

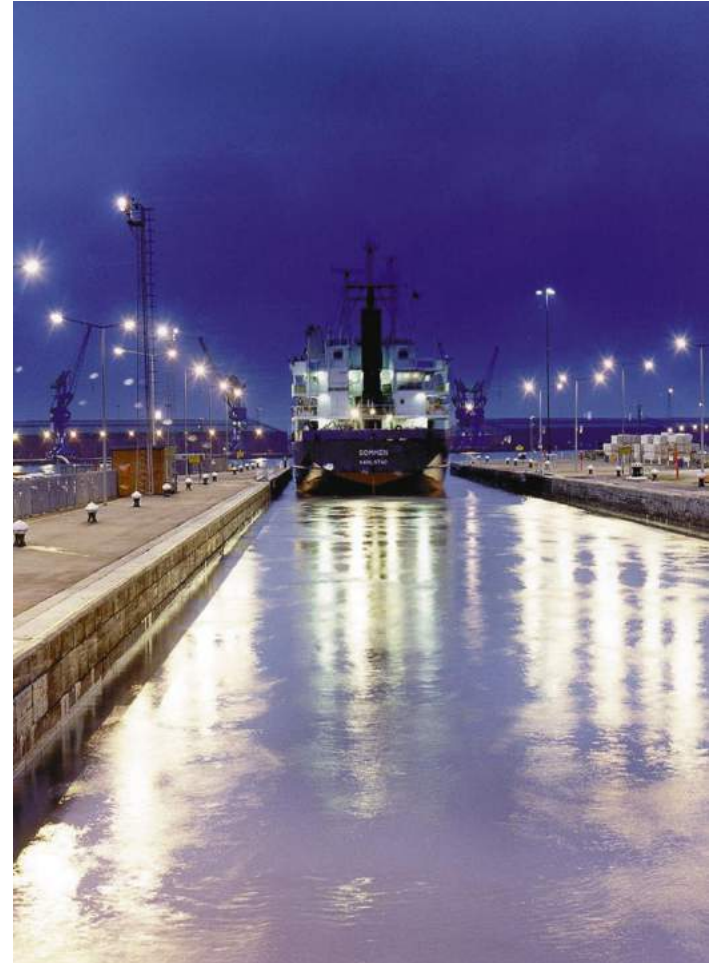


Marine Planning – Reviewing 10 Years of Progress

Stephen Hull

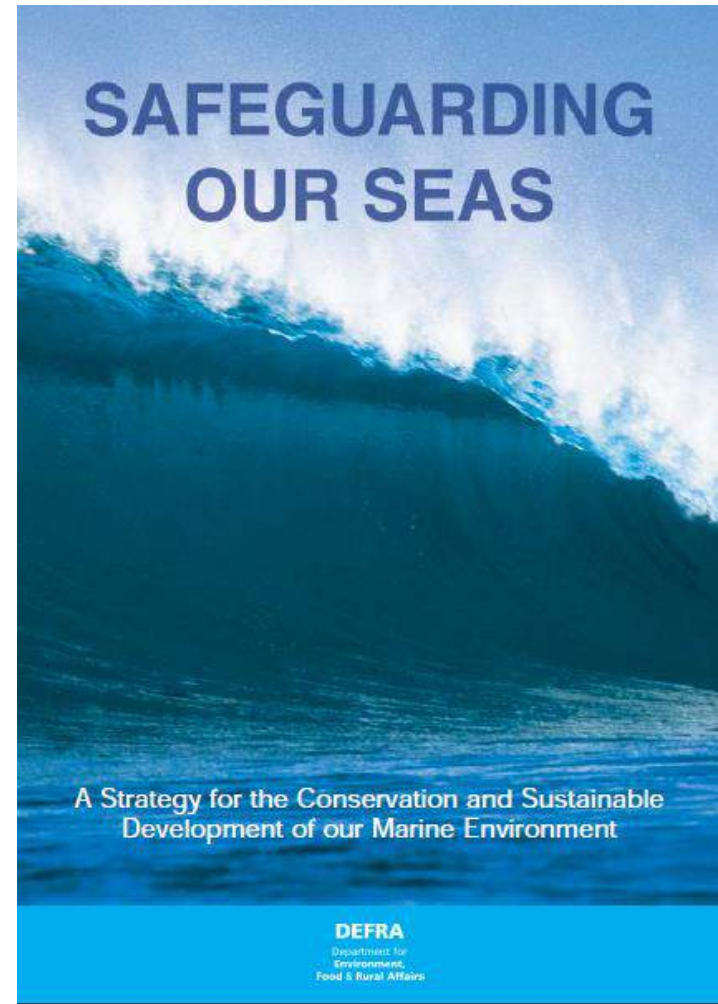
Coastal Futures 2016, 20th & 21st January 2016

- The 'Problem'
- The Policy Response
- Progress with Marine Plans
- The Positives
- Some of the Challenges
- Some Questions
- Conclusions



- Declining biodiversity
- Piecemeal approach to planning the exploitation of marine resources
- Lack of integration
- Not achieving sustainable development

- Part of policy response: *'we will explore the role of spatial planning for the marine environment'*



- Review of Marine Nature Conservation 2002-04
- Irish Sea Marine Spatial Planning Pilot 2004-06
- UK Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009
- Marine (Scotland) Act 2010
- Marine Act (Northern Ireland) 2013
- Maritime Spatial Planning Directive 2014

- A statutory system of marine planning within UK waters to support an integrated approach to planning and management



Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009

CHAPTER 23

CONTENTS

PART 1

THE MARINE MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION

CHAPTER 1

ESTABLISHMENT

- 1 The Marine Management Organisation
- 2 General objective
- 3 Performance

CHAPTER 2

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS TO THE MMO

Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967

- 4 Licensing of fishing boats
- 5 Restrictions on time spent at sea: appeals
- 6 Trans-shipment licences for vessels
- 7 Regulations supplementary to sections 4 and 4A
- 8 Exemptions for operations for scientific and other purposes

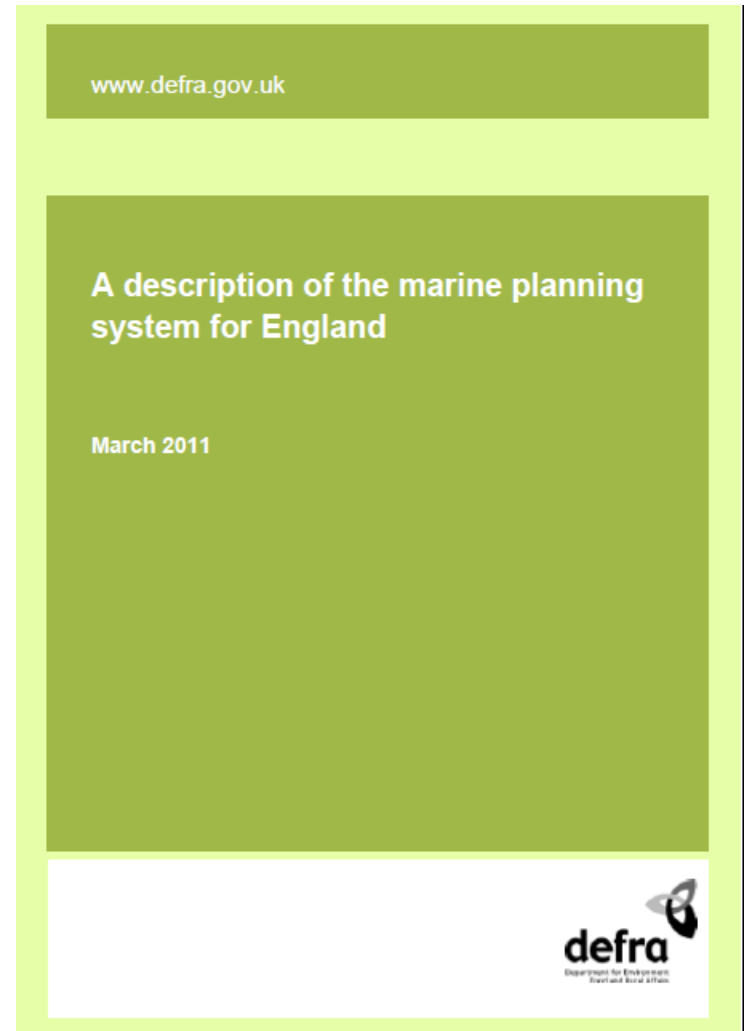
Nature conservation

- 9 Licences to kill or take seals
- 10 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- 11 Sea Fisheries (Wildlife Conservation) Act 1992

Generating and renewable energy installations

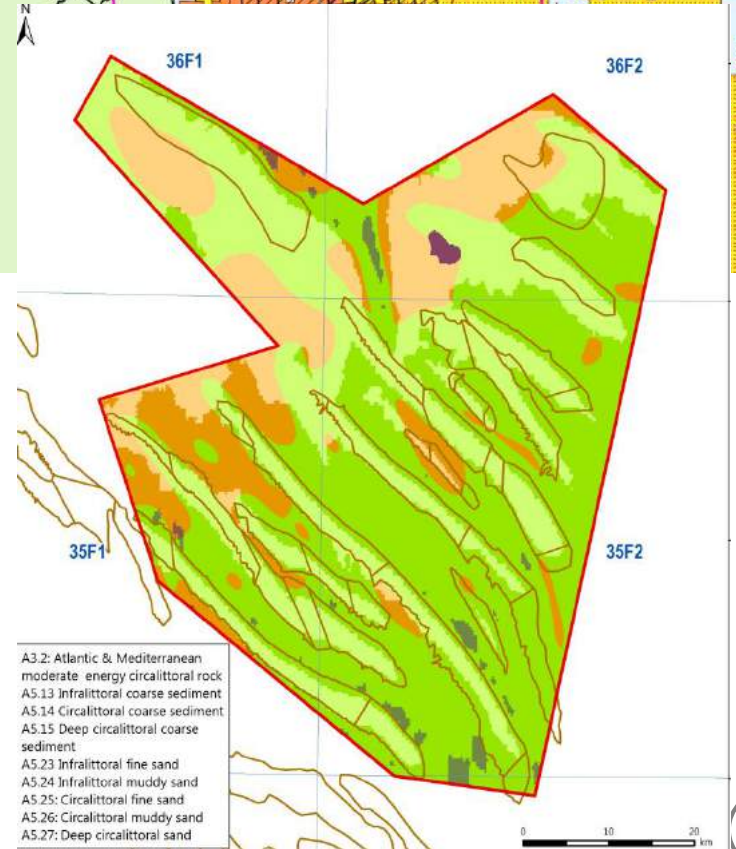
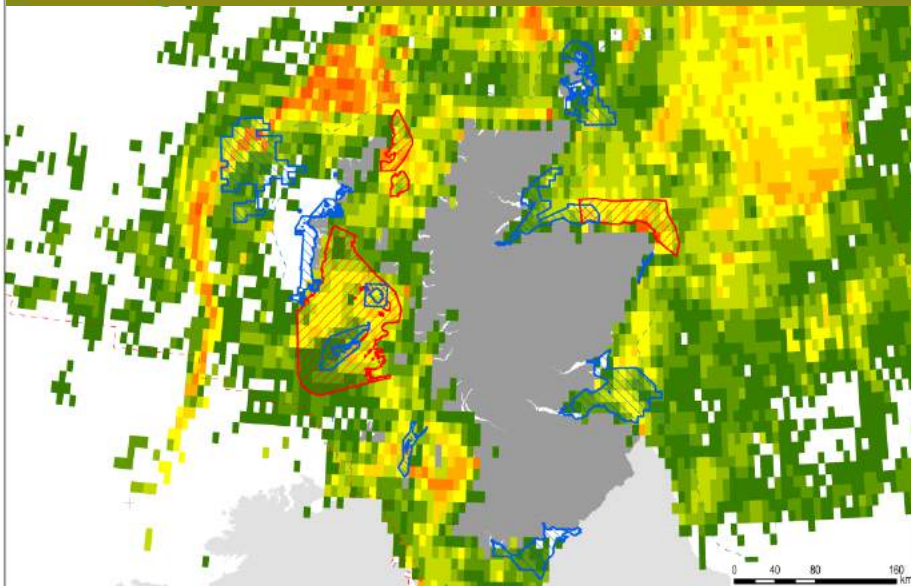
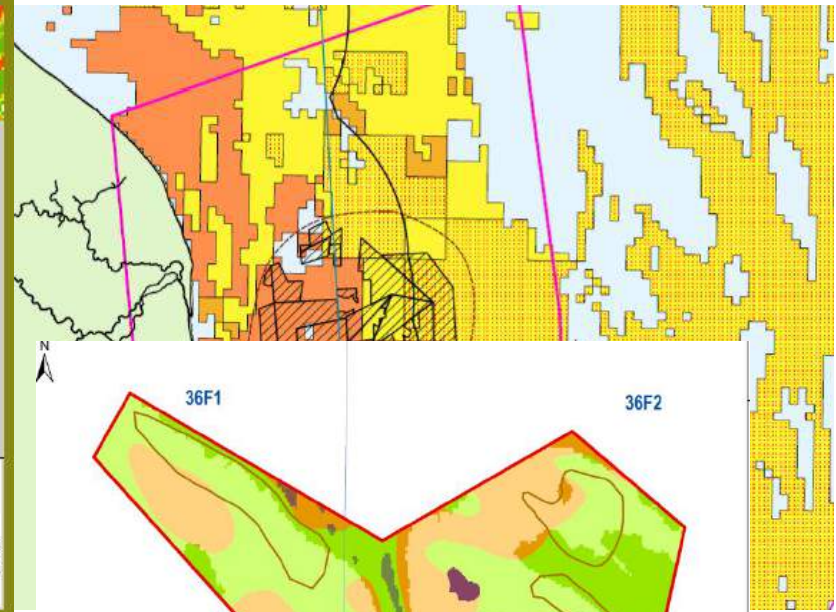
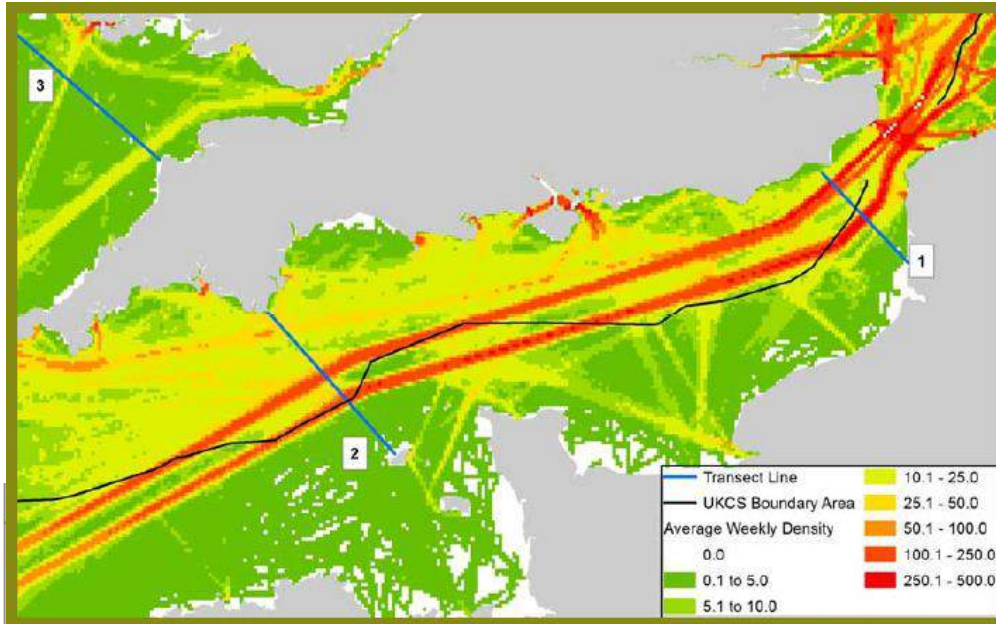
- 12 Certain consents under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989

- Sustainable development
- Sustainable economic growth
- Optimising the potential of environmental resources and ecosystem services
- Reduced risk of damage to the environment
- Promoting an appreciation, understanding and ownership of the marine environment
- Improved quality of life for coastal communities



- 2011 - UK Marine Policy Statement published
- 2014 - East of England Inshore and Offshore Marine Plans adopted
- 2014 - Shetland Islands Marine Spatial Plan (SIMSP) adopted
- 2015 - National Marine Plan for Scotland adopted
- 2015 - Pilot Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters (PFOW) Marine Spatial Plan consultation draft published
- 2016 - Northern Ireland Marine Plan expected
- 2016 - Wales National Marine Plan expected
- 2016 - South Marine Plans expected
- 2016 - Scottish Regional Marine Planning starting
- 2021 - Remaining English Marine Plans to be prepared

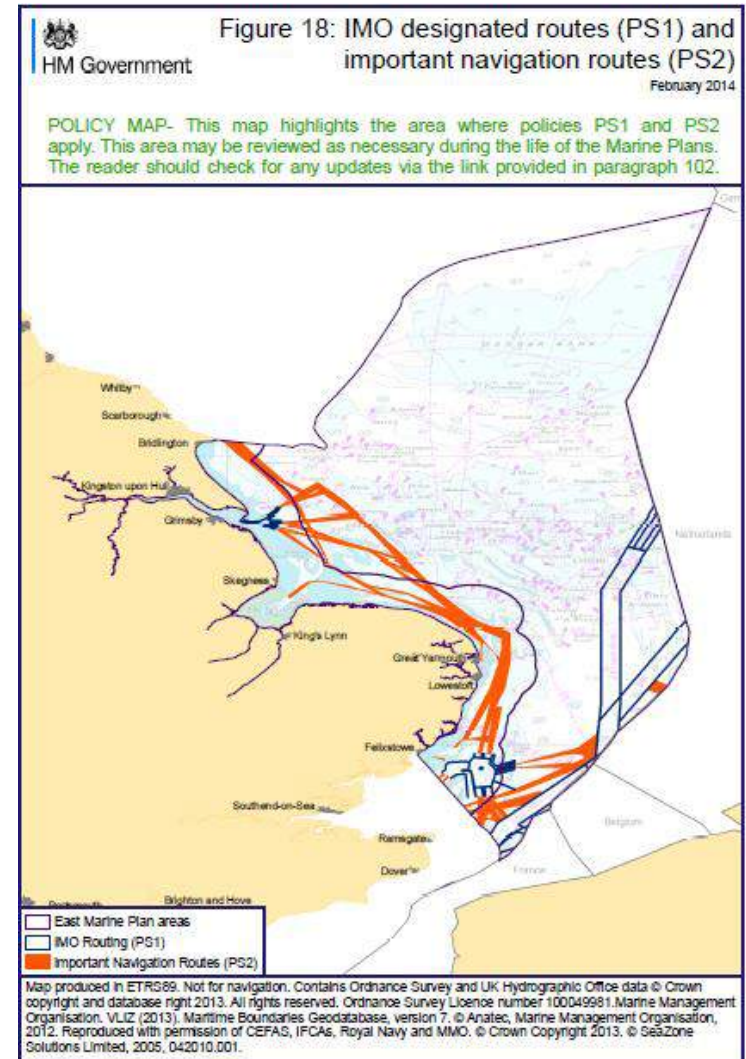




- Bringing diverse stakeholders together – mutual understanding
- Strong partnership for more local plans (e.g. SIMSP)



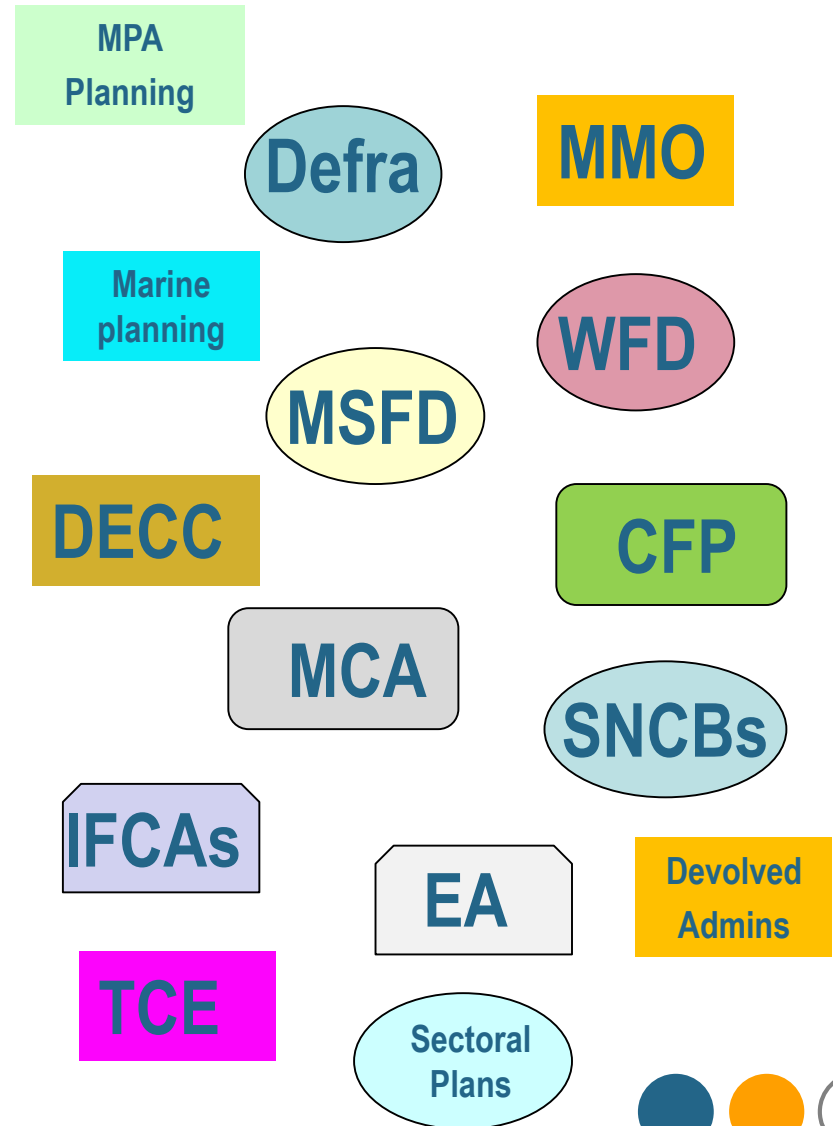
- Increased clarity and certainty about decision-making
- Plan-led marine licensing



- Policies providing additional environmental protection to the marine environment
- E.g. ECO1: *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)*

- Integration
- Framing of marine plan issues and options
- Strength of spatial policies
- Application of the ecosystem approach
- Monitoring and evaluation

- Institutional arrangements characterised by fragmented responsibilities and multiple planning mechanisms (marine planning, EC Directive planning, MPA planning, sectoral planning (oil and gas, renewables))
- This undermines integration.



- Marine planning processes have generally struggled to identify key plan issues or to engage stakeholders in discussions about the trade-offs associated with different plan options
- Need better engagement of stakeholders around key plan issues and solutions

Cost-Benefits Analysis



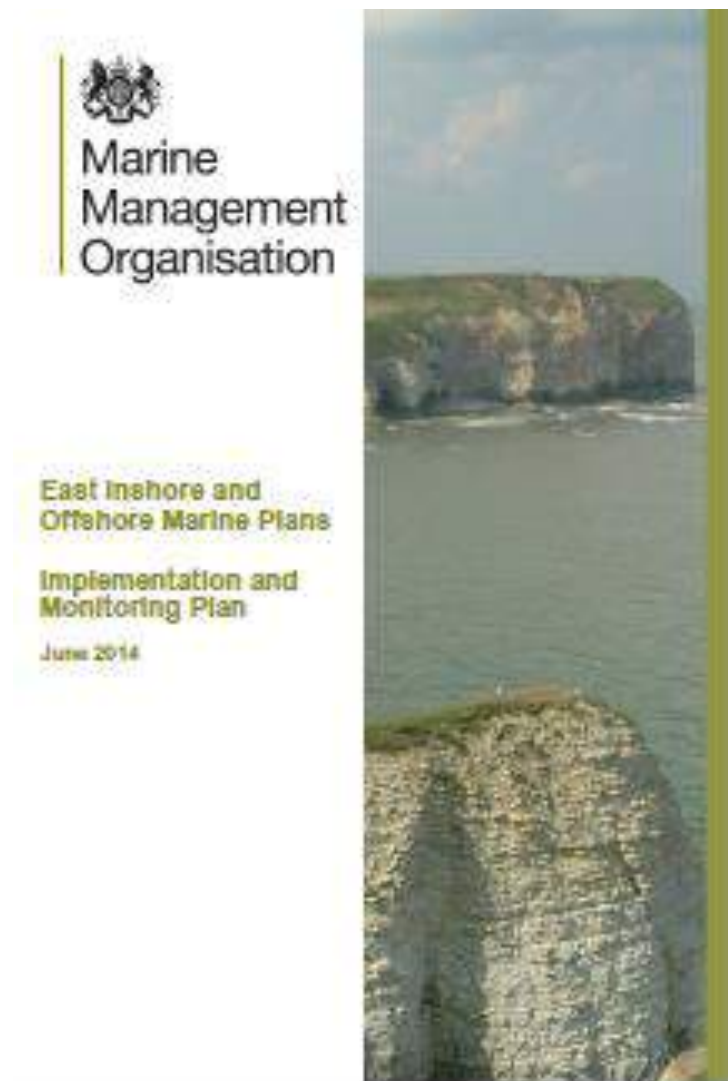
- Very few new spatial policies in marine plans
- Tend to largely reiterate existing plans (oil and gas, renewables)
- Lack of sub-regional/local spatial policies (apart from Scottish RMPs)



- Full application of ecosystem approach seen as 'too difficult'.
- Lack of clarity concerning how economic and social factors are taken into account in plan policy development or how trade-offs are made



- Monitoring and evaluation of marine plans is weak or absent
- Where monitoring and evaluation is in place, it is insufficiently focused to ascertain impact of marine plans



- Are institutional arrangements and responsibilities appropriate to support integrated planning and management?
- How can we better focus debate on key plan issues and engage stakeholders in developing solutions within a climate of rapidly diminishing resources?
- Is there a role for more local planning in English waters?
- How can we move forward with application of an ecosystem approach?
- How can we best understand the impact of early marine plans given the limited resources available for monitoring and evaluation?

- We have moved from concept to practice
- Comprehensive coverage of marine plans is within sight
- Progress has been made in improving the evidence base

BUT:

- From public policy perspective, still some way to go before marine plans achieve their intended purpose:
 - Integration – ecosystem approach
 - Stronger policies/more local policies
 - Monitoring and evaluation
- Institutional arrangements and responsibilities undermining integration



Thank you for your attention

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