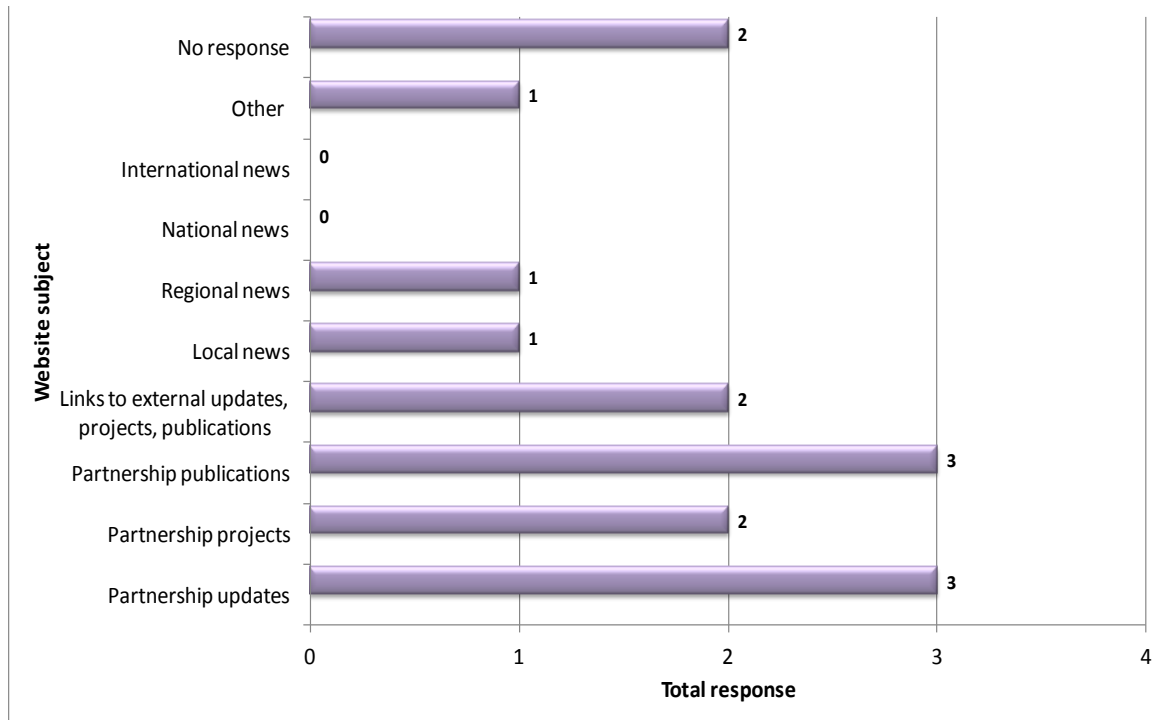
v) Website



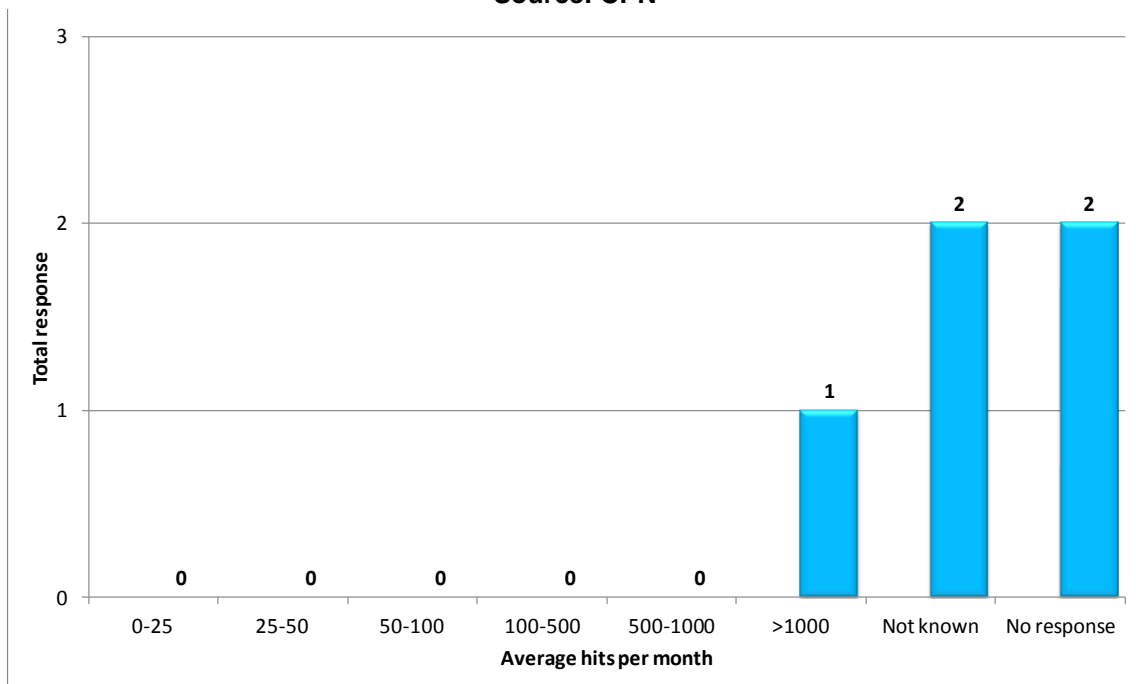
**Figure 29: Number of Coastal Partnerships within the current MP areas 3 & 4 which have their own website.**  
Source: CPN



**Figure 30: Frequency of website updates from all Coastal Partnerships in the current MP areas 3 & 4.**  
Source: CPN



**Figure 31: Subjects published on the websites of Coastal Partnerships within the current MP areas 3 & 4.**  
**Source: CPN**



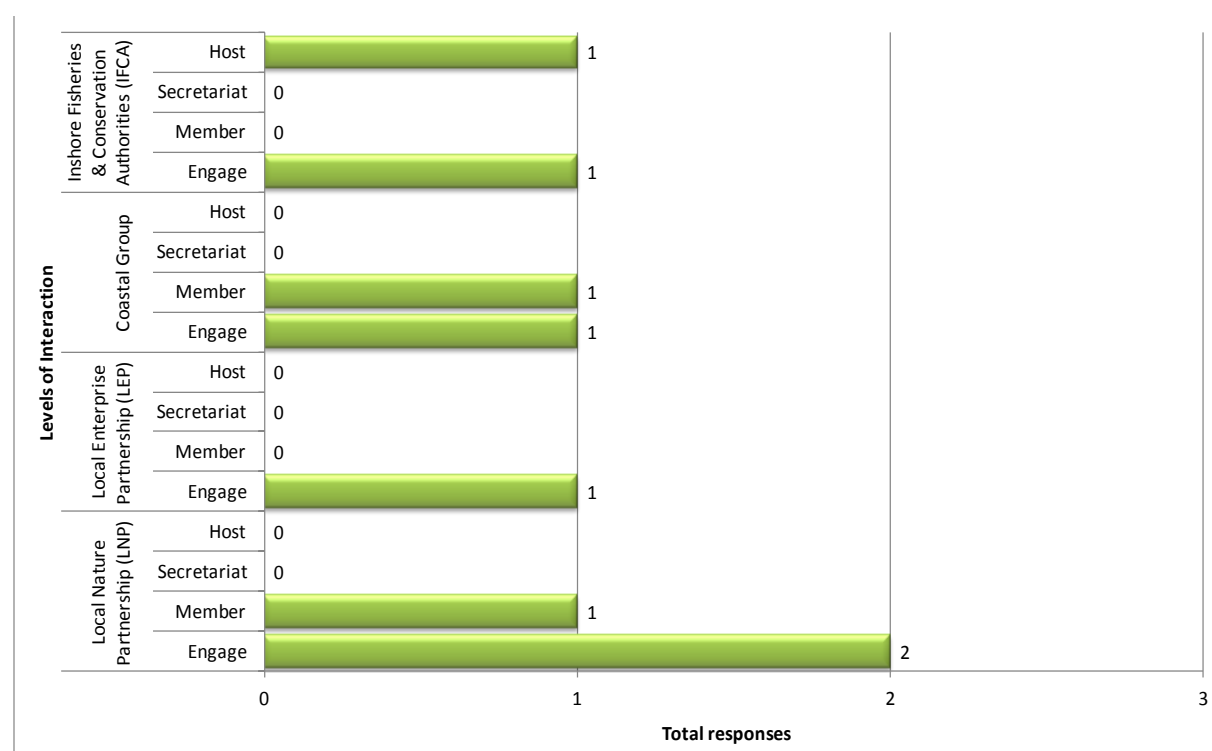
**Figure 32: Average number of hits per month received by the websites of all Coastal Partnerships within the current MP areas 3 & 4.**  
**Source: CPN**

Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB were the only organisation in this MP area to state that it does not host a website; however it does have 3 estuary partnership pages included on the Suffolk Coast and Heaths website.

Norfolk Coast Partnership was the only CP to give an ‘Other’ response (Figure 31) stating that it ‘publishes the AONB Management Plan and information on the area along with its sustainable use’. This partnership is also the only CP in this MP area which publishes both regional and local news on its website.

Figure 32 illustrates that the Norfolk Coast Partnership was also the only CP to state how many hits on average the its website received per month (>1000).

#### vi) Interactions:



**Figure 33: Levels of interaction between various bodies and all of the Coastal Partnerships within the current MP areas 3 & 4.**

Source: CPN

Three out of the five CPs in this MP area interact with LNPs; with two out of five interacting with Coastal Groups. Only one organisation – Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB – engages with LEPs.

The Wash and North Norfolk Coast EMS Management Scheme is hosted by the Eastern IFCA which is the lead Authority on the EMS project. In the ‘Other’ response category, the Norfolk Coast Partnership stated that it was a member of the EMS Management Scheme, Regional Development Plan leader, member of the Europarc Atlantic Isles, a member of the Coastal and Marine Working Group and a member of the National Association for AONBs.

## viii) SWOT analysis

Table 4: SWOT analysis for all participating CP's in MP areas 3 &amp; 4.

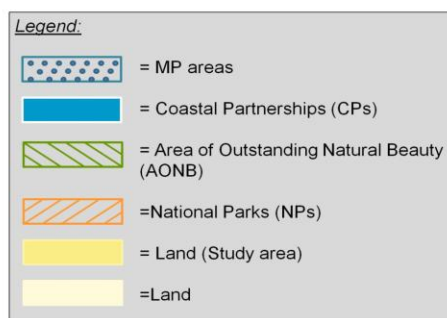
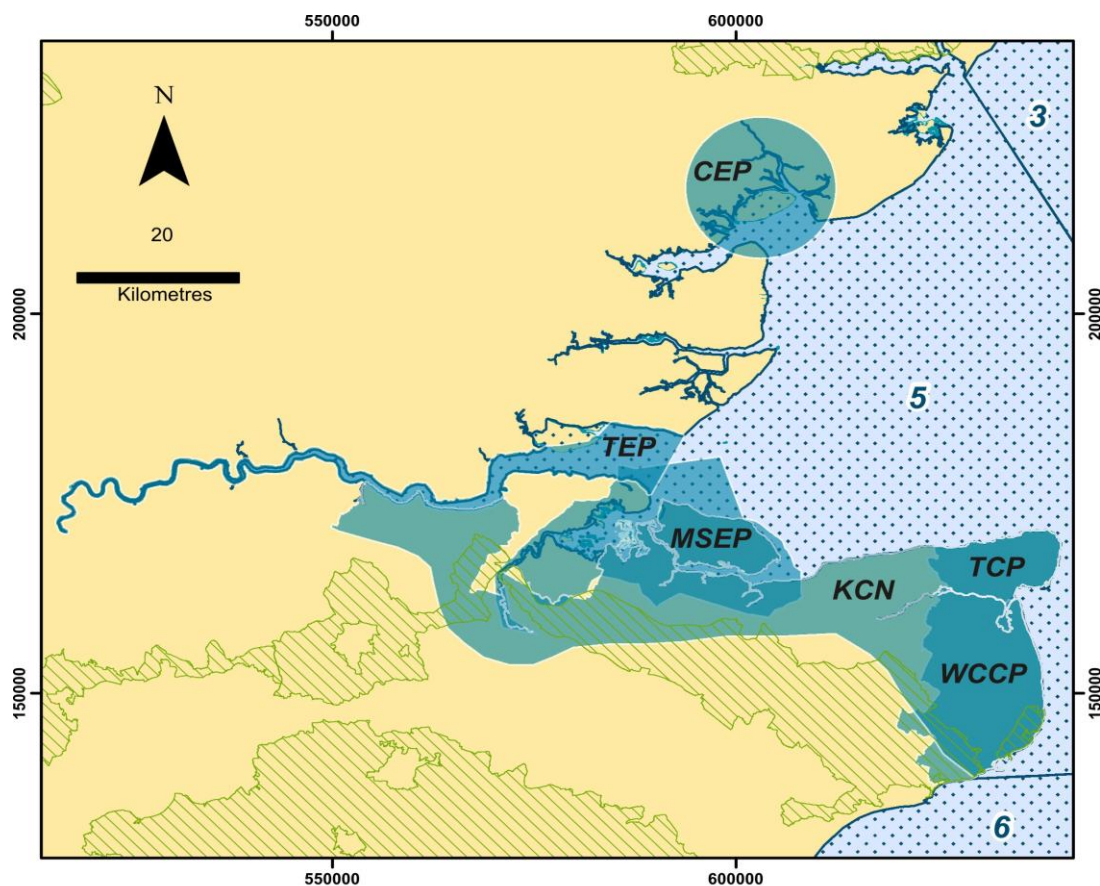
Source: CPN

	<i>Helpful</i>	<i>Harmful</i>
<b>Internal Origin</b>	<p><b><u>Strengths</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purposes: assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast; environmental management/conservation; ICZM; influencing policy and legislation; meeting statutory requirements.</li> <li>• Services: informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategies; promote collaborative working; community engagement and awareness raising; communication/dissemination of information; facilitation role; provision of network opportunities; stakeholder engagement; central point of contact; provision of coastal expertise.</li> <li>• Existence of Advisory Groups: consist of local people and representatives from organisations with an interest in the EMSs within the MP area (e.g. Wildfowlers associations, Fishermen's associations and land owners). Some Relevant Authorities attend meetings to provide information on particular activities and issues and also act as a link to the full management board.</li> <li>• The geographically zoned advisory groups have allowed local stakeholders, interested individuals and groups to freely participate in the development and implementation of management schemes.</li> <li>• Incident Recording Process: Site managers and advisory group volunteers act as the eyes and ears on the ground, reporting on any one of fifteen activities which have or could have created damage or disturbance to the designated habitats and species within the Wash and North Norfolk Coast EMS Management Scheme. Site managers and volunteers have been monitoring the incidence of these different forms of disturbance via the Incident Recording Process since 2004. This information has proved most valuable, alerting the EMS to disturbance hotspots, as well as problem issues.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Weaknesses</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Services: provision of an up-to-date database.</li> <li>• With the exception of The Wash &amp; North Norfolk Coast EMS Management Scheme, numerous 'No response' answers given.</li> <li>• Web resources: potential lack of data/knowledge</li> <li>• Weak 'cross-sector' representation in some CP networks.</li> </ul>
<b>External Origin</b>	<p><b><u>Opportunities</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of web resources.</li> <li>• To develop database and cross cutting sectoral links.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Threats</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resourcing and funding issues were raised as significantly limiting (and even Partnership threatening) by some CPs in this MP area.</li> </ul>

### 3.4. South East Inshore Marine Plan Area: 5

The South East marine plan area consists of Kent, London and Essex. Figure 34 shows MP Area 5 that contains the following CPs:

- Colne Estuary Partnership – CEP
- Kent Coastal Network – KCN
- Medway Swale Estuary Partnership – MSEP
- Thames Estuary Partnership – TEP
- Thanet Coast Project (NE Kent EMS) – TCP
- White Cliffs Countryside Partnership – WCCP



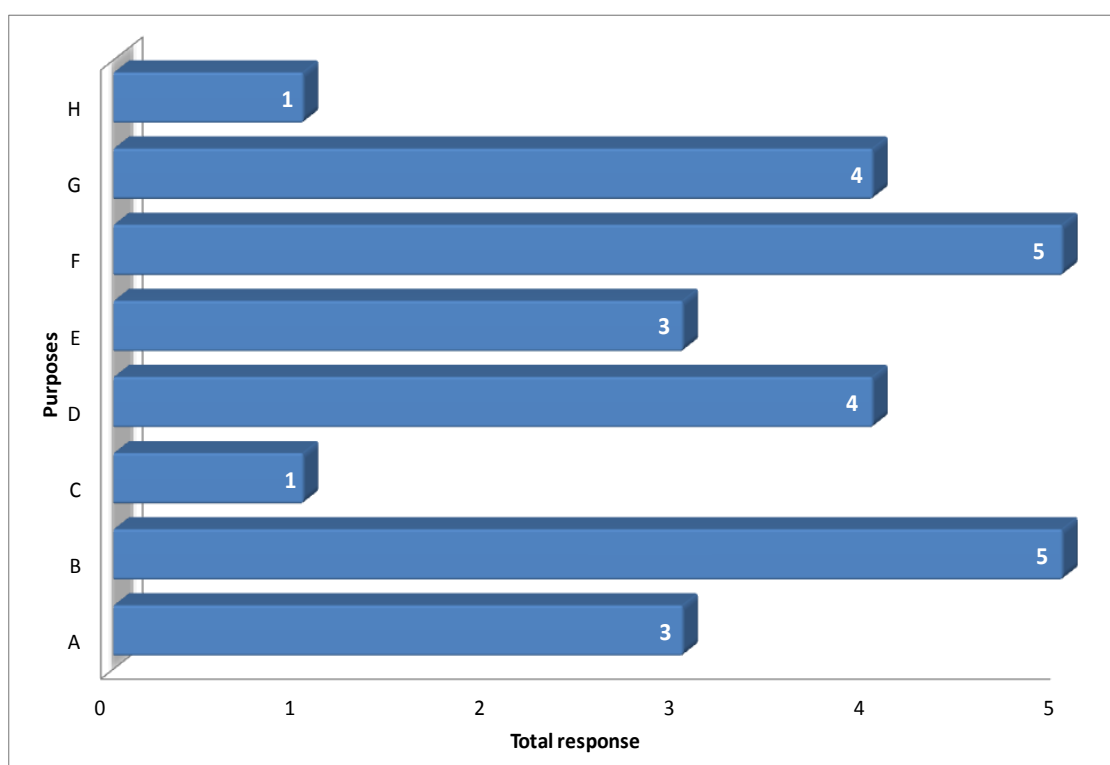
**Figure 34: Remits of the Coastal Partnerships within MP area 5.**

Source: © Natural England copyright. Contains ordinance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012]. Other data from CPN members contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012].

### i) Geographical Coverage Gaps

Within this proposed MP area the geographic coverage by CPs along the southern section of coastline is extensive. Given the relatively small size of this MP area – compared with others – the density of the CPs is high.

### ii) Purposes & Services



**Figure 35: Purposes of the Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 5.**  
Source: CPN

#### **LEGEND**

<b>A</b>	Integrated management of the coast (ICZM)
<b>B</b>	Environmental management/ conservation
<b>C</b>	Business and commercial support
<b>D</b>	Recreation and tourism
<b>E</b>	Influencing policy and legislation
<b>F</b>	To assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast
<b>G</b>	To provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast
<b>H</b>	Meeting statutory requirements

CPs were allowed to give more than one answer to this question, with the majority stating that their main purposes are *'to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast'* and *'environmental management/conservation'*. When asked to describe the services offered; *'Providing a central point of contact'* and *'Community engagement and awareness raising'* gained a 100% response rate from all CPs in the area.

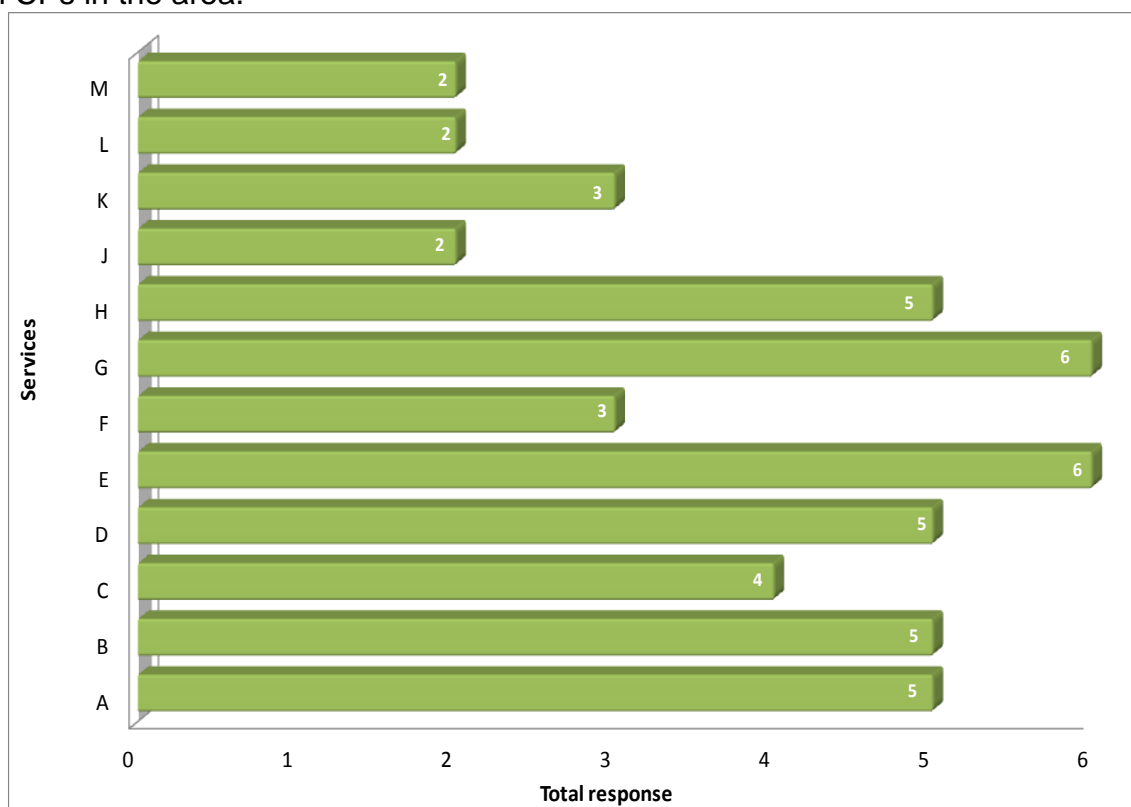


Figure 36: Services of the Coastal Partnerships in the proposed MP area 5.  
Source: CPN

#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Stakeholder engagement
<b>B</b>	Provision of network opportunities
<b>C</b>	Facilitation role
<b>D</b>	Communication - dissemination of relevant information
<b>E</b>	Community engagement and awareness raising
<b>F</b>	Informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy
<b>G</b>	Providing a central point of contact
<b>H</b>	Promote collaborative working
<b>J</b>	Provision of an up to date database
<b>K</b>	Commissioning or delivering relevant research
<b>L</b>	Provision of coastal expertise
<b>M</b>	Other



The two 'Other' responses given related to the Thanet Coast Project; and their 'promotion of research, running volunteer involvement schemes and provision of coastal codes' – and to the Thames Estuary Partnership, who; 'circulate dredging notices and applications on behalf of the port authority, run charitable projects funded by external funders, provide a neutral chair role for specific projects - such as river freight through wildlife areas and understanding of flood risk changes; and provide communication channels for information dissemination'.

### iii) Sectors

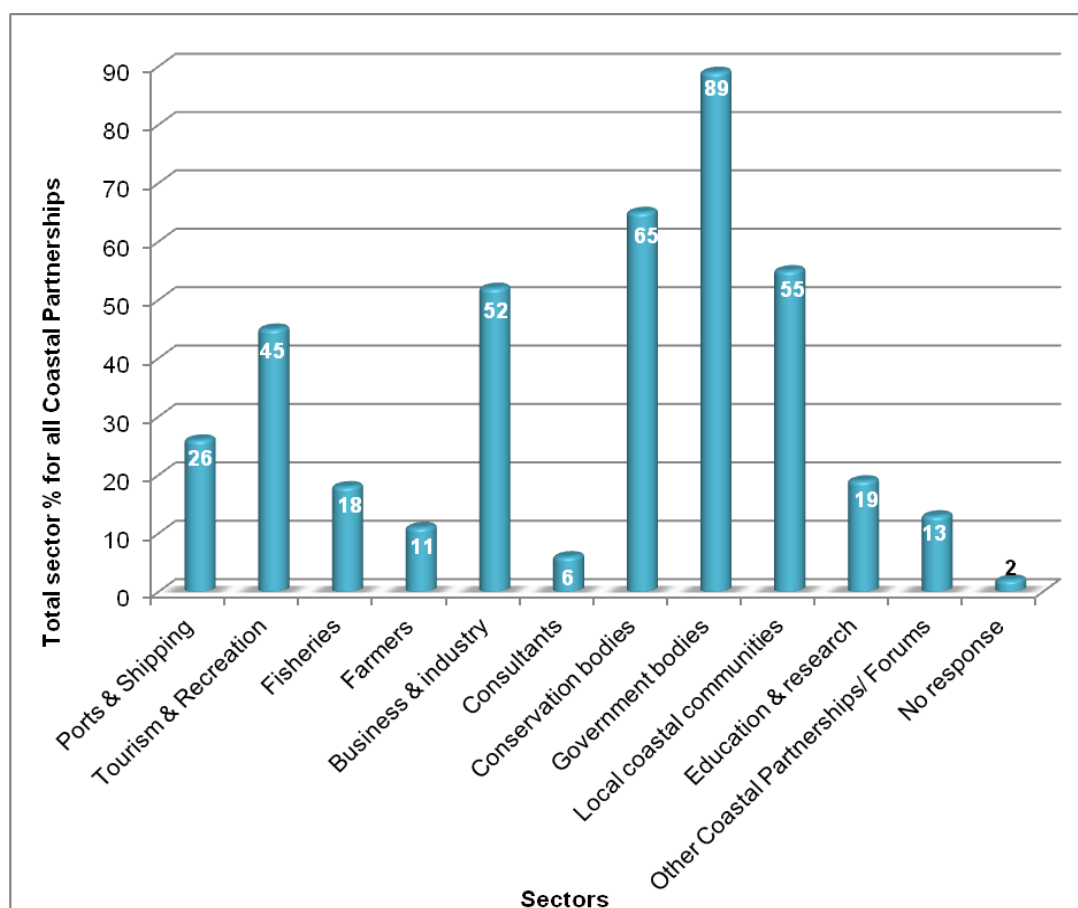


Figure 37: Sectors represented in all Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 5.  
Source: CPN

Whilst Figure 37 illustrates that out of all the sectors (listed above), 'Government bodies' made up the greatest combined total percentage (of 89%); the response distribution amongst the six CPs was not even – with two CPs (Medway Swale Estuary Partnership and White Cliffs Countryside Partnership) giving the majority of the % response of 30% and 33% respectively.

Conservation bodies, local coastal communities, business and industry, and tourism also ranked highly. Some CPs, such as the Thames Estuary Partnership and Thanet Coast Project, indicated that most (if not all) sectors were represented to a certain

degree within their networks; whilst other CPs referred to their networks focusing on only two or three specific sectors, reflecting the remit of their work e.g. the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership.

#### iv) Communications

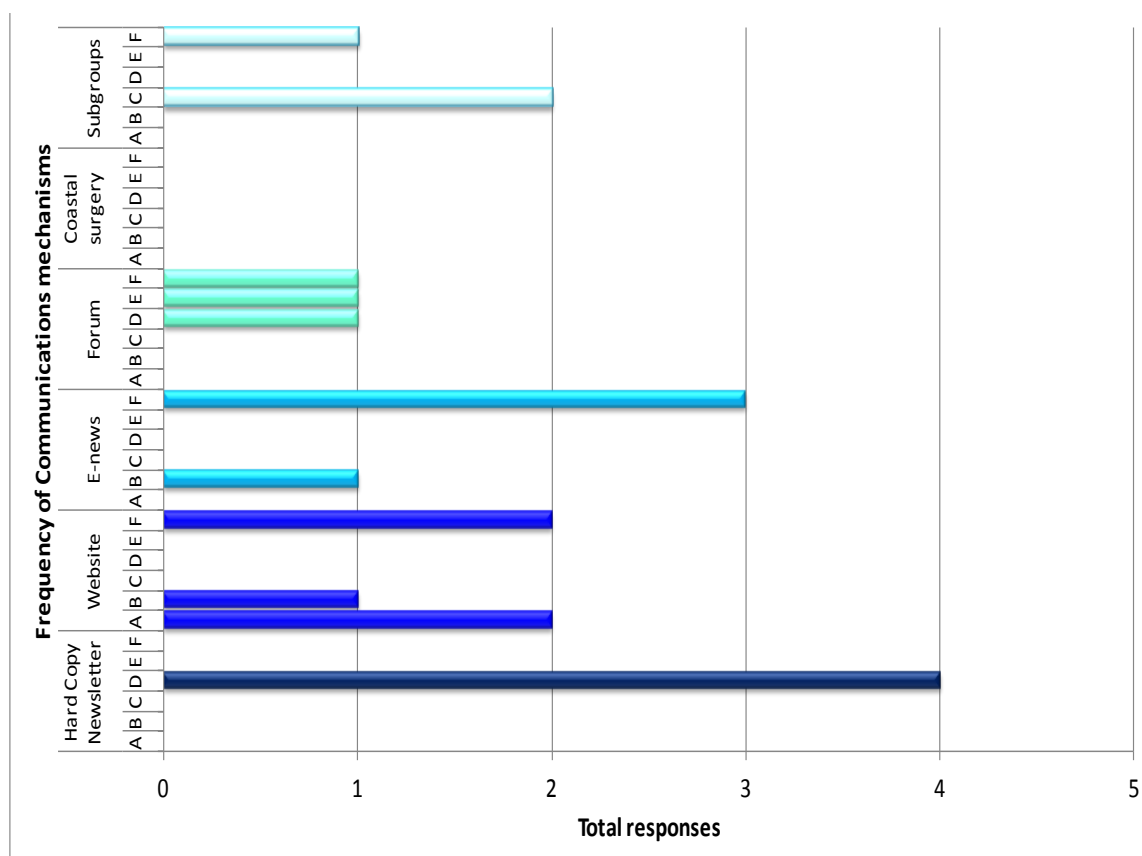


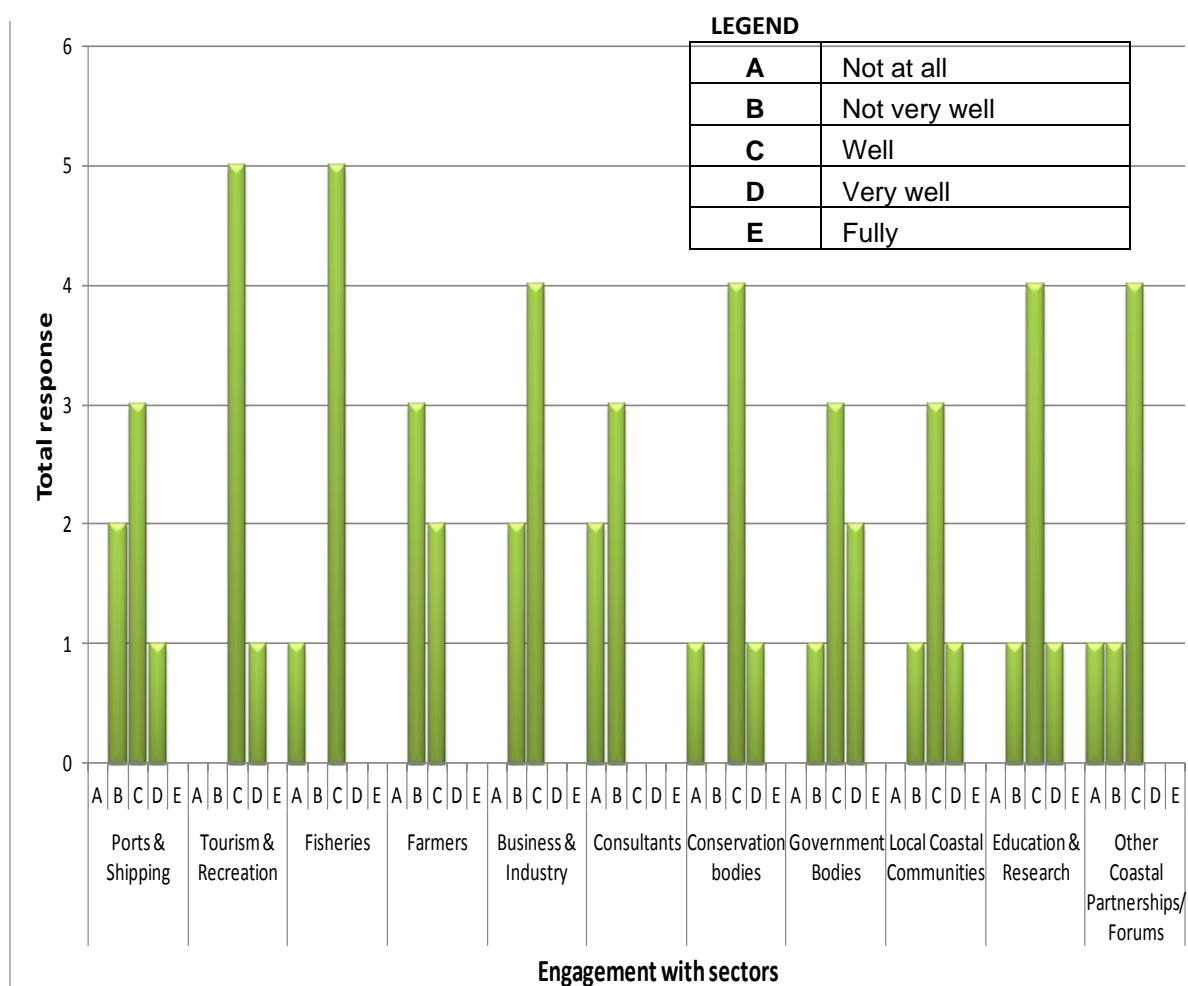
Figure 38: Communication mechanisms used by Coastal Partnerships in the proposed MP area 5. Source: CPN

#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Weekly
<b>B</b>	Monthly
<b>C</b>	Quarterly
<b>D</b>	Bi-annually
<b>E</b>	Annually
<b>F</b>	On an 'ad-hoc' basis

None of the CPs in this MP area currently utilise Coastal Surgeries as a communication mechanism. Given the limited nature of this question, it was not possible to ascertain whether or not this is because surgeries have been trialled and failed before, or whether there are insufficient funds and/or resources to employ this communication mechanism.

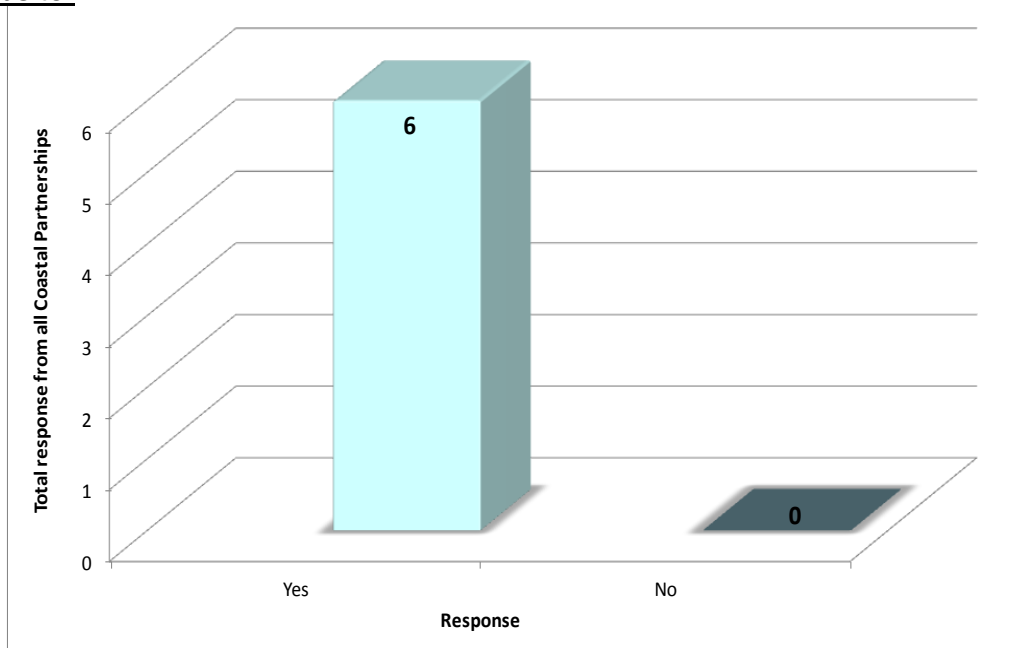
Four out of the six CPs use hard copy newsletters and e-news to communicate local marine issues. Forums, websites and sub-groups also ranked highly. Three CPs gave their responses in the 'Other' category. Thanet Coast Project hold meetings with their Management Group and stakeholders twice a year, Advisory Group four times a year and hold training and events programmes along with community events and activities. The Colne Estuary Partnership *'sends individual emails'* and the Thames Estuary Partnership *'holds events and meetings to communicate with the public four times a year'*.



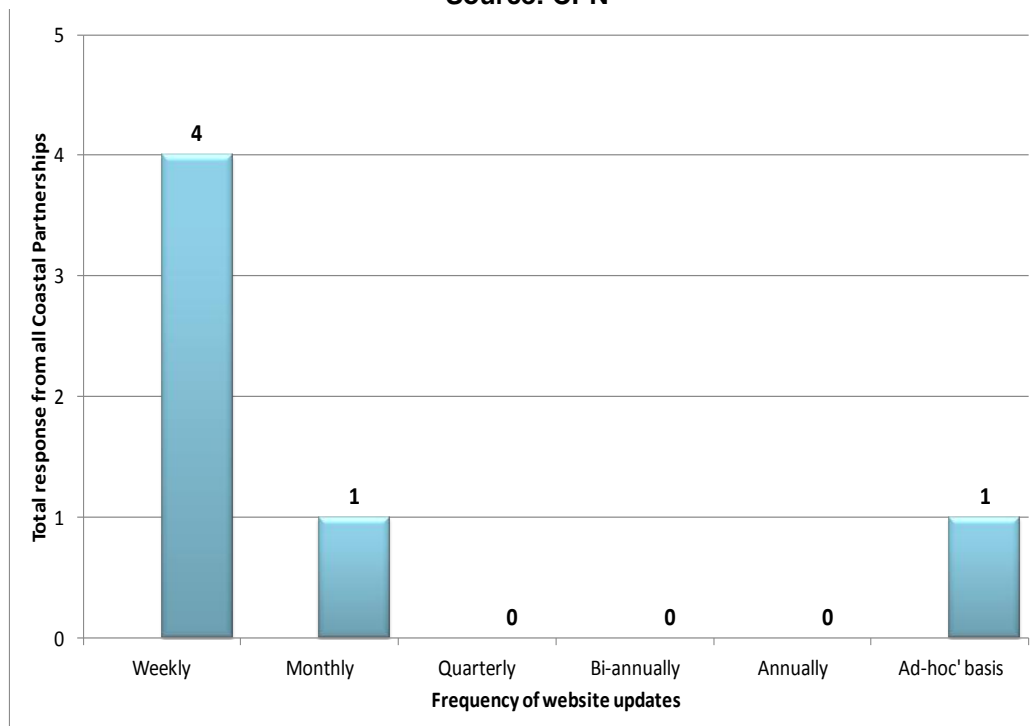
**Figure 39: Effectiveness of engagement between various sectors and Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 5. Source: CPN**

The greatest levels of engagement were identified as being with the tourism and recreation and fisheries sectors. The only sectors in this MP area that were identified as having *no* engagement with at least one CP were: fisheries, consultants, conservation bodies and other CPs/forums. The only CP to state they have no engagement with other CPs was the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership.

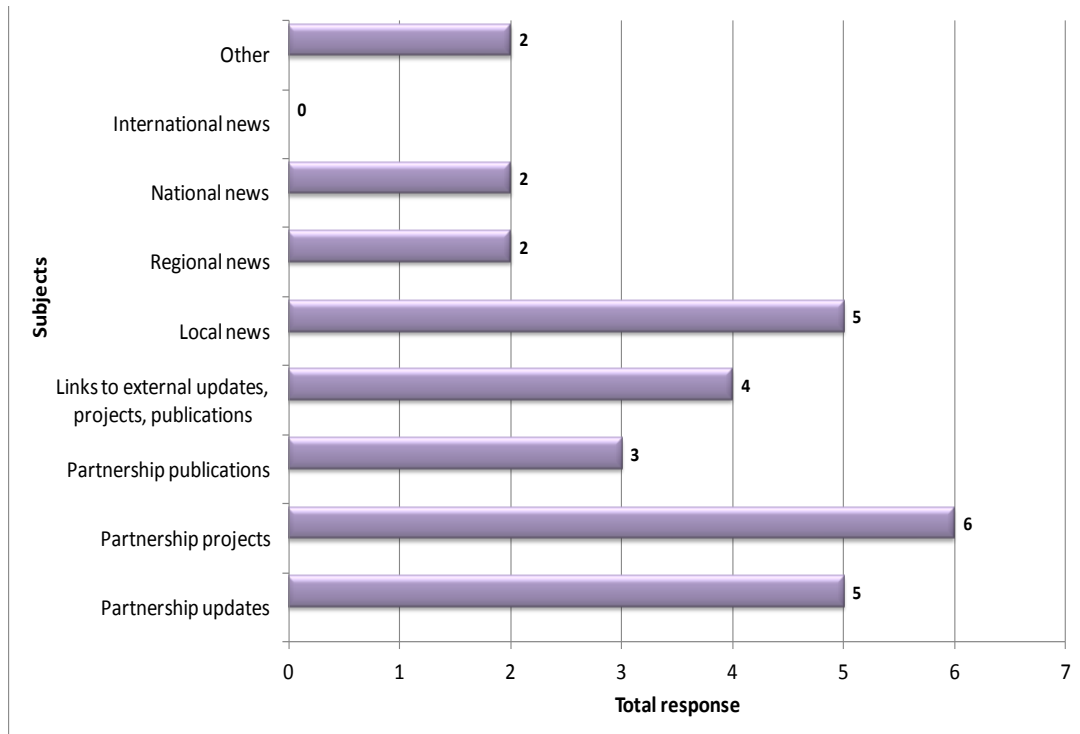
## v) Website:



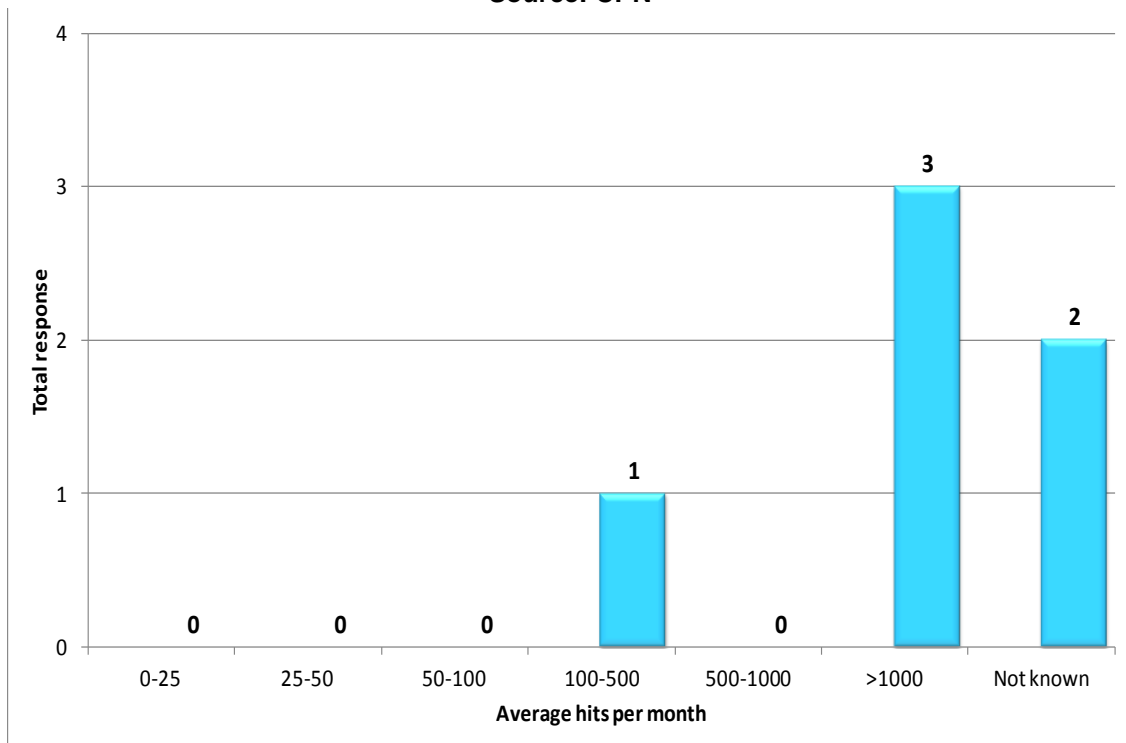
**Figure 40: Number of Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 5 which have their own website.**  
Source: CPN



**Figure 41: Frequency of website updates from all Coastal Partnerships in the proposed MP area 5.**  
Source: CPN



**Figure 42: Subjects published on the websites of Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 5.**  
**Source: CPN**



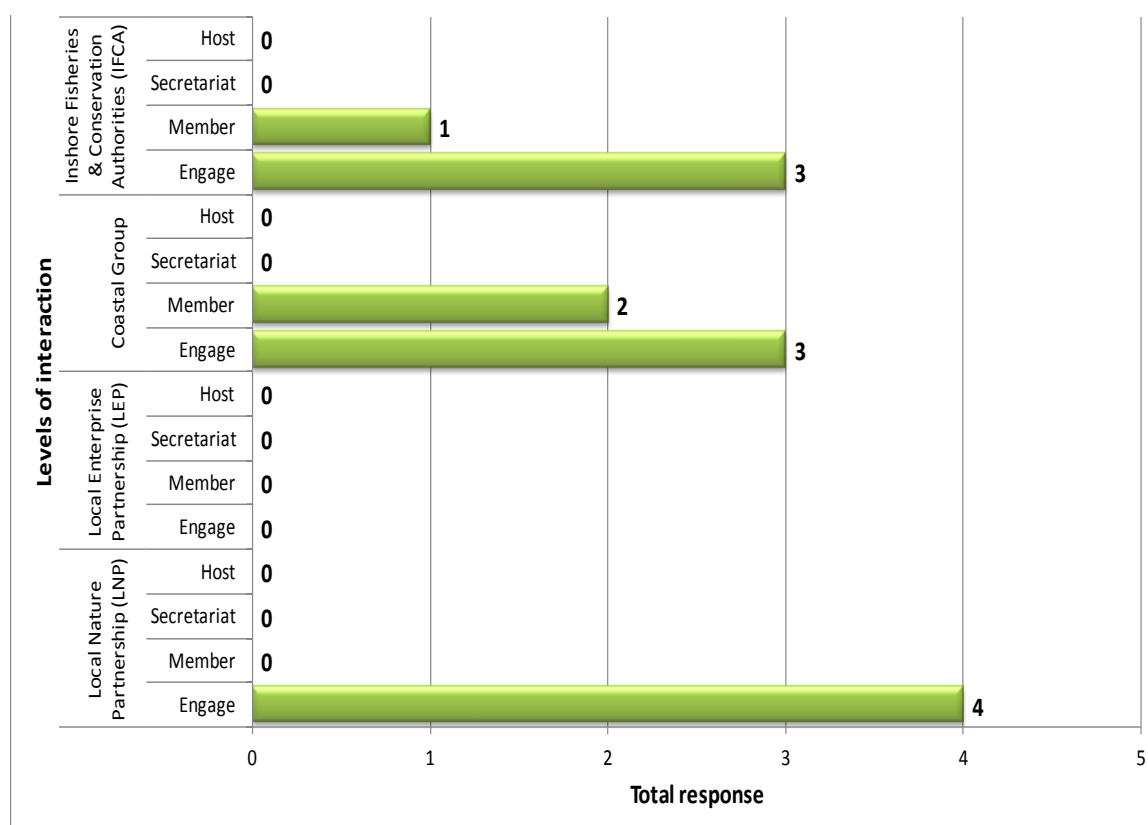
**Figure 43: Average number of hits per month received by the websites of all Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 5.**  
**Source: CPN**

All six CPs have their own website; four of which are updated on a weekly basis. When asked what subjects are published on their websites, all CPs answered 'Partnership projects', with 'partnership updates' and 'local news' also ranking highly.

Two CPs gave responses in the 'Other' category; Thanet Coast Project publishes specific information on the NE Kent European Marine Site Management Scheme, and events and activities relating to local tourism and education. The Thames Estuary Partnership publishes photos of the estuary and useful documents/reports along with internal and external job opportunities, Business Plans and accounts.

Web resources are a strong method of communication in this MP area, with three out of the five CPs stating that on average they receive over 1000 hits each on their websites per month.

#### vi) Interactions



**Figure 44: Levels of interaction between various bodies and all of the Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 5.**

Source: CPN

No CPs in this area currently interact with LEPs; however four out of the six participating CPs all interact with LNPs and IFCAs; with five out of six interacting with local coastal groups. None of the CPs currently act as either host or secretariat to the four bodies listed.

One response was given in the 'Other' category, by the Thames Estuary Partnership, who stated that they *will* be engaging with LEP during 2012 and that whilst they engage with the IFCA, they are also a member of the Greater London Authority (GLA) Rivers and Streams Group. Additionally, they are a member of the GLA London Waterways Commission and are a member on the Water Framework Directive's (WFD) Thames River Basin Liaison Panel.

#### viii) SWOT analysis

**Table 5: SWOT analysis for all participating CP's in the future MP area 5.**  
Source: CPN

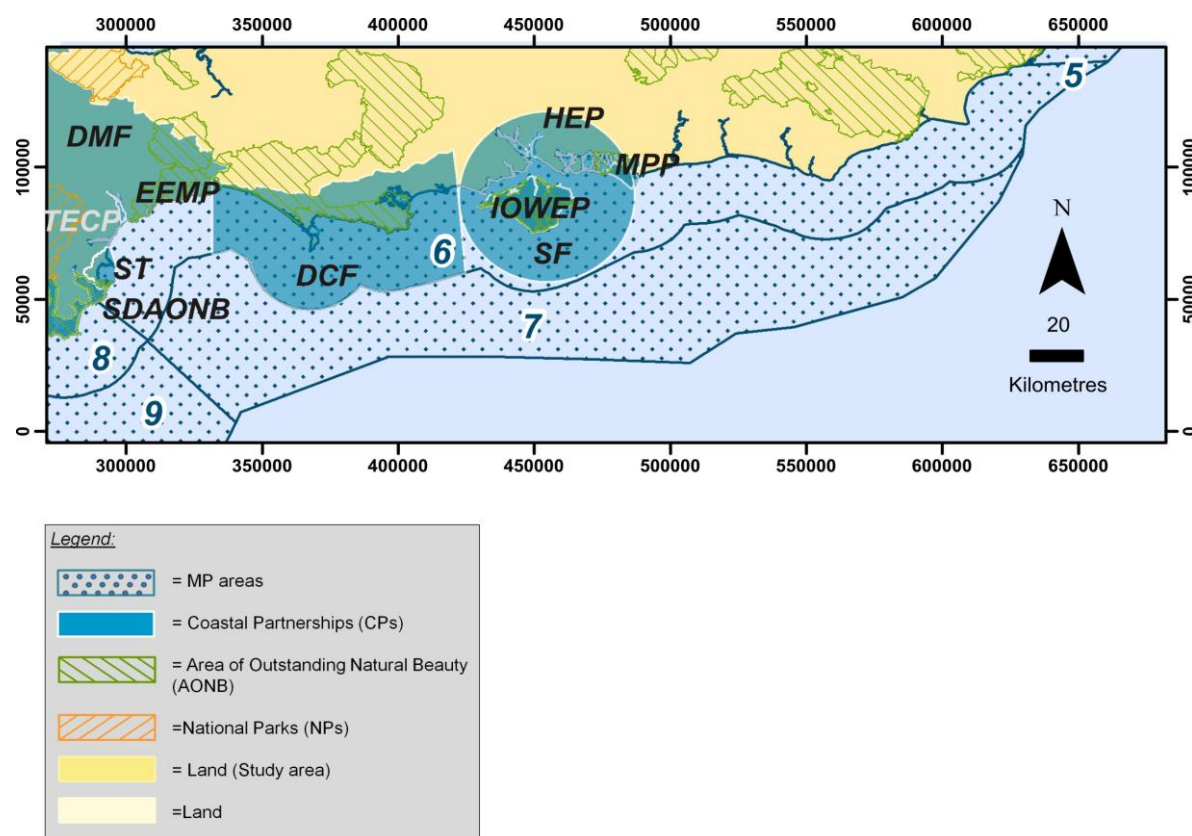
	<i>Helpful</i>	<i>Harmful</i>
<i>Internal Origin</i>	<p><b><u>Strengths</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purposes: assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast; environmental management/conservation; ICZM; tourism and recreation; to provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast.</li> <li>• Services: promote collaborative working; providing a central point of contact; community engagement and awareness raising; communication and dissemination of relevant information; provision of network opportunities; stakeholder engagement; facilitation role; commissioning/delivering relevant research.</li> <li>• Good 'cross-sector' representation, with Government bodies showing the highest response value.</li> <li>• Communications: additional mechanisms frequently utilised.</li> <li>• Web resources: full responses, regular updates, relevant subject matter, high number of hits.</li> <li>• Levels of interaction: good with all parties except LEP's.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Weaknesses</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilisation of all available communication tools – although further research would be needed to establish if this is necessary.</li> </ul>
<i>External Origin</i>	<p><b><u>Opportunities</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interaction with LEPs.</li> <li>• Development of partnership establishment to the North of the Thames Estuary Partnership remit.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Threats</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding cuts which could reduce/eliminate the current (very good) levels of communications; potentially leading to staff insecurity and ultimately high levels of staff turnover and potential loss of momentum and local knowledge.</li> </ul>

### 3.5. South Inshore & South Offshore Marine Plan Areas: 6 & 7

The South of England marine plan areas consists of East Sussex, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, West Sussex Dorset and South Devon. There are currently 10 CPs operating within this region. However, due to resourcing issues, not all partnerships were able to complete the questionnaire and therefore could not be included in the detailed analysis, but have been incorporated in grey on the map.

Figure 45 shows MP areas 6 and 7 that contain the following CPs:

- Devon Maritime Forum – DMF
- Dorset Coast Forum – DCF
- Exe Estuary Management Partnership – EEMP
- Hamble Estuary Partnership – HEP
- Isle of Wight Estuaries Project – IOWEP
- Manhood Peninsula Partnership – MPP
- SeaTorbay – ST
- Solent Forum – SF
- South Devon AONB – SDAONB
- Teign Estuary and Coastal Partnership – TECP



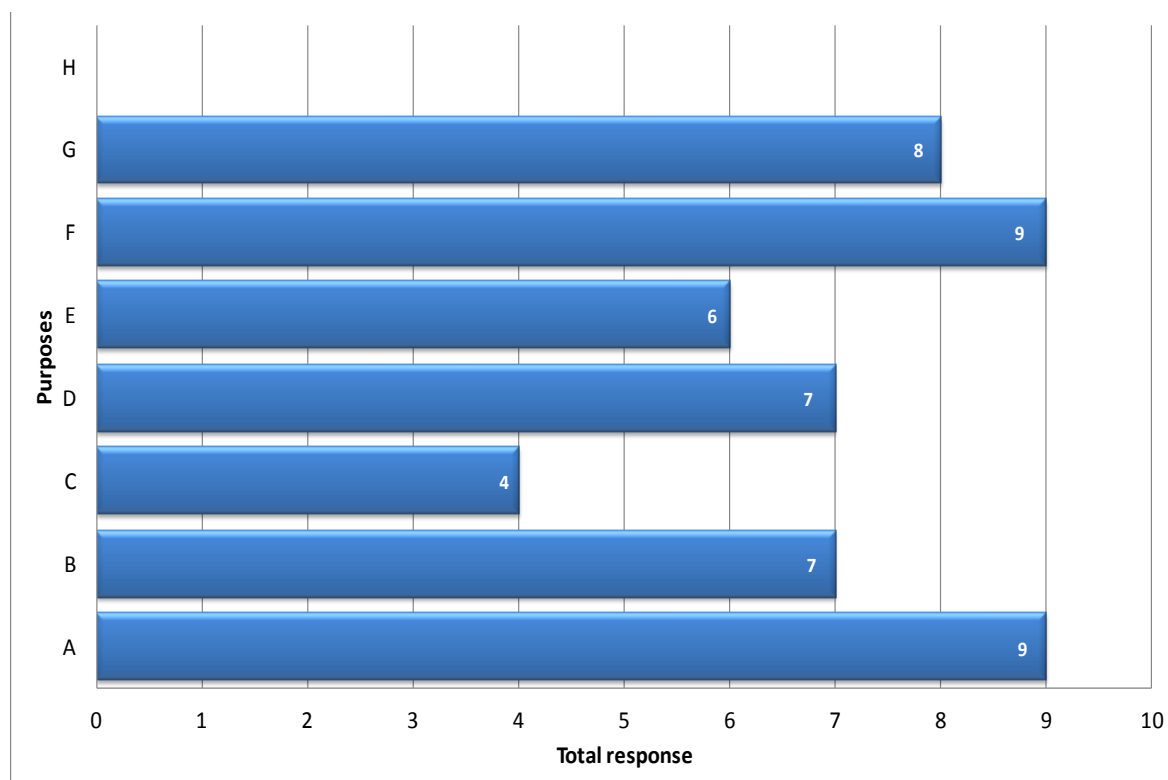
**Figure 45: Remits of the Coastal Partnerships within MP areas 6 & 7.**  
**Source:** © Natural England copyright. Contains ordinance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012]. Other data from CPN members contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012].



### i) Geographical Coverage Gaps

The coverage of the coastline by CPs in these MP areas is good, with significant overlap in certain regions; for example, the remits of the Solent Forum, Hamble Estuary Partnership, Manhood Peninsula Partnership and the Isle of Wight Estuaries Project. The east of MP areas 6 and 7 is the least well covered, indicating potential for future CP development in locations such as Brighton, Eastbourne, Hastings and Folkestone.

### ii) Purposes & Services:



**Figure 46: Purposes of the Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 6 & 7.**  
Source: CPN

#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Integrated management of the coast (ICZM)
<b>B</b>	Environmental management/ conservation
<b>C</b>	Business and commercial support
<b>D</b>	Recreation and tourism
<b>E</b>	Influencing policy and legislation
<b>F</b>	To assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast
<b>G</b>	To provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast
<b>H</b>	Meeting statutory requirements

All nine participating CPs in this MP area, stated that two of their main purposes were; *'to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast'*,

and 'ICZM'. None of the CPs believe that 'meeting statutory requirements' is a main purpose of their partnership workings. Just under half of all CPs in this MP area stated that providing 'business and commercial support' was one of their main purposes. This may be a consequence of these partnerships being in close proximity to major port and shipping activity.

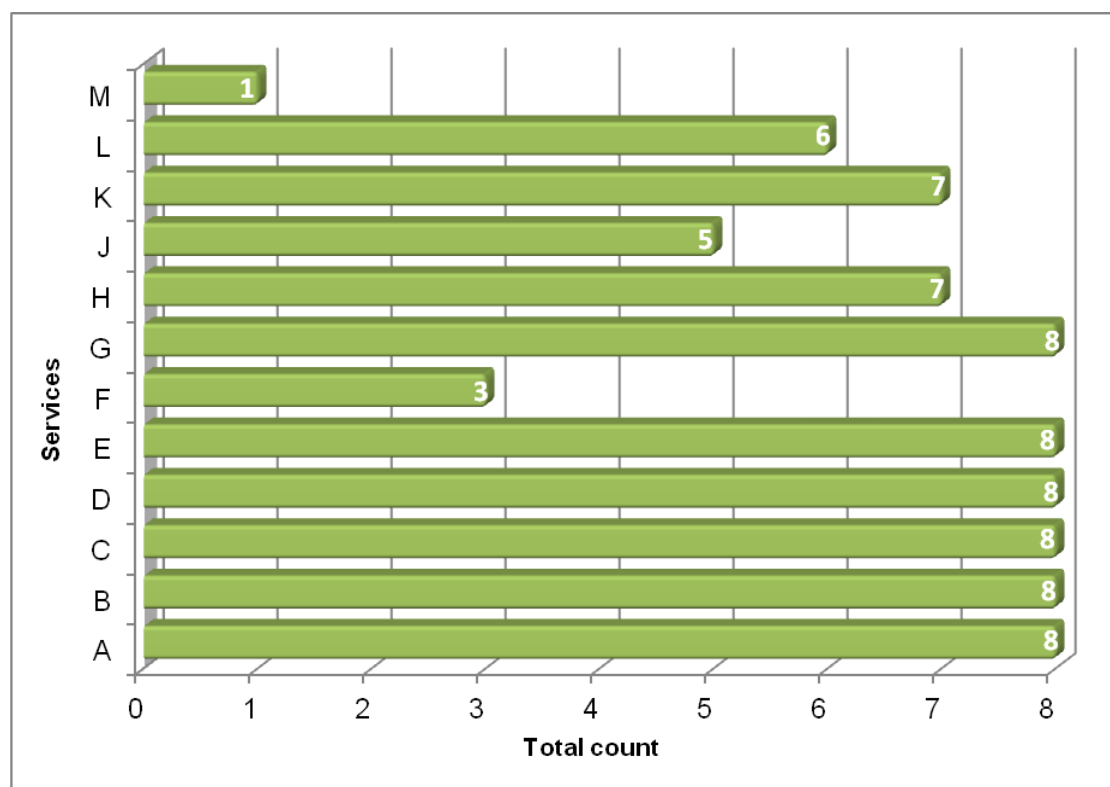


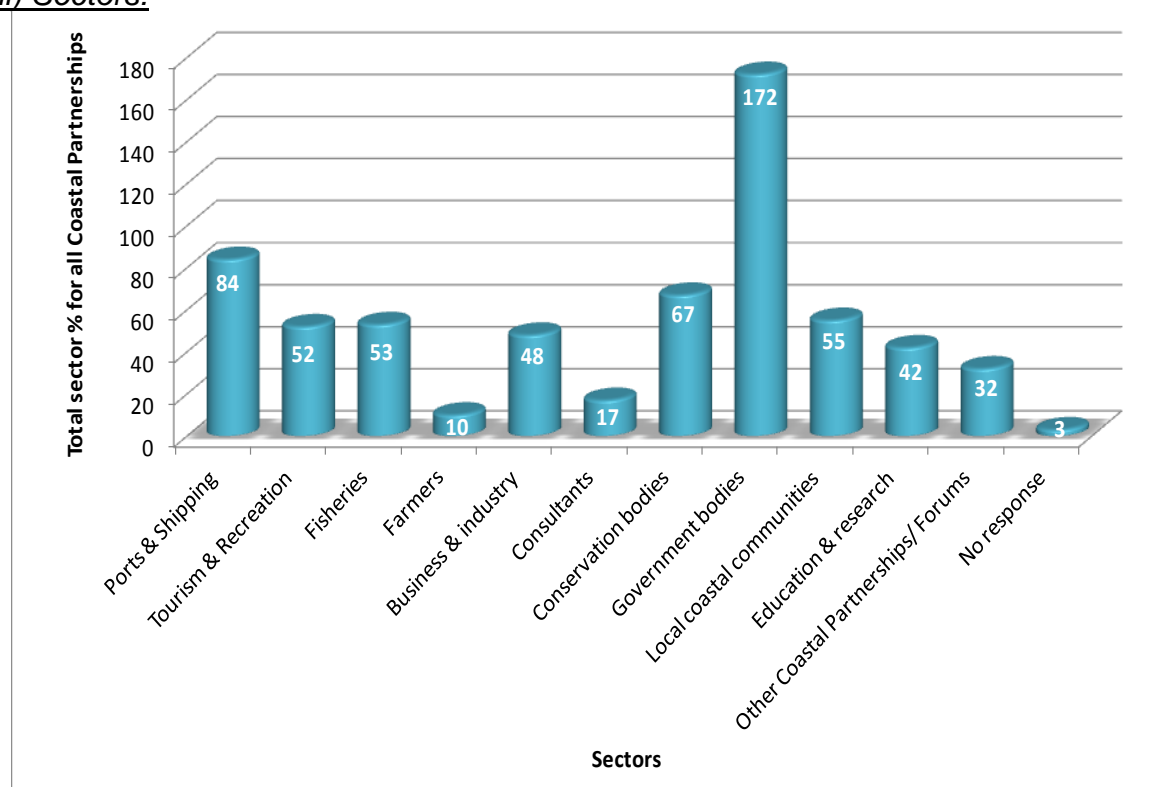
Figure 47: Services provided by Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 6 & 7.  
Source: CPN

#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Stakeholder engagement
<b>B</b>	Provision of network opportunities
<b>C</b>	Facilitation role
<b>D</b>	Communication - dissemination of relevant information
<b>E</b>	Community engagement and awareness raising
<b>F</b>	Informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy
<b>G</b>	Providing a central point of contact
<b>H</b>	Promote collaborative working
<b>J</b>	Provision of an up to date database
<b>K</b>	Commissioning or delivering relevant research
<b>L</b>	Provision of coastal expertise
<b>M</b>	Other

Only a third of the CPs in this MP area felt that *'informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy'* was a service which they provided. One response was given in the *'Other'* category, by the Isle of Wight Estuaries Project who stated that it also *'assists with coastal projects and grant applications'*. Eight of the nine participating CPs identified six main services that they provide: *'stakeholder engagement'*; *'provision of network opportunities'*; *'facilitation role'*; *'communication – dissemination of relevant information'*; *'community engagement and awareness raising'*; and *'providing a central point of contact'*.

### iii) Sectors:



**Figure 48: Sectors represented in all Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 6 & 7.**  
Source: CPN

There were three *'no responses'* for this question (Exe Estuary Management Partnership, Devon Maritime Forum and the Manhood Peninsula Partnership); therefore the percentages shown on Figure 48 are the combined totals for the remaining six CPs in this MP area. *'Government bodies'* was the sector best represented; with the Isle of Wight Estuaries Project alone giving the greatest value (of 60%).

Ports and shipping, with 84%, was the sector with the second highest combined total – again with the Isle of Wight Estuaries Project representing the majority (40%) of that sector total. The farming sector is the least well represented in this MP area; with a total of 10% coming solely from the South Devon AONB.

## iv) Communications:

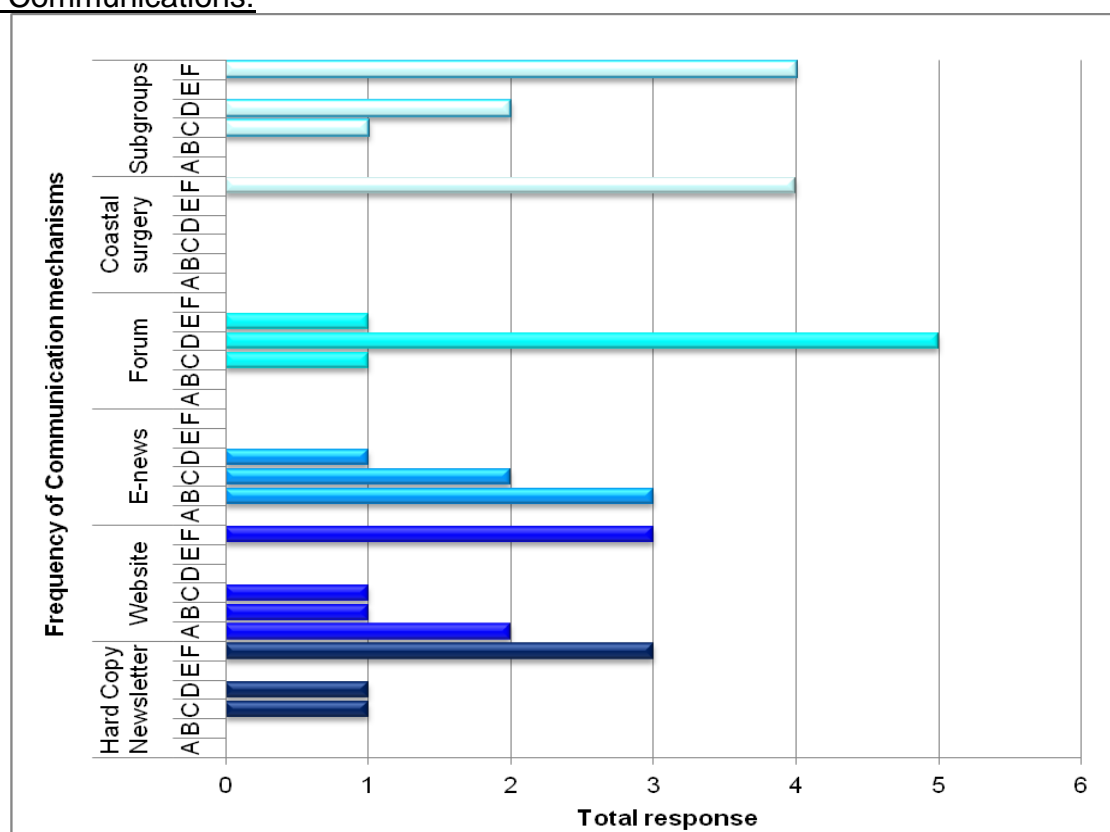


Figure 49: Communication mechanisms used by Coastal Partnerships in the proposed MP areas 6 & 7.

Source: CPN

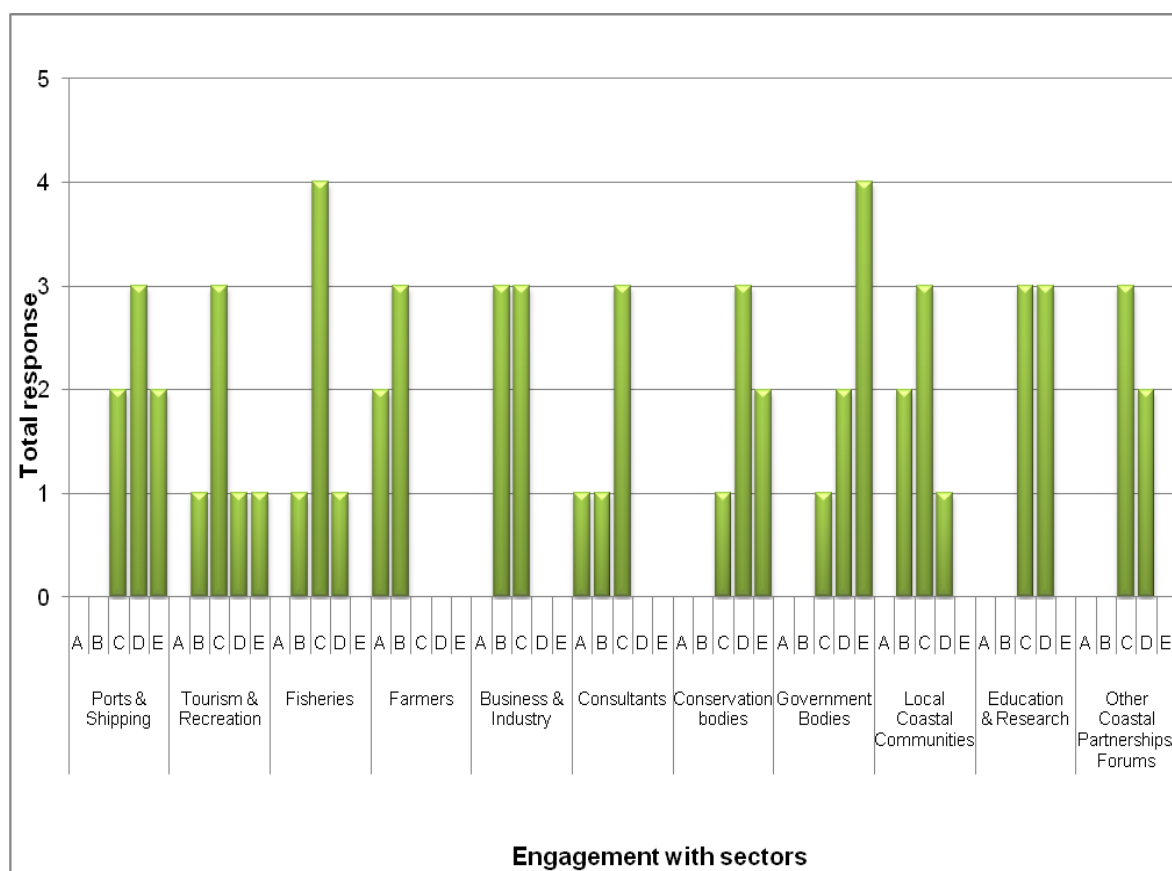
#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Weekly
<b>B</b>	Monthly
<b>C</b>	Quarterly
<b>D</b>	Bi-annually
<b>E</b>	Annually
<b>F</b>	On an 'ad-hoc' basis

Unlike MP areas 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; MP areas 6 and 7 utilise Coastal Surgeries as a communication mechanism; with half of the CPs that responded to this question stating that they use these on an ad-hoc basis. The greatest response was given to the bi-annual Forum option, which is employed by five out of the eight CPs which answered this question. Partnership websites, Forums and subgroups are all utilised by seven out of the eight CPs; with websites and E-news being the two most regular forms of communication.

One 'Other' response was given by the Isle of Wight Estuaries Project which stated that '*regular communication with funding partners, along with wider engagement, takes place as and when required*'. There was only one 'No response' – from the

Manhood Peninsula Partnership – in terms of the effectiveness of engagement with various sectors.



**Figure 50: Effectiveness of engagement between various sectors and Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 6 & 7. S**  
Source: CPN

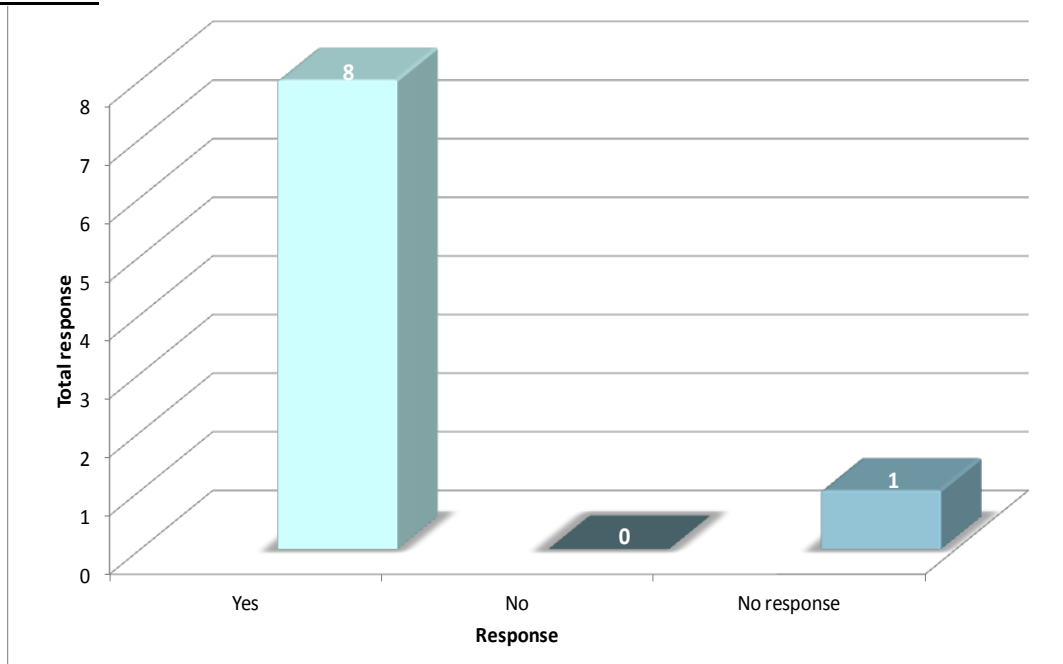
#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Not at all
<b>B</b>	Not very well
<b>C</b>	Well
<b>D</b>	Very well
<b>E</b>	Fully

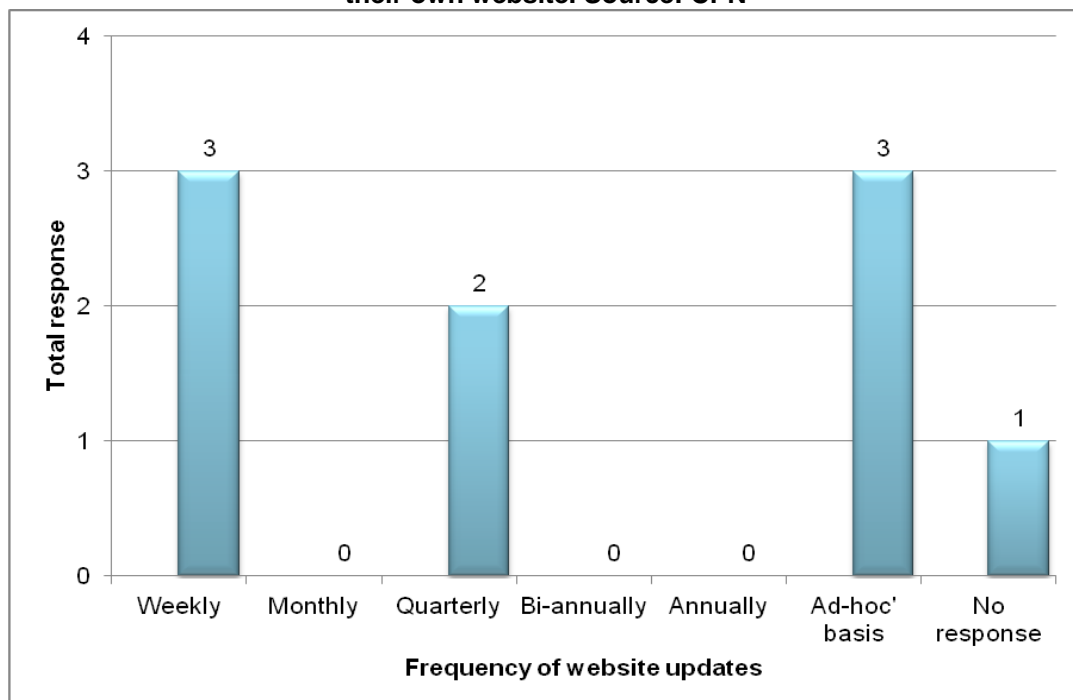
Two 'No responses' were given by the Exe Estuary Management Partnership and the Manhood Peninsula Partnership when CPs were asked about engagement effectiveness; therefore the results shown on Figure 50 represent the other seven CPs in this MP area. Government bodies, conservation bodies, tourism and recreation and ports and shipping were the only sectors identified as interacting 'fully' with some of the CPs; with the Government bodies sector gaining the greatest response from five out of the seven CPs.

The farming sector was identified as having the least successful level of interaction with CPs in this MP area; with three CPs stating that they interact *'not very well'* and two others stating *'not at all'*. Three sectors in particular – consultants, local coastal communities and business and industry – showed very mixed levels of interaction with CPs; with business and industry gaining 3 responses for *'not very well'* and three for *'well'*.

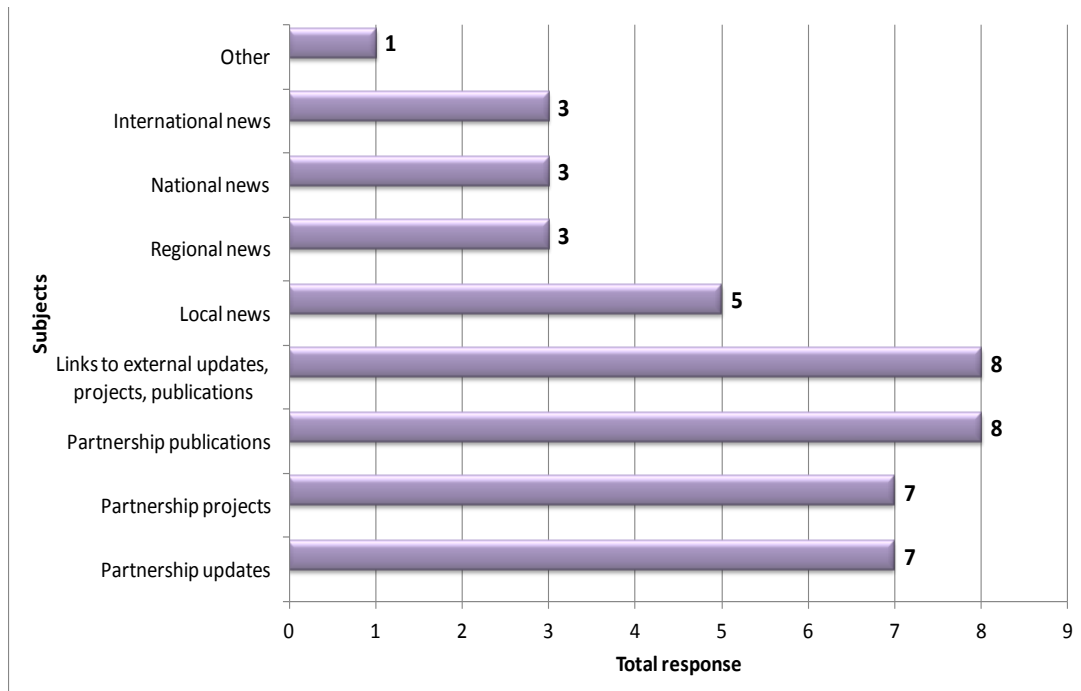
v) Website:



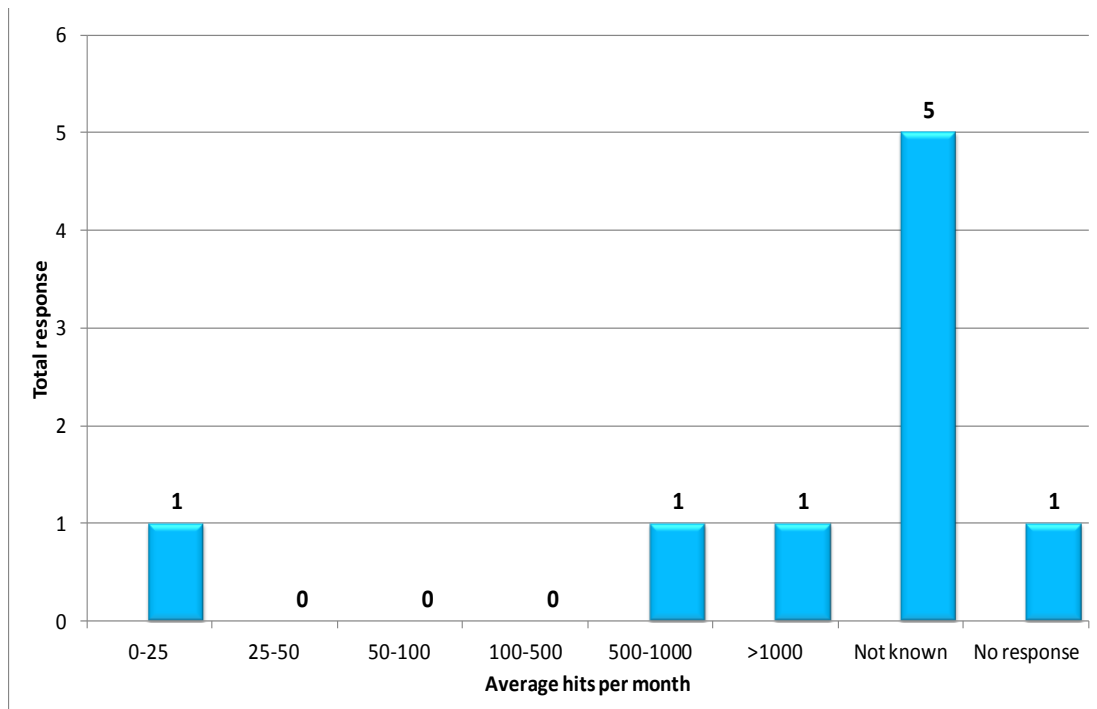
**Figure 51: Number of Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 6 & 7 which have their own website. Source: CPN**



**Figure 52: Frequency of website updates from all Coastal Partnerships in the proposed MP areas 6 & 7. Source: CPN**



**Figure 53: Subjects published on the websites of Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 6 & 7. Source: CPN**



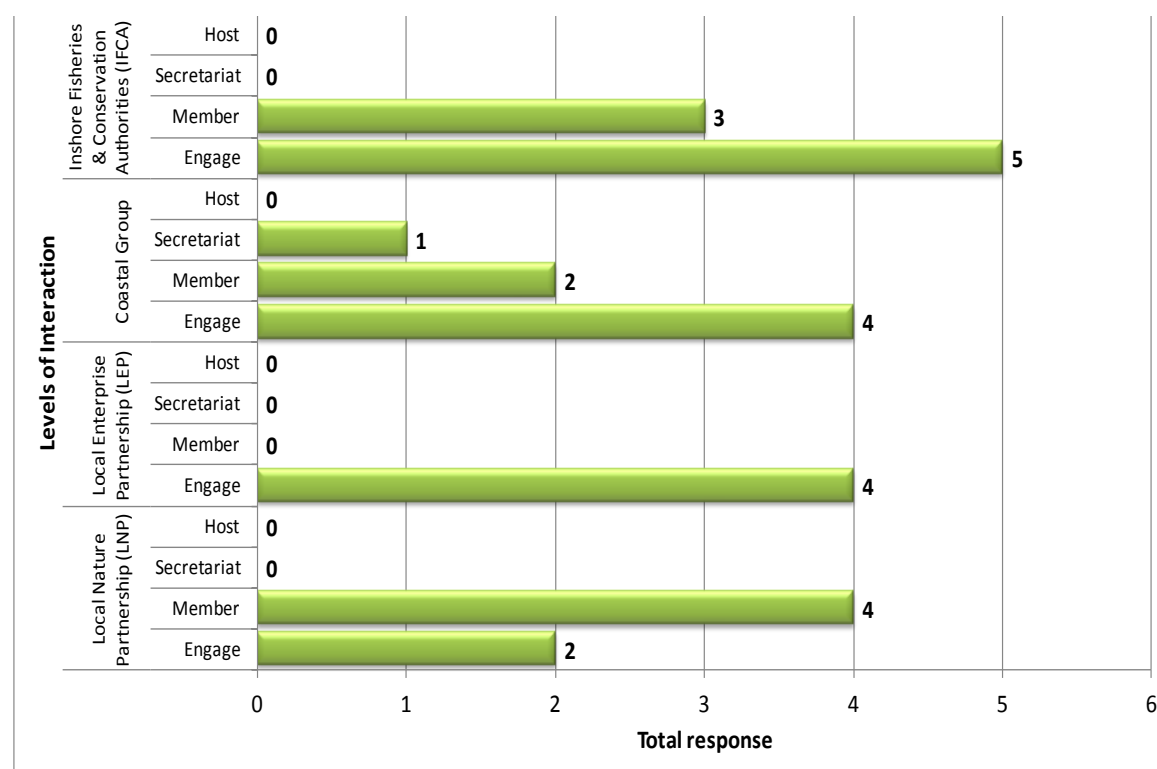
**Figure 54: Average number of hits per month received by the websites of all Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 6 & 7. Source: CPN**

Only one CP in this MP area did not respond to this question; the other eight participating CPs stated that they have their own website. Responses for the frequency of website updates varied; however website subjects were far more focused, with all participating CPs stating that they publish *'links to external updates, projects and publications'* and *'partnership publications'*. Three CPs – the Dorset Coast Forum, the Exe Estuary Management Partnership and the Devon Maritime Forum – publish international news.

One response was given for the *'Other'* category by the Isle of Wight Estuaries Project, which stated that it *'publishes local news and updates but this aspect is in need of updating. The CP also utilises the Harbour websites, however, wider communication tends to be on a project basis.'*

South Devon AONB is the only organisation in this MP area to know that its website gains over 1000 hits on average per month.

#### vi) Interactions



**Figure 55: Levels of interaction between various bodies and all of the Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 6 & 7.**

Source: CPN

Out of the nine CPs in this MP area, eight responded to this question; with all eight interacting with IFCAs. Only one CP – SeaTorbay – has a Secretariat role, with coastal groups. LNPs are also well represented, with four CPs being members and two engaging. Half of the participating CPs engage with LEPs – a relatively high interaction rate in comparison to other MP areas.



## viii) SWOT analysis

Table 6: SWOT analysis for all participating CP's in future MP areas 6 &amp; 7.

Source: CPN

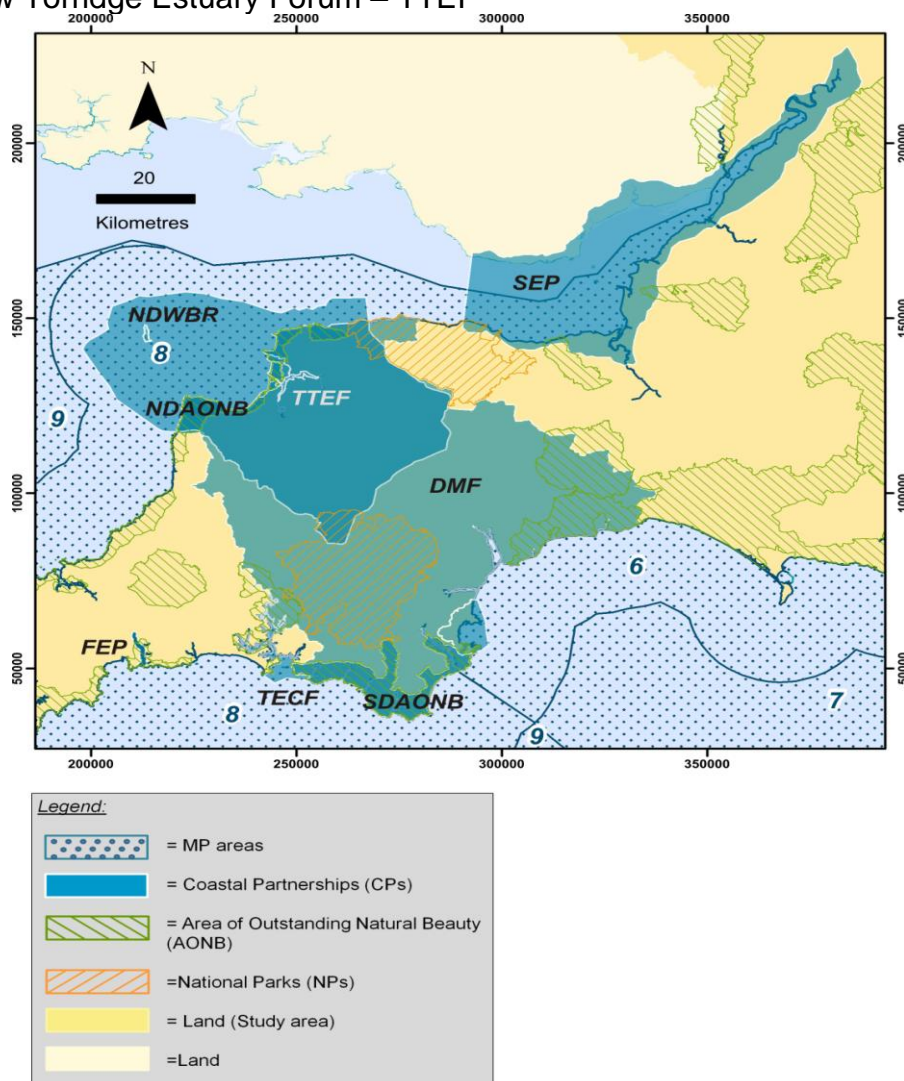
	<i>Helpful</i>	<i>Harmful</i>
<i>Internal Origin</i>	<p><b><u>Strengths</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 CPs in region with good inter-linkages.</li> <li>• Purposes: All participating CPs responded; to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their duties on the coast.</li> <li>• Purposes: ICZM; to provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast; environmental management/conservation; influencing policy and legislation.</li> <li>• Services: providing a central point of contact; community engagement and awareness raising; communication and dissemination of relevant information; facilitation role; provision of network opportunities; stakeholder engagement; provision of coastal expertise; promote collaborative working.</li> <li>• Additional services: assistance with coastal projects/grant applications.</li> <li>• Sectors: Good 'cross-sector' representation, with Government bodies showing the highest response value.</li> <li>• Communications: in general, very strong; especially web resources.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Weaknesses</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Despite volume of CPs, there are still gaps in spatial coverage e.g. between the Solent Forum and the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership.</li> </ul>
<i>External Origin</i>	<p><b><u>Opportunities</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Web resources could be developed further to reflect strength of CP network in this region.</li> <li>• Potential to use current Coastal Surgery's which are underutilised in neighbouring MP areas.</li> <li>• Opportunity to further utilise the (relatively common) service provided; informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy.</li> <li>• TECF has been appointed the single body which oversees and coordinates the management of the Tamar Estuaries – so TECF will be ready and able to work with MMO as and when marine planning comes to the South West.</li> <li>• TECF are present on an operational level as well as a strategic level.</li> <li>• Opportunities for further collaborative working between all CPs.</li> <li>• Potential coordinating role for CPN (see Chapter 5.0).</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Threats</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some individual CPs will only be able to provide their services to the MMO if funding is available.</li> </ul>

### 3.6. South West Inshore & South West Offshore Marine Plan Areas: 8 & 9

The South West MP areas consist of Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset, North Devon, parts of South Devon and Cornwall. These MP areas also border WG's responsibilities for marine planning at the midline of the Severn Estuary. There are 8 CPs that operate in these MP areas. However, due to resourcing issues, not all partnerships were able to complete the questionnaire and therefore could not be included in the detailed analysis, but have been incorporated in grey on the map.

Figure 56 shows MP areas 8 and 9 that contain the following CPs:

- Devon Maritime Forum – DMF
- Fowey Estuary Partnership (c/o Fowey Harbour Commissioners) – FEP
- North Devon AONB – NDAONB
- North Devon World Biosphere Reserve – NDWBR
- Severn Estuary Partnership – SEP
- South Devon AONB – SDAONB
- Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum –TECF
- Taw Torridge Estuary Forum – TTEF



**Figure 56: Remits of the Coastal Partnerships within MP areas 8 & 9.**

**Source: © Natural England copyright. Contains ordinance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012]. Other data from CPN members contains Ordinance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012].**

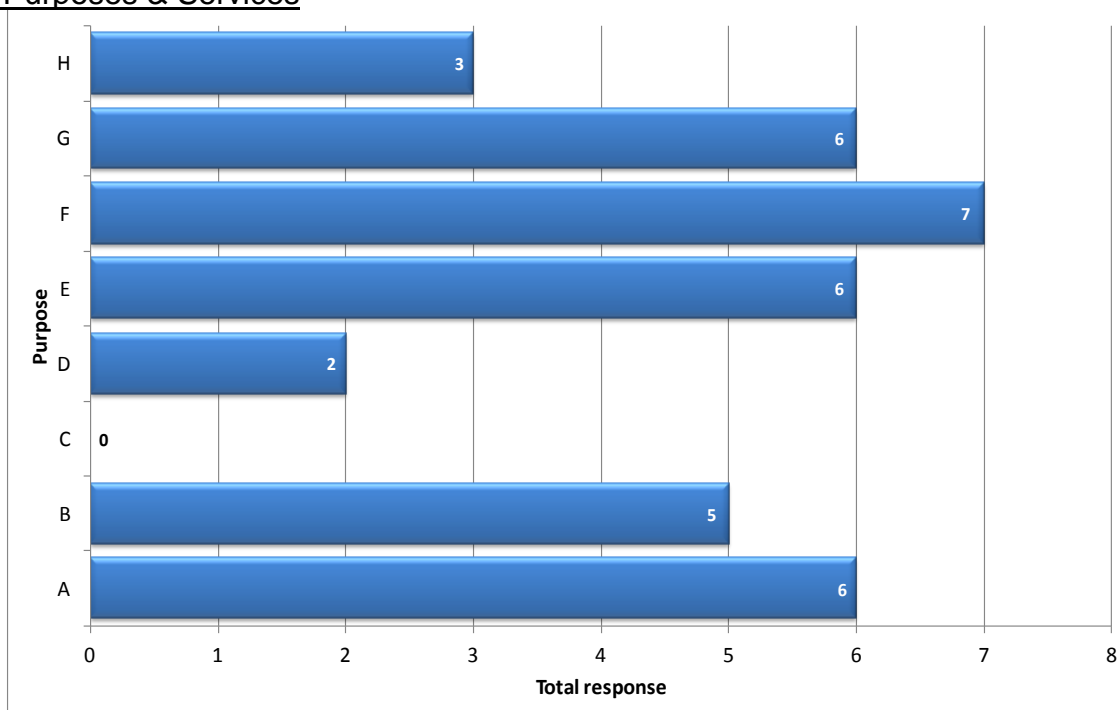
Whilst the Fal & Helford SAC Management Forum is located in these future MP areas, this organisation is not included in the following results. The Forum is limited to relevant authorities within the SAC. The Forum has 'Terms of Reference' and a Management Scheme; and the Forum 'functions' through quarterly meetings of representatives. Other than the very part time secretarial role the Council provides, there are no dedicated staff/officers and, as a group, they are rarely involved in particular projects. There is also no funding for this group.

The Severn Estuary Partnership is one of 2 cross-border partnerships which took part in the research phase of this study. The Devon Maritime Forum covers both North and South Devon coastlines, therefore extending into four of the proposed MP areas; 6, 7, 8 and 9.

**i) Geographical Coverage Gaps**

The coastline along these MP areas is extremely well covered in the Dorset, Devon and Bristol Channel regions. However, the Cornish coast still has major potential for neighbouring and experienced partnerships to assist in the setup of a Cornish Coastal Partnership – with the support of local partners – if the desire arises. In 2010, Cornwall Council commissioned a report from consultants Enfusion and Jim Claydon, to assist in preparing a high level and strategic document to guide Cornwall's maritime future and the Council's maritime functions (Cornwall Council, 2011). The consultation closed on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2012; the proposal for a Cornwall Maritime Forum came out of the development of this draft *Cornwall Maritime Strategy 2011-2030*; which involved considerable stakeholder engagement and is subject to public consultation. Whilst a number of maritime organisations exist in Cornwall, the majority are specialist; the Cornwall Maritime Forum would operate as an umbrella partnership seeking to bring together all organisations with a maritime interest. The draft Maritime Strategy is currently under review (Cornwall Council, 2012).

## ii) Purposes &amp; Services

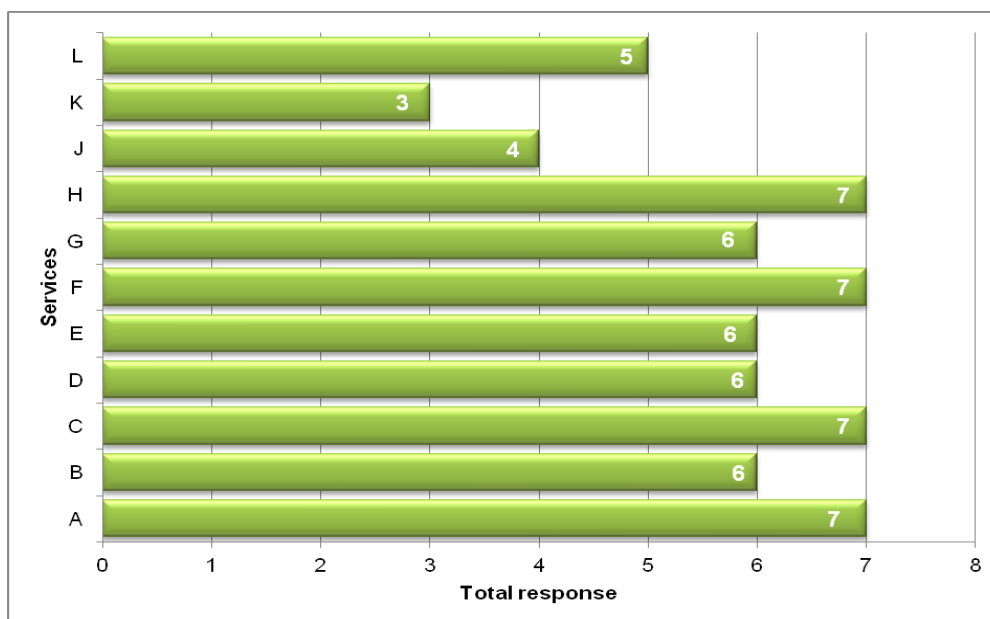


**Figure 57: Purposes of the Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 8 & 9.**  
Source: CPN

**LEGEND**

<b>A</b>	Integrated management of the coast (ICZM)
<b>B</b>	Environmental management/ conservation
<b>C</b>	Business and commercial support
<b>D</b>	Recreation and tourism
<b>E</b>	Influencing policy and legislation
<b>F</b>	To assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast
<b>G</b>	To provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast
<b>H</b>	Meeting statutory requirements

All seven CPs in this MP area stated that one of their main purposes was; *'to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast'*. Six CPs stated that, *'to provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast'*; *'influencing legislation and policy'* and *'ICZM'* were amongst their CPs main purposes. None of the participating CPs stated that providing *'business and commercial support'* was a main purpose of their partnership work.

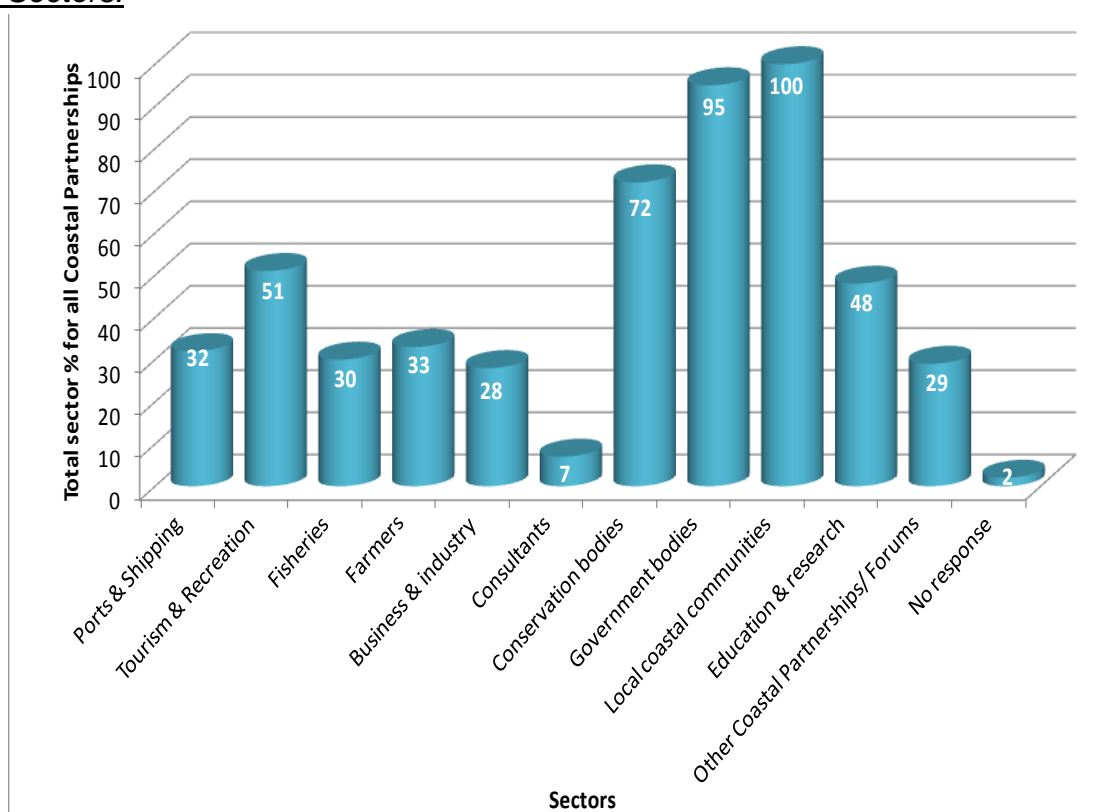


**Figure 58: Services provided by Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 8 & 9.**  
Source: CPN

#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Stakeholder engagement
<b>B</b>	Provision of network opportunities
<b>C</b>	Facilitation role
<b>D</b>	Communication - dissemination of relevant information
<b>E</b>	Community engagement and awareness raising
<b>F</b>	Informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy
<b>G</b>	Providing a central point of contact
<b>H</b>	Promote collaborative working
<b>J</b>	Provision of an up to date database
<b>K</b>	Commissioning or delivering relevant research
<b>L</b>	Provision of coastal expertise

Figure 58 illustrates the services that all seven CPs in these MP areas offer, including; *'to promote collaborative working'*; *'informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy'*; *'providing a facilitation role'* and *'stakeholder engagement'*. Only three CPs stated that *'commissioning or delivering relevant research'* was one of their main services.

*iii) Sectors:*

**Figure 59: Sectors represented in all Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 8 & 9.**  
**Source: CPN**

There were two '*No response*'s from the Fowey Estuary Partnership and the Devon Maritime Forum, therefore the values shown in Figure 59 above, represent the combined totals for the other five CPs. CPs within these MP areas are the only ones which indicated that the local coastal communities sector has a greater representation than the Government bodies sector – which displays the largest total values for all other MP areas. South Devon AONB gave the greatest total value of 30% for the coastal communities sector.

The consultancy sector drew the least number of responses, with a total of 7%; 5% of which was solely from the Severn Estuary Partnership. The total value of 32% for the ports and shipping sector was mainly provided by the Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum's sector representation value of 25%.

## iv) Communications

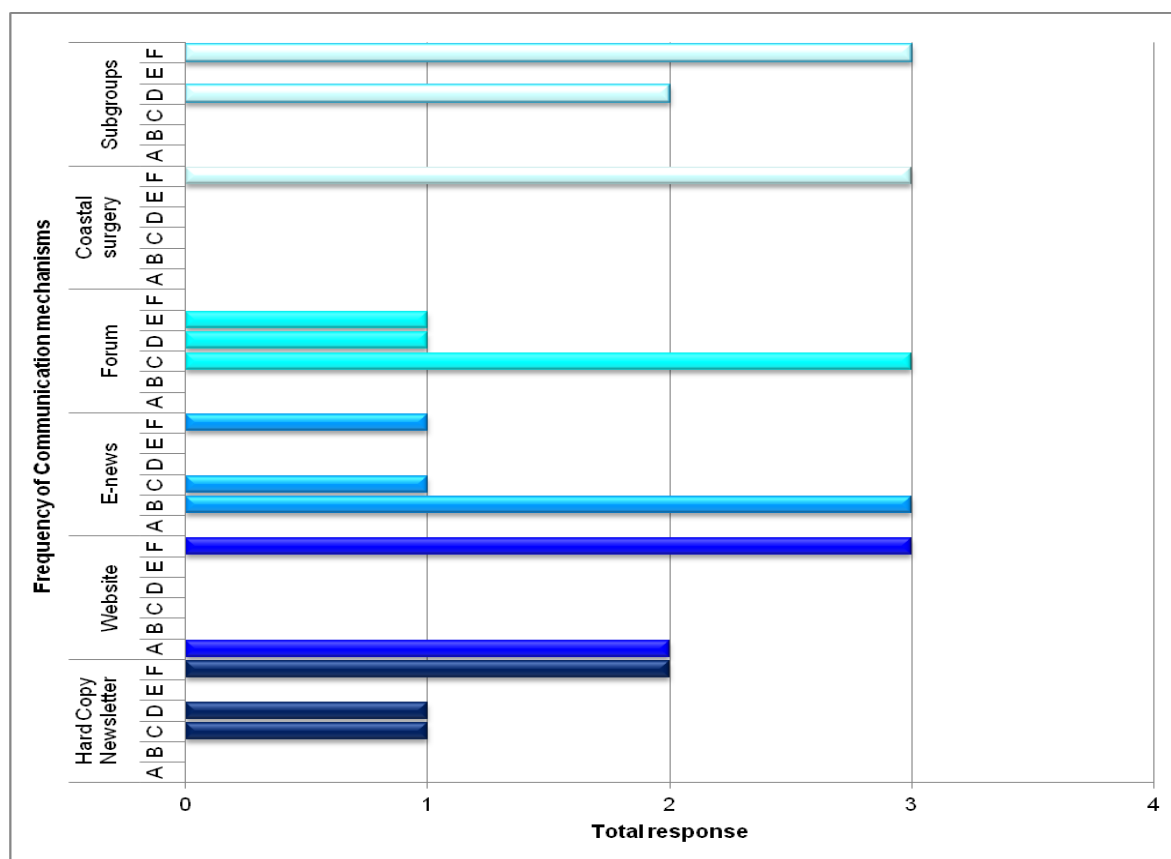
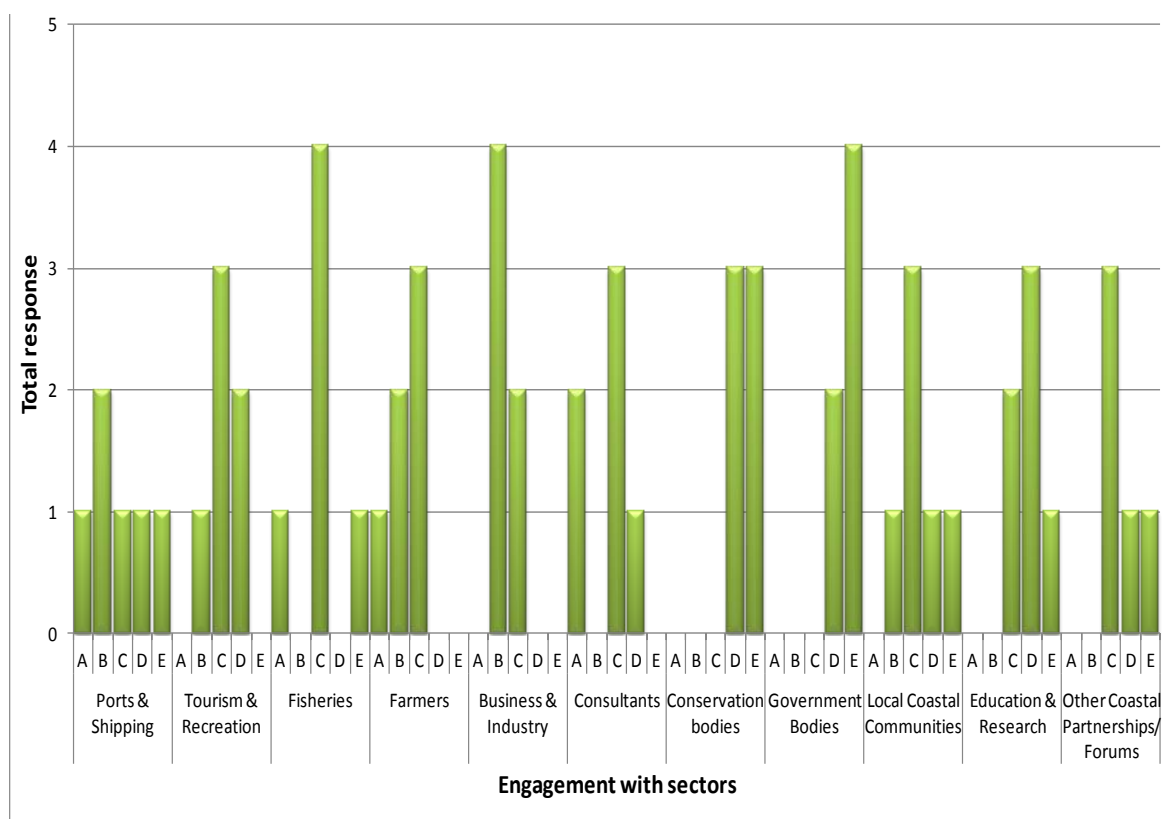


Figure 60: Communication mechanisms used by Coastal Partnerships in the proposed MP areas 8 & 9. Source: CPN

## LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Weekly
<b>B</b>	Monthly
<b>C</b>	Quarterly
<b>D</b>	Bi-annually
<b>E</b>	Annually
<b>F</b>	On an 'ad-hoc' basis

Out of the six CPs which answered this question, five utilise websites, E-news, Forums and subgroups as communication mechanisms. With the exception of 'Forums', all other mechanisms can be seen in Figure 60, as being utilised on an 'ad-hoc basis' by at least one CP in these MP areas. Only three CPs – the Severn Estuary Partnership, the North Devon World Biosphere Reserve and the Devon Maritime Forum – use coastal surgeries.



**Figure 61: Effectiveness of engagement between various sectors and Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 8 & 9.**

Source: CPN

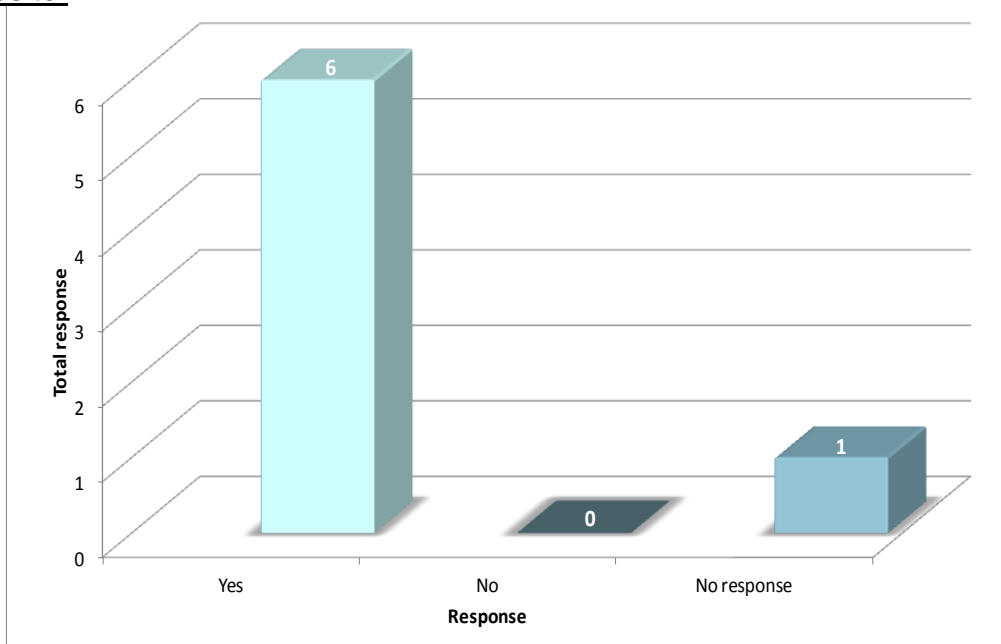
#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Not at all
<b>B</b>	Not very well
<b>C</b>	Well
<b>D</b>	Very well
<b>E</b>	Fully

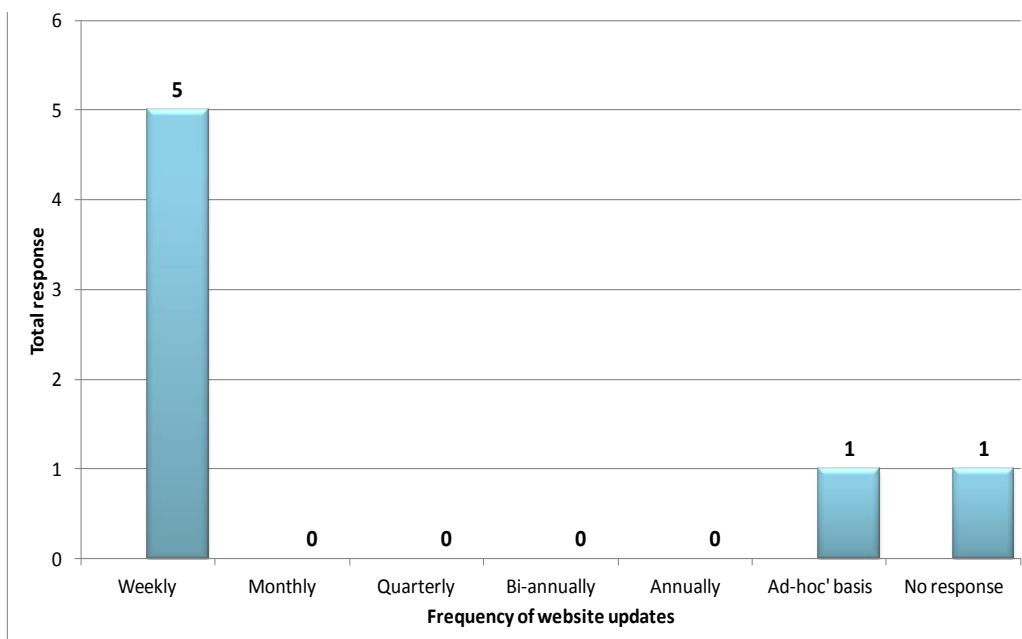
There is a broad range of responses shown in the ports and shipping and local coastal communities sectors in Figure 61; with CPs rating the effectiveness of communication within these sectors from 'not at all' to 'fully'. The sectors which only illustrated effective levels of communication with CPs were; 'education and research', 'conservation bodies', 'Government bodies' and 'other coastal partnerships/forums'.



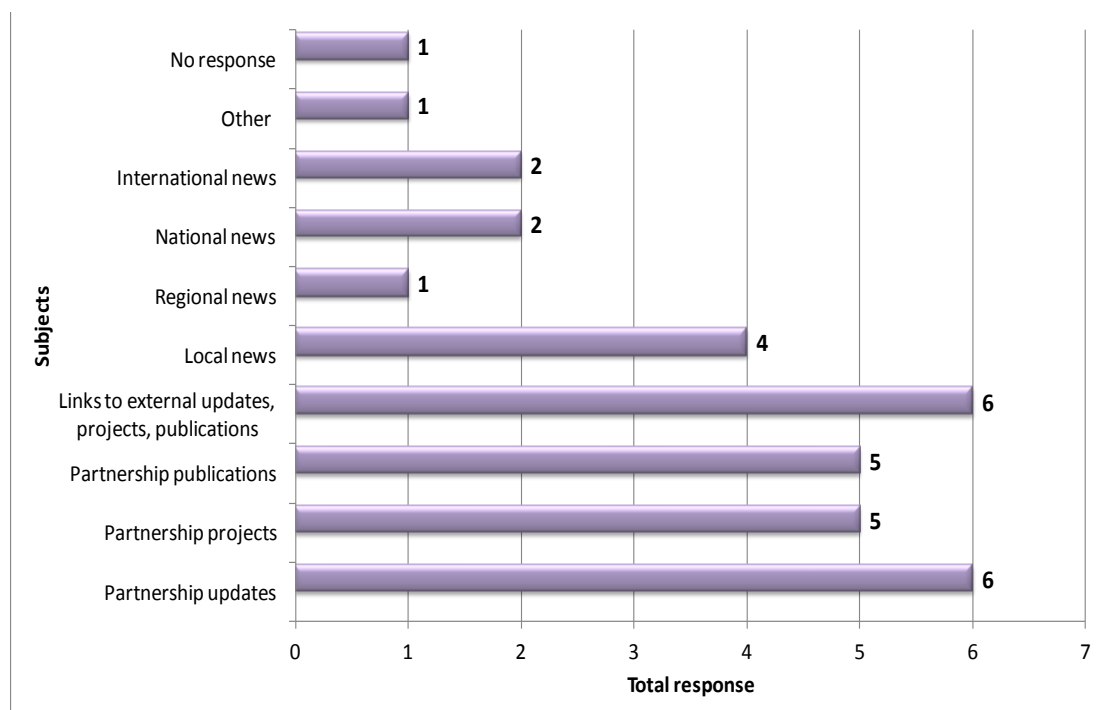
## v) Website:



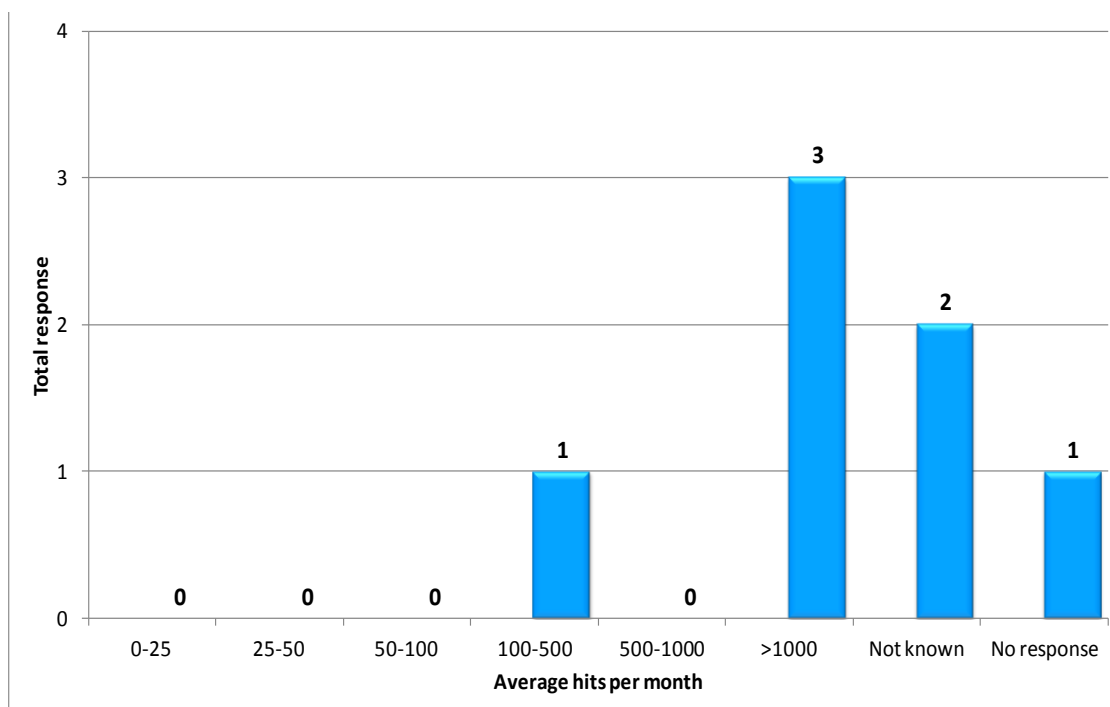
**Figure 62: Number of Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 8 & 9 which have their own website.**  
Source: CPN



**Figure 63: Frequency of website updates from all Coastal Partnerships in the proposed MP areas 8 & 9.**  
Source: CPN



**Figure 64: Subjects published on the websites of Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 8 & 9.**  
Source: CPN



**Figure 65: Average number of hits per month received by the websites of all Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 8 & 9.**  
Source: CPN

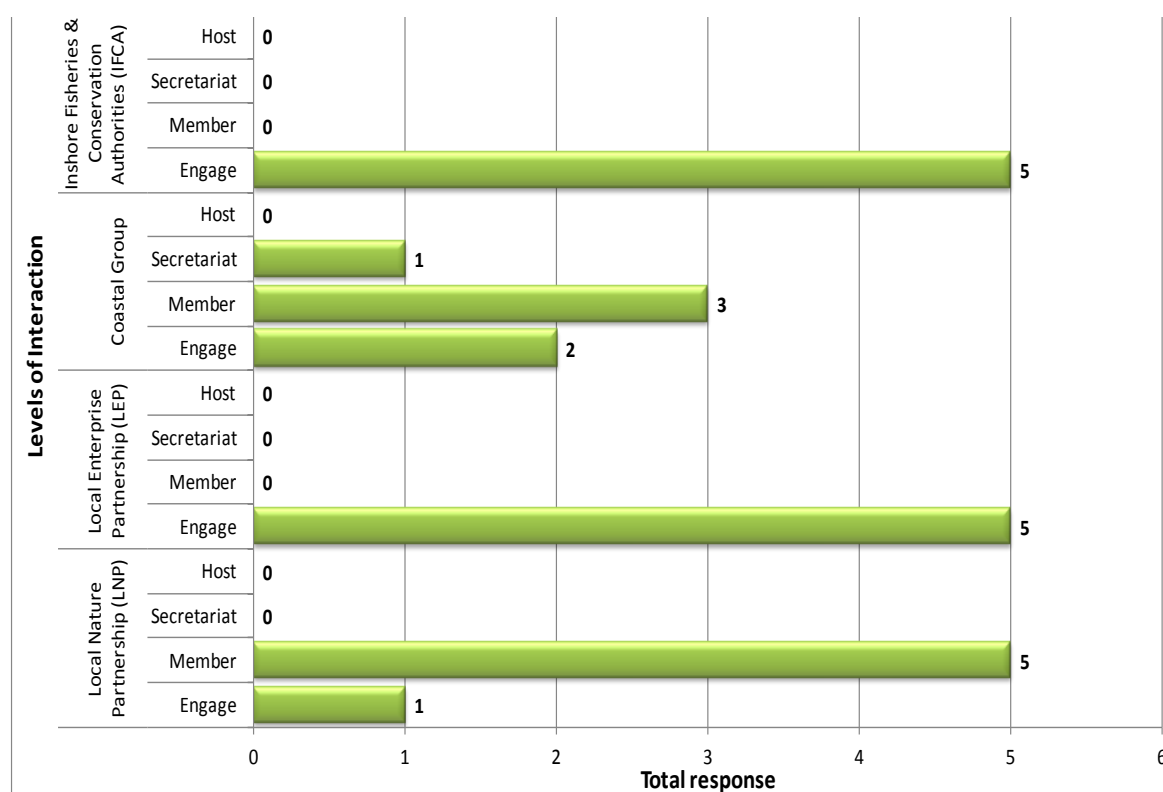
Out of the seven CPs in these MP areas, six responded to these questions and of those six, all have a website. All CPs update their websites on a weekly basis, with

the exception of the Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum which updates on an 'ad-hoc basis'.

All CPs stated that they publish, '*partnership updates*' and '*links to external updates, projects, publications*'. Only two organisations – the Devon Maritime Forum and the North Devon World Biosphere Reserve – publish national and international news. Only one '*Other*' response was given, by the Severn Estuary Partnership, who also publishes information on consultations.

Three organisations – the Severn Estuary Partnership, the North Devon AONB and the South Devon AONB – receive over 1000 hits on average per month, on their websites. The one response for '*100-500*' hits was given by the Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum.

*vi) Interactions:*



**Figure 66: Levels of interaction between various bodies and all of the Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP areas 8 & 9.**

**Source: CPN**

Only one CP in these MP areas is a secretariat. Figure 66 illustrates that the Severn Estuary Partnership provides the secretariat for the Severn Estuary Coastal Group. Engagement in these MP areas is greatest with IFCAs and LEPs. Membership is greatest for LNPs. The most *varied* interaction however, is with coastal groups.

In addition to the interactions shown in Figure 66, three responses were given in the 'Other' category. The Severn Estuary Partnership is also Secretariat and host to the Severn Estuary EMS (Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (ASERA)) and is Secretariat for the Bristol Channel Standing Environment Group. The Devon Maritime Forum is a member of the Marine Education Network and of the local fisheries action group. South Devon AONB hosts three Estuary Conservation Forums, is a member of the Harbours Stakeholder Group and is Secretariat to the Estuary Management Group (which meets on an ad-hoc basis).

*viii) SWOT analysis*

Table 7: SWOT analysis for all participating CP's in future MP areas 8 & 9.

Source: CPN

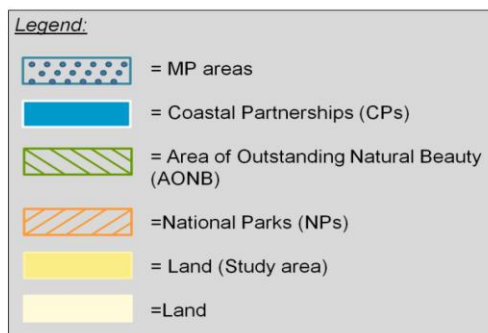
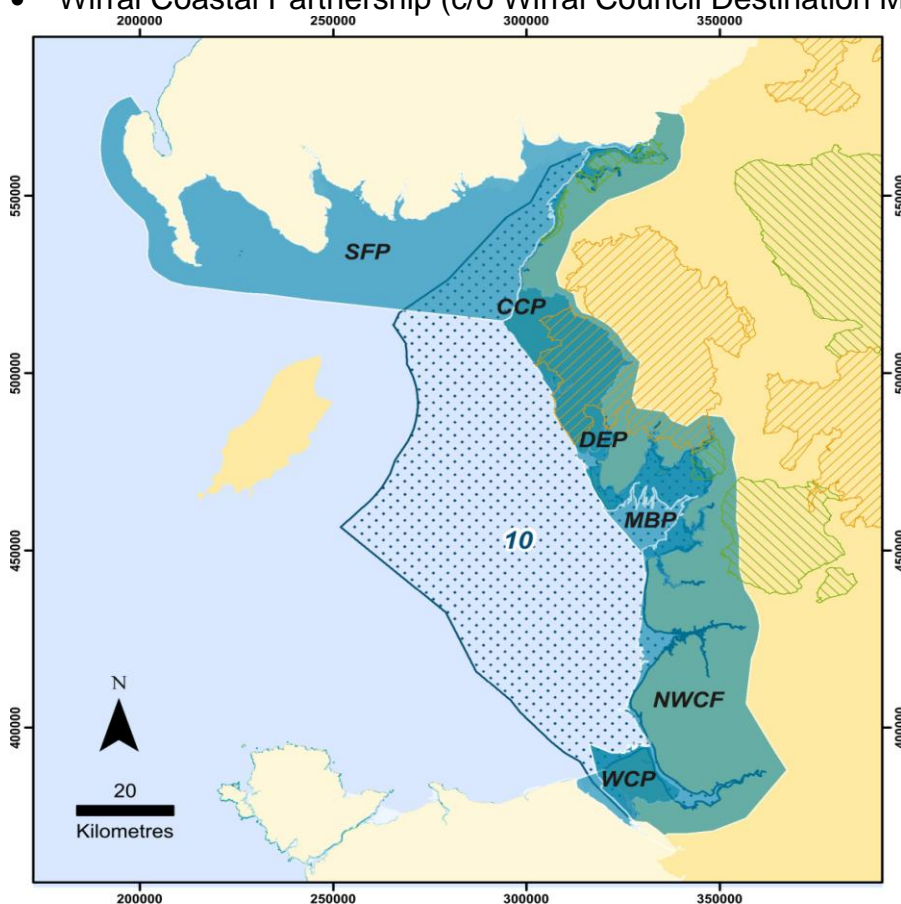
	<i>Helpful</i>	<i>Harmful</i>
<i>Internal Origin</i>	<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purposes: All CPs responded; to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast; to provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast; ICZM.</li> <li>• Purposes: 6 out of 7 CPs responded; influencing policy and legislation.</li> <li>• Services: All CPs responded:- informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy; facilitation role; stakeholder engagement; promote collaborative working.</li> <li>• Services: overall responses are extremely good.</li> <li>• Communications: all very good.</li> <li>• Engagement: 6 out of 7 CPs responded that engagement with Government bodies is very good.</li> <li>• Interactions: all very good and even include additional alternative interaction mechanisms.</li> <li>• Web resources: good.</li> <li>• Good geographic coverage.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Far greater variety in response regarding the effectiveness of engagement mechanisms – certain lack of consistency within MP areas.</li> </ul>
<i>External Origin</i>	<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisheries: interactions with fisheries sector are very good – potential to develop further.</li> <li>• Further web resource development.</li> <li>• Potential to develop strategic Coastal Partnership in Cornwall.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding cuts, which could reduce/eliminate the current levels of engagement leading to staff insecurity and ultimately high levels of staff turnover resulting in potential loss of momentum.</li> </ul>

### 3.7. North West Marine Plan Area: 10

The North West MP area comprises four ceremonial counties of England – Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside and Cheshire. Solway Firth Partnership, located in Dumfries, is the second of the two cross-border partnerships that participated in this study.

Figure 67 shows MP area 10 that contains the following CPs:

- Copeland Coastal Partnership (c/o Copeland Borough Council) – CCP
- Duddon Estuary Partnership – DEP
- Morecambe Bay Partnership – MBP
- North West Coastal Forum – NWCF
- Solway Firth Partnership – SFP
- Wirral Coastal Partnership (c/o Wirral Council Destination Marketing) – WCP



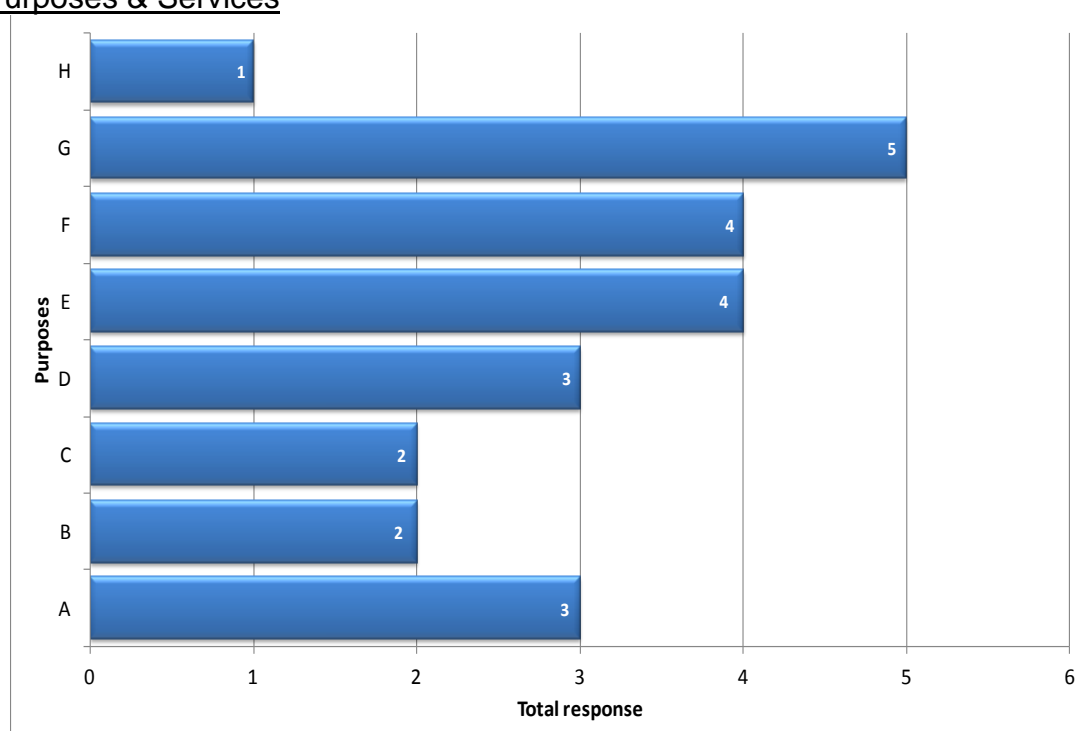
**Figure 67: Remits of the Coastal Partnerships within MP area 10.**

Source: © Natural England copyright. Contains ordinance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012]. Other data from CPN members contains Ordinance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2012].

### i) Geographical Coverage Gaps

MP area 10 has the most extensive coverage by CPs compared to any other MP area. Numerous remits extend offshore and widespread overlapping exists. This is dominated by the presence of the North West Coastal Forum, which – with the exception of the Scottish cross border Solway Firth Partnership – covers all other areas shown by CPs within this MP area.

### ii) Purposes & Services



**Figure 68: Purposes of the Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 10.**  
Source: CPN

#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Integrated management of the coast (ICZM)
<b>B</b>	Environmental management/ conservation
<b>C</b>	Business and commercial support
<b>D</b>	Recreation and tourism
<b>E</b>	Influencing policy and legislation
<b>F</b>	To assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast
<b>G</b>	To provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast
<b>H</b>	Meeting statutory requirements

Five out of the six CPs in this MP area stated that one of their main purposes was ‘to provide broadly based consultative forum on the coast’. Figure 68 illustrates that four CPs stated; ‘to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast’ and ‘influencing policy and legislation’ were amongst their main partnership purposes. Only one CP – Duddon Estuary Partnership – stated that ‘meeting statutory requirements’ was one of the its main purposes.

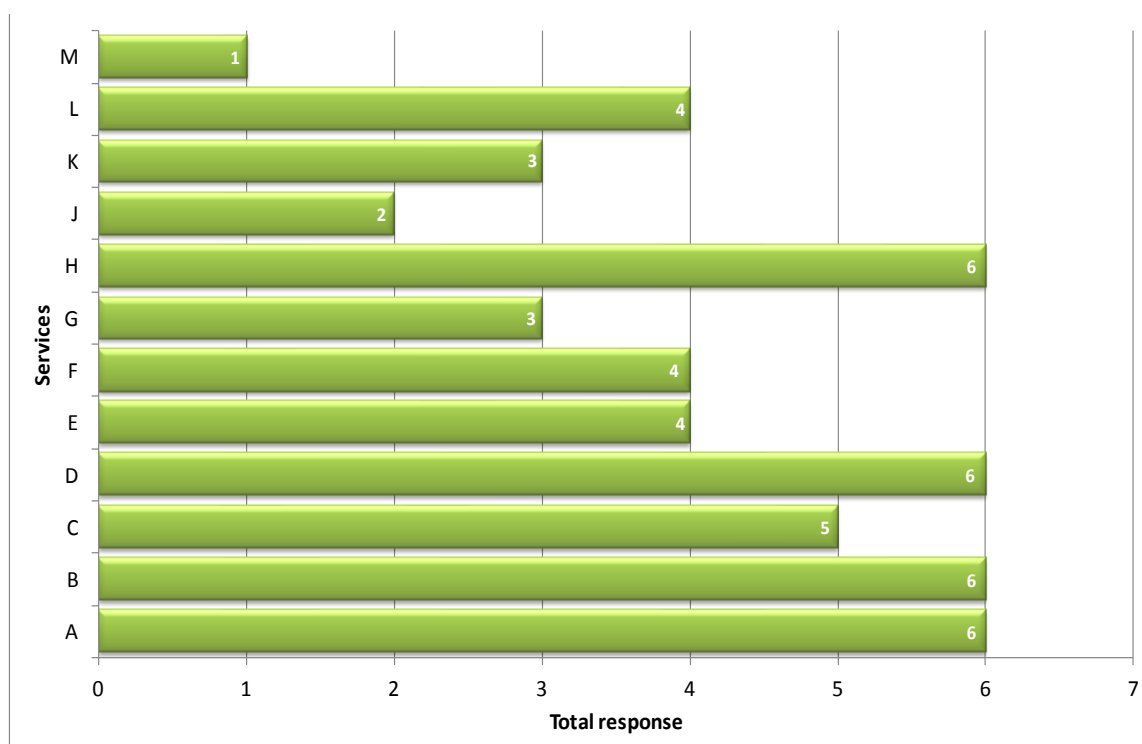


Figure 69: Services provided by Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 10.  
Source: CPN

#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Stakeholder engagement
<b>B</b>	Provision of network opportunities
<b>C</b>	Facilitation role
<b>D</b>	Communication - dissemination of relevant information
<b>E</b>	Community engagement and awareness raising
<b>F</b>	Informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy
<b>G</b>	Providing a central point of contact
<b>H</b>	Promote collaborative working
<b>J</b>	Provision of an up to date database
<b>K</b>	Commissioning or delivering relevant research
<b>L</b>	Provision of coastal expertise
<b>M</b>	Other

Figure 69 demonstrates that all six CPs share the provision of 4 key services: *'stakeholder engagement'*; *'provision of network opportunities'*; *'communication – dissemination of information'* and *'promotion of collaborative working'*. Four CPs consider their main partnership services to include: *'informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy'*; *'community engagement and awareness raising'* and *'the provision of coastal expertise'*.

Only one organisation gave a response in the *'Other'* category; the North West Coastal Forum stated that *'running of relevant events – this is a major activity for the Forum and is a major way of communicating to a range of audiences. It is also the activity that gets the most outside interest and income'*.

### iii) Sectors

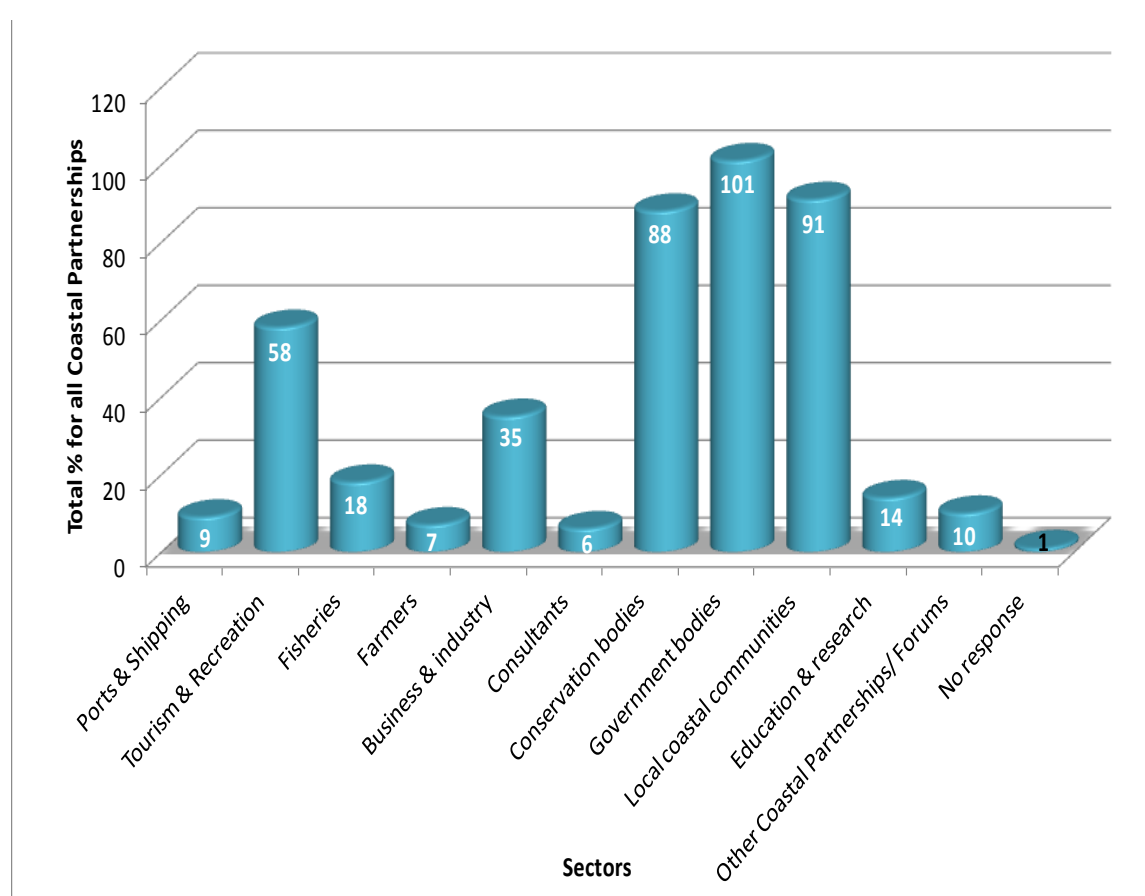


Figure 70: Sectors represented in all Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 10.  
Source: CPN

Only one CP – Morecambe Bay Partnership – did not provide an answer for this question, therefore the values shown on Figure 70 represent the combined total of all the other CPs in this MP area. Unlike a number of other MP area graphs showing relatively even sector representation within CPs; Figure 70 illustrates 'sector dominance' by three sectors in particular: *'Government bodies'*, *'local coastal communities'* and *'conservation bodies'*. 40% of the Government bodies combined



total (of 101%) was identified by Copeland Coastal Partnership alone. Copeland also represented 40% of the local coastal communities sector. For the conservation bodies sector, the Duddon Estuary Partnership represented 40%; nearly half of the combined total value (of 88%) for that sector. Tourism and recreation, whilst not the highest overall value, also has its total sector value dominated by one CP – Wirral Coastal Partnership (representing 30%).

Consultants can be identified as the sector with the smallest total % from all CPs in this MP area; with all 6% representing the North West Coastal Forum's response.

#### iv) Communications

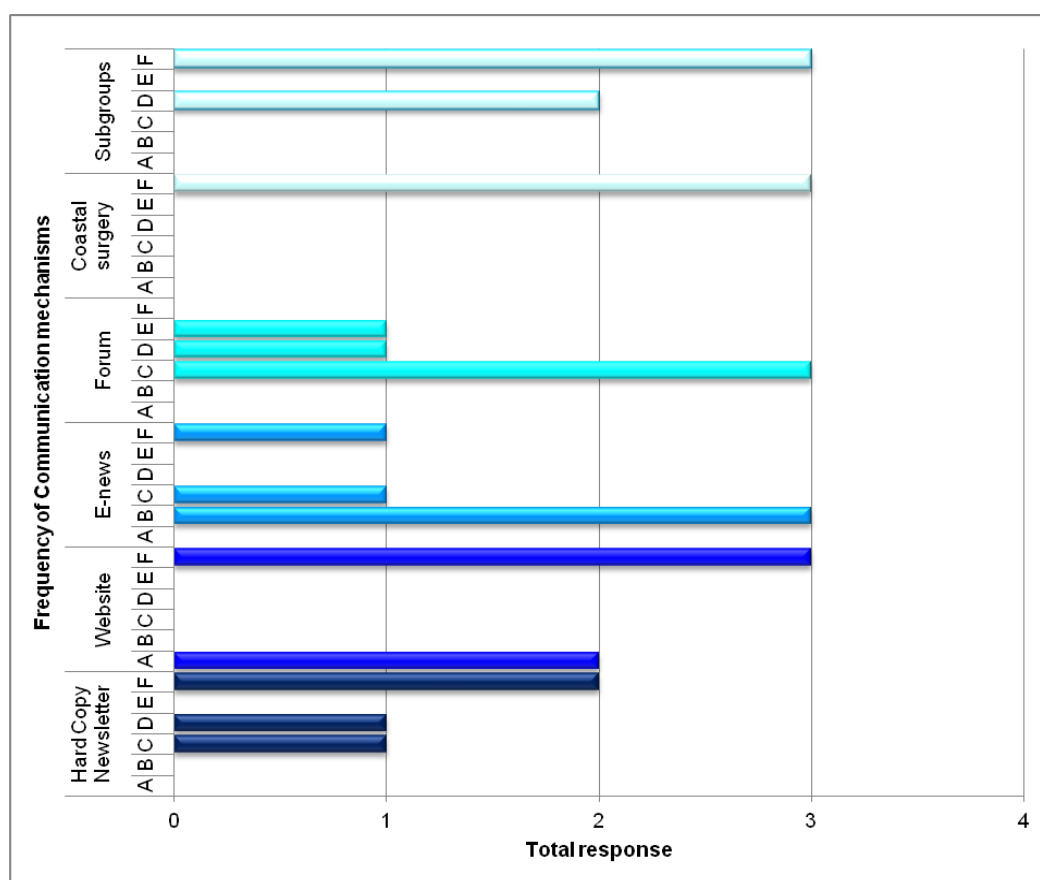
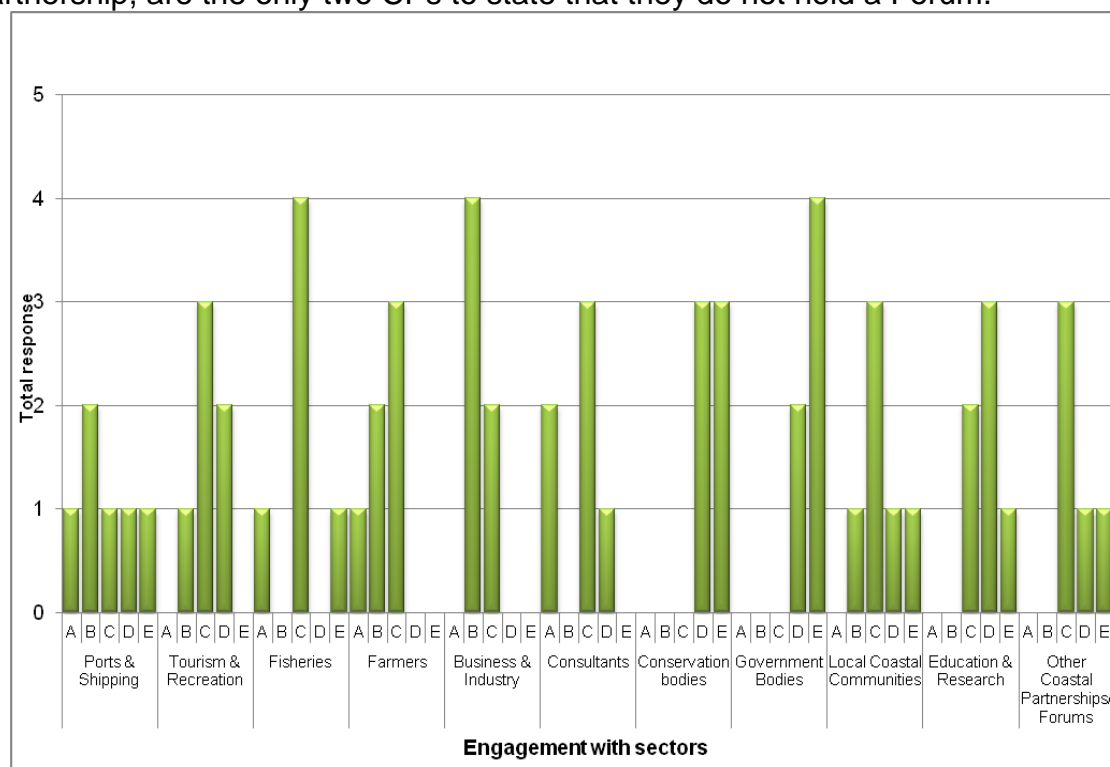


Figure 71: Communication mechanisms used by Coastal Partnerships in the proposed MP area 10.  
Source: CPN

#### LEGEND

<b>A</b>	Weekly
<b>B</b>	Monthly
<b>C</b>	Quarterly
<b>D</b>	Bi-annually
<b>E</b>	Annually
<b>F</b>	On an 'ad-hoc' basis

Figure 71 illustrates that E-news, websites, forums and sub groups are the most popular communication mechanisms, utilised by five out of the six CPs in this MP area. Whilst Coastal surgeries are only used by two CPs – Morecambe Bay Partnership and the Duddon Estuary Partnership – Morecambe Bay Partnership utilises this mechanism annually. Morecambe Bay Partnership also utilises sub groups on a monthly basis. Solway Firth Partnership and Copeland Coastal Partnership, are the only two CPs to state that they do not hold a Forum.



**Figure 72: Effectiveness of engagement between various sectors and Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 10.**

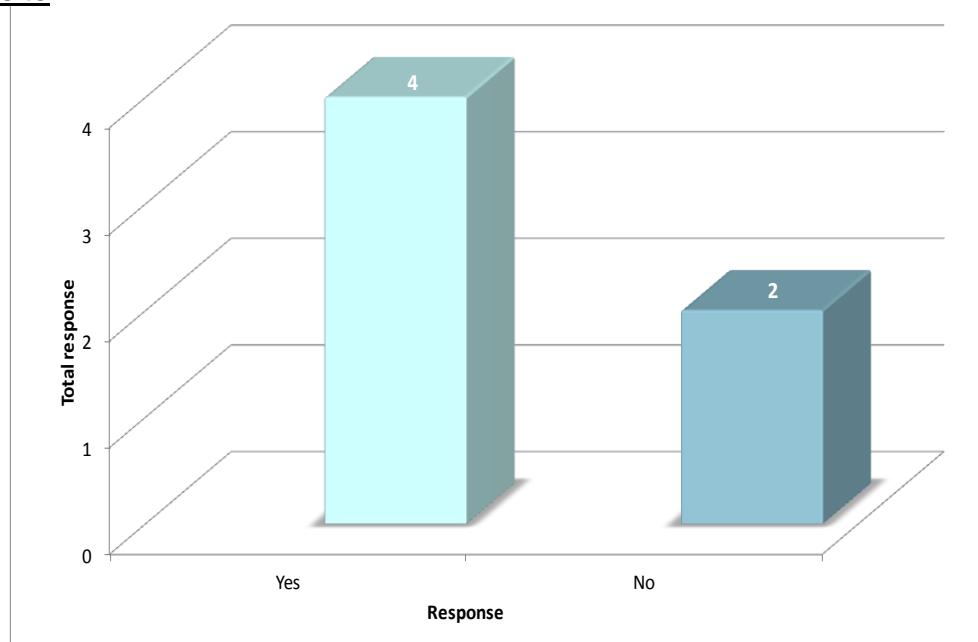
Source: CPN

#### LEGEND

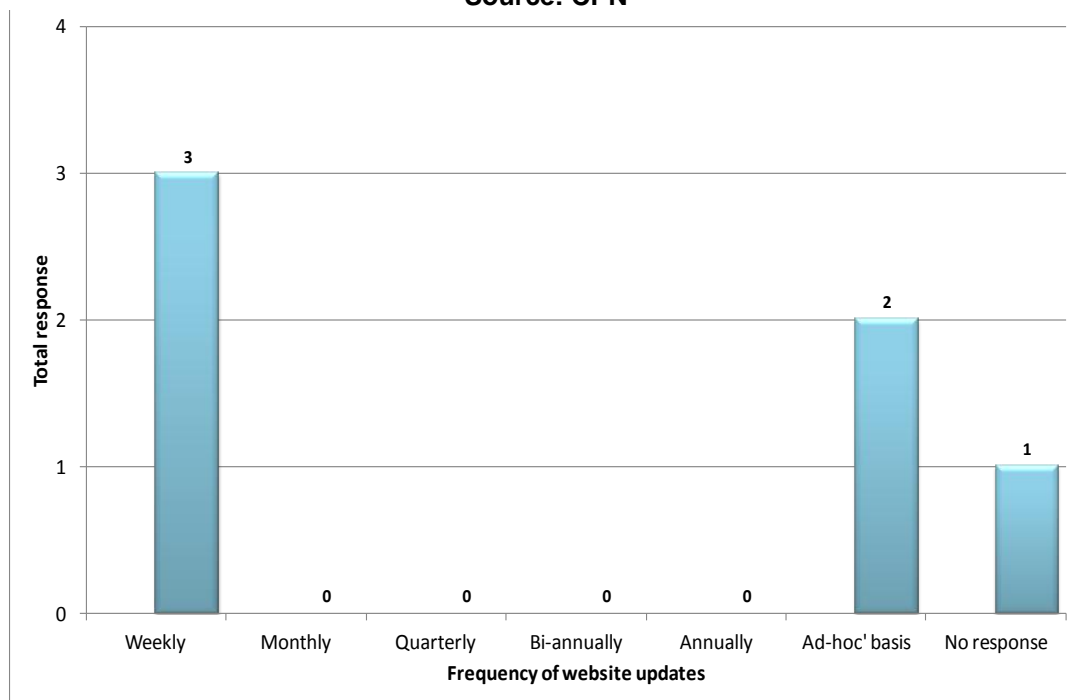
<b>A</b>	Not at all
<b>B</b>	Not very well
<b>C</b>	Well
<b>D</b>	Very well
<b>E</b>	Fully

Figure 72 illustrates the great range in how CPs perceive the effectiveness of their communications with certain sectors. The most varied response given for one sector can be seen in fisheries; in which responses range from 'Not at all' to 'fully'. Other sectors which display similar mixed responses are, farmers and consultants. The sector displaying the majority of the less effective engagement was ports and shipping; which gained one 'not at all' and three 'not very well' responses. The most effective engagement can be seen with 'other coastal partnerships/forums' and 'conservation bodies'.

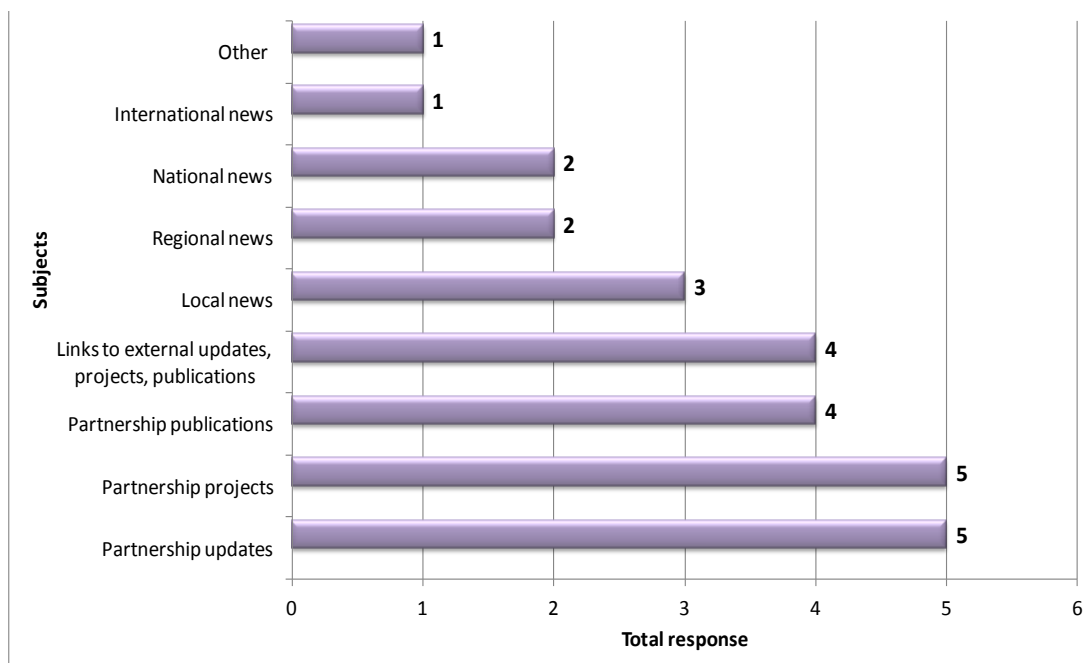
## v) Website



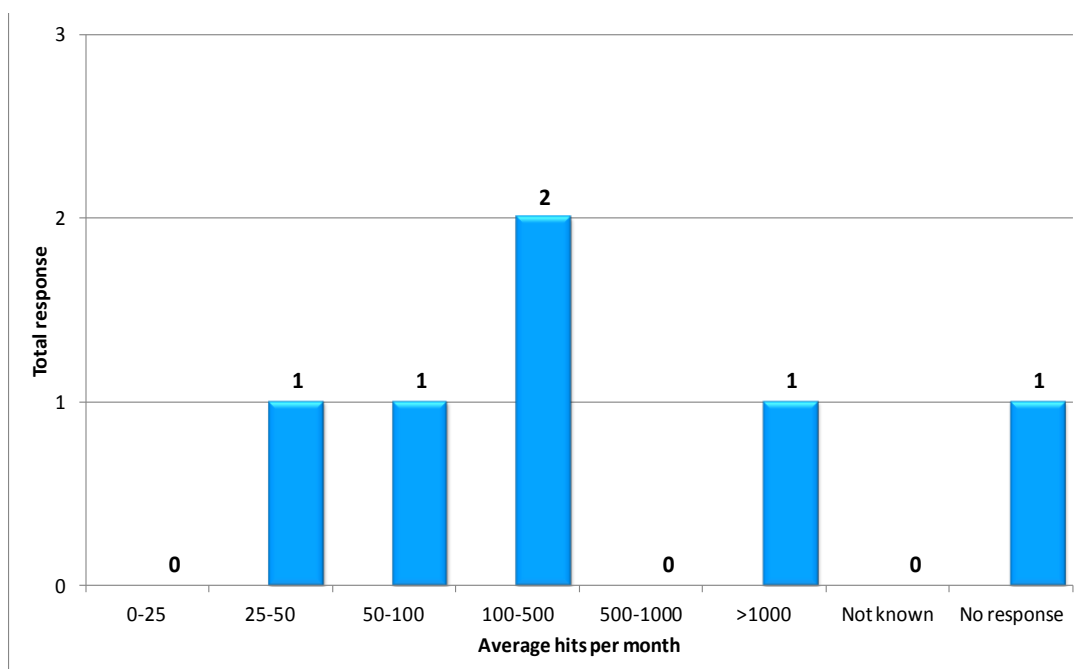
**Figure 73: Number of Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 10 which have their own website.**  
Source: CPN



**Figure 74: Frequency of website updates from all Coastal Partnerships in the proposed MP area 10.**  
Source: CPN



**Figure 75: Subjects published on the websites of Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 10.**  
**Source: CPN**



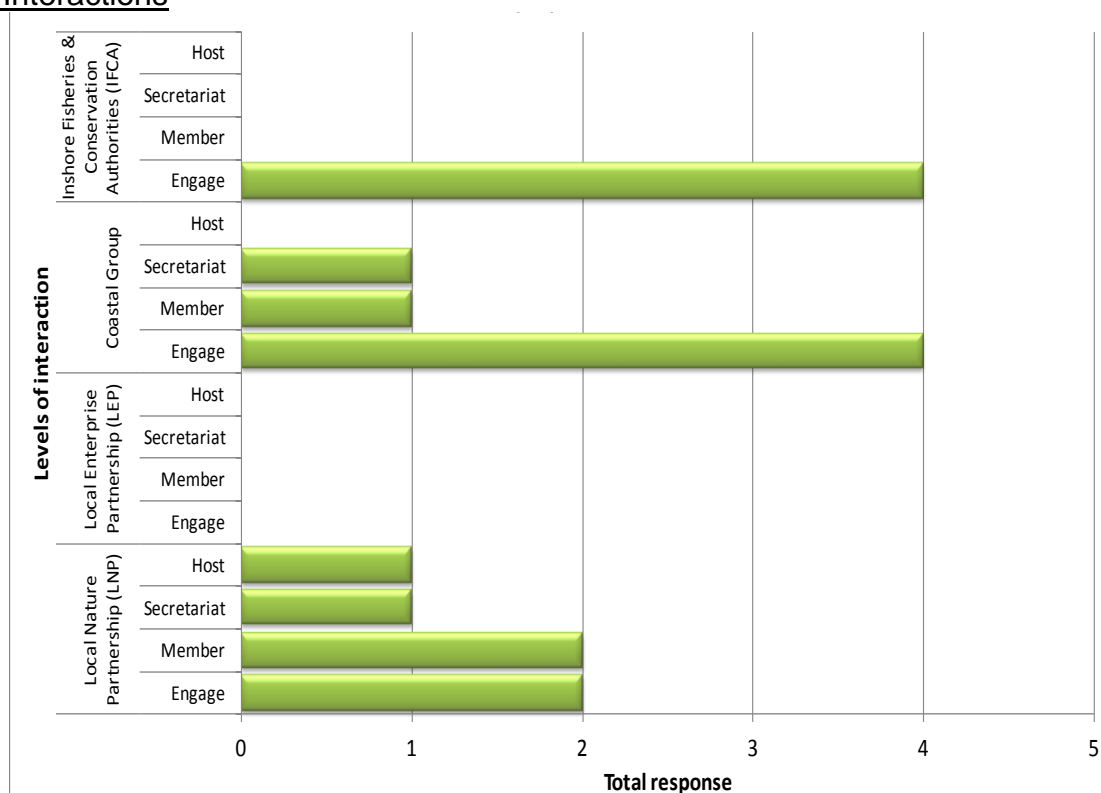
**Figure 76: Average number of hits per month received by the websites of all Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 10.**  
**Source: CPN**

Only two CPs in this MP area are without a website; Copeland Coastal Partnership and Wirral Coastal Partnership; however Copeland has a page within the Copeland

Borough Council website. Half of the CPs that have their own website, update it on a weekly basis.

All the CPs that have their own website, publish '*partnership updates*' and '*partnership projects*'. Only one CP – the North West Coastal Forum (NWCF) – publishes '*international news*' and gave a response in the '*Other*' category; stating that the Forum also publishes '*news on Forum and external events, and provides a resource library containing partnership and external publications*'. The NWCF also receives the largest number of hits on average per month (>1000), whilst the Duddon Estuary Partnership receives the least (25-50). These figures are to be expected, given the spatial coverage of each organisation.

#### vi) Interactions



**Figure 77: Levels of interaction between various bodies and all of the Coastal Partnerships within the proposed MP area 10.**

**Source: CPN**

A study completed by the Statistical Analysis Directorate and published by the Department for Business Innovation and Skills, states that there are currently 39 LEPs around the UK – with 6 developing in and around the areas covered by CPs in MP area 10 (BIS, 2012). Whilst none of the CPs in this MP area currently interact with LEPs, they all stated that this is because the LEPs are in an establishment phase and so are not yet working together.

Interaction with LNPs, takes place on every scale; host, secretariat, member, engage – with Morecambe Bay Partnership playing host to and being secretariat of an LNP.

Four out of the six CPs engage with IFCA and coastal groups; with the North West IFCA being a member of the NWCF Board.

The NWCF was the only CP to give a response in the '*Other*' category, stating that they try to stay abreast of relevant developments, get involved as needed on steering groups and attend relevant workshops. For example the NWCF was on the Regional Stakeholder Group for Marine Conservation Zones whilst also being involved in earlier meetings to decide who would be in that group.

## viii) SWOT analysis:

Table 8: SWOT analysis for all participating CP's in the future MP area 10.

Source: CPN

	<i>Helpful</i>	<i>Harmful</i>
<i>Internal Origin</i>	<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purposes: 4 out of 6 CPs stated: to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast; and influencing policy and legislation.</li> <li>• Services: All CPs responded: stakeholder engagement; provision of network opportunities; communication and dissemination of relevant information; promote collaborative working.</li> <li>• Services: 4 out of 6 CPs responded: facilitation role; community engagement and raising awareness; informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy; provision of coastal expertise.</li> <li>• Sectors: Government bodies show the highest sector representation.</li> <li>• Communications: Unique in that a CP in this MP area offers biennial meetings in addition to all of the other response options.</li> <li>• Engagement: greatest between government bodies and other coastal partnerships/groups.</li> <li>• NWCF: MP area is unique in having a regional coastal Forum that operates at a strategic level. No other region (or English MP area) has this.</li> <li>• Database: is not local, it is regional and beyond; a powerful tool for engaging at the MP area scale. As such the stakeholders that the NWCF regularly talk to and liaise with are often at a higher level or have responsibility for more spatially wide areas within their organisations than might be found typically in a local CPs database.</li> <li>• Events: track record of events delivery which attracts a very wide range of interests from right across the region. Both Defra and the MMO have made use of this in asking NWCF to organise events for them.</li> <li>• PISCES: Even without the 'strategic layer' provided by the NWCF, the MP area's local CPs have a history of talking to each other via the PISCES network. This – although it predates the formation of the NWCF – now sits as a standing sub-group of the NWCF.</li> <li>• Good geographic coverage and inter-linkages/coordination between all CPs – aided by the regional NWCF remit.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sectors: Not as broad/even 'cross-sector' representation as displayed in other MP areas.</li> <li>• Engagement: with farming sector is particularly poor.</li> <li>• Interactions: None yet with LEPS.</li> </ul>

<b>External Origin</b>	<p><b><u>Opportunities</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal surgeries: currently underutilised – potential for development.</li> <li>• Communication mechanisms – potential to exploit further</li> <li>• LEP: potential/need to develop interaction.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Threats</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding cuts: Even before current crisis, NW lost Dee, Ribble and Mersey Estuary Partnerships because of funding changes. Most recently Sefton Coast Partnership has disappeared because Sefton Council, who used to provide the secretariat, has had severe cuts.</li> <li>• Sectoral support: Falling, because of funding and associated time constraints in private sector. Most recently lost port involvement because sector cannot afford the time to come to NWCF Board meetings (short staffed and very pressured due to cuts within their own organisation).</li> <li>• Copeland: Public sector and funding cuts: most CPs have significant involvement from the public sector and are forced more and more into carrying out only statutory duties as most other areas are cut. Raising external funds is also becoming increasingly difficult.</li> </ul>
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## 4. Key Findings & Analysis

### 4.1 Overall SWOT analysis

Table 9: Overall SWOT analysis for all participating CPs in England.

Source: CPN

	<i>Helpful</i>	<i>Harmful</i>
<b>Internal Origin</b>	<p><b>Strengths:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. CP purposes: every MP area had CPs which stated that one of their main purposes was to ‘assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast’.</li> <li>ii. CP services: every MP area had CPs which stated the main services provided were: ‘informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy; stakeholder engagement; and communication and dissemination of relevant information.’</li> <li>iii. Extensive contact networks</li> <li>iv. Trusted facilitators.</li> <li>v. Neutrality: all CPs identified themselves as being neutral bodies.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Gaps in coverage: most apparent in MP areas 8, 9 and parts of 6 and 7.</li> <li>ii. Responses: lack of responses to certain sections of the CPN – wide Questionnaire (especially in MP areas 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9.</li> <li>iii. Web resources: weak in certain regions (especially MP areas 1, 2, 3 and 4).</li> </ul>
<b>External Origin</b>	<p><b>Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Coastal Surgeries: very useful within stakeholder engagement - in some cases however, this mechanism is underutilised, therefore possibility of further development.</li> <li>ii. Web resources: could be a powerful tool in disseminating information to all CP stakeholders around England.</li> <li>iii. Further integration between local CPs, possibly coordinated by CPN and regional CPs (see Chapter 5.0 recommendations).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Funding cuts: affects staff numbers, projects workings, staff security.</li> <li>ii. Gaps in coverage: if gaps continue, this could affect the efficacy of communication on marine planning.</li> <li>iii. External funds: becoming increasingly difficult to raise external funds (especially in MP area 10).</li> <li>iv. Sectoral support: continuing to fall (especially in MP area 10).</li> </ul>

### 4.2 Analysis

#### 4.2.1 Identified Common Strengths of Coastal Partnerships

The varying degrees at which CPs operate – ecosystem-based, site-based, local, regional etc – not only proves that CPs are capable of working efficiently across a broad spectrum of geographic scales; but it also illustrates how the tiered structure of CPs in general, lends itself to providing effective collaboration and communication with both internal and external stakeholders alike.

The neutrality of CPs and the CPN, also provides a platform on which open and transparent debate upon all coastal issues can take place. The success of this unique neutrality can be seen in the vast array of representatives and stakeholders from both the public and private sectors, who feel they can trust their local CP. The network of CPs which has been established over the years, and which is lead by the CPN, provides strong links between each and every CP – allowing Partnerships to learn from each other and continually strive to improve both their services and the professional expertise they provide to non-statutory and statutory bodies, such as the MMO.

The strengths of the services provided by every participating CP, are highlighted by the fact that every MP area hosts CPs which state that their primary services are; *‘informing coastal/maritime planning, policy, legislation and strategy’*; *‘stakeholder engagement’*; and *‘communication and dissemination of relevant information’*.

CPs within every MP area stated that one of their primary Partnership purposes is *‘to assist agencies and authorities in carrying out their functions on the coast’*; automatically illustrating the strong link between the functions and guidance of CPs and the aims of this report.

#### *4.2.2 Identified Common Weaknesses of Coastal Partnerships*

Certain communication mechanisms – such as Coastal Surgeries described in Chapter 3.1 – are currently underutilised by certain CPs in some MP areas; although further analysis is needed to determine whether there is a need for this form of communication. Wherever ‘weaknesses’ have been identified, a system of standardised practices needs to be established; which can be achieved through CPs learning from each other and individual cases of best practice. Web resources are also an aspect of CP communications - especially within MP areas 3 and 4 – which could be further exploited in order to increase the efficiency of information dissemination within marine planning and wider coastal management issues.

The lack of responses given during the questionnaire phase – both from those CPs that only partially completed the survey, and from those which could not participate at all – has meant that it has not been possible to collect and present data on every CP that currently exists within England. CP officers have stated that these incomplete or non-existent responses are due to resourcing constraints. Every effort has been made to indicate where a CP exists on both the national map and within the CP descriptions (see Appendix 1). This information will continue to be updated and made available through the CPN website.

#### *4.2.3 Identified Common Opportunities for Coastal Partnerships*

Future development of the CPN and the regional Coastal Forums (such as the North West Coastal Forum) would provide further opportunities for inter-body communications and for CPs of all scales to develop and become more efficient.

Creating and standardising a Partnership database would also allow each and every CP to send, receive and publish information and data *from* and *to* all CPs within the

Coastal Partnerships Network, therefore maintaining the high levels of communication and information dissemination already experienced/illustrated by the CPs which participated in this report. Partnerships would also be readily able to join resources and communicate to specific sectors across an MP area, if databases and sector definitions were defined.

The opportunities available for CPs to learn from each other are vast; with certain CPs standing out as cases of best practice, due to their interaction with other networks, variety of publications and projects and experience with a broad spectrum of stakeholders.

See table of recommendations in Chapter 5.0 for further opportunities.

#### *4.2.4 Identified Common Threats to Coastal Partnerships*

Funding cuts have consistently been identified by CPs as being the main threats facing successful Partnership working, in both the short and long term. During the development of this report, certain CPs underwent further funding issues resulting in the reduction of both services and staff; in addition to (in some cases) the dissolution of some CPs completely. The loss of staff and the associated high staff turnover can also result in a loss of momentum and corporate knowledge.

The Questionnaire also identified external funds as being increasingly difficult for CPs in every MP area to raise, especially MP area 10.

#### *4.2.5 Identified Geographic gaps*

Gaps in the spatial distribution of the participating CPs were identified in MP areas 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. Some of these geographic gaps are not covered at all by any form of CP or coastal management forum; however, certain gaps *do* in fact host a number of CPs and other coastal bodies, which simply were unable to participate in this report due to resourcing issues.

Therefore, information on the remaining CPs that are not included in the results, but that exist and are keen to be involved in any future Marine Plans, have been listed in the Appendix. A more detailed study of all coastal networks within an individual MP area would be useful to further determine the coverage of CPs and associated groups.

The existence/presence and distribution of these non-participating CPs would work to effectively 'solve' numerous geographic gaps. With the addition of a greater level of support for these remaining CPs, the MMO could potentially utilise the services, knowledge and the expertise, that these Partnerships can provide – in conjunction with all of the Partnerships currently mapped – when disseminating information on both current and future Marine Plans.

The MMO can further exploit the extensive coverage of CPs, through the many cases of 'overlap', identified in a number of MP area maps. The presence of these CP 'overlaps' illustrates the ability of Partnerships to successfully collaborate with

one another; actively complementing the range of services each one provides to a stretch of coastline, which another CP may not.

Within the current MP areas 3 and 4, a large proportion of the inshore and offshore coverage is solely from The Wash and North Norfolk Coast EMS. The strength of having a single body within this particular area, could act to facilitate effective communications from the MMO on any future Marine Plans with all stakeholders in this area. Currently, the stretch of coastline between the remits of the Humber Management Scheme/Advisory Group and the Wash and North Norfolk Coast EMS, is not covered by other CPs of coastal bodies. Solutions could range from establishing a new CP for this section, or extending the current remits of the CPs on either side of the 'gap'.

There is also opportunity for CP development/establishment in MP area 5, to the north of the Thames Estuary Partnership remit; around Foulness Island and Bradwell-on-Sea.

The eastern part of MP areas 6 and 7 is the least well covered, illustrating the potential for future CP development in locations such as Brighton, Eastbourne, Hastings and Folkestone. This region demonstrates the largest single geographic 'gap'.

The coastline and inland estuarine areas of Cornwall in MP areas 8 & 9 have the greatest potential for CP expansion and/or development. Whilst there are numerous Harbour Authorities and SAC's – such as the Fal and Helford SAC Management Forum – which exist in this region, limited funding and other external factors currently act to restrict the potential for effective Partnership working.

MP areas 1 and 2 and 10, are extensively covered; with both regions also hosting 'regional' networks; the North East Coastal Network (NECN) and the North West Coastal Forum (NWCF). Whilst the NECN is in the early stages of development, the NWCF has been well established for many years and is a point of reference for all other CPs in the North West of England.

The current gaps in CP coverage identified in the majority of MP areas, vary in their extent. Certain gaps – such as those in MP areas 3 and 4 – are almost negligible, and could potentially be 'solved' by the Partnerships which surround these gaps, extending their remits, services and expertise. Other geographic gaps however – such as the eastern parts of MP areas 6 and 7 – are much larger and would require a greater level of attention, funding and development in order to be successfully utilised by surrounding CPs and external stakeholders alike. Furthermore, coastal interest groups, environmental groups and other groups – such as LEPs and LNPs – could be utilised to 'fill' or assist with filling these gaps where appropriate. Although a further detailed study at individual MP area scale would be necessary to determine this.

## 5. Recommendations

### 5.1 Context for our proposed recommendations

The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (s.55) enables marine plan authorities to delegate various marine planning functions; in England the Secretary of State has delegated these functions to the MMO (Defra, 2011). The delivery of this function is one of the main threads of work for the MMO and represents a ground-breaking approach to marine resource management in the UK.

The comprehensive coverage of marine plans will require an equally comprehensive approach to stakeholder engagement throughout the preparation and implementation required to fulfil the MMO's Corporate Plan key performance indicator for engagement in the planning process (MMO, 2012). This report illustrates that CPs can provide considerable support in a cost-effective way through an established and trusted platform. The existence of CPs also presents a perfect opportunity for best-practice working in the age of the Big Society Agenda, allowing decision-making and problem-solving processes to be designed and delivered through the close involvement of communities. They also embody the Localism Act (2011), having worked towards an increase in public participation in decision making for many years.

The commissioning of CPs as service delivery partners by the MMO would illustrate how the intelligent and thoughtful application of existing resources can contribute to the establishment of new regimes and frameworks at a fraction of the cost, while demonstrating the MMO's commitment to taking forward the Government's aims for the Big Society agenda and Localism Act (2011). This would also signify a further step by the MMO in fulfilling the UK Government's objective of ensuring that coastal areas – and all the activities taking place within these areas – are managed in an integrated and holistic way (HM Government, 2011). To establish the existing CP network from scratch would take a considerable capital investment, would frequently involve the same people that are already working on coastal issues, and would take many years to replicate the level of embedded good will and social-capital that currently exists.

There is an opportunity for the MMO to develop a 'Service Level Agreement', or other contractual arrangement, with CPs to deliver a high-quality, consistent and appropriate level of service in clearly defined areas of marine planning, communication and data provision. The CPN are keen to work closely with the MMO in order to define these levels of service, and the costs associated with them. The CPN Business Proposal '*Delivering Marine Resource Management Services through Coastal Partnerships in England*' – submitted to the MMO in August 2010 – and the supporting CPN Development Plan & Delivery Framework, December 2010 illustrate how the service could be delivered, the resources that need to be put in place and the financial implications of this to all concerned (CPN, 2011).



The CPN, are keen to help find the best solution for the coasts and seas of England, and are happy to support open, honest and detailed discussions. Marine planning itself will require open, honest public participation, and as neutral, honest brokers for decision-making on the coast the CPN is there to help achieve a sustainable framework for marine and coastal management in the future.

## 5.2 Benefits of Coastal Partnerships

During the production of this report, the CP officers who volunteered time and information also expressed their opinions on the way forward with regards to future Marine Plans. The vast majority of Partnerships strongly stated that they would like to be commissioned by the MMO to assist in the marine planning process, mainly (but not exclusively) for the stakeholder engagement process, by providing secretariat services, communicating developments and data requests and organising and chairing meetings as appropriate.

Use of the established and trusted networks and mechanisms already in place within the CPN, to deliver aspects of Marine Planning, can avoid the creation of unnecessary costs and help to prevent stakeholder fatigue.

## 5.3 Key Points and Rationale

- CPs have been working to generate social capital and integration on the coast for almost two decades and have developed information networks.
- They represent a unique resource and offer the potential to increase efficiency.
- CPs embody the Localism Act (2011) and contribute to ideas about the Big Society Agenda.
- Coordinating the actions of CPs will bring added long-term benefits through the establishment of more formalised networks.
- There exist precedents for successful partnership working on the coast – for example CPs and the Environment Agency on Shoreline Management Plan II; CPs and the Water Framework Directive; CPs and the Common Fisheries Policy.
- CPs are impartial and have a proven role in conflict resolution and consensus building.
- CPs have the ability to work across sectors and between all levels of decision-making; with experience at local, regional and national levels.
- CPs provide a ‘bottom-up’ conduit to government.
- CPs fill gaps where there are no sectoral responsibilities and mobilise voluntary support and involvement.
- CPs provide a local gateway service for information and contacts.
- CPs have a proven track record of horizon scanning to inform organisations of coastal issues.
- CPs have experience in raising awareness of issues and a mechanism for community engagement.
- CPs can and do learn from each other through the CPN structure
- Fully utilising the services of CPs could:

- make a contribution to the MMO fulfilling their Corporate Plan commitments and to the development and adoption of marine plans as per MMO and Government timetable;
- enable the full benefits of the marine plan and the process to be realised with plans that contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the marine area;
- ensure community and stakeholder 'buy-in' to the marine process and marine plans so that possibilities for challenge are reduced and mitigated.
- The Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009) requires that all public bodies must make all decisions capable of affecting the marine area with regard to the MPS and marine plans (HM Government, 2009). CPs can assist in making sure local bodies are *aware* of the need to consider plans, MPS etc; providing an instant point of reference for information and advice on how to engage with the MMO and MPS

#### 5.4 CPs and the CPN Product

##### CPs

- A network of experienced coastal communication hubs with expertise in stakeholder engagement, awareness-raising and information provision.
- Experience in facilitating conflict resolution and bringing stakeholders together to agree common objectives and voluntary codes of conduct.
- A proven track-record in delivery in these areas with coverage around the coastline of England (we also have strong links with networks throughout the devolved administrations, thereby aiding cross-boundary integration).
- Strategic locations/partners within Local Government that enable CPs to:
  - Apply Localism Act/Big Society Agenda
  - Inform and influence through stakeholder engagement
  - Help to integrate policy and wider coastal initiatives within and between sectors – across the land-sea boundary
  - Develop strong links with planning and other Local Government functions
  - Be trusted partners
- Links with the devolved administrations (Solway, Severn etc).
- Potential to adapt to changing priorities as required.
- High levels of social capital together with un-equalled stakeholder buy-in and trust on coastal and marine issues.
- A business-model that delivers value-for-money to partners demonstrated by a Defra commissioned project.
- The ability to identify and reach the stakeholders and communities needed to participate in marine planning.
- A local point of contact for all with an interest in marine and coastal areas.

##### CPN

- Two way access to all CPs.

- Promoting/sharing of best practice amongst all UK CPs to aid consistency of approach and excellence of service.
- Previously supported by Defra to bring all CPs together – worked as a delivery partner with Defra and LGA on financial benefits project (CPN, Defra, 2008).

### **5.5 Potential routes for MMO CPN working links**

CPs could be commissioned by the MMO as neutral, 'honest brokers' for stakeholder engagement within the marine planning process and other consultations as required (An SLA or contract).

The CPN could seek to secure third party funding for the creation of a fixed term CPN coordinator post to establish and maximise the contribution of CPs. This would provide a single managed route between CPN members and other parties including the MMO who are in full support of CPN's procurement of funding for this role.



## 5.6 Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of working with CPs and the CPN

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses existing resources to optimum effect</li> <li>• Benefits from links across administrative boundaries</li> <li>• Embodies Big Society agenda</li> <li>• Embodies Localism Act (2011)</li> <li>• Opportunity to design stakeholder engagement with key coastal networks in order to ensure success of process.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fragility of partnerships due to short term funding model</li> <li>• CPs have a history of high staff turnover</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish a robust and comprehensive model for coastal stakeholder engagement across England</li> <li>• To assist all sectors to fully engage with marine planning in all areas</li> <li>• To embed coastal management firmly within the communities that will be effected by it</li> <li>• Stakeholder influenced approach aiding the effective implementation of marine plans</li> <li>• To establish a common approach to stakeholder engagement across the English coastline through existing CPs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to ensure capacity and resources in order for additional effort to be applied to marine planning as required</li> </ul>

## 5.7 Summary of existing CPs/CPN & MMO activities and potential new CPs/CPN & MMO collaboration

**Table 10: Summary of existing CPs/CPN & MMO activities and potential new CPs/CPN & MMO collaboration**

<i>Existing</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>
Annual CPN Forum where all CP officers have the opportunity to meet to share best practices and discuss ways forward for Partnership working at the coast to aid the sustainable management of the coastal resource.	CPN & MMO	Ongoing
Opportunity	Organisation	Timeframe
Seek third-party funding for the creation of a fixed term CPN coordinator post.	CPN & MMO	Short-Medium
Review how CPs manage their databases (especially in terms of categorisation and sector definition) to aid joint working and communication.	All CPs	Short
Review Sector representation as appropriate.	All CPs	Medium
Service delivery agreements with CPs on specific coastal stakeholder engagement.	CPs & MMO	Short – Medium

## 6. Conclusions

Coastal Partnerships have played an influential role in the development and delivery of the management of coastal areas for a number of years. As a whole, and individually, CPs represent experienced and diverse hubs at strategic locations around the coasts of the UK. Whilst the UK-wide geographical coverage of these partnerships is not entirely complete, they have generally developed to exist in areas of intense land and marine activity where there are high levels of potential for conflict between stakeholders and users. There are opportunities to address these gaps as discussed in Chapter 4.

Coastal Partnerships have focused on the delivery of local objectives operating in the absence of an over-arching national framework or steering body, and as such there has been little integration or thinking on a national scale – hence the establishment of the CPN. This network of CPs represents a resource for public bodies with a national remit. They have a detailed understanding of local issues; utilising established relations with key personnel and key stakeholders involved in the management or use of their area. This level of knowledge developed over many years, is valuable in today's market and acts as a fundamental building block within the marine planning process. This is illustrated by the projects and services CPs have successfully delivered, (examples of which can be found in the individual CP descriptions in Appendix 1).

The shared, common values and services of CPs span different applications of communication, all of which can be of value to the MMO – namely:

- Stakeholder engagement and consultation
- Communication, awareness-raising and networking
- Bringing sectors together at the land sea interface
- Provision of information and data

There are many issues facing marine and coastal resource management in the future, and competition for these resources will only increase. As this report illustrates, the existing network of CPs can deliver savings to many outside agencies, whilst reflecting the need to deliver to new political agendas. Developing a framework for these partnerships as a whole is a large undertaking and requires the focused work of specifically employed personnel. However this is a task that the MMO needs to consider taking forward to fulfil the Government's, stakeholders and communities aspirations and objectives for the marine area.

This report has explored the work of CPs throughout England and proposed recommendations to further develop these to aid the delivery of marine planning with a focused approach to stakeholder engagement.

The limited resources of both the CPN and individual CPs in conjunction with the relatively short timescales, has caused some CPs to comment that it has been

impractical for them to respond to the original report questionnaire. Therefore, regrettably, some partnerships have not been included in this report, although their existence has been acknowledged in Appendix 1.

Our website, <http://www.coastalpartnershipsnetwork.org.uk/> remains a resource for information on both the work and location of CPs throughout the UK. It is hoped that this resource can be kept as up to date as possible, although due to the current voluntary nature of the CPN this is proving challenging.. Up to date information on the marine planning process and work of the MMO can be accessed through the marine planning portal <http://planningportal.marinemangement.org.uk/>

The number of individual CPs who identified funding insecurity and major funding cuts as critical threats to both the development and survival of their partnerships is of concern. The CPN encourages the MMO to form individual relationships in order to utilise and support the services offered by individual CPs.

A functional, secure, supported and coherent network of CPs has benefits for all concerned. The communities and stakeholders the CPs represent supports the MMO target of sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

This report set out to provide a technical analysis of the levels of activity and engagement within CPs and identify gaps in spatial coverage around England in relation to the current and proposed MP areas. In addition, the report has identified the potential of CPs to contribute to the marine planning process and overall sustainable management of our coastal resource. The reports aims and objectives were identified in Chapter 1.2. The CPN believes that this report has addressed all of these aims. CP officers would welcome continued joint working with the MMO and the opportunity to share knowledge and best practices through the CPN annual forum event. We welcome feedback and direction from the MMO on how we can develop our services and support the MMO further in the delivery of marine plans across England.

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## Appendices

### 1. Information on individual participating Coastal Partnerships

#### MP Areas 1 & 2

***Berwickshire & North Northumberland Coast EMS:*** is a cross-border site which stretches along 115km of coast from Alnmouth in North East England, to Fast Castle Head in South East Scotland. The site encompasses approximately 635 square kilometres of shore and sea including the Farne Island, Holy Island, and the St Abbs & Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve. The site is managed through a Management Group, which is made up of all the relevant and competent authorities with functions and activities that interact with the site's qualifying features. [Management](#) and governance is supported by a Steering Group and an Implementation Officer. As the site straddles the English-Scottish border, partnership working plays a very important role in providing an integrated management approach.

The Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast EMS is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) that, for management purposes, also incorporates the bird interest features and intertidal area of the Lindisfarne Special Protection Area (SPA). The site contains a striking diversity of marine and coastal habitats and species and is designated for its outstanding examples of international importance. The Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC was designated in 2000 and contributes towards the important European network of habitats and species listed in the 1992 EU Habitats Directive. Its qualifying features include rocky reefs, sea caves, intertidal sand and mud, inlets and bays and a breeding colony of grey seals. The Lindisfarne SPA protects internationally important populations of coastal and sea birds and the areas used by them, including a number of habitats also protected under the SAC (Berwickshire & North Northumberland Coast EMS, 2010).

The EMS website is: <http://www.xbordercurrents.co.uk/>

***Druridge Bay Partnership:*** is made up of a group of stakeholders representing the interests of communities, visitors, biodiversity and cultural heritage in the wider Druridge Bay area. It hopes to undertake collaborative management to further advance these interests by implementing management actions which will protect and enhance the special qualities of Druridge Bay for the benefit of the environment, the Bay and of its communities and visitors.

***Durham Heritage Coast Partnership:*** UK Landscape Award Winner 2010 and Council of Europe Landscape Awards 2011 Special Mention.

Durham Heritage Coast Partnership (DHCP) is a partnership of 14 authorities, agencies and community bodies who have an interest in the coast in Sunderland, Durham and Hartlepool. A small management team is in place to lead the work of partners and to protect and enhance the special qualities of this unique coastline (Durham Heritage Coast Partnership, 2011).

Heritage Coast is a voluntary non statutory planning definition that focuses on landscape, nature conservation and access. The Heritage Coast is tasked with retaining and strengthening this focus and building on the level of involvement of local communities in future decision-making. The Vision of the Heritage Coast Partnership is to guide the long term management of the coastal zone: *'Integrated management of Durham Heritage Coast by and for local communities, which protects the natural and cultural integrity of the area whilst developing and meeting the area's social and economic needs'*.

A management plan (currently under review) guides the work of the Partnership and the management team.

The Partnership website is:

<http://www.durhamheritagecoast.org/DHC/usp.nsf/pws/Durham+Heritage+Coast+-+About+Us>

**North East Coastal Network:** was created towards the end of the Interreg IVB [IMCORE](#) project to help inter-agency communications. The Network is so far limited to Twitter and [LinkedIn](#) accounts.

**North Yorkshire & Cleveland Coastal Forum:** was formed in July 2002 to give everyone with an interest in the management of the coast the opportunity to discuss key issues, and to guide and shape future policies and actions. The full Forum meets once a year and covers the coast from South Gare in the north to Speeton in the south.

The Forum recognises that increasingly, the [strategies](#) and agendas of the different groups that have an interest in the coast are interrelated. These issues include climate change, coastal defence works, sustainable fisheries, tourism and recreation, bathing water quality, pollution, transport and links, heritage protection (both natural and built), habitat management, landscape issues, development pressure, and renewable energies – all of which are discussed and presented at the full Forum meetings (North Yorkshire & Cleveland Coastal Forum, 2004)

The Forum is a partnership funded by:

- i) North Yorkshire County Council
- ii) North Yorkshire Moors National Park Authority
- iii) Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
- iv) Scarborough Borough Council (North Yorkshire & Cleveland Coastal Forum, 2006).



The Forum website is: <http://www.coastalforum.org.uk/>

***Teesmouth & Cleveland Coast EMS Management Scheme:*** is designed to maintain a favourable condition for the site through the sustainable management of activities, although natural change may also occur. The aim of the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast EMS Management Scheme is to establish a framework within which relevant and competent authorities and other stakeholders will manage their activities in order to fulfil their duties under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (Habitats Regulations) for the Teesmouth & Cleveland Coast Special Protection Area (SPA) 9 Linked with Industry Nature Conservation Association – see text below (Teesmouth & Cleveland Coast EMS, 2009).

***Industry Nature Conservation Association:*** One of the challenges in Tees Valley is balancing the needs of economic development and nature conservation. INCA actively works with the public, private and voluntary sectors and has a proven record over its 20 year existence of delivering benefits for both industry and the natural environment. INCA is a membership organisation which operates in Tees Valley on a not for profit basis. It has over 50 members including most of the major chemical, waste, and power generation businesses in Tees Valley, regulators, conservation organisations, and local authorities. It has a small specialist team with extensive knowledge of the natural environment of the Tees Valley. The team is drawn from backgrounds in industry, nature conservation and regulation, giving a unique blend of skills and knowledge (INCA, 2012).

INCA provides confidential advice and support to help businesses meet regulatory requirements in development and operation. It encourages and facilitates the ecological improvement of industrial and commercial land holdings. It works with developers at an early stage to ensure that developments do not have a significant adverse effect on the local environment. Their work ranges from survey and advice on proposed developments, [reports](#) on the likely impacts on the natural environment as part of COMAH and IPPC submissions, habitat creation and land management. The Tees INCA model as now been replicated on the Humber with the formation in 2000 of the Humber INCA.

The website is: <http://www.inca.uk.com/>

***Wear Estuary Forum:*** was set up by the Sunderland Council several years ago to bring together individuals and organisations that use or have an interest in the river and coast, giving them the opportunity to work together to iron out any problems before they escalate, and to develop an understanding and harmony between all groups.

The new Wear Estuary Forum was re-established in 2011 with the coming together of the Wear Estuary Forum and the Water Based Activities Group. The Forum is comprised of representatives of the Port, the Coastguard, the Marina Activity Centre



and user organisations such as the Yacht Club, various Boat Clubs and the Sea Scouts etc. The vision of the forum is to collectively work together to support and develop individual organisations and activities as an attractive option for residents and visitors to take part and enjoy (Taken from: Item 11 (ii) Appointments to Committees Outside Bodies pdf).

### **MP Areas 3 & 4**

**Humber Advisory Group:** was formed so that members could represent a large range of voluntary organisations and individuals and provide advice to the Humber Management Scheme and support the roles of the Humber Relevant Authorities Group (HERAG) (Humber Advisory Group, 2012).

**Humber Management Scheme:** The Humber Management Scheme is a partnership project for the management of the Humber Estuary European Marine Site. It involves statutory, industrial, voluntary and academic organisations and individuals with an interest in the Humber Estuary. The aim of the [Humber Management Scheme](#) is, subject to natural change, to maintain the favourable condition of the Humber Estuary European Marine Site through the sustainable management of activities.

During 2010 and 2011, the Humber Management Scheme underwent an extensive review of the management of the Humber Estuary European Marine Site and the governance of the Humber Management Scheme. This resulted in an updated aim, objectives and action plans for management of the Humber Estuary European Marine Site. The aim is to deliver the sustainable management of the Humber Estuary European Marine Site.

#### *Objectives:*

- a) To manage the Estuary to meet the requirements of the conservation objectives.
- b) To bring people and organisations together to deliver the sustainable management of the Humber Estuary European Marine Site.
- c) To raise awareness and educate stakeholders about the Humber Estuary European Marine Site and increase participation in its management.
- d) To identify information gaps and research requirements and to promote sharing and availability of data for the management of the Humber Estuary European Marine Site.
- e) To ensure a coordinated approach to the management of the Estuary and its hinterlands including planning for the future in respect to the features of the Humber Estuary European Marine Site.

The website for the Group and the Management Scheme is:

<http://www.humberems.co.uk/management/>

**Norfolk Coast Partnership:** was set up in 1991 to promote the sustainable use of the Norfolk Coast AONB; a coastal strip between Hunstanton and Bacton with two

outlying coastal areas in the east and west, covering an area of 453 square kilometres.

Its aims are to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area, to facilitate and enhance the public enjoyment, understanding and appreciation of the area and to provide sustainable forms of social and economic development that in themselves conserve and enhance the area's natural beauty. Funded by Defra and local authorities, a staff team currently consisting of 1 part-time and 4 full-time officers that coordinate and lead work by a wide range of partner organisations to implement the [AONB Management Plan](#).

The Partnership website is: <http://www.norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk/>

**Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB:** Located on the coast of East Anglia, it covers 150 square miles and includes wildlife-rich wetlands, ancient heaths, shingle beaches and historic towns and villages. The Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB is one of the most important lowland landscapes in England and Wales.

The new [Management Plan](#) covers the period 2008-2013, but the [Action Plan](#) that forms part of it will be reviewed and updated annually.

The AONB website is: <http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/>

**The Wash & North Norfolk Coast EMS Management Scheme:** aims to meet statutory obligations in order to safeguard designated conservation interest features by working in partnership to deliver marine conservation objectives and encourage sustainable use.

In recognition of its important wildlife The Wash and North Norfolk coast has been designated a European Marine Site under the UK Habitats Regulations. The Wash & North Norfolk Coast EMS Management Scheme was developed following extensive consultation over six years with and between the relevant authorities, local communities, organisations and individuals through a management group.

The scheme was publicly launched at a reception in January 2002. The [Management Scheme](#) is concerned with ensuring the sustainable use of a living, working coast. It will not stop people using The Wash or the North Norfolk coast and most activities will not be affected by the management scheme in any way (EMS, 2010).

The website for this EMS is: <http://www.washandnorthnorfolkcoastems.co.uk/>

## **MP Area 5**

**Colne Estuary Partnership:** The Colne Estuary is an area of international conservation importance, as well as being of great significance to the history, culture

and people of north Essex. The Estuary is important to a wide range of stakeholders involved in recreation and leisure, aquaculture, commercial fisheries, coastal protection, nature conservation and research.

The Estuary contains many important habitats, including saltmarsh and mudflats. The estuarine habitats are designated both nationally and internationally for their importance to the conservation of biodiversity. The Colne Estuary Partnership consists of a Management Group and a broader Advisory Group, designed to represent the sometimes conflicting interests of the users of the Estuary and its resources.

The partnership website is: [www.Colne-estuary.org](http://www.Colne-estuary.org)

**Kent Coastal Network:** was established by Kent County Council in 2004 to improve communication between Kent's coastal stakeholders and raise awareness of the many activities taking place around the coast. The website is updated by members and the Coastal Officer. Updates include news, events and a project register. A conference is held most years and working groups have been established where the need has arisen. A notable example has been the Personal Watercraft (PWC) Working Group which brought various organisations together to look at issues surrounding PWC use and put together a code of conduct.

The Network website is: <http://www.coastalkent.net/index.php>

**Medway Swale Estuary Partnership:** (MSEP) is eight years old. Over that time it has worked with local people, regional, national and European organisations to enhance and raise awareness about the beauty and diversity of the Medway and Swale Estuary. It has achieved a great deal over a very short period of time. The Medway and Swale Estuary Partnership was established to benefit from:

- Shared determination of the partners to address issues affecting the economic, environmental and social well being of the Estuary.
- Provision of a forum to discuss the nature and relative importance of issues that influence the present and future health of the Estuary, increasing mutual understanding of each other's roles.
- Achievement by effective communication between agencies and interest groups of a broad consensus on the ways in which issues might be tackled.

To achieve the vision, the Medway Swale Estuary Partnership has agreed a strategy to:

- Promote a positive relationship between local communities, commerce, agriculture, recreation and conservation
- Acknowledge and manage to mutually benefit the competing demands placed upon the Estuary
- Consider issues of key local importance not addressed in other plans and strategies
- Encourage the exchange of information between interested organisations

- Implement a programme to address and resolve those issues raised by people living and working around the Estuary
- Provide a framework for business planning to assist with the resolution of agreed issues
- Bridge the gap between the scientific and technical community, and end users (<http://www.msep.org.uk/whatWeDo.php>).

The Partnership website is: <http://www.msep.org.uk/downloads.php>

**Thames Estuary Partnership:** was established in 1994 to provide a neutral network for anyone involved with the Thames Estuary. In 1999 TEP became a limited company, with charitable status following soon after to enable it to fundraise and tender for paid work fulfilling its charitable objectives. TEP raises awareness of the issues affecting the Estuary and helps decision makers to make more informed choices. It maintains a data base of over 3,000 stakeholder contacts for the Thames and assists in directing enquiries to the right recipient.

The work of the Partnership is overseen by the Management Group which is made up of Directors of the Company, Trustees of the Charity and other supporting organisations. The TEP approaches the challenge of [managing](#) the Thames Estuary from a viewpoint that values the contribution of all the Estuaries' users and seeks to learn from, and work with, this expertise. The Partnership;

- Co-ordinates a programme of projects
- Facilitates new projects and forums for joint working
- Holds regular events and workshops
- Seeks to balance the interests of local communities, local economy and the environment.

To achieve this approach the Partnership has established a series of Action Groups to facilitate joint working and holds an Annual Stakeholder Forum with an average attendance of over 200. A bi-annual full colour magazine, *Talk of the Thames*, supports the dialogue and is currently running at 5,000 copies per edition. An annual subscription scheme allows support from partners for our work. The charity has costed a charity charge out rate for staff to ensure that full cost recovery for overheads becomes the norm for all project costings and external facilitation (<http://www.thamesweb.com/about-tep.html>).

The Partnership website is: <http://www.thamesweb.com/>

**Thanet Coast Project (NE Kent EMS):** was set up in 2001 to help implement actions identified by local people for the first NE Kent European marine sites (NEKEMS) Management Scheme.

The Project's main objectives are to:

- Raise awareness of the areas' important marine and bird life
- Work with people to safeguard coastal wildlife

- Promote wildlife events and activities
- Be a one-stop shop for coastal information

The NEKEMS partnership includes a Management Group (meets 2/year), Stakeholder Group (meets 2/year) and an Advisory Group (meets 4/year). The NEKEMS [Management Scheme](#) and [Action Plan](#) were reviewed for 2007-12, and for 2013-18 respectively. TCP activities are extremely varied; from promoting the Thanet Coastal Codes (drafted by local users) and facilitating coastal recreational issues, public events, community activities, school water safety sessions, eco-clubs and fieldtrips and SeaART to volunteering opportunities with the Thanet Coast Warden Scheme and practical tasks.

The project website is: <http://www.thanetcoast.org.uk/>

**White Cliffs Countryside Partnership:** was set up to help conserve and enhance the special coast and countryside of Dover and Shepway districts, and make it accessible to all. The coast and countryside of Dover and Shepway are world class for their wildlife and history.

The White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (WCCP) was established in 1989 to develop sustainable tourism that helps to preserve the environment and local distinctiveness of the area, both for visitors and for local people alike. The WCCP is now the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership rather than the White Cliffs Countryside Project. The WCCP celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2009 and the Partnership decided to change its name to reflect the long standing success of the project. In 2012, the WCCP was being funded by more than thirty organisations. The Partnership carries out long term management of land that has a high value for wildlife and landscape, making it accessible to everyone. Indeed many of the sites managed by WCCP are on a national or even international level of importance for wildlife.

The WCCP is a partnership between Dover District Council, Shepway District Council, Kent County Council, Eurotunnel, Natural England, Environment Agency, Kent Downs AONB Unit, Kent Wildlife Trust, National Trust, British Energy, British Nuclear Group, Veolia Water Southeast Ltd and Network Rail; with financial contributions from the European Regional Development Fund, the Big Lottery Fund and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Partnership website is: <http://www.whitecliffscountryside.org.uk/>

## **MP Areas 6 & 7**

**Devon Maritime Forum:** is a key strategic Coastal Partnership, covering the geographic county of Devon, working for all organisations with an interest in the coasts and seas around Devon and the South West. The DMF complements the other local Coastal Partnerships of Devon by providing a strategic overview of issues

and bringing diverse organisations together in order to motivate and coordinate action towards common goals (Devon Maritime Forum, 2012).

The Forum's mission is: *"To Champion a recovering marine environment that takes its rightful place in all legislation, decision-making and action as a primary natural asset for Devon and the Wider Region"*.

The Forum's [Action Programme](#) represents the shared ambitions and requirements of its funders and members. Following a period of consultation and vision-finding exercises, the DMF has derived a suite of services that will deliver considerable benefits for the maritime sectors of Devon. These are organised around the Forum's suite of Core Services, will be augmented by additional projects, and will provide the fundamental baseline for the DMF as it develops in to the future.

Included in the 'Core Services' is an open invitation biannual Forum meeting. The Forum also provides a professional stakeholder engagement facilitation service and furthermore, is involved in other maritime related projects; for example the focus for the next few years will be VALMER (Valuing Marine Ecosystem Services in the Western Channel) – a large-scale European funded project focusing on methods to value marine ecosystem services.

The Forum website is: <http://www.devonmaritimeforum.org.uk/>

**Dorset Coast Forum:** is an established Strategic Coastal Partnership made up of over 220 public, private and voluntary member organisations. Its diverse membership includes the fishing, commercial, environmental, recreational, historical and tourism sectors who, as a whole, have expertise and local knowledge of Dorset's coast and inshore waters.

The Dorset Coast Forums' overriding aim is to promote a sustainable approach to the management, use and development of Dorset's coast and inshore waters. It does this through its [Dorset Coast Strategy](#), encouraging collaborative working and the sharing of information and data, together with providing key links at Regional, National and European levels.

The Dorset Coast Forum covers an area from Lyme Regis to Christchurch out to 12 nautical miles. The Forum team is hosted by Dorset County Council and funded by: Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, Borough of Poole, Environment Agency, Natural England, Wessex Water, Dorset Wildlife Trust, Dorset County Council and the West Dorset District Council.

The Forum website is: <http://www.dorsetforyou.com/index.jsp?articleid=20595>

**Exe Estuary Management Partnership:** The Exe Estuary boasts a range of features; it is an internationally important site for wildlife, it is the start of the Jurassic Coast, it has blue flag beaches and it offers countless opportunities to enjoy the Estuary through recreational clubs, bird watching sites and boat trips. The Exe Estuary Management Partnership brings together the organisations who have a responsibility to manage this globally important site along with the communities,



clubs, businesses and interest groups who are part of the life and vitality of the Estuary to ensure the consistent, transparent and comprehensive management of the Exe.

The Exe Estuary Management Partnership has existed since the mid 1990s. Due to the complex array of organisations with (sometimes overlapping) management responsibilities for different aspects of the Estuary, a partnership approach is the most effective model by which to achieve consistent [management](#) of the Estuary resource as a whole. The Exe Estuary Management Partnership is the management group responsible for the delivery of the SPA management scheme (Exe Estuary Management Partnership, 2006).

The Partnership's website is: <http://www.exe-estuary.org/>

**Hamble Estuary Partnership:** is a partnership grouping of representatives from a wide range of interested parties – including harbour users and those with either a statutory or voluntary interest in the Hamble Estuary and the surrounding area – with an aim of enhancing mutual understanding of other parties points of view, and of facilitating and co-ordinating joined up management of the Estuary.

The Hamble Estuary Partnership was formed in 2003, but until 2006 was known as the River Hamble Estuary Management Plan Implementation Forum. The River Hamble Harbour Authority administers the Partnership through a sub-role of the Environment and Development Manager, and meetings are chaired by Dr Anthony Gallagher of Southampton Solent University. The Hamble Estuary Partnership meets twice a year to discuss issues affecting the River Hamble and to monitor and facilitate progress of priority projects and issues of shared interest.

Included in the HEP mission statement is:

- To organise a minimum of two partnership meetings per year, plus project workshops and topic groups as required.
- To distribute electronic updates/news letters on a needs basis.
- To identify and facilitate the delivery of Priority Projects identified by partners that might require the combined resources and efforts of two or more organisations, and which without HEP input will be less likely to happen.
- To manage a website with information about the partnership, its members' areas of responsibility, meetings and minutes, project information and links to other relevant websites.
- To sponsor a student research fund to encourage academic research into topics directly relevant to the Hamble Estuary.
- To provide a consultative role to the Hamble Harbour Board.

The Partnership's website is:

<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/hambleestuarypartnership.htm>

**Isle of Wight Estuaries Project:** aims to promote and co-ordinate the integrated use of the Islands estuaries through partnership and develop understanding of

estuarine features and processes. It is supported by Cowes Harbour Commission, Environment Agency, Isle of Wight Council, Natural England and Yarmouth Harbour Commissioners.

The current focus of the project is the [management](#) of the [Medina Estuary](#) and the [Western Yar Estuary](#). Both have [management plans](#) developed in the late 1990s and more recently reviewed which set out recommendations and objectives devised through extensive consultation.

The Project website is: [http://www.iwight.com/living\\_here/environment/estuaries/](http://www.iwight.com/living_here/environment/estuaries/)

**Manhood Peninsula Partnership:** was inspired by local residents to promote a sustainable way forward for addressing the environmental, social and economic challenges posed to the area by climate change.

The MPP was formed in July 2001 as a direct result of a 5 - day workshop called 'Going Dutch' in March of that year, in which Dutch water management professionals and local residents considered ways to address these issues. The members of the partnership, meeting 3-4 times a year, have initiated local projects, been part of international and national projects and supported local initiatives ranging from cycle paths to improved drainage (Manhood Peninsula Partnership, 2012).

The aims of the MPP are:

- To ensure the sustainable development of the peninsula for the benefit of future generations and to consider long-term issues, including climate change;
- To improve and promote inter-sectoral integration, co-ordination, communication and understanding between those involved in the Manhood Peninsula;
- To provide opportunities for wider community participation and interaction;
- To adopt a proactive approach to addressing the effects of climate change;
- The development and implementation, or assistance with the implementation, of guidelines, strategies and action plans;
- The exploration and research of different options and the need to learn from other areas.

In June 2008, in response to the *Draft East Head to Pagham Harbour coastal defence strategy (CDS)* consultation the MPP organised '[Going Dutch II](#)'. During the workshop, Dutch and British Coastal management specialists reviewed the draft CDS and examined other options put forward by local residents. These options were holding the line with hard sea defences, off shore reefs, and feeding the coastline. They also looked at the consequences of 'no national funding'.

The Partnership's website is: <http://peninsulapartnership.org.uk/>

**SeaTorbay Partnership:** is a voluntary local coastal management partnership, which was established in 2008 to bring together a broad range of coastal



stakeholders and help take a more coordinated approach to the management of TorBay.

[SeaTorbays vision](#) is for a sustainable marine environment and a vibrant economy for TorBay. The Bay represents a significant marine resource for the area and the community here shares an intimate relationship with the sea. SeaTorbay is a coastal management partnership that represents the interests of coastal stakeholders including fishing, conservation, the harbour authority, tourism and leisure.

The Partnership website is: <http://www.seatorbay.org.uk/>

**Solent Forum:** Since 1992, the Solent Forum has provided a platform to deliver Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Solent sub-region of the South East. It is chaired by Professor Mike Clark, Director of the Geodata Institute, and operates at a strategic coastal management level, providing a network for closer working relationships, information dissemination and discussion of topical coastal issues.

The Solent Forum aims:

1. To facilitate more integrated planning and management of the Solent
2. To assist Solent stakeholders in carrying out their functions
3. To provide a broadly based consultative forum.

It does this by:

1. raising awareness and understanding of the members' roles and aspirations
2. improving access to the information base
3. facilitating better communication, consultation and liaison;
4. raising awareness and understanding of the human and natural changes likely to materially affect the Solent;
5. promoting the national and regional importance of the Solent and contribute where appropriate to policy, development and plan making

To consider particular matters strategically, the Solent Forum has set up subgroups. There are currently two subgroups in operation; the Water Quality Group and Nature Conservation. Such groups contribute many outputs to the overall [management](#) of the Solent and wider stakeholder community. The Forum also runs the Solent European Marine Sites Scheme of Management.

The area covered by the Forum is the whole of the Solent, including Southampton Water and the three main harbours - Portsmouth, Langstone and Chichester. The western limit is a line between The Needles on the Isle of Wight and the Dorset border; and the eastern limit is a line between the tip of the Isle of Wight and Selsey Bill. No inland boundary is defined.

The Forum website is: <http://www.solentforum.org/>

**South Devon AONB:** All AONB estuaries have Estuary Management Plans in place that reflect their individual characteristics, local partnerships and priorities for action.

The estuaries have high nature conservation importance: the Yealm Estuary is part of the marine Special Area of Conservation; the Yealm, Erme and Salcombe estuaries are Sites of Special Scientific Interest; and the Salcombe Estuary is designated as a marine Local Nature Reserve. The 1083 hectares of inter-tidal estuary habitat are particularly significant.

Estuary [management plans](#) and estuary conservation fora have continued to provide a framework for coordination and co-operation between agencies and the wider community. Knowledge and understanding of the estuarine environment have increased through research, surveys, monitoring and awareness campaigns.

The AONB's website is: <http://www.southdevonaonb.org.uk/>

***Teign Estuary and Coastal Partnership:*** Initiated in 1999 the TEP brings together the Statutory Agencies, key organisations and user groups around this diverse area encompassing a commercial port, small fishing fleet, shellfisheries, high numbers of recreational users, transport links and areas of developed and undeveloped estuarine and open coasts.

Operating through a Steering Group, the Partnership undertakes both strategic level and local practical projects to 'work together towards a sustainable future for the Teign Estuary and adjacent coasts – balancing interests, protecting natural resources and pursuing opportunities for improvement'.

The Partnership's website is:

<http://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=7953>

## **MP Areas 8 & 9**

***Devon Maritime Forum:*** (See previous text under MP Areas 6 & 7)

***Fowey Estuary Partnership & Fowey Harbour Commissioners:*** The Fowey Estuary is one of the most unspoilt estuaries in Cornwall, with a rich and varied wildlife, landscape and historic heritage. These assets exist alongside an extensive range of leisure and commercial activities. The Fowey Estuary Partnership was set up in 1997 to meet the need for holistic management of the Estuary, balancing the needs of tourism, commerce and leisure interests. Many lines of communication have been opened as a result of the Partnership's work.

The management of the Estuary is embodied in the [Fowey Estuary Management Plan](#), which was developed through extensive consultation and community involvement. This plan represents the Partnerships vision of management of the Fowey Estuary for the benefit of all.

The Fowey Estuary Management Plan is a non-statutory document containing guidelines to inform, advise and guide current and future management of the

Estuary. It builds upon the successes and strengths of existing organisations and activities by providing a framework within which decisions can be made and actions can be taken. There have been many outputs from the Estuary management process including the designation of parts of the Estuary as a Voluntary Marine Conservation Area (VMCA).

The Harbour Commissioners website is:

<http://www.foweyharbour.co.uk/environmental-information/fowey-estuary-partnership.html>

The North Devon Coast was designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in 1960. It comprises a range of coastal landscapes including the Taw Torridge Estuary mouth. It's special qualities include wave cut platforms, high coastal cliffs, internationally important sand dune systems and miles of golden beaches. The main settlements depend on the coast for their livelihood either from tourism, or to a much lesser extent, fishing.

The coordinating body is the North Devon Coast AONB Partnership which was established in 2004 to conserve and enhance the area's Natural Beauty and to support the sustainable use of the coast. Its membership comprises representatives of the statutory and voluntary sector who are engaged with the [management](#) of the Coastal Area. The Partnership has supported many educational, promotional, tourism and research projects related to the coast.

The AONB website is: <http://www.northdevon-aonb.org.uk/>

**North Devon World Biosphere Reserve:** The UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve in north Devon is the only one of its kind in England. It covers the catchments that drain the north Devon area and the marine area around the north Devon coast; a total of 3500 square km - of which 1300 is marine. The Partnership is an independent group that has a membership of 26 organisations and serves to ensure that the Biosphere Reserve meets its function to be an international exemplar of sustainable development.

The Reserve's website is: <http://www.northdevonbiosphere.org.uk/welcome-to-a-very-special-place>

**Severn Estuary Partnership:** (SEP) is an independent, estuary-wide initiative coordinated by local authorities and statutory agencies, but involving all those involved in the management of the Estuary, from planners to port authorities, fishermen to farmers. It was set up in 1995 to ensure the sustainable management of the Severn Estuary and its surroundings; enhancing and protecting the area for the benefit of the community, the environment and the economy.

The area covered by the Severn Estuary Partnership is defined by the tidal limit of the Severn running from just above Gloucester to Hurlstone point near Minehead on the English coast and Nash Point (West of Barry) on the Welsh coast.

The [Strategy for the Severn Estuary](#) was launched in 2001 after several years of work developing consensus and agreement. It now provides a strategic management framework. The SEP acts as a vital facilitator in helping to co-ordinate actions and foster co-operation and communication within the Estuary. The SEP provides the means for all stakeholders to contribute to the management of the Estuary and has several different levels of membership that reflect the different types of stakeholder within the Estuary. Currently the Partnership has over 130 members and maintains an extensive contacts database containing over 3,000 records covering the whole Estuary.

The aims, objectives and plans for 2011 to 2016 are set out in the recently completed [Strategic Business Plan](#) (Apr 2011).

*Aims:*

The Partnership brings people together to resolve problems and realise opportunities. It currently:

1. Facilitates effective communication across and between organisations and individuals
2. Establishes and embeds a set of 'common principles' for sustainable Estuary use via Partners' strategies, policies and action plans
3. Acts as a co-ordinating body to assist the effective and efficient delivery of agreed estuary-wide actions
4. Promotes and publicises the Estuary at local, national and international level
5. Adds value and fills gaps in effective Estuary management, providing extra capacity when required.

The Partnership recently worked with the Severn Estuary Coastal Group towards the production of the Shoreline Management Plan review for the Severn. The Coastal Group described working with SEP as follows: *'Working with the SEP is key to efficient and effective stakeholder engagement for both projects. Regular updates on the development of the SMP2 and FRMS can be provided as part of SEP's regular communications to members through its meetings, website, newsletter (Severn Tidings), annual Forum and e-mail alerts.'*

The partnership's website is: <http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/>

**Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum:** TECF is a broad based, estuary management partnership that brings together local authorities, government agencies, harbour authorities and associated organisations to promote the delivery of integrated management for the Tamar Estuaries European Marine Site and nearby coastal areas, in order to ensure long term sustainability. The Forum oversees the development, delivery and monitoring of the [Tamar Estuaries Management Plan](#) and provides a clear mechanism for co-operation, consultation and communication between the wide-ranging interest groups and decision-makers. This integrated management will be achieved through partnership action, integrating the different policies and actions that have an effect on the coast, and bringing

together stakeholders to inform, support and implement these policies and actions in a coordinated and transparent way (TECF, 2010).

The Forum's website is: <http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/tecf/>

**Taw Torridge Estuary Forum:**

- Act as a consultee body to both District Councils, Devon County Council, the Environment Agency, and any other body requiring information on the estuary
- Comment upon plans, such as the Shoreline Management Plans, Local Environment Agency Plans, Oil Pollution Plans, District Local Plans, County Structure Plans, etc., as required.
- Comment upon planning applications and environmental statements with relevance to the estuary
- Represent members' interests on bodies such as the Joint Advisory Committee of the Northern Devon Coast & Countryside Service, and the Braunton Burrows Biosphere Reserve, etc.
- Liaise closely with the Northern Devon Coast & Countryside Service and the Taw/Torridge Estuary Officer (when appointed), particularly in the preparation and updating of the Taw/Torridge Estuary Management Plan.
- Reflect our members concerns; bringing these concerns to the attention of the relevant bodies.
- Resolve conflicts between member organisations, and between outside agencies and our member organisations.
- Act as a lobby group, where necessary.
- Inform and educate our member organisations concerning estuary matters and the rights of other estuary users.

The Forum's website it: <http://www.ttef.org.uk/>

**MP Area 10**

**Copeland Coastal Partnership:** was launched in June 2011 and brings together a range of organisations that have an interest in promoting and enhancing Copeland's coast. The Partnership aims to develop the coast for the benefit of local people, visitors and the local economy as well as protecting the physical and natural environment for current and future generations through activities and publications such as the [Shoreline Management Plan](#). The partnership meets on an annual basis and currently receives administrative support from Copeland Borough Council.

The Partnership website is: <http://www.copeland.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=2245>

**Duddon Estuary Partnership:** aims to bring everyone with an interest in the Estuary together to exchange ideas and work for the good of the area and its special wildlife interests. These have international recognition and protection. Through this,

the Partnership is working closely with the [Copeland Coastal Partnership](#) and the [Morecambe Bay Coastal Partnership](#). The Duddon Estuary Partnership was set up in 1992 to bring together representatives from a range of interest groups and organisations to help ensure no harm came to wildlife interests in the area. The [Partnership meets](#) 3 times a year to raise and discuss current issues affecting the area. It has a consultative, advisory and educational role (Duddon Estuary Partnership, 2012).

The Partnership's website is: <http://www.duddon-estuary.org.uk/>

**Morecambe Bay Partnership:** is dedicated to taking action to improve the environment and quality of life in Cumbria and North Lancashire. [The Trustees](#) direct and advise the staff in carrying out the objects. They meet at least 6 times a year to discuss the activities of the Partnership. The Morecambe Bay Partnership brings together many different interests in our conferences, seminars and user group meetings. The [Partnership](#) listens carefully to all stakeholders and takes constructive action on Bay-wide issues (Morecambe Bay Partnership, 2012).

Morecambe Bay Partnership:

- takes action to improve the environment, including a very active programme of volunteer beach cleans;
- runs seminars and conferences, to ensure an informed debate on current issues;
- brings together recreational users to prevent and resolve conflict;
- supports the management group looking after the wildlife and habitats of the Bay;
- is developing an application to Heritage Lottery for a large grant to make Morecambe Bay more distinctive, more accessible and better understood.

The Partnership's website is: <http://www.morecambebay.org.uk/>

**North West Coastal Forum:** is a multi-sector partnership bringing together coastal stakeholders from across the North West to promote and deliver sustainable management and use of our coastline.

The Forum works with partners from a wide range of different sectors across the North West as well as nationally and internationally on a variety of projects and policy issues to achieve:

- Improved well being of coastal communities
- Well-integrated planning and management of the coastal zone
- The economic potential of the NW coast achieved in ways which safeguard, enhance, restore and sustainably use our natural and cultural assets
- A high quality natural and built coastal environment able to adapt to climate and other change
- Improved recreational opportunities and visitor experience
- Raised appreciation of the coast, its value and its needs



It is governed by a Management Board made up of 25 representatives from coastal stakeholder organisations. The Board elects a Chair on a biennial basis, currently Professor Annie Worsley, Strata Environmental.

The [Forum works](#) by commissioning research, holding conferences and events to highlight issues, inform stakeholders and showcase best practice, and by providing advice and technical input to inform legislation, policy, and other initiatives. The Forum acts as a one-stop-shop for information on the key issues affecting our coastline and has a news-focussed website and regular e-newsletter which is free to subscribe to.

The Forum's website is: [www.nwcoastalforum.org.uk](http://www.nwcoastalforum.org.uk)

**Solway Firth Partnership:** is a voluntary coastal management partnership which was launched in 1994 in response to formal support for integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) from UK Government and agencies. Recently, ICZM has also been endorsed as a process by the EU. The need for ICZM around the Solway Firth is particularly pressing because the Solway crosses a national boundary; this results in a necessary increase in the number of agencies and organisations working together under different legal, cultural and social systems. The importance of ICZM is further emphasised by the complexity and diversity of the Solway Firth as it contributes to the regional economy, has a dramatic landscape which provides a haven for wildlife and is also of social importance (Solway Firth Partnership, 2012). The [Partnership](#) covers a defined area and it is open to everyone interested in the sustainable management of the Solway. It works with all of the stakeholders to increase sustainable use and management of the Solway Firth. It also contributes towards regional, national and international policy development by providing vital input from the grass roots level. The dynamic nature of the Partnership enables work to be conducted on a variety of issues and projects; this is reflected in the key deliverables the Partnership is able to meet on an annual basis.

The Partnership's Vision Statement is: *"To secure an environmentally sustainable future for the Solway Firth area which allows the economy to prosper while respecting the distinctive character, natural features, wildlife and habitats of the Firth".*

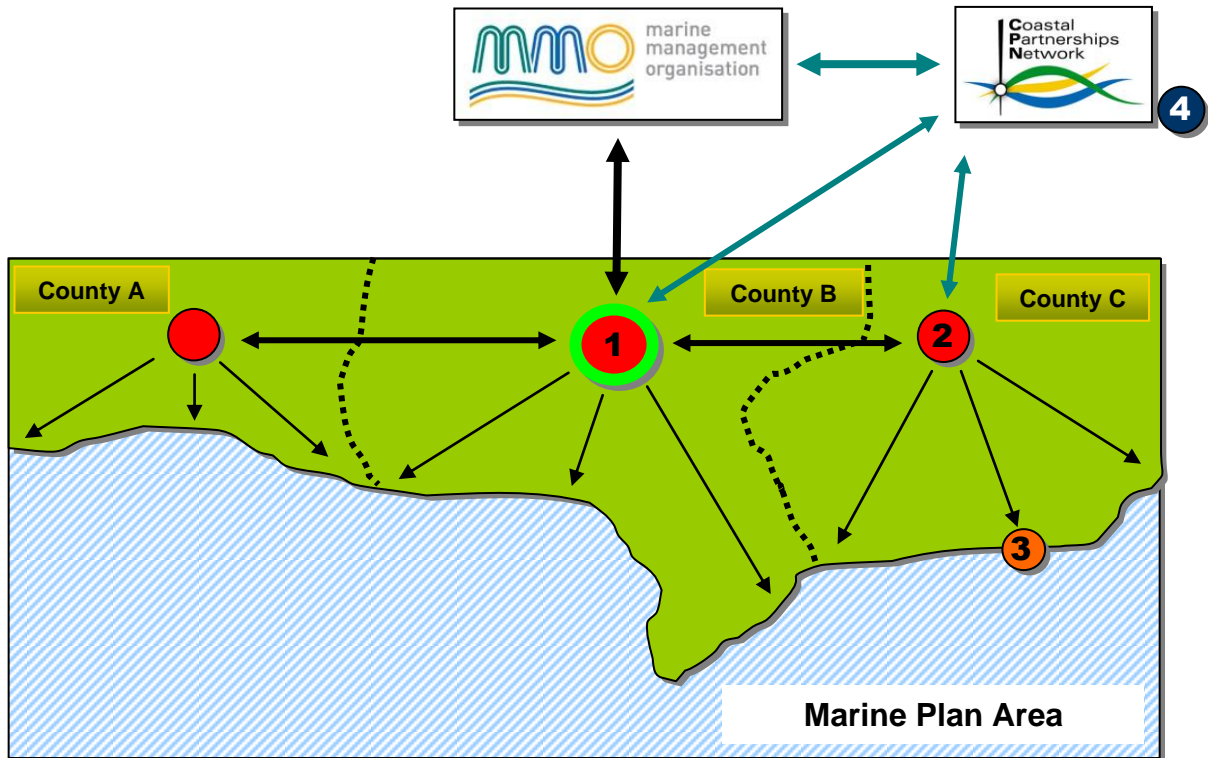
The Partnership's website is: <http://www.solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk/>

**Wirral Coastal Partnership:** Bringing together key landowners businesses, voluntary groups, schools, agencies, bodies and other groups including the Wirral Council. All are vital to the development of Wirral's coastal development for tourism. The common vision is to maximise the assets and opportunities available for the sustainable management of Wirral's natural environment whilst promoting coastal tourism in the region. All information can be found in the current Wirral Coast Partnership Business Plan 1st January 2011- 31 December 2013.

The Partnership's website is: <http://www.wirral.gov.uk/>

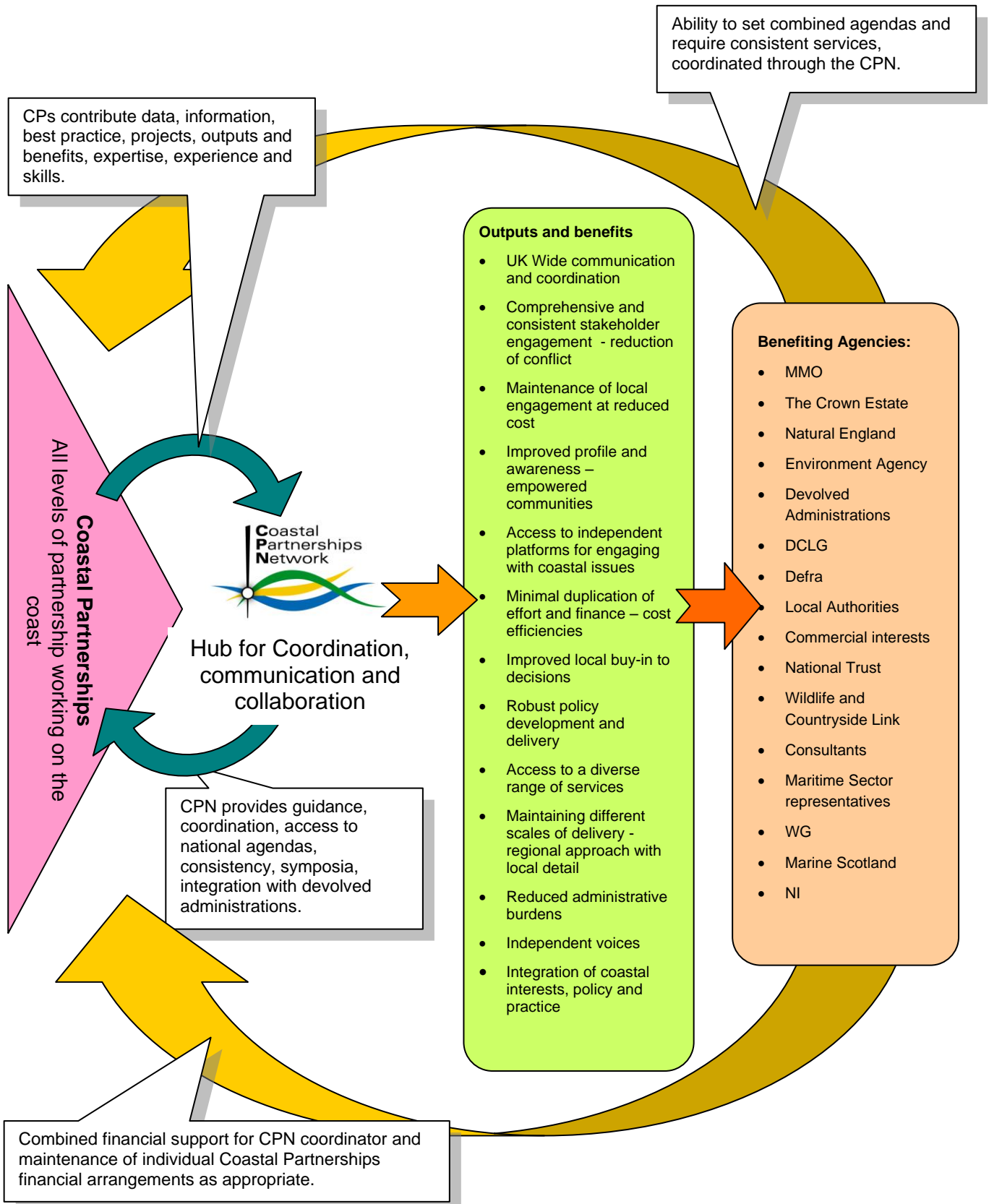


## 2 A Proposed Generic Scheme for Developing Marine Planning Networks and Working Partnerships



1. **One 'Regional Hub' Coastal Partnership** is identified within in each Marine Plan area in order to orchestrate and liaise with other delivery agents along the coast – making for a single clear point of contact
2. **County-wide Coastal Partnerships** use links to other networks and partnerships within each County to establish comprehensive Marine Planning networks
3. **Local Coastal Partnerships** focused on specific sites with strong local connections and buy-in are used (sub-contracted) to deliver local engagement where needed
4. **CPN** retains close contact with MMO and CPs - acts as coordinator for **Regional Hub partnerships, County-level partnerships** and **Local Coastal Partnerships**

### 3 The Benefits of the Coastal Partnerships Framework



## 4 All Coastal Partnerships

Table 11: All responding CPs in England.  
Source: CPN

Marine Planning Areas	Coastal Partnerships
1 & 2	Berwickshire & North Northumberland Coast EMS
	Druridge Bay Partnership
	Durham Heritage Coast Partnership
	North Yorkshire & Cleveland Coastal Forum
	Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast EMS (& Industry for Nature Conservation Association)
Year Estuary Forum	
3 & 4	Humber Advisory Group
	Humber Management Scheme
	Norfolk Coast Partnership
	Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB
The Wash and North Norfolk Coast EMS Management Scheme	
5	Colne Estuary Partnership
	Kent Coastal Network
	Medway Swale Estuary Partnership
	Thames Estuary Partnership
	Thanet Coast Project
White Cliffs Countryside Partnership	
6 & 7	Devon Maritime Forum
	Dorset Coast forum
	Exe Estuary Partnership
	Hamble Estuary Partnership
	Isle of Wight Estuaries Project
	Manhood Peninsula Partnership
	SeaTorbay
	Solent Forum
	South Devon AONB
Teign Estuary and Coastal Partnership	
8 & 9	Devon Maritime Forum
	Fowey Estuary Partnership
	North Devon AONB
	North Devon World Biosphere Reserve
	Severn Estuary Partnership
	South Devon AONB
	Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum
Taw Torridge Estuary Forum	
10	Copeland Coastal Partnership
	Duddon Estuary Partnership
	Morcambe Bay Partnership
	North West Coastal Forum
	Solway Firth Partnership
Virral Coastal Partnership	

## Organisation sub-groups

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Sub-groups</b>
<b>Devon Maritime Forum</b>	Marine Conservation Zone Group; Marine Education group
<b>Dorset Coast Forum</b>	C-SCOPE project (marine planning) - 4 task and finish groups; Local marine conservation zone group; Swanage coastal change group; Marine and beach litter group
<b>Druridge Bay Partnership c/o Northumberland Wildlife Trust</b>	Landscape Partnership Board for HLF Project ('Coal and Coast' Project) application
<b>Humber Management Scheme</b>	Humber Advisory Group; LNP Development
<b>Medway Swale Estuary Partnership</b>	Funding Partners
<b>Morcambe Bay Partnership</b>	Funding for sub groups provided by the Partnership, membership and external resources.
<b>Norfolk Coast Partnership</b>	Core management Group (representatives of funding partners); Partnership Forum (representatives of all partners)
<b>North Devon World Biosphere Reserve</b>	Marine working group; Coastal defence technical group; Biodiversity group; Outreach group; Science and monitoring group,
<b>North West Coastal Forum</b>	North West Coastal Trail Steering Group; Partnership of Irish Sea Coast and Estuary Strategies (PISCES) - (not met in the last 12 months.
<b>Scottish Coastal Forum</b>	Sub-group set up to oversee management and production of research report on governance arrangements for Marine Scotland's idea of Marine Planning Partnerships to deliver marine planning at regional level around Scotland.
<b>Solent Forum</b>	Natural Environment Group; Water Quality Group; Solent European Marine Site - secretariat for scheme of management
<b>South Devon AONB</b>	Individual estuary forums
<b>Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB</b>	Bait digging group; Access group; Community coastal erosion group; Regulators group
<b>Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum</b>	Water users forum; Monitoring forum
<b>Thames Estuary Partnership</b>	Fisheries action group-neutral facilitation; Dredging Liaison group-neutral facilitation, circulation of dredging notices and applications; Recreation group -neutral facilitation raising recreation requirements and Thames path; Thames Learning group-linking education providers on tidal and non tidal Thames; Planning group- neutral facilitation; Greater Thames Estuary Archaeological Steering Group-archaeological framework planning policy review ; UCL and research - not a sub group, but work with the university colleagues to run joint projects e.g. stakeholder methods on planning.
<b>Thanet Coast Project (NE Kent European marine site)</b>	Management Group (NEKEMS MG); Advisory Group (NEKSCAG); Stakeholder Group; Volunteer scheme (Thanet Coastal Wardens). Occasional issue groups set up.
<b>White Cliffs Countryside Partnership</b>	Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership

### Current, past and future projects

Organisation	Project working	Applications pending for potential/future projects	Past projects
<b>Morecambe Bay Partnership</b>	Headlands to Headspace Project (funding from Landscape Partnership Scheme)	Bid for Coastal Communities Fund; Heritage Lottery Fund; Nature Improvement Area	None
<b>Norfolk Coast Partnership</b>	None	None	None
<b>Wear Estuary Forum</b>	None	None	None
<b>Medway Swale Estuary Partnership</b>	GIFT-T - Delivering green infrastructure on the Hoo Peninsula (partner),	Estuary Eyes - HLF Volunteer Warden Project (lead applicant); Clear Waters- WFD funding application(lead applicant); Invasive Species WFD funding application(partner); Communities Living Sustainably HLF project (partner); EA Catchment Restoration Fund (partner)	Recreational Bird Disturbance Study; Eco-tourism on the Isle of Sheppey; The Saxon Shore Way Coastal Path through Medway (physical improvements and publication); Sea Wall Botanical Survey; Foreshores Art Project.
<b>North Devon World Biosphere Reserve</b>	SMP and actions plans; MCZ and governance; habitat creation; FLAG funds	Big Lottery; CRF; FLAG projects	SMP; Habitat creation; MCZ development' Estuary Planning
<b>Kent Coastal Network</b>	None	None	None
<b>Thanet Coast Project (NE Kent European marine site)</b>	Footprints in the Sand' partnership project (Lead: Access to Nature; BLF)-8 partners; Many more smaller projects (some leading: water safety sessions for schools; others partners-climate change	None	Series of Lottery funded projects (HLF; Children's Play; Access to Nature)
<b>White Cliffs Countryside Partnership</b>	None	Partner HLF Landscape Partnership	SRB

<b>Colne Estuary Partnership</b>	Consultations	None	None
<b>Solway Firth Partnership</b>	Lead - Recreational Sea Angling Guide; Making the most of the Coast; Invasive Non Native Species. Partner - DGC's Coastal Communities Fund application; Natural England European Marine Site project	see project working	Co-ordinator and lead partner in Aquaculture Strategy
<b>Wirral Council Destination Marketing</b>	None	None	None
<b>Isle of Wight Estuaries Project</b>	Lead on own projects and act as advisory on others	Input and advice	Numerous local projects on the Isle of Wight, including: education and awareness raising, regeneration, conservation and enhancement, monitoring, facilities development, environmental management and coastal defence.
<b>Scottish Coastal Forum</b>	About to let research contract to gather data on coastal and marine recreational activities for use as evidence in Scottish National Marine Plan	None	Production of SCF's 'Strategy for Scotland's Coast & Inshore Waters'
<b>North York Moors National Park Authority</b>	None	Coastal Communities Fund - lead partner	None
<b>Copeland Borough Council</b>	Individual projects and coastal initiative projects	Coastal Communities Fund bid	None

<b>Thames Estuary Partnership</b>	Coastal change-paid partner for TE2100 work; Paid joint host for Tidal Thames WFD project pilot; Paid lead for Greater Thames Marshes NIA	Biodiversity officer City Bridges fund; Recreation officer lottery small grants fund; ShipShape-posters of ships and info past and present Heritage Lottery small grant; Planning and stakeholder engagement project-Esme Fairburn Fund	Thames Discovery Programme - Heritage Lottery -foreshore project across GLA area; Thames path current and possible routes for estuary-TEP/Sustrans with CLG funding 2008; Thames Estuary management guidance plan; Thames Strategy East for planning across geographical boundaries; Estuary Edges-EA/TEP joint project on design for tidal flood defence and biodiversity benefit; Education Health and Safety document for foreshore access; Thames Education network document; Recreation strategy 2001; Biodiversity habitat action plan for Tidal Thames-2004; Dredging leaflet for public understanding 2010; Wish Fish children's colouring project 2008; Thames Path possible routes, design and costings 2006; State of the Estuary 2005 phase 1.
<b>Hamble Estuary Partnership</b>	None	None	None
<b>Manhood Peninsula Partnership</b>	None	None	None
<b>Duddon Estuary Partnership</b>	None	None	None
<b>Dorset Coast forum</b>	LICCO project - host and partner. Swanage Coastal Change Forum - partner	Valmer project - interegg funding - partner; Climate change adaptation project - partner; Marine and coastal litter - Beachcare project	Pathfinder, Environment agency - coastal change projects; Marine planning interegg project (C-SCOPE); Sustainable development fund (marine litter project)
<b>Severn Estuary Partnership</b>	DeltaNet - <a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership/deltanet.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership/deltanet.html</a>	Coastal Communities Fund	CoastAtlantic (Interegg) - <a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership/coastatlantic.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership/coastatlantic.html</a> , CorePoint (Interegg) - <a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership/corepoint.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership/corepoint.html</a> , IMCORE (Interegg) - <a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/imcore/index.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/imcore/index.html</a> , Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan 2 - <a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/secg/index.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/secg/index.html</a>

<b>Moray Firth Partnership</b>	None	None	None
<b>Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast</b>	Changing Tides	Crown Estate	None
<b>South Devon AONB</b>	South Devon Coastal Local Action Group - suite of Estuary Use and Enjoyment projects - project management	Potential partner of 3x HLF projects and 1x NERC research project	None
<b>North West Coastal Forum</b>	Partner, Lead, bid supporter	supporter	Partner, Lead, bid supporter
<b>Exe Estuary Partnership</b>	Delivery Partner (with Environment Agency) in 3-year European Project LiCCo (Living with a Changing Coast)	None	Past involvement in European Cycleau Project
<b>Humber Advisory Group</b>	None	None	None
<b>Coast Hebrides</b>	CoastAdapt (lead), Coastal Care (lead), Sectoral Interactions marine planning (lead)	None	South Ford Hydrodynamics Study (lead)
<b>Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum</b>	None	None	None
<b>The Wash and North Norfolk Coast European Marine Site Management Scheme</b>	None	None	None
<b>Berwickshire &amp; North Northumberland Coast European Marine Site</b>	Heritage Lottery Landscape Project, invasive species study,	None	Various projects with the Northumberland Coast AONB; School education packs; various projects to look at condition of site



<b>Solent Forum</b>	CCATCH The Solent - community engagement on coastal change; Solent Disturbance and Mitigation Project; Marine Consents Guide	None	Too numerous to mention
<b>Industry for Nature Conservation Association</b>	None	None	None
<b>Devon Maritime Forum</b>	None	Interreg - Valuing Marine Ecosystems in Europe (val MER)	None at present
<b>Humber Management Scheme</b>	None	None	None
<b>Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum</b>	Focus on managing coastal developments and feeding into planning policy & Local Development Framework development.	Many projects being considered.	Many local projects that focus on the Tamar.
<b>Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB</b>	None	involved	None
<b>Durham Heritage Coast Partnership</b>	HLF funded Access, Habitat Improvement and Interpretation Project (£800,000) Toilet refurb (£240,000) Signage (£120,000) Coastal Waters Data Gap analysis (£5,000)	HLF - £440,000 (Access, Habitat and Interpretation Provision. £140,000 Transnational Nature Tourism provision.	EU Interreg IMCORE partner (£200,000); HLF Nose's Point - Access, Habitat and Interpretation (£650,000); Coast and Countryside Rangers - volunteer development and countryside management (£400,000)
<b>Druridge Bay Partnership c/o Northumberland Wildlife Trust</b>	None	Partnership is to submit Stage 2 application to HLF for £1.8 million	None
<b>Fowey Estuary Partnership</b>	None	None	None

### Percentage contribution by funding source

Organisation	Partners %	Project funding %	Charity status grants/donations %	Sponsorship %	Membership fees %	Statutory %	Voluntary %
Berwickshire & North Northumberland Coast European Marine Site	20	0	0	0	0	80	0
Colne Estuary Partnership	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Devon Maritime Forum	70	30	0	0	0	0	0
Dorset Coast Forum	75	25	0	0	0	0	0
Druridge Bay Partnership c/o Northumberland Wildlife Trust	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data
Duddon Estuary Partnership	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Durham Heritage Coast Partnership	80	20	0	0	0	0	0
Exe Estuary Partnership	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hamble Estuary Partnership	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Isle of Wight Estuaries Project	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medway Swale Estuary Partnership	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data
Moray Firth Partnership	60	25	1	0	0	0	14
Morecambe Bay Partnership	35	50	0	14	1	0	0
North Devon World Biosphere Reserve	80	20	0	0	0	0	0
North West Coastal Forum	1	19	0	0	0	0	0
North York Moors National Park Authority	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scottish Coastal Forum	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Severn Estuary Partnership	40	55	0	0	5	0	0
Solent Forum		20	0	5	67	8	0
Solway Firth Partnership	78	10	0	12	0	0	0

<b>South Devon AONB</b>	75	25	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB</b>		68	0	0	0	30	2
<b>Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum</b>	87	0	0	0	0	13	0
<b>Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast</b>	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data
<b>Thames Estuary Partnership</b>	47	34	3	8	4	0	0
<b>Thanet Coast Project (NE Kent European marine site)</b>	50	15	25	5	0	0	5
<b>The Wash and North Norfolk Coast European Marine Site Management Scheme</b>		0	0	0	0	100	0
<b>White Cliffs Countryside Partnership</b>	100	0	0	0	0	0	0

**The following did not supply any financial data:**

Copeland Coastal Partnership  
 Fowey Estuary Partnership  
 Humber Management Scheme  
 Industry for Nature Conservation Association  
 Kent Coastal Network  
 Manhood Peninsula Partnership  
 Norfolk Coast Partnership  
 North Devon AONB  
 North Yorkshire & Cleveland Coastal Forum  
 Sea Torbay  
 Taw Torridge Estuary Forum  
 Teign Estuary and Coastal Partnership  
 Wear Estuary Forum

## List of Acronyms

**AONB** – Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty  
**CLG** – Communities and Local Government  
**COMAH** – Control Or Major Accident Hazards regulations  
**CP** – Coastal Partnership  
**CPN** – Coastal Partnership Network  
**DEFRA** – Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
**EMS** – European Marine Site  
**GDP** – Gross Domestic Product  
**GIS** – Geographic Information Systems  
**GLA** – Greater London Authority  
**HLF** – Heritage Lottery Funding  
**IFCA** – Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority  
**INCA** – Industry for Nature Conservation Association  
**IPPC** – Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control directive  
**LEP** – Local Enterprise Partnership  
**LGA** – Local Government Authorities  
**LNP** – Local Nature Partnership  
**MMO** – Marine Management Organisation  
**MP areas** – Marine Plan areas  
**MPS** – Marine Policy Statement  
**NP** – National Park  
**SE** – Stakeholder Engagement  
**SPA** – Special Protected Area  
**SAC** – Special Area of Conservation  
**WFD** – Water Framework Directive