

Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Draft East marine plans in English Waters: Appropriate Assessment

Following a public consultation on the draft marine plans for the East Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan Areas in summer of 2013, the resulting responses made no change to these plans in regard to Habitats Regulations Appraisal.

Therefore the assessment that was performed of the draft marine plans in July 2013 remains valid.

In July 2013, the draft marine plans for the East Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan Areas (hereafter referred to as 'the draft plans') were published by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). Marine plans will form part of a new plan-led system for marine activities, providing greater coherence in policy and a forward-looking, proactive and spatial planning approach to the management of the marine areas, their resources and the activities and interactions that take place within them. They provide policy and spatial guidance for an area and help ensure that decisions within a plan area contribute to delivery of national and area-specific policy objectives. All public authorities taking authorisation or enforcement decisions that affect - or might affect - the English marine area must do so in accordance with marine plans unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise.

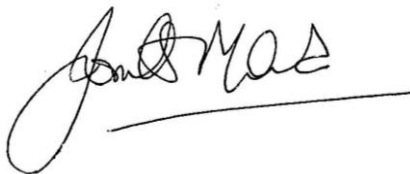
A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)¹ was undertaken to identify whether the plans (alone, or in combination with other plans or projects) are likely to have a significant effect (LSE)² on any European sites, and, if so, whether they may have an adverse effect on the integrity (AEOI) of such sites. This appraisal was carried out under requirements of Council Directive 92/43/EC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora ('the Habitats Directive'), the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (SI 2010/490) for European sites within 12 nautical miles of territorial sea baselines (i.e. the East Inshore plan area) and the Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007/1842) for European sites outside 12 nautical miles (i.e. the East Offshore plan area). A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incorporating the requirements of the SEA directive (Directive on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Council Directive 2001/42/EC), COM/2009/469) is available separately.

¹ The acronym HRA refers to a 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' or a 'Habitats Regulations Appraisal'. In this case it defines the whole 'appraisal process' by which the plans are being evaluated (from screening to completion) to make a clear distinction between that detailed process, and the final Appropriate Assessment (this document).

² In this case Likely Significant Effect (LSE) has the same meaning as in Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive. Article 6(3) requires that an Appropriate Assessment is needed for any plan or project, which is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site, but would be likely to have a significant effect on such a site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects. It refers to anything that is more than '*de minimis*' change or, any effect "that may reasonably be predicted as a consequence of a plan or project that may affect the conservation objectives of the features for which the site was designated, but excluding trivial or inconsequential effects" (English Nature, 1999).

As delegated authority for marine plan preparation, the MMO contracted a consortium to deliver the SA with ABPmer leading on the HRA process. An iterative HRA process was pursued following available guidance for plan-level HRA work and this work was reviewed in three separate documents: a pre-screening review, a screening study, and an Appropriate Assessment Information Report (AAIR). The information provided in these documents has been reviewed and summarised to produce a final stage Appropriate Assessment (AA) to meet obligations under the Regulations.

As a result of the HRA and AA, the MMO has concluded that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of a European site arising from the draft plans. This is on the basis of the application of an appropriate mitigation measure in the form of project level HRA, supported as the plan matures and is reshaped by future revision, by an appropriate Iterative Plan Review (IPR) process.

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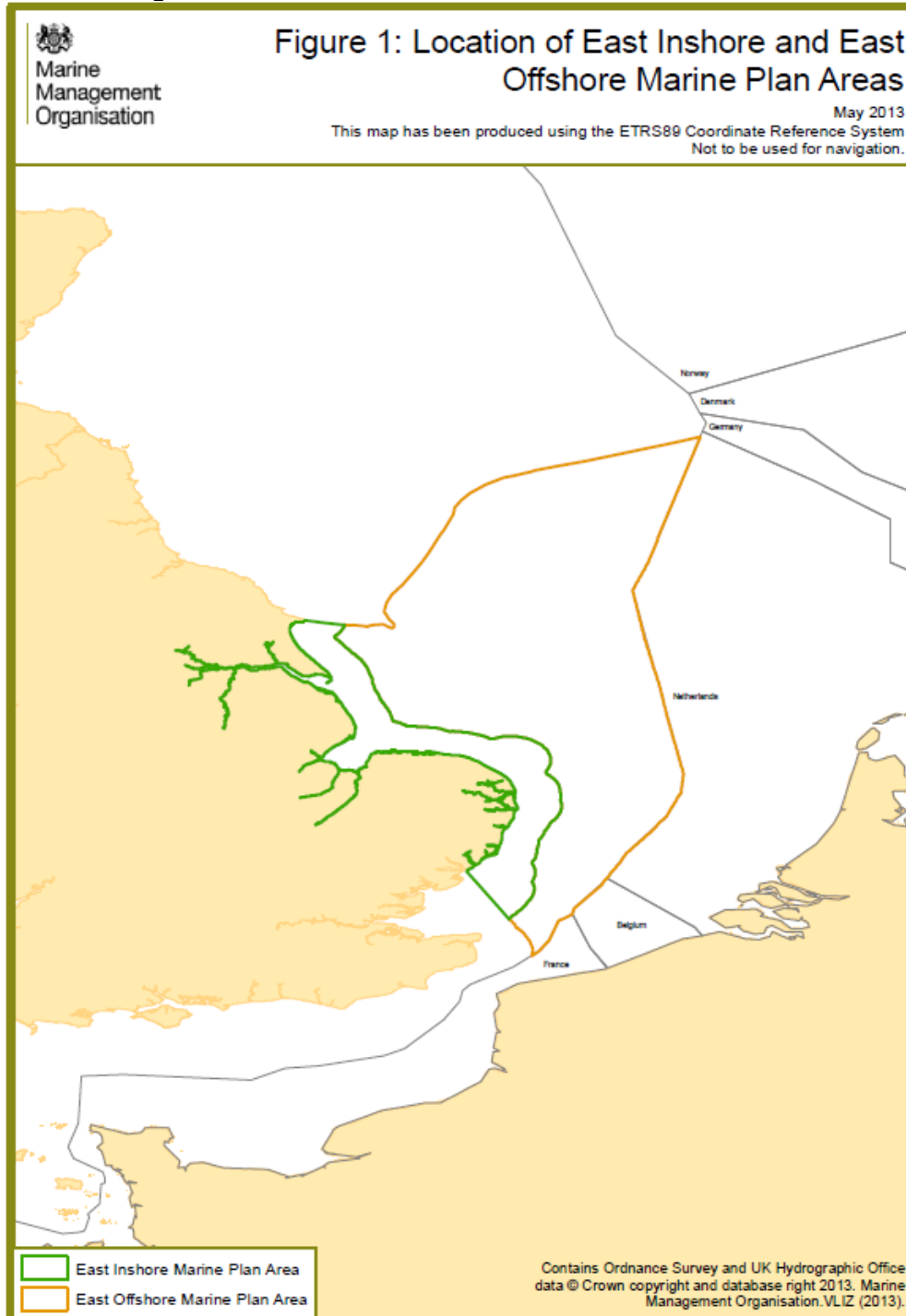
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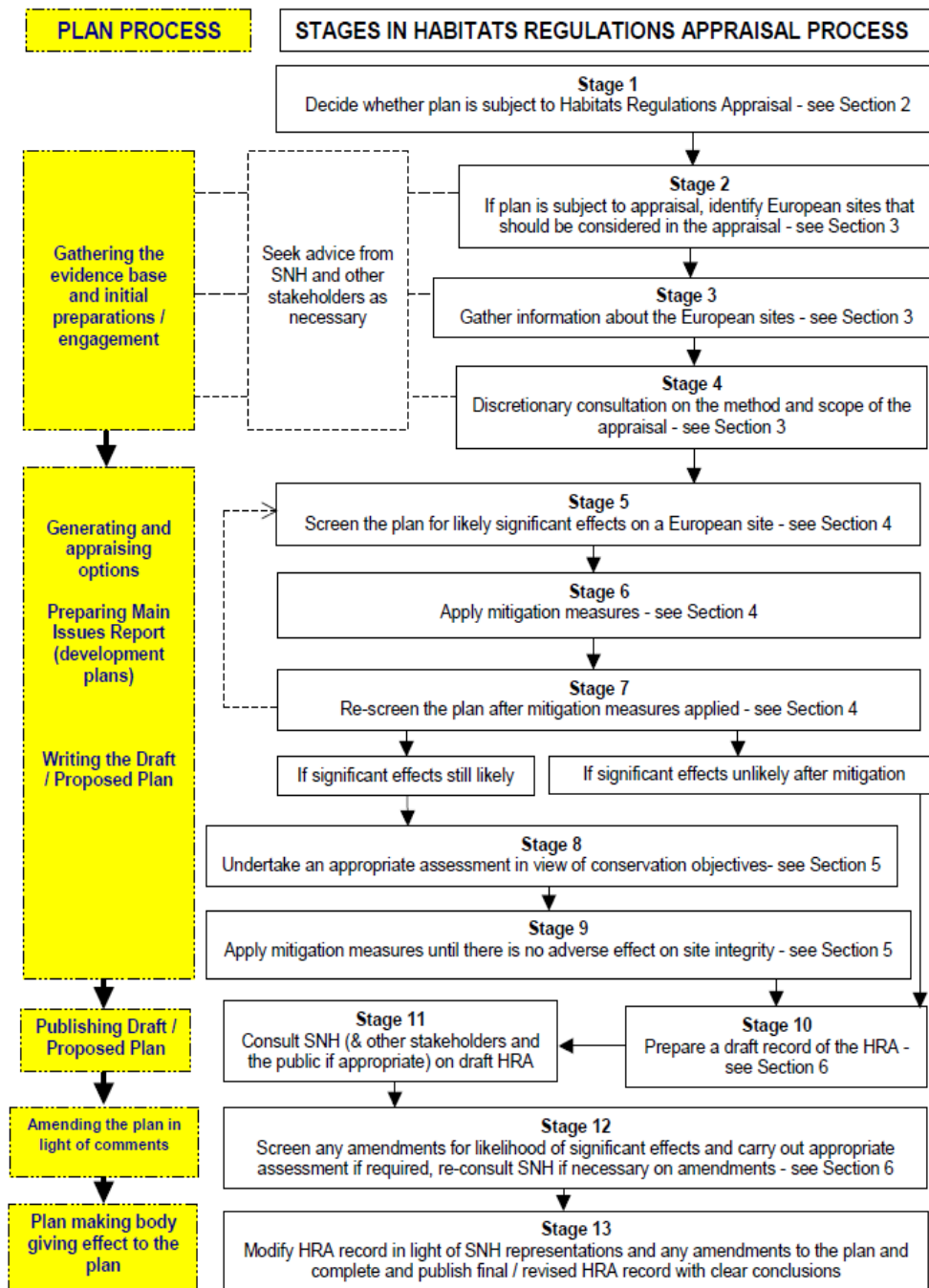
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The draft plans set out objectives and policies to guide development over a 20-year period. The location of the East Inshore and Offshore Plan Areas are shown in Figure 1.



1.2. The HRA has been carried out in accordance with the 13-step process for plan-level HRAs described in guidance prepared for Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH, David Tyldesley and Associates, 2012), and outlined in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Structure of the SNH plan-level HRA process (David Tyldesley and Associates, 2012)¹



¹ Note that references to 'sections' in each stage relate to sections of the David Tyldesley and Associates guidance document.

1.3. A series of documents has been prepared to meet the requirements of the HRA process. These are summarised below, together with how they relate to the stages in the HRA process set out in Figure 2.

- Pre-screening Review (Stages 1 to 3) - (MMO, 2013a)
- Screening Review (Stages 4 to 7) - (MMO, 2013b)
- Appropriate Assessment Information Report (AAIR)(Stages 8 to 13) - (MMO, 2013c)
- MMO Appropriate Assessment (Stage 13 and final HRA record) (MMO, 2013d)

2. PROCESS

2.1. The following sets out the activities carried out and outcomes at each stage of the HRA process set out in Figure 2.

2.1.1. Pre-Screening Review (Stages 1, 2, and 3)

The pre-screening study was undertaken to inform the decision as to whether the East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plans should be subject to HRA. A number of European sites are located within the East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plan areas and a 100km buffer around the two plan areas used for site identification (Pre-Screening Review Report, pages 5 - 36). At this stage of screening it was presumed that sites identified were 'screened into' the assessment unless a definitive judgment of no LSE could be made. The conclusion of this report was that the draft plans should be subject to HRA (stage 1), the sites that should be considered were identified (stage 2), and information about those sites was gathered (stage 3). The result of this process was a list of 270 sites (Pre-Screening Review Report, pages 5 - 38).

2.1.2. Screening Review (Stage 4)

This review and the steps following it were informed by extensive consultation with stakeholders. The SA for the draft plans was overseen by an Advisory Group (AG) at which regular updates on the HRA were given and contributions invited. The AG included Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies as well as non-statutory organisations such as Wildlife and Countryside Link and industry groups such as the Seabed Users Development Group (SUDG). Specifically, this group considered the results of the pre-screening phase and informed the overall HRA strategy. A subgroup of the AG comprising Natural England (NE) and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) was convened more regularly to input into the detail of HRA products and development of the process. As well as directing the HRA from an

early stage, the involvement of this subgroup ensured that these bodies were part of development of the AAIR.

2.1.3. Screening Review (Stage 5)

The screening review performed two key functions: firstly the review utilised a policy screening process; and secondly to consider the European sites identified in the pre-screening review and identify which of those sites may be subject to LSE from the East Inshore and East Offshore marine plans.

The policy screening process reviewed the draft marine plan policies for LSE via identified ecological impact pathways² to identify those policies likely to have a significant effect upon European sites and therefore needed to be subject to an Appropriate Assessment (AA).

Figure 3 describes the policy screening process that was developed by ABPmer specifically to supplement existing guidance and meet the specific requirements of this policy-based HRA of the draft plans. Broadly, three 'screening criteria' questions were asked:

(1) Is the policy general or 'criteria-based' such that it has no specific, discernable implications for activities (i.e. it does not direct, influence, or clarify the nature and location of activities) within the marine plan areas? Policies within the plan which are so general in nature that they would not have a significant effect on European sites (i.e. they are statements of general policy and there is no discernable link between the policy and effects on individual sites) are not subject to an AA;

(2) Has the policy been subject to previous Habitats Regulations Appraisal (e.g. encapsulated with a sectoral plan such as Round 3 offshore wind)? Policies in the plan which are not statements of general policy and which relate to activities that have not previously been subject to HRA have been assessed as part of the AA. Policies in the plan which relate to activities which have been subject to previous HRA and reinforce existing requirements are not expected to change the impact of these activities but are considered under question 3.

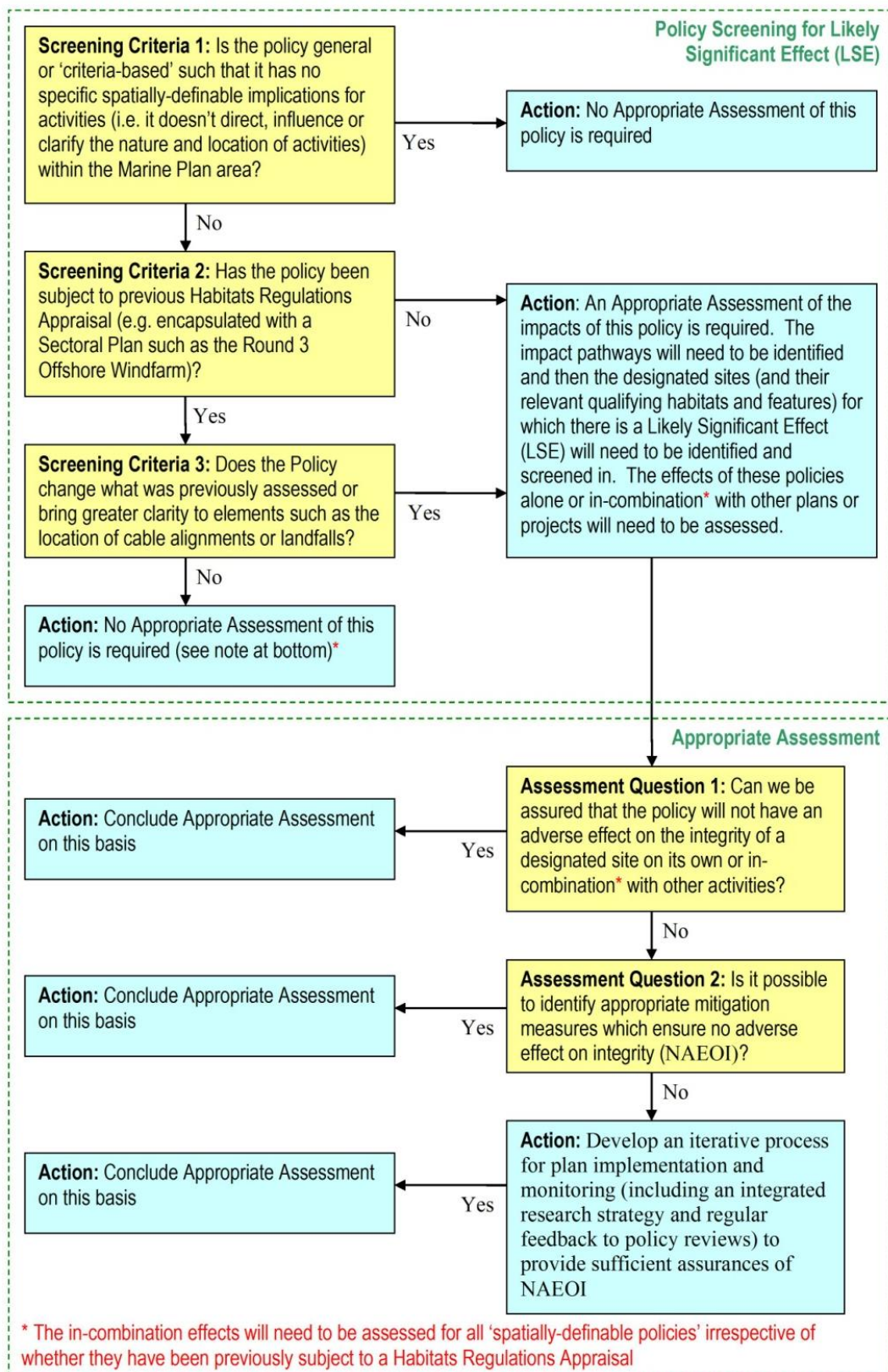
(3) Does the policy change what was previously assessed or bring greater clarity to elements such as the location of cable alignments or landfalls? Following on from question (2), this question tests whether or not a policy related to an activity which has been previously subject to HRA changes the impact that the activity will have. Any plan policy which does change what was

² Impact pathways are mechanisms by which an activity arising from policies identified through the screening process could affect any relevant habitat or species.

previously assessed has been assessed as part of the AA. Any policy which does not change the previous assessment is considered in the AA in relation to possible in-combination effects with those policies subject to AA.

This approach was informed by available guidance and developed through consultation. More information can be found in Section 2, Section 3.2.3, and Table 3 of the Screening Review Report.

Figure 3: Policy Screening and Assessment Process for the East Marine Plans HRA



The screening review included an 'ecological screening process' that identified sites for which there was a potential impact pathway from any activity that is influenced by the draft plans (see the Pre Screening Review Report sections 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 for details). The first phase of the process of screening sites for LSE was to remove terrestrial and freshwater habitats and interest features (including, if relevant, associated designated sites), particularly those that do not occupy the coastal zone, for which there is definitely no impact pathway. The next phase reviewed and screened in all the sites for which there could be SE. This process resulted in 182 sites being screened in for consideration as part of the AA (Pre Screening Review Report, pages 26 - 63).

The screening review concluded that there were some draft plan policies which met the relevant screening criteria and therefore were required to be subject to an AA. These were those related to tidal energy generation (TIDE1), carbon capture and storage (CCS1), and aggregates extraction (AGG1 and AGG2).

With respect to CCS the potential impacts identified are associated with the 'transport' and 'storage' phase of the work as it is only these elements that could have a definable impact on the marine environment. These impacts include Physical Damage to Species (pathway reference number 14) due to the presence of above water structures and any associated lighting.

Potential adverse impacts identified with respect to TIDE include: Physical Loss/Gain of Habitat (pathway reference number 4) due to the presence of tidal generation structures on the seabed; and Non-Physical Disturbance (pathway reference number 15) due to the presence of sub-surface structures and disturbance (noise or visual).

The types of potential adverse impacts identified relating to AGG include: Physical Damage to Habitat, direct and temporary and indirect and temporary (pathway reference numbers 6 and 7) from damage to the seabed and areas surrounding the site of extraction.

While the potential impacts above were identified, it should be noted that due to the diversity of sites and features scoped in, not all sites would be subject to the same types of impact and examples given here are not applicable in all cases. A full list of impacts from the policies scoped in, including further background on pathway reference numbers, can be found in the AAIR Appendix A, Tables A1 and A2 (pages 150-153).

Policies that were screened out because HRAs have previously been produced included those for the Oil and Gas and Offshore Wind sectors. It should be noted that while a number of policies were

screened out at this point, this did not preclude the need to consider the in-combination effects of all spatially definable policies irrespective of whether they had previously been subject to HRA. This is discussed further in the following 'conclusion' and 'mitigation measures' sections of this document.

2.1.4. Screening Review (Stages 6 and 7)

At this stage no specific mitigation measures were identified to be applied as part of the screening process as per stages 6 and 7 of Figure 2 on the basis that these, including those needed to ensure that the draft plans would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European sites, would be identified in the AA.

2.1.5. Appropriate Assessment Information Report (AAIR) (Stages 8 and 9)

The AAIR sets out the assessment and mitigation review work that was needed to inform this Appropriate Assessment document. The review followed five key steps:

- (1) The identification of the impact pathways that are relevant for each of the three sectors for which related policies had been 'screened in' to the assessment;
- (2) A review of activities undertaken in each of the three sectors, and environmental changes arising, which could have an impact on a designated (European) site or interest (protected) feature via an identified pathway;
- (3) The identification of sites and relevant interest features for which LSE cannot be excluded, from the relevant activities and impact pathways;
- (4) A review of the sensitivities of the relevant interest features to the identified impact pathways and sector activities;
- (5) An assessment of impacts and identification of available mitigation measures. This process constituted stages 8 and 9 of the process in Figure 2.

2.2. Together with the three reports outlined above, this AA represents the final 'HRA Record' (stage 10), to which NE and JNCC have been contributors (stage 11). This AA will also accompany the draft plans to inform the public consultation. Following the consultation there will be a further need to update the HRA documentation and draft plans prior to adoption (dependent upon the results of the consultation; Stages 12 and 13).

3. APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

3.1. The AA work undertaken found that it is not possible, without the application of mitigation measures, to conclude that there will be no adverse effect upon the integrity of any of the relevant European sites identified in the screening review.

3.2. This is because the strategic nature of the draft plan policies are such that it is not possible to currently quantify their future influence upon related individual authorisation and enforcement decisions within the East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plan areas. For the same reason it is not possible at a strategic level to identify specific effects on European sites arising from the implementation of future individual plans or projects.

3.3. In addition, even by drawing on pre-existing information and evidence from previous individual plans and projects, it is not possible to fully identify (and thus rule out) the effects of future plans and projects of a similar kind. Of the three sectors, tidal energy generation and carbon capture and storage are emerging sectors where there has been either very little or no previous development within the East Marine Plan Areas. Given a lack of such information it is not possible to currently extrapolate how these sectors might progress, for example:

- the type of possible technologies that might be used;
- the relevant spatial densities of these activities;
- the size and shape of seabed structures;
- the sensitivities of qualifying features of European sites to activities in these sectors (e.g. the impacts of turbine arrays on seabirds foraging underwater); and
- the future changes to the number and location of designated sites within the East Inshore and East Offshore marine plan areas.

3.4. There is more pre-existing information on the impacts arising from activities within the aggregate extraction sector and the geographical locations in which aggregate extraction currently takes place, and are likely to take place in the future, are relatively well defined. However, it is still not possible currently to quantify the individual effects for future projects, the in-combination effects across multiple aggregate extraction activities and the in-combination effects of aggregate extraction with all activities within the East Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan Areas.

3.5. Similar factors currently prevent the identification of specific effects on European sites arising from the influence of the draft plan policies in combination with the influence of other draft plan policies. Such uncertainty about in-combination effects is typically a characteristic in all strategic coastal and offshore plans where the full extent of future developments cannot be

anticipated; however, it is especially prevalent for the draft plans because of their broad spatial extent and their multi-sectoral nature.

4. MITIGATION MEASURES

- 4.1. The main mitigation measure identified is that, as a matter of law, a project or plan will be required to undergo a project-level HRA where there is a likelihood of a significant effect on a European site. Wherever LSE on a European site arises from the individual plan/project proposal cannot be excluded, an Appropriate Assessment will be needed to determine if the proposal would have an adverse effect on site integrity. Where specific adverse effects are identified by this process, project specific mitigation measures may be able to be identified and implemented to remove these adverse effects.
- 4.2. Appropriate consideration of the impacts arising from authorisation and enforcement decisions which are influenced and directed by draft plan policies (whether alone or in combination with other draft plan policies) can be made when the specific nature and scope of the individual plan or project has been identified. Any adverse effects arising from authorisation and enforcement decisions which are influenced by relevant draft plan policies can be identified and suitably mitigated at the individual project level.
- 4.3. Through appropriate consideration at the individual project level, the influence of policies scoped into this appropriate assessment and for which adverse effect on site integrity cannot be excluded will be mitigated. These project level HRAs will consider the effect of these policies and in-combination effects and can therefore ensure that the plan policies, when implemented, will comply with the Directive.
- 4.4. There are two ways in which this mitigation measure can be supported and built upon. Firstly, this plan-level AA gives direction to these future project level AAs by identifying project level mitigation measures to avoid an adverse effect on the integrity of European sites from certain types of project.
- 4.5. Those policies scoped into the AA are those related to activities that would be subject to the marine licensing process. As part of this AA, mitigation measures derived from the MMO's experience of marine licensing were collated and compared against the impact pathways. This collation process identified that there are no strategic mitigation measures that would be applied for in any application made in relation to the activities directed by policies TIDE1, CCS1, AGG1 and AGG2. This is because mitigation measures put in place for these activities are decided based upon the features of any given individual proposal e.g. location or technology type.

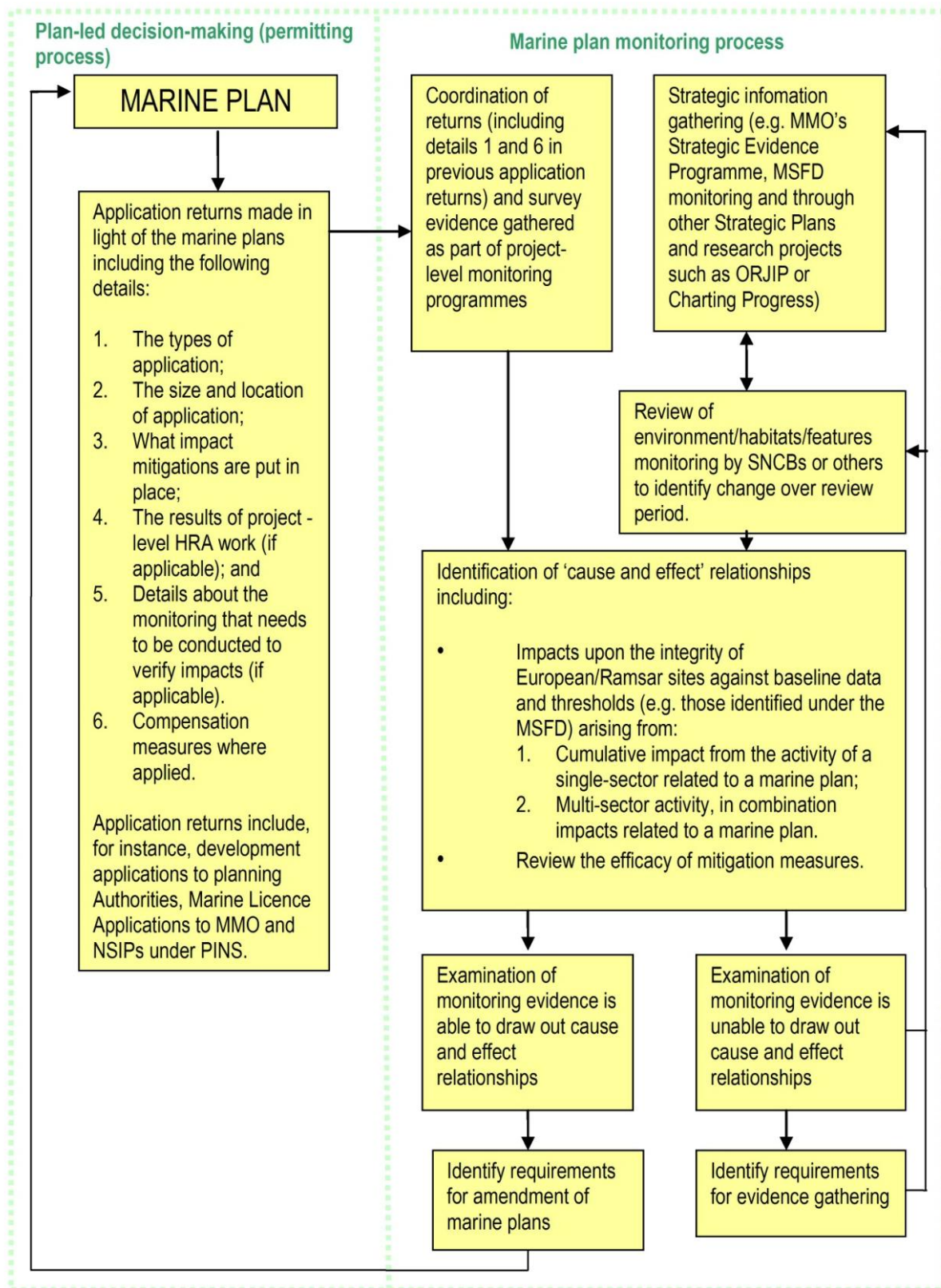
- 4.6. Given the lack of strategic mitigation measures, information from marine licensing processes to date was reviewed to identify regularly used or previously proposed mitigation measures that have been applied in the past. In the examples that these measures have been drawn from, mitigation has been used to help ensure that there would be no significant effect on the integrity of European sites, relative to identified impact pathways. These mitigation measures are outlined in the AAIR (pages 168 - 174) and its associated tables and appendices.
- 4.7. These mitigation measures have been brought together in this way to enable potential adoption by projects proposed in the plan areas. However, they have no statutory weight beyond being options for the developer / marine licensing authority to consider. Whether or not any particular mitigation measure is suitable or appropriate for a project proposal would be determined as part of the project-level HRA process will depend upon the nature of any specific effects identified.
- 4.8. Secondly, project level appropriate assessments and the associated monitoring review work will inform ongoing regular reviews of the marine plans as part of the Iterative Plan Review ('IPR').
- 4.9. As set out in the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, monitoring of marine planning will examine delivery of marine plan objectives through marine plan policies, and in turn, deliver the objectives of the Marine Policy Statement. The IPR is a clear, phased and auditable process for managing the implementation of the East Inshore and East Offshore marine plans.
- 4.10. The IPR process is described in Figure 4 and is based on similar approaches that have been identified for other strategic plan such as the Scottish Government's Offshore Wind Energy and Wave and Tidal Energy Plans (ABPmer 2011a; 2013). This process includes a mechanism to review the findings from monitoring work undertaken for individual plan or projects and the opportunity to review and revise the Marine Plans in the future. Providing a mechanism for this iterative review process will allow lessons to be learned on an ongoing basis and will provide assurance that the impacts from projects and plans affecting the East Marine Plan areas (whether alone or in-combination with other plans or projects) will be identified and that unacceptable impacts can be avoided.
- 4.11. It is expected that monitoring for the multi-sectoral marine plans will draw largely upon existing evidence given that many activities subject to policies in the plans are longstanding and have substantial monitoring in place. Monitoring will be used to inform plan progress review and reporting (with possible amendment depending upon the results of the review) every three years. This required monitoring and amendment option process constitutes the basis for a formalised IPR process for marine plans. It is in

this context that plan implementation requirements recommended by the HRA of marine plans will be integrated, alongside the monitoring of the plan.

- 4.12. Given the strategic nature of the marine plans and the uncertainty of related impact, there is scope for the IPR process to contribute to knowledge in 'areas of uncertainty', particularly for in-combination and cumulative assessments. The approach does not formally propose to undertake survey work as part of this plan monitoring requirement. However, it is recognised that gaps in strategic evidence may need to be filled should they be identified, as a result of the IPR process. A key step in contributing to this will be reviewing returns, such as marine licensing applications and monitoring data, to understand changes in the plan area over the review period. In turn, information gathered could feed into the MMO's strategic evidence programme that can then inform the development or revision of marine plans.
- 4.13. Monitoring of the plan will include collection of evidence related to policies that overlap with the aims of HRA processes, for example BIO1 that emphasises the need to attach appropriate weight to and take account of habitats and species that are protected or are of conservation concern. In practice, monitoring will necessitate oversight of returns, such as marine licence applications³ and associated monitoring reports (where applicable), that may impact upon protected habitats and species. There is therefore the opportunity to fulfil the expectations of IPR within this oversight by recording details, including: (1) the number of types of application; (2) the size and location of types of application; (3) what measures are used to mitigate impacts; (4) the results of project-level HRA work (where applicable) and (5) details about the monitoring that needs to be conducted to verify impacts (where applicable) (6) compensation measures where applied. This could then be used to examine 'cause and effect' relationships that may enhance understanding of in combination and cumulative impacts, possibly resulting in amendments to marine plans where evidence allows. Figure 4 indicates how this process could work for one plan review cycle.

³ Application returns include, for instance, development applications to planning Authorities and Marine Licence Applications to MMO

Figure 4: Iterative Plan Review (IPR) Process for Management of the East Marine Plan Areas HRA



5. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1. A key policy/strategy development that will need to be considered in the future iterations of this AA, and will be material to the IPR process, is the evaluation of impacts from the fishing sector. At time of publication of the draft plans, work was ongoing on a review of current fishing activity and potential impacts on European marine sites, under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive; this work is due to report later in 2013. The impact on this appraisal cannot yet be determined, and so will be kept under review as the draft plans progress and will be considered by the HRA and the draft plans as information becomes available.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1. Taking into account the mitigation measures outlined above and in particular future project level appropriate assessments, this assessment concludes that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of a European site arising from the draft plans.

7. REFERENCES

ABPmer. 2011a. Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Draft Plan for Offshore Wind Energy in Scottish Territorial Waters: Information for Appropriate Assessment Report for the Scottish Government January 2011; ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd. Report No. R. 1722 (overall summary) and R1772a -c (pre-screening, screening and assessment information reports)

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Marine Management Organisation. 2013d. Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Draft East marine plans in English Waters: Appropriate Assessment

Table 1: The non-UK designated sites to be considered in relation to HRA Screening

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
EC1	Decision making authorities will consider favourably licensable marine activities that provide economic productivity benefits that are additional to GVA generated by existing activities, and that are delivered sustainably.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Proposals that provide economic productivity benefits which are additional to Gross Value Added currently generated by existing activities should be supported.	None
EC2	Decision making authorities will consider favourably, licensable marine activities that provide employment benefits, particularly where the benefits have the potential to meet employment needs in localities close to the plan area.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Proposals that provide additional employment benefits should be supported, particularly where these benefits have the potential to meet employment needs in localities close to the marine plan areas.	None
EC3	Licensing authorities will consider favourably, subject to meeting other requirements outlined in the plan, proposals that will help to achieve the Plan's vision for the East Plan Areas to be at the forefront of the rapidly developing industry of offshore wind generation.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit. Wind energy already assessed through HRA.	1 (& 2)	Proposals that will help the East marine plan areas to contribute to offshore wind energy generation should be supported.	None
SOC 1	Licence applicants should demonstrate that where possible access to the coast for recreational activities will not be compromised and ideally should be enhanced.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Proposals ² that provide health and social well-being benefits including through maintaining, or enhancing, access to the coast and marine area should be supported.	None
SOC 2	Applications for licensable marine activities to diversify tourism in communities in the plan area, including expanding the season through new forms of tourism, will be encouraged when in compliance with other relevant policies in the marine plan.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Removed	n/a

¹ See Figure 8 in Marine Management Organisation, East of England Marine Plans, Habitats Regulations Assessment, Screening Report.

² Proposal is defined in Ch 2, paragraph 77 and the Glossary.

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
SOC 3	Decision making authorities will consider heritage assets when assessing proposals, respecting the culture and character of the area, ensuring that they are conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance. Decision making authorities will have a presumption against licensable marine activities that would substantially harm a heritage asset unless there is a clear and convincing justification for the activity to proceed.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	SOC2: Proposals that may affect heritage assets should demonstrate, in order of preference: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) that they will not compromise or harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset; b) how, if there is compromise or harm to a heritage asset, this will be minimised c) how, where compromise or harm to a heritage asset cannot be minimised it will be mitigated against; or d) the public benefits for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate compromise or harm to the heritage asset. 	None
SOC 4	Decision making authorities will compare the impacts of proposals against the seascape character area assessment for the East Inshore and Offshore areas to take account of mitigation of impacts on existing character.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	SOC3: Proposals that may affect the terrestrial and marine character of an area should demonstrate, in order of preference: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) that they will not adversely impact the terrestrial and marine character of an area; b) how, if there are adverse impacts on the terrestrial and marine character of an area, they will minimise them; c) how, where these adverse impacts on the terrestrial and marine character of an area cannot be minimised they will be mitigated against; d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts. 	None
ECO 1	Decision-makers will ensure that cumulative impacts upon the ecosystem are taken account of in decision-making processes including associated assessments.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Cumulative impacts affecting the ecosystem of the East marine plans and adjacent areas (marine, terrestrial) should be addressed in decision-making and plan implementation.	None
ECO 2	Where a proposed new licensable marine activity or proposed change to an existing licensable marine activity in the marine areas will impact upon water quality, the licensing authority will require the applicant to address those impacts to the satisfaction of the decision-making authorities responsible for regulating or monitoring water quality.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	The risk of release of hazardous substances as a secondary effect due to any increased collision risk should be taken account of in proposals that require an authorisation.	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
ECO 3	Where a proposed new licensable marine activity or proposed change to an existing licensable marine activity poses an increased risk of release of pollutants as a result of increased collision risk, the licensing authority will require the applicant to address the risks to the satisfaction of the decision-making authorities responsible for navigation safety and regulating or monitoring water quality.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Removed	n/a
BIO1	Decision-makers will ensure that the considerations covered by a) to e) are taken account of in decision-making processes including associated assessments. In doing so, they will refer to the best available spatial information on the location or distribution of biodiversity interests.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Appropriate weight should be attached to biodiversity, reflecting the need to protect biodiversity as a whole, taking account of the best available evidence including on habitats and species that are protected or of conservation concern in the East marine plans and adjacent areas (marine, terrestrial).	None
BIO2	Licensing authorities will encourage licensable marine activities, where appropriate, to incorporate features (as part of good design) that enhance any potential benefits to marine ecology, biodiversity and geological conservation interests	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit.	1	Where appropriate, proposals for development should incorporate features that enhance biodiversity and geological interests.	None
MPA 1	Decision-making authorities will have regard to activities between or outside of an MPA that may impact upon delivery of an 'ecologically coherent network of MPAs' in decision-making processes including associated assessments	Whilst the policy area can be derived, this policy doesn't clarify the nature or location of activities so should be screened out.	1	Any impacts on the overall MPA network must be taken account of in strategic level measures and assessments, with due regard given to any current agreed advice ³ on an ecologically coherent network.	None

³ As agreed by government.

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
CC1	Decision making authorities and applicants should consult at the earliest opportunity with those bodies best able to provide advice on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · How new licensable marine activities or management measures for marine protected areas may themselves be impacted upon and respond to climate change over their lifetime · How new licensable marine activities or management measures for marine protected areas impact upon climate change adaptation measures elsewhere during the lifetime of the proposal as well as how the scope proposed may be adapted accordingly and / or impact(s) may be mitigated 	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Proposals should take account of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how they may be impacted upon by, and respond to, climate change over their lifetime; and; • how they may impact upon any climate change adaptation measures elsewhere during their lifetime. Where detrimental impacts on climate change adaptation measures are identified, evidence should be provided as to how the proposal will reduce such impacts	None
CC2	Licensable marine activities should minimise as far as practicable emissions of greenhouse gases directly associated with construction, operation and / or decommissioning (as appropriate). Applicants should also demonstrate consideration of the impact of their proposal on emissions from other users affected by the proposal.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Proposals for development should minimise emissions of greenhouse gases as far as is appropriate . Mitigation measures will also be encouraged where emissions remain following minimising steps. Consideration ⁴ should also be given to emissions from other activities or users affected by the proposal. ⁵	None
GOV 1	Decision making authorities should draft plans and policies in accordance with other relevant statutory plans and their policies unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Appropriate provision should be made for infrastructure on land which supports activities in the marine area and vice versa.	None
GOV 2	Decision makers, including those responsible for the production of land based plans should ensure, when they are producing or reviewing plans that appropriate allocation is made for the onshore infrastructure requirements of new marine activities.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Removed	n/a

⁴ In responding to this policy, it may be useful to refer to processes set out in related guidance such that issued by DECC including "Guidance on carbon neutrality" (2009), which describes matters such as how to define the scope of emissions.

⁵ For example, through displacement.

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
GOV 3	When making decisions on applications, decision making authorities must take account of non-statutory plans such as shoreline management plans (SMP), estuary management plans (EMPs) and other similar management plans.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit.	1	Removed	n/a
GOV 4	Where plans may impact on bordering states, decision making authorities must ensure that the affected states are consulted prior to adoption and as early in the plan making process as reasonably practicable.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit. It relates to planning and decision-making process rather than the outcome.	1	Removed	n/a
GOV 5	Decision making authorities, those contributing to the formation of plans for managing the marine environment and those seeking to undertake development or licensable marine activities within the marine environment, shall seek to maximise opportunities for co-location wherever possible. The requirements of this policy should focus on applications that would be subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive, whilst acknowledging that for some activities, particularly where plan areas are very busy, opportunities for co-location should be sought regardless of the scale of the activity.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit. It relates to planning and decision-making process rather than the outcome.	1	GOV2: Opportunities for co-existence should be maximised wherever possible.	None
GOV 6	Applicants proposing licensable marine activities that may inhibit navigational safety should demonstrate in their application that the proposal complies with the relevant legislation and guidance.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Removed	n/a

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
GOV 7	<p>In proposing new licensable marine activities or management measures, decision making authorities and applicants must identify any potential for proposals to displace other existing activities. Proposals will need to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - fulfilment of other plan objectives - any potential negative impacts upon achieving other marine plan objectives resulting from the displacement of existing activities. <p>proposed mitigation measures that may be offered in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - minimising displacement in the first instance - reducing the impact upon other activities / interests arising from displacement. <p>Activities or measures that result in levels of displacement with resulting disbenefit in excess of the benefits gained will not be supported.</p>	<p>Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit. However, the marine plan HRA will set out monitoring recommendations (as part of iterative plan review process) so that marine planning can better manage displacement in the future.</p>	1	<p>GOV1: Appropriate provision should be made for infrastructure on land which supports activities in the marine area and vice versa.</p>	<p>None</p> <p>New policy is not spatially explicit so is screened out of HRA in line with the original GOV1-7 policies. No significance.</p>

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
				GOV3: Proposals should demonstrate in order of preference: a) that they will avoid displacement of other existing or authorised (but yet to be implemented) activities; ⁶ b) how, if there are adverse impacts resulting in displacement by the proposal, they will minimise them; c) how, if the adverse impacts resulting in displacement by the proposal, cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated against; or d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts of displacement.	New policy is not spatially explicit so is screened out of HRA in line with the original GOV1-7 policies. No significance.
EV1	The MMO will prioritise the commissioning of new evidence in line with those areas identified in its Strategic Evidence Plan (SEP) and will ensure that all new evidence is made publicly available where possible.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Removed	n/a
EV2	The MMO will support the work of partner organisations undertaking relevant research to improve our understanding of the activities and resources in the marine plan areas.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Removed	n/a
EV3	In addition to the research commissioned through the Strategic Evidence Plan, the MMO will work with partners and stakeholders (both UK and international) to develop our understanding of how activities interact both with one another and the wider environment.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Removed	n/a

⁶ It may be advisable to consider applications that have been formally submitted to the relevant regulator and are awaiting determination. Such applications would carry less weight than applications that have already been determined and authorised. How much weight is given to any undetermined application will vary on a case-by-case basis.

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
EV4	The MMO will support and encourage transparency, openness and removal of barriers to data sharing for all stakeholders generating data in the marine plan areas.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Removed	n/a
EV5	The MMO will continue to work closely with the Marine Science Coordination Committee (MSCC), and its groups, to ensure that the identification of any new evidence relevant to marine planning can feed into the planning process.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Removed	n/a
EV6	The MMO will continue to set up data sharing agreements with holders of marine data relevant to marine planning. This will include agreements with international planning authorities bordering the East plan areas to ensure that relevant cross-border evidence is collated as far as possible.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Removed	n/a

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
CCS 1	<p>Any non carbon dioxide storage licensable marine activities associated with a potential carbon dioxide storage location (mapped in Figure 7 below) will be subject to the following in order of sequence:</p> <p>a) those proposing new licensable marine activities should, wherever possible, demonstrate that they will not prevent future CCS use;</p> <p>b) where this is not possible, they should set out how they will minimise or mitigate the impact on future CCS use;</p> <p>c) where it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the impact, they will set out the reasons why and the case for proceeding with their application.</p> <p>In determining a licence, the decision making authorities will assess which of (a), (b) or (c) should apply and the degree to which they are satisfied including, in the case of (c), the relative merits of the proposed licensable marine activities vs. carbon dioxide storage. The above sequence will be a relevant consideration against the granting of other consents.</p>	<p>Screen in on basis that no HRA has previously prepared for CCS and there is some spatial context – the mapped areas will be presented in the</p> <p>Appropriate Assessment document</p>	Screened In	<p>CCS1: Within defined areas of potential carbon dioxide storage,⁷ (mapped in Figure 17) proposals should demonstrate in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not prevent carbon dioxide storage;</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts on carbon dioxide storage, they will minimise them</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	None
CCS 2	<p>The licensing authorities will assess the location of CCS pipelines proposed by the licence applicant (and other connections between offshore facilities and the mainland) and the location of any offshore facilities, against other plan policies in assessing the potential impact on other licensable marine activities. Subject to the consenting process for individual projects, where possible, CCS pipelines should be co-located with other pipelines and cables where possible (see policies GOV5 and CAB1).</p>	<p>Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit</p>	1	Removed	n/a

⁷ This includes saline aquifers and suitable hydrocarbon fields

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
CCS 3	The licensing authority will presume in favour of infrastructure associated with CCS when that infrastructure involves the re-use of oil/gas infrastructure (either in depleted fields or in active fields via enhanced hydrocarbon recovery).	Should be screened out because impacts from oil and gas extraction, and therefore use of infrastructure , have been subject to HRA. Additional impacts from CCS cannot be assessed as this is not spatially specific.	2	CCS2: CCS proposals should demonstrate that consideration has been given to the re-use of existing oil and gas infrastructure rather than the installation of new infrastructure (either in depleted fields or in active fields via enhanced hydrocarbon recovery).	None
OG1	The decision making authority will allocate areas identified for extraction of oil and gas by existing extraction licences. No licensable marine activities will be permitted within allocated areas, unless compatibility with oil and gas extraction can be satisfactorily demonstrated, or agreement between the oil and gas operator and the proponent can be negotiated.	Should be screened out because HRAs have been produced for licensing blocks already	2	Proposals within areas with existing oil and gas production should not be authorised except where compatibility with oil and gas production and infrastructure can be satisfactorily demonstrated.	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
OG2	<p>There will be a presumption in favour of new oil and gas exploration and licensable marine activities, subject to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · fulfilling requirements for Environmental Impact Assessment and any requirements under the Habitats Regulations, the Offshore Regulations and Wild Birds legislation · meeting other requirements outlined in the plan · addressing situations where there is an interest over use of the same space as other licensable, or permissible, activities. These situations will be addressed through consultation between oil and gas licence applicants and rights holders, with a view to agreeing a mutually acceptable way forward. <p>In determining an application, the decision making authorities will assess the relative merits of the proposed licensable marine activities vs. existing licensable or permissible activities.</p>	<p>Should be screened out because HRAs have been produced for licensing blocks already</p>	2	Proposals for new oil and gas activity should be supported over proposals for other development.	None
WIN D1	<p>Sites held under a lease or an agreement for lease granted by The Crown Estate will be allocated by decision making authorities for renewable wind energy development until either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) constructed or b) surrendered back to The Crown Estate or c) terminated by the Secretary of State, <p>If any other new licensable marine activities are proposed, the proponent will have to clearly demonstrate that they will not compromise the wind farm development</p>	<p>Should be screened out because HRAs have been produced for R3OWF</p>	2	<p>Developments requiring authorisation, that are in or could affect sites held under a lease or an agreement for lease that has been granted by The Crown Estate for development of an OWF, should not be authorised unless that they will not adversely impact dredging and disposal activities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) they can clearly demonstrate that they will not compromise the construction, operation, maintenance, or decommissioning of the OWF; b) the lease/agreement for lease has been surrendered back to The Crown Estate and not been re-tendered; c) the lease/agreement for lease has been terminated by the Secretary of State; d) in other exceptional circumstances. 	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
WIN D2	Decision making authorities will presume in favour of wind development, including supporting infrastructure, over other new development proposals inside round 3 zones subject to a ZAP process or an equivalent zone level assessment having been undertaken and where any negative impacts relevant to the project are mitigated to the satisfaction of the decision making authorities.	Should be screened out because HRAs have been produced for R3OWF	2	Proposals for OWFs inside Round 3 zones, including relevant supporting projects and infrastructure, should be supported.	None
WIN D3	All applications for windfarms outside of WIND1, WIND2, demonstration projects or a future leasing round must provide a strong case for development explaining why the proposed site is suitable and how it will contribute to other plan objectives and policies.	Should be screened out because HRAs have been produced for R3OWF	2	Removed	n/a
TIDE 1	For areas of identified tidal stream resource the following will apply in order of sequence: a) Those proposing new licensable marine activities should demonstrate that they will not sterilise an area identified of tidal stream resource. b) Where this is not possible applicants will set out how they will minimise or mitigate the impact on the ability to exploit tidal stream resource in the future c) Where it is not possible to minimise or mitigate their impacts, they must set out any impacts (both positive and negative) that the proposals will have on the plan objectives in order for the regulatory authority to determine whether an application should go ahead.	Possibly screen in but nature of development is not specified, so possibly not sufficiently spatially explicit -- the mapped areas will be presented in the Appropriate Assessment document	?	In defined areas of identified tidal stream resource (see figure 16), proposals should demonstrate, in order of preference that they will not adversely impact dredging and disposal activities; a) that they will not compromise potential future development of a tidal stream project; b) how, if there are any adverse impacts on potential tidal stream deployment, they will minimise them; c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated; d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
CAB 1	The decision making authorities will presume in favour of cable installation where the cable is buried. Where this is not achievable, protection measures may be offered. These will be determined by the decision making authorities on an application basis to minimise the risk of and mitigation of any adverse impacts which include but are not restricted to; sediment deposits, plumes, anchor strike, gear snagging, on both the cable and other seabed users, subject to normal depth limitations	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Preference should be given to proposals for cable installation where the method of installation is burial. Where burial is not achievable, decisions should take account of protection measures for the cable that may be proposed by the applicant.	None
AGG 1	The decision making authorities will protect areas for extraction of aggregates within areas subject to Exploration and Option Agreements with The Crown Estate by not permitting other new licensable marine activities unless compatibility with aggregate extraction can be satisfactorily demonstrated. The policy will apply to the point where a production licence is applied for (after which policy AGG2 applies).	Screen in because not subject to HRA previously and spatially explicit - the mapped areas will be presented in the Appropriate Assessment document	Screened In	Proposals in areas where a licence for extraction of aggregates has been granted or formally applied for should not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
AGG 2	The decision making authorities will protect areas for extraction of aggregates where a licence to do so has been granted or formally applied for by not permitting other new licensable marine activities unless compatibility with aggregate extraction can be satisfactorily demonstrated. These areas will remain allocated for aggregate extraction until such times as they are worked to economic exhaustion or are not re-licensed.	Screen in because not subject to HRA previously and spatially explicit - – the mapped areas will be presented in the Appropriate Assessment document	Screened In	Proposals within an area subject to an Exploration and Option Agreements with The Crown Estate ⁸ should not be supported unless it is demonstrated that the other development or activity is compatible with aggregate extraction or there are exceptional circumstances.	None
AGG 3	Within defined areas of high potential aggregate resource the following will apply in order of sequence: a) those proposing new non aggregate licensable marine activities should, wherever possible, demonstrate that they will not sterilise aggregate extraction; b) where this not possible, they should set out how they will minimise or mitigate the impact on the ability to extract aggregate; c) where it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the impact, they will set out the reasons why and the case for proceeding with their application. In determining a licence, the decision making authorities will assess which of (a), (b) or (c) should apply and the degree to which they are satisfied including, in the case of (c), the relative merits of the proposed development vs. aggregate extraction.	Area is known but the nature of the development is not specified, so possibly not sufficiently spatially explicit	1	Within defined areas of high potential aggregate resource, proposals should demonstrate in order of preference: a) that they will not, prevent aggregate extraction; b) how, if there are adverse impacts on aggregate extraction, they will minimise these c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated d) the case for proceeding with the application if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.	None

⁸Details of tender rounds available at <http://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/marine/aggregates/working-with-us/tender-rounds/>

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
AGG 4	Decision making authorities will take account of published national and sub national guidelines on the provision of marine minerals when determining all applications for marine licences to ensure an adequate supply of minerals for construction aggregate, beach recharge and reclamations.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1		None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
DEF 1	<p>Decision making authorities will presume in favour of new licensable marine activities where the proposal does not coincide with a known area of MOD activity for munitions dumping, military practice, or low flying activity.</p> <p>Within areas of munitions dumping, military practice or low flying, the following will apply in order of sequence:</p> <p>a) those proposing new licensable marine activities should, demonstrate that they will not prevent operation of these defence activities through providing evidence of confirmation from the MOD agreeing to the proposal</p> <p>b) where this not possible, they should set out how they will minimise or mitigate the impact on the ability to undertake these defence activities and provide evidence of confirmation from the MOD that the proposed mitigation measures are acceptable</p> <p>c) where it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the impact, they will set out the reasons why and the case for proceeding with their application.</p> <p>In determining an application, the decision making authorities will assess which of (a), (b) or (c) should apply and the degree to which they are satisfied including, in the case of (c), the relative merits of the proposed development or activities vs. the impact on defence and national security, through discussions with the MOD.</p> <p>If the MOD object to the proposal; then the licensable marine activities will not be permitted.</p>	<p>Should be screened out because MOD activity is not very spatially explicit over a large area, plus the nature of the potential development is unclear.</p>	1	<p>Proposals in or affecting MOD Danger and Exercise Areas should not be authorised without agreement from the MOD.</p>	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
PS1	Decision making authorities will not consent licensable marine activities that requires static, sea surface infrastructure or significantly reduces under-keel clearance in IMO designated routes	Should be screened out due to lack of spatially specific understanding of nature and location of potential activities (no change in existing use patterns).	1	Proposals that require static sea surface infrastructure or that significantly reduce under-keel clearance should not be authorised in International Maritime Organization (IMO) designated routes.	None
PS2	Applications that include static, sea surface infrastructure in areas where navigation risk is high will be not be consented unless it can be demonstrated that consultation with harbour and other navigation authorities, relevant regulators and commercial shipping representation has materially informed proposals that: i) are compatible with the need to maintain space for safe navigation avoiding diversion wherever possible ii) anticipate and provide for future safe navigational requirements insomuch as evidence and stakeholder input allows iii) account for in-combination and cumulative impacts upon navigation resulting from the proposed licensable marine activity and other existing uses as well as known proposed developments, and wider maritime activities and constrains including offshore oil and gas, dredging, fishing, recreational craft, and marine protected areas.	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	Proposals that require static sea surface infrastructure that encroaches upon important navigation routes (see Figure 18) should not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. Proposals should; a) be compatible with the need to maintain space for safe navigation, avoiding adverse economic impact ⁹ ; b) anticipate and provide for future safe navigational requirements where evidence and / or stakeholder input allows; and c) account for impacts upon navigation in-combination with other existing and proposed activities ¹⁰ .	None

⁹ Such as creating need for diversion.

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
PS3	<p>Applications for licensable marine activity below the low water mark should demonstrate that they will not interfere with any existing navigation channels or approaches to ports and harbours, or any future opportunity for expansion of such channels or approaches. Evidence to support this should include responses from relevant consultees, such as Harbour Authorities or major port operations. Where a proposal will interfere with any existing navigation channels or approaches, then the applicant should demonstrate that they have looked at all possible mitigation or minimisation needed.</p> <p>a) those proposing new licensable marine activities should, wherever possible, demonstrate that they will not restrict navigation to or from a proximate port or harbour;</p> <p>b) where this not possible, they should set out how they will minimise or mitigate the impact on the ability to navigate port or harbour navigation channels and / or approaches;</p> <p>c) where it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the impact, they will set out the reasons why and the case for proceeding with their application.</p>	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	<p>Proposals should demonstrate, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not interfere with current activity and future opportunity for expansion of ports and harbours¹¹</p> <p>b) how, if the proposal may interfere with current activity and future opportunities for expansion they will minimise this</p> <p>c) how, if the interference cannot be minimised, it will be mitigated</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the interference.</p>	None

¹⁰ Activities to be accounted for may include but not be limited to offshore oil and gas, aggregate extraction, dredging (capital and / or maintenance), fishing, recreational craft, and Marine Protected Areas.

¹¹ In identifying future opportunity for port or harbour expansion, it is important that applicants demonstrate that ports and harbours' reasoned representations should be accounted for in proposals.

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
DD1	The licensing authority will not permit new development in existing dredging and disposal areas where a licence has been granted or formally applied unless there are exceptional circumstances	Should be screened out due to lack of spatially specific understanding of nature and location of potential activities (no change in existing use patterns).	1	Proposals within or adjacent to licensed dredging and disposal areas should demonstrate, in order of preference: a) that they will not adversely impact dredging and disposal activities; b) how, if there are adverse impacts on dredging and disposal, they will minimise these; c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised they will be mitigated; d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.	None
DD2	Within defined areas of navigational dredging the following will be considered when applying for a new license for maintenance dredging and disposal activities: a) those proposing new licensable marine activities should consult relevant guidance and follow applicable licensing processes; b) where an application is submitted relating to new disposal sites or increasing capacity of existing sites, applicants must demonstrate that there are no safe and practicable alternatives as per guidance c) where it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the impact as per guidance and / or application process, applicants will set out the reasons why and the case for proceeding with their application. In determining a licence, the licensing authorities will assess the degree to which (a) (dredging and disposal) and (b) (disposal sites) are satisfied.	Should be screened out due to lack of spatially specific understanding of nature and location of potential activities (no change in existing use patterns).	1	Removed	n/a

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
FISH 1	<p>Within areas of fishing activity, the following will apply in order of sequence:</p> <p>a) those proposing new licensable marine activities should, demonstrate that they will not prevent fishing activities on, or access to, fishing grounds or landing sites;</p> <p>b) where this not possible, they should set out how they will minimise or mitigate the impact on the ability to undertake fishing activities and access fishing grounds and or landing sites;</p> <p>c) where it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the impact, they will set out the reasons why and the case for proceeding with their application. All cases will need to demonstrate fulfilment of other plan objectives and any potential negative impacts upon achieving other marine plan objectives resulting from displacement of fishing activity</p> <p>In determining an application, the decision making authorities will assess which of (a), (b) or (c) should apply and the degree to which they are satisfied including, in the case of (c), the relative merits of the proposed development or activities vs. fishing activities and access to fishing grounds or landing sites.</p>	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	<p>Within areas of fishing activity, proposals should demonstrate in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not prevent fishing activities on, or access to, fishing grounds;</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts on the ability to undertake fishing activities or access to fishing grounds, they will minimise them;</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated;</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with their proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
FISH 2	<p>Within spawning and nursery areas and the associated habitat, the following will apply in order of sequence:</p> <p>a) those proposing new licensable marine activities should, wherever possible, demonstrate that they will not impact spawning and nursery areas and the associated habitat;</p> <p>b) where this not possible, they should set out how they will minimise or mitigate the impact on the spawning and nursery areas and the associated habitat;</p> <p>c) where it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the impact, they will set out the reasons why and the case for proceeding with their application.</p> <p>In determining an application, the decision making authorities will assess which of (a), (b) or (c) should apply and the degree to which they are satisfied including, in the case of (c), the relative merits of the proposed development or activity vs. spawning and nursery grounds and the associated habitat and their resulting benefits.</p>	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	<p>Proposals should demonstrate, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not have an adverse impact upon spawning and nursery areas and any associated habitat;</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts upon the spawning and nursery areas and any associated habitat, they will minimise them;</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised they will be mitigated;</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with their proposals if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	None
AQ1	<p>Within designated shellfish waters, shellfish harvesting waters and sites subject to Several Orders the following will apply in order of sequence:</p> <p>a) Proponents of new licensable marine activities should, wherever possible, demonstrate that they will not sterilise the seabed and associated water column</p> <p>b) Where a) is not possible, proponents should set out how they will minimise or mitigate the impact on aquaculture activity;</p> <p>c) Where b) is not possible, proponents should set out the reasons why, and the case for proceeding with their application.</p>	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	<p>Within sustainable aquaculture development sites (identified through research), proposals should demonstrate in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will avoid adverse impacts on future aquaculture development by altering the sea bed or water column in ways which would cause adverse impacts to aquaculture productivity or potential;</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts on aquaculture development, they can be minimised</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised they will be mitigated;</p> <p>the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	None

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
TR1	Where licensable marine activities involving construction visible from the coastline is required, the licensing authority will prefer applications that will undertake construction in a manner sympathetic to tourism and recreation activities in the vicinity.	Should be screened out because level of compatibility with tourism and recreation activities is not spatially explicit.	1	TR1: Proposals for development should demonstrate that during construction and operation, in order of preference: a) they will not adversely impact tourism and recreation activities b) how, if there are adverse impacts on tourism and recreation activities, they will minimise them c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated; d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.	None
TR2	Development in the marine area visible from terrestrial designations, including but not exclusively Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coasts and National Parks should be sympathetic to or in-keeping with the terrestrial features through: Maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, protecting and enhancing its distinctive landscapes, particularly in areas defined as Heritage Coast Developments functioning well and adding to the overall quality of the area, not just for the short term but over the lifetime of the development; Developments being visually sympathetic as a result of good design. This applies to developments visible from terrestrial designations but is also a wider aspiration of the East areas marine plans. Applicants considering the plans of the designated areas when planning developments. See also GOV 3 and SOC4.	Should be screened out because level of compatibility with tourism and recreation activities is not spatially explicit.	1	Removed	n/a

Policy	Description	Screening View	Screening Criteria No. ¹	Revised Policy Wording	Policy revisions of significance to the HRA
TR3	Any offshore licensable marine activities that involves a static object in the marine area which may impact on boating routes should demonstrate they have consulted with the boating industry and demonstrate how as part of their licence application they have mitigated any negative impacts on these routes.	Should be screened out because it is not clear what policy protects.	1	TR2: Proposals that require static objects in the East marine plan areas, should demonstrate, in order of preference: a) that they will not adversely impact on recreational boating routes; b) how, if there are adverse impacts on recreational boating routes, they will minimise them; c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated; d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts	None
TR4	Applications supporting tourism diversification in communities in the plan area, including expanding the season through new forms of tourism, will be encouraged when in compliance with other relevant policies in the marine plan	Should be screened out because it is not spatially explicit	1	TR3: Proposals that deliver tourism and/or recreation related benefits in communities adjacent to the East marine plan areas should be supported.	None