

MPA Management Steering Group
Key messages and Actions

Title of Meeting	MPA Management Steering Group		Date	30.11.2017
Meeting Number	8	Start Time	11:20	End Time 14:30
Attendance	Graham Rees (Welsh Government-Chair), Louise George (Welsh Government), Richard Lowcock James (Welsh Government), Eve Read (Dŵr Cymru/ Welsh Water), Alison Palmer Hargrave, Trevor Theobald (Pembrokeshire County Council), Michel Regelous (Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority), Jonathan Monk (MHPA), Helen Bloomfield (NRW), Maggie Hatton-Ellis (NRW), Rhian Jardine (Natural Resources Wales), Lindsey Powles (Welsh Government).			
Tele con,	Rosie Kelly (Crown Estate)			
Apologies	Tegryn Jones (Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority)			

	Agenda Item
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies
2.	EU transition (verbal update)
3.	Minutes and actions from previous meeting (paper 1)
4.	The Marine Protected Area Management Priority Action Plan (paper 2): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking the Plan forward • Update from NRW: MPA Condition Improvement Project
5.	NRW Improving Site Level Condition Reporting project (verbal update): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicative feature level site condition reports • Next steps
6.	Review of MPAMSG terms of reference (paper 3)
7.	AOB

Introduction

The Marine Protected Area Management Steering Group (MPAMSG) provides strategic co-ordination for the management of all MPAs in Welsh seas. The Group provides advice, guidance and a collective steer to authorities involved in the delivery of MPA management actions. It champions effective MPA management, and is tasked with raising the profile of MPA management and increasing buy-in from management authorities and wider stakeholders across Wales.

Membership of the MPAMSG is drawn from the key management authorities in Wales, as defined by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

The Steering Group held its eighth meeting on 30 November at the Welsh Government Offices in Aberystwyth. Key messages and actions from the meeting are found within this document. Members of the MPAMSG have a responsibility for disseminating consistent messages with their respective networks.

Should you wish to discuss any of the agenda items in more detail please contact your sector lead. If you require the contact details of your sector lead, please contact the Marine and Fisheries Ministerial Mailbox:
(MarineandFisheriesMinisterialMailbox@gov.wales)

All papers mentioned below are annexed to this record of the meeting.

Key Messages and Outputs

Item 2: EU transition (verbal update)

Key messages	Actions
Graham outlined the structure, approach and progress related to preparations for EU exit.	N/a

Item 3: Minutes and actions from previous meeting (paper 1)

Key Points	Actions
Minutes from the previous meeting agreed by all members of the Steering Group as a true record. All actions were considered complete.	N/a

Item 4: The Marine Protected Area Management Priority Action Plan (paper 2):

Key messages	Actions
<p>Steering Group members discussed the draft Priority Action Plan. Members appreciated the effort that had gone into producing the draft.</p> <p>Detailed discussion on each section identified suggestions for inclusion in the next iteration including the use of infographics and diagrams to clarify and illustrate some of the more complex information. It was agreed to re-work Section 5 and consider the benefit of higher-level, longer-term challenges or goals for MPA management to inform an annual action plan. WG and NRW agreed to discuss linking actions in this way.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. WG and NRW to rework Section 5.2. RLJ to revise the draft taking account of comments and suggestions made during the meeting. Revised draft to be circulated to Steering Group members by 7th December for

The agreed next step was to redraft the Plan based on the comments made and circulate to members of the Steering Group for their further comment.	further comments.
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Item 5: NRW Improving Site Level Condition Reporting project (verbal update):

Key Messages	Action
<p>MPAMSG members had an update from NRW on the Improving site level feature condition reporting project .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicative feature-based reports have been produced covering 71 SAC features across 11 sites. • One report has been produced to cover all marine SPA features in Wales. • Following a quality assurance exercise by JNCC some minor changes were made to the reports. • The reports are now awaiting internal sign-off within NRW before publication. This should be by the end of the calendar year. • NRW provided an update on the next steps for the project, which include a review of approaches used elsewhere to provide site condition assessments and ways in which the process can be improved for the next iteration. 	<p>3. MHE to circulate her presentation, and the web link for the indicative reports once published, to Steering Group members</p>

Item 6: Review of MPAMSG terms of reference (paper 3)

Key Message	Actions
This item was carried over to the next meeting with the agreement of the Steering Group.	4. RLJ to add to the agenda for the next meeting

Item 7: AoB

Key Points	Actions
<p>MPAMSG members raised the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milford Haven Port Authority was offered as a future venue (JM).• An item on the inquiry into MPA management was requested for the next meeting (JM)• HB agreed to circulate her presentation on the NRW MPA Condition Improvement Project, which had to be dropped due to time pressures.	<p>HB to circulate her presentation to Steering Group members.</p> <p>RLJ to add Turning the Tide report to the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <p>Due to time pressures, RLJ to circulate a written update for the Items to Note.</p> <p>RLJ to circulate a DoodlePoll for potential dates for the next meeting.</p>