

MPA Management Steering Group

Key Messages and Actions

Title of Meeting	MPA Management Steering Group (telecon)		Date	12.12.2018
Meeting Number	14	Start Time	1:00	End Time 3:00
Attendance	Louise George (Welsh Government - Chair), Richard Lowcock James (Welsh Government), Maggie Hatton-Ellis (Natural Resources Wales - advisor), Mary Lewis (Natural Resources Wales), Alison Palmer Hargrave (Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau SAC – advisor to the Steering Group), Jonathan Monk (Welsh Ports Group), Tegryn Jones (Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority/Snowdonia National Park Authority), Eve Read (Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water), Yolanda Arjona (Joint Nature Conservation Committee)			
Apologies	Gareth Bevington (Welsh Government - Chair), Rhian Jardine (Natural Resources Wales), Trevor Theobald (Welsh Local Government Association/Pembrokeshire County Council)			

No	Agenda Item
1	Welcome and introductions
2	Action Plan 2019-20 – initial consideration of potential actions
3	Structure and content of the MPA Network Management Annual Report
4	MPA management infographic
5	Any other business and date of next meeting

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 fourteenth meeting on 12 December 2018 via teleconference. 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)

Key Messages and Actions

Item 2: Action Plan 2019-20 – initial consideration of potential actions

Key messages	Actions
<p>Steering Group members agreed the following actions should undergo the prioritisation scoring exercise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a Plan of Action to reduce the incidental bycatch of seabirds in UK waters • Community Litter Project • Deliver Phase 3 of the Non-licensable Activities Project • Reduce disturbance of marine mammals and birds • Pilot project on saltmarsh grazing and water quality • Impacts of marine litter on MPA features <p>Steering Group members asked for more detail on the Community Litter Project and the potential action to reduce disturbance of marine mammals and birds before taking these actions through the prioritisation scoring process.</p> <p>An action suggested by the RSPB on biosecurity planning for seabird colonies was considered to be too site-specific for a network-level Action Plan. The Group agreed however it would be interesting to see the outputs and outcomes of the project, and the RSPB should be encouraged to share information on the project as part of the MPA Network Management Annual Report.</p>	<p>Alison to provide more detail on the Community Litter Project and the potential action to reduce disturbance of marine mammals and birds.</p>

Item 3: Structure and content of the MPA Network Management Annual Report

Key Messages	Actions
<p>Steering Group members agreed the proposed structure and content of the MPA Network Management Annual Report, noting this would invite information from WMAAG and other stakeholders on the breadth of MPA management activity taking</p>	

place in Wales.	
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Item 4: MPA management infographic

Key messages	Actions
Steering Group members agreed to sign off the MPA management infographic, subject to any further comments from within Marine and Fisheries Division.	

Item 5: Any other business

Key messages	Actions
There was no other business.	