



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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Cynllun Morol Cenedlaethol Cymru Welsh National Marine Plan

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Purpose of Marine Planning

- To provide information and direction - to help manage diverse activities to ensure clean healthy seas for the future
- To promote sustainable development.

Wales is fully committed to this - and has been for some time! It is a central commitment in the Government of Wales Act, our founding legislation.

The Environment (Wales) Bill when enacted will require us to plan through a framework for the sustainable management of natural resources in a more proactive, sustainable and joined-up way.

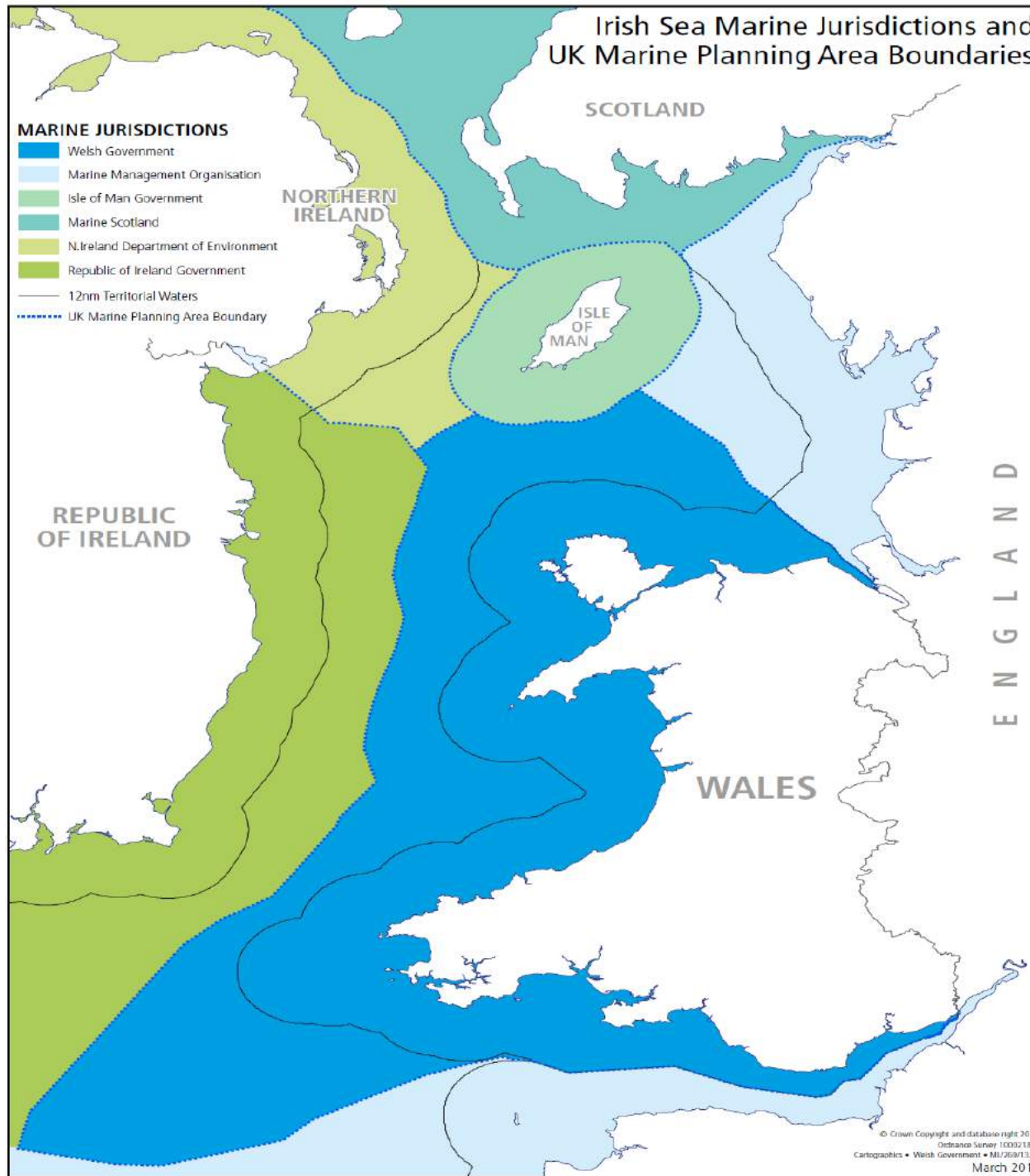
Approach to Marine Planning in Wales

- We are developing a plan-lead marine planning **system** and we recognise that this will take time to develop.
- We recognise that marine planning is part of a bigger policy picture MPAs, MSFD, sustainable fisheries. Our marine transition programme includes this wider focus and runs to 2020 .
- We aim to introduce a national plan covering inshore and offshore waters which will be in place for an initial 20 years.
- It is important that the right governance mechanisms are in place to ensure an effective marine planning system is created and the cross border issues are addressed.
- Early engagement from the start – on the scope and vision of the Plan, the shape of the SA and how we intend to engage with people and organisations. We are sharing key documents in draft for comment
- This demonstrates that we are open to suggestion - and that we are keen to call on the expertise we know many of you here today have.

Irish Sea Marine Jurisdictions and UK Marine Planning Area Boundaries

MARINE JURISDICTIONS

- Welsh Government
- Marine Management Organisation
- Isle of Man Government
- Marine Scotland
- N.Ireland Department of Environment
- Republic of Ireland Government
- 12nm Territorial Waters
- UK Marine Planning Area Boundary



Our direction

- Welsh Ministers are the marine authority – though some retained powers – at the moment!
- Development in line with the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. The Marine Policy Statement agreed in 2011 established High level Marine Objectives and these have directly influenced our thinking.
- EU Directive 89/2014 Maritime Spatial Planning – ecosystems approach , early stakeholder engagement.
- Our core Welsh Government direction -in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) 2015, 7 goals include a “resilient “ Wales. The Environment Bill, Planning
- Sustainability and well-being at the core of all

WNMP Policy Context

HLMO themes:

Achieving a sustainable marine economy



Ensuring a strong and just society



Living within environmental limits



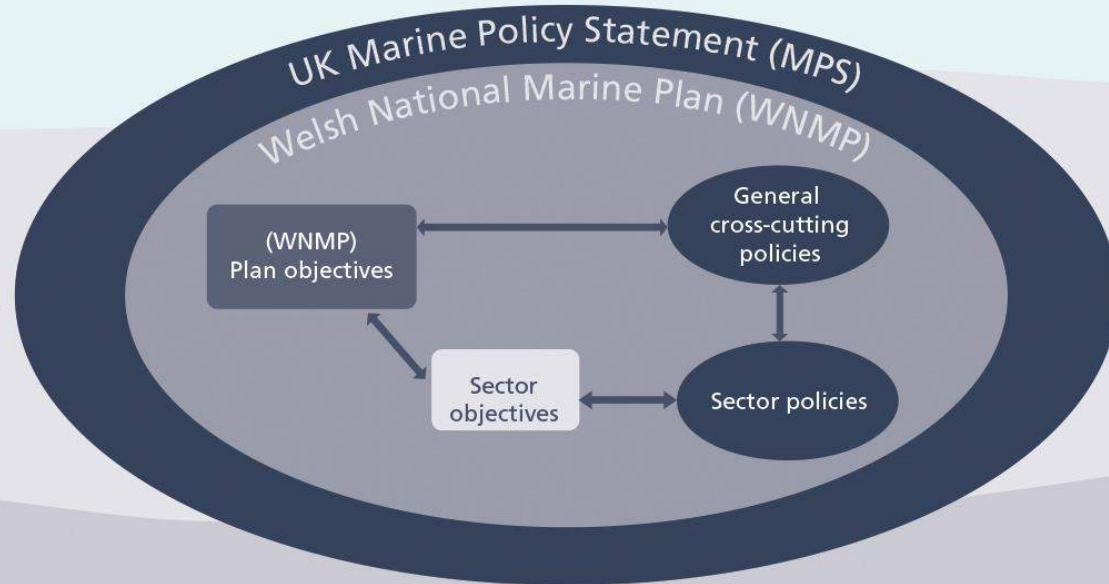
Promoting good governance



Using sound science responsibly



Programme for Government



Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) goals:

A prosperous Wales

A resilient Wales

A healthier Wales

A more equal Wales

A Wales of cohesive communities

A Wales of vibrant culture & thriving Welsh language

A globally responsible Wales

Draft Welsh National Marine Planning System

- Evidence – the Marine Evidence Report, the Wales Marine Planning Portal and other research as it becomes available – coastal communities – directory of networks /contacts, seascapes – marine character areas – areas of aquaculture potential. All shared on our website .
- An initial early draft of the plan is currently being shared and comprises

[Introduction](#) – setting the scene – context

[General Policies](#) - overarching –cross cutting policies following the themes of the high level objectives

[Sector specific policies](#) Aggregates, Aquaculture, Defence, Dredging and disposal, Energy – Oil and Gas, Renewables. Fisheries, Ports and shipping, Subsea Cabling, Surface water run off and waste water management, Tourism and Recreation.

Our policies have been drawn in conjunction with industry and with colleagues across Welsh and UK Government. We are keen to have your input.

Approach to Policies in the draft Plan

General cross-cutting policies

- Achieving a sustainable marine economy
- Strong, healthy and just society
- Living within environmental limits
- Promoting good governance
- Using sound science responsibly

Sector policies

- Safeguarding policies
- Supporting policies
- Policies to identify areas of high potential
- Sector-specific coexistence policies
- Sector-specific good practice policies
- Sector-specific policies on assessing / consenting applications

Progress to date

- Gathering a team! Now making way - welcoming partnership working
- We are working towards formal consultation later this year – elections to the Welsh Assembly in May.
- We are sharing an Initial Draft of the Welsh National Marine Plan
<http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/marineandfisheries/marine-planning/welsh-national-marine-plan/?lang=en>
- Wales' Marine Evidence Report collates the best available evidence and identifies issues.
- <http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/marineandfisheries/marine-planning/other-supporting-evidence/wales-marine-evidence-report/?skip=1&lang=en>
- The Evidence Portal presents various data sets we have gathered through an interactive map of Wales. <http://lle.gov.wales/apps/marineportal/>

Lessons learned

- **Marine Planning is complex, cross cutting** and needs to address short medium and long term issues.

Resources need to be appropriate

There is a wide range of policy drivers, hard to prioritise

It *can* be difficult to gain input from others, everyone is busy

Taking longer than we thought

- **Interaction is important in Wales and across our borders**
with people, organisations and governments at national and local levels and internationally

with other plans policies and legal requirements

clarity is needed - use of shared definitions where we can and clear language

Lessons Learned - more!

- **Last – but very much not least**

Wales is benefitting from the experience (and Marine Plans) of others – thank you!

Especially grateful for the interaction across the UK and partnership working with representatives of various organisations who have joined our advisory groups.

Lesson learning from other plans - England's East Inshore and offshore plans, the emerging South of England plan and Scotland's National Marine Plan.

Liaison is perhaps especially key too in our estuarine areas and we are working with the MMO and organisations such as the Severn Estuary Partnership to understand what is needed.

Forward look

- Informal engagement ends 31 January 2016. Happy to discuss!
- Formal consultation will follow - on a refined plan – then adoption and introduction of the Plan.
- The Plan will continue to evolve as new evidence emerges. Statutory reviews and monitoring will be implemented.
- Monitoring and implementation plan – ensure objectives are Specific Measurable Appropriate Reasonable Timed - from the outset.
- The Plan needs to be appropriate both to Welsh needs and to address cross border issues – meeting with UK Gov, MMO, and industry partners. We are looking to hold workshops early 2016.
- We are continuing to review how best to engage with all those with an interest in Wales and further afield. We see working with our existing partnerships/ local groups our colleagues and other experts as crucial to success.



An Initial draft Welsh National Marine Plan is on our webpages and we would welcome your **views and direct input**.

I am very grateful to be here today and look forward to listening and learningand to meeting you during this event.



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Thank you / Diolch yn fawr

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The Initial draft Welsh National Marine Plan

<http://gov.wales/docs/drah/publications/151130-welsh-national-marine-plan-initial-draft-november-2015-en.pdf>

The Marine Evidence Report collates available evidence and identifies issues.

<http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/marineandfisheries/marine-planning/other-supporting-evidence/wales-marine-evidence-report/?skip=1&lang=en>