## A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment

Why me? The amazing appearing 25 year plan ...

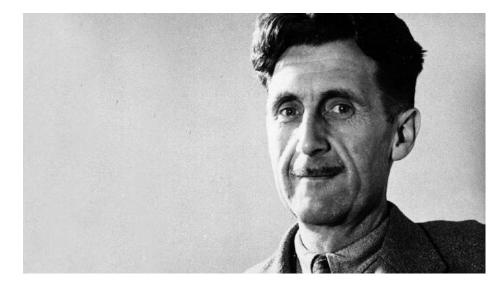
#### The objectives of the presentation are:

- To take an overview Highlight things to look out for in the plan
- Flag how different speakers will be covering particular points
- A reminder of some basics perhaps forgotten saying goodbye to old friends?

Never assume the audience will get your cultural references

**George Orwell** – author of Animal Farm and 1984

History re-written and the thought police ....



You might, when you read this plan, to find some of your cherished friends missing or barely acknowledged, like social capital or the ecosystem approach

## A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment - Positives

The Prime Minister engaged – Very Good. A long time ago since this has happened (2003).

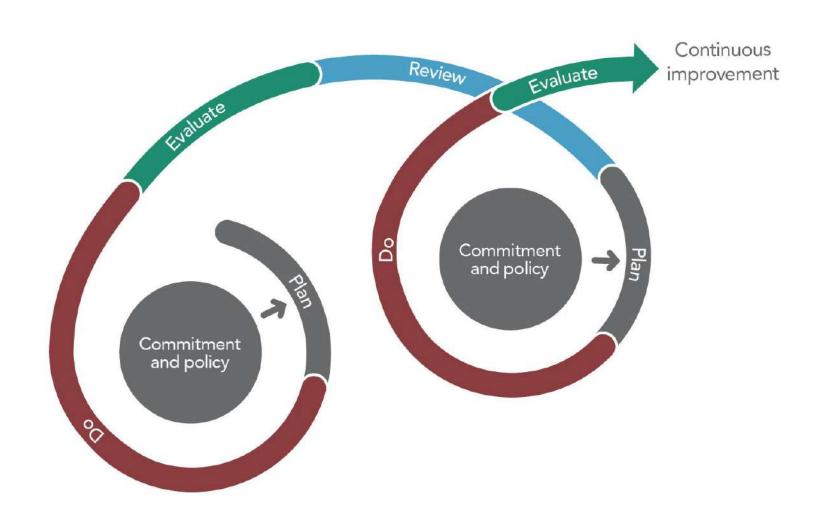
It is an overview of what is going on. Good to take a step back see the bigger picture

Beginning to fit into a pattern with other strategy documents – Industry and Clean Growth

An conventional document. It covers the high level aspirations it ends seven years of drift by the Conservatives.

Far more important than just plastics - I'm not going to mention this - David Tudor is going to speaking about this later today

Planning and Adaptive Management (Business Management Systems 50 years) – Environmental Management systems ISO 14001 (1992)



#### Process Planning 101 – Adaptive planning and management

**Process around the preparation** of this has been shambolic (Long winded, no consultation, leaked ...) .. No wonder people are looking at the Aarhus Convention on public participation

**Uncertainty** Business planning perspective - When things are uncertain ... planning becomes very difficult (think Brexit)

**Twenty five years?** Nobody *plans* 25 years ahead in practice but you can set out

Vision - Philosophy - Principles - Direction you'll use

Process: Does the 25 year plan set out what the process is? In particular when will be it be revised and reviewed – using the 5 year planning model – NCC recommendation

... it commits to 'refresh periodically' (? Ambiguous)

Reporting: It commits to annual reporting (metrics consultation )
to ... the Government (?) – the Independent Body?
Reporting to Parliament would be stronger (e.g. The Committee on Climate Change)

EXAMPLES – **The Water sector** pretty much everything works on a five year adaptive planning cycle.

- Periodic Review (AMP) –
- Flood Management Planning
- Water Quality (River Basin Management Plans) -
- Water Resource planning

#### 'Commitment' Putting our Plan into Practice [page 11 & 14, final chapters]

Commitment is thin on the ground

Consult on an Independent Environment Body (2018) [ to replace EJC ... ]

Consult on 'Principles' (2018) [They seem to have forgotten lots of international agreements have these .... Like the ecosystem approach or OSPAR with this and polluter pays ..

Consult on goals (2018)

No legislation proposed for Environmental protection ... although this would seem logical post Brexit

Consultation would be good (novel) relative to current practice ... this plan & the Withdrawal Bill

Be prepared ...

Marine - Chapter 5 Two main topics ... and lots of other mentions ...

Fisheries White Paper -> Fisheries Bill [Brexit] -> tomorrow's session

**Good Environmental Status** – allowing marine industry – ecologically coherent **MPA network** [The next session and tomorrow]

Lots of other things mentioned:

**Science** – Simon Brockington –> OSPAR assessment & ICES

Ocean acidification -> Phillip Williamson

Other Chapters: Quite a bit in other chapters to interest the coastal and marine sector

Chapter 1 Land-use **Embedding an 'environmental net gain' principle** for development ... flood and coastal erosion

Chapter 2. *Recovering* nature and enhancing the beauty of wildlife - Publishing a strategy for nature & Developing a *Nature Network* 

Chapter 3. Connecting people with the environment to improve **health and wellbeing** – Bridget Betts // Welsh Government approach

Chapter 4 Increasing resource efficiency and reducing pollution and waste -**Plastics** and litter – David Tudor

Chapter 6 Protecting and improving our global environment -> Mike Elliott – Jo Stockill Blue belt

# **Appendices – Helpful**

Appendix 1 Supplementary Evidence – looks to be really useful with lots of references – very helpful it develops the thinking

Appendix 2 Existing strategies ....

Appendix 3 International agreements - > Mike Elliott talk

**XXXXXXX** 

## Vision & Principles - High Level Words & Framing are Important

#### AND We need to think about these in a systematic way

#### A structure is helpful:

- **1.Sustainability** as the overarching concept definitions are some help but not much
- 2. **The dimensions of sustainability** social, environmental and economic (capitals) important and global **and necessary to consider together**
- 3. **Principles**: A long term view, integration holism, participation, precaution, wise use of resources, and process & systems. They are powerful generic ideas that can be applied across many sectors and often with their own methodologies.
- 4. The **packages (approaches) of principles**: These are packages of broadly the same principles packaged for very different groups Corporate Social Responsibility, SR, **ICZM**, **MSP**, **The Ecosystem Approach**, resilience, health and wellbeing, etc.

My Point is that we can MAP in a systematic way how these ideas relate to one another – and therefore understanding our use of these terms 2011

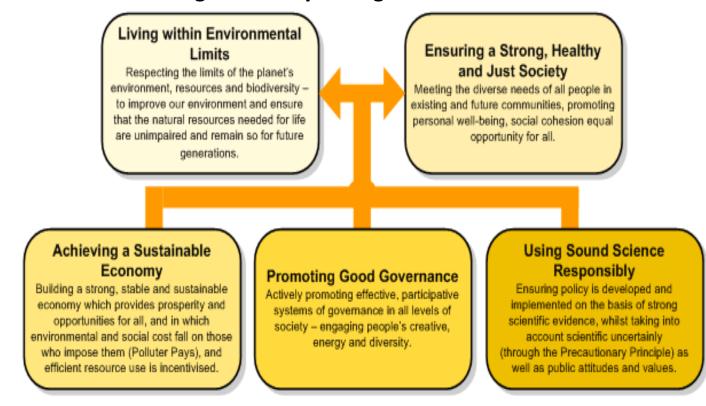


## 'We will champion Sustainable Development' (para 6 page 9 Exec summary)

High level Sustainable Development Goal 17 Marine

**Sustainability Dimensions Social + Environment + Economy since the 1980s** 

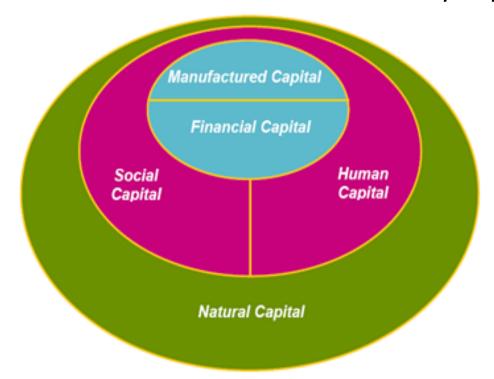
In 2003 UK Government Published this diagram ... 15 years ago ...



#### Capitals – Jonathan Porritt – Capitalism as if the World Matters (2005)

But the point is that we need to consider these dimensions or capitals together ... that is where solutions lay

Little in the marine environment can be achieved without people = **Social Capital** ...



Why is this important? ...
Well there is lots about social stuff in the Environment plan

... but NO reference to Social Capital .... I wonder why?

## Lots of references to Health and Wellbeing as a Frame

[Current examples: Wales, Nature Conservation]

#### 'Our New Approach to managing the environment '

- Para 1 Blessed with valuable asset
- Para 2 Uplifting life giving health
- Para 3 Underpins our wellbeing and prosperity
- Para 4 Acts of stewardship, Healthy environment supports a healthy economy
- Para 6 Economic benefits flow from the natural world ... boost to our health and wellbeing
- Para 7 Healthier deliver social justice green spaces and blue spaces
- Para 8 Equal distribution of environmental benefits .... More social ethnic minorities

There is more to getting things done than natural capital ...

# **TRUST**

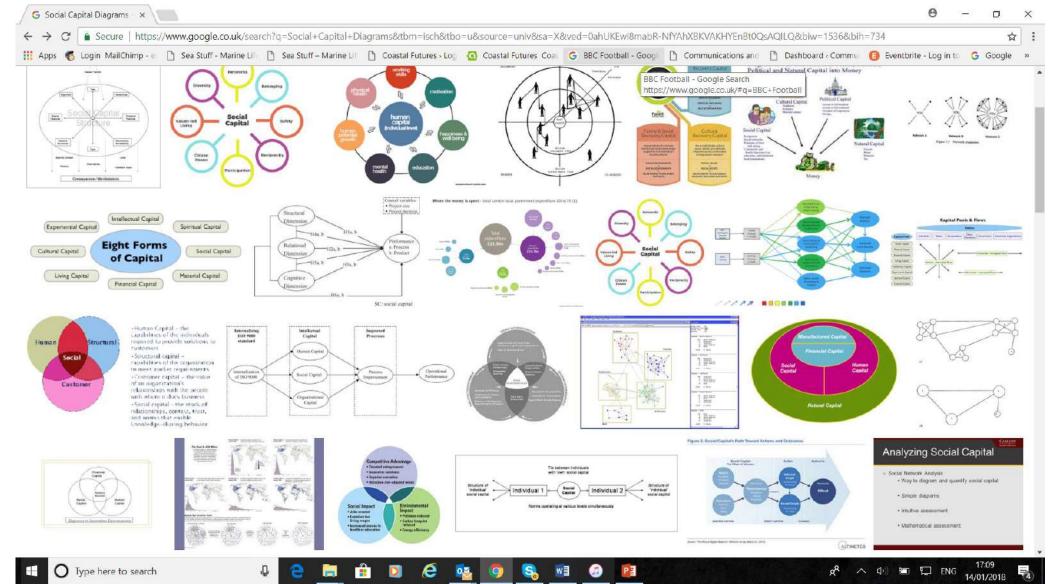
Social Capital ......

**Fundamental to Catchment Sensitive Farming** 

**Advice to Farmers** 



There is a parallel universe of people who GET Social Capital ... not least those who deliver Corporate Social Responsibility packages – sustainability for industry ...



#### Natural Capital is described in two ways:

- 1. Natural Capital defined on page 19 in terms of a sustainability 'Dimension'
- 2. Then there are lots of references to the 'Natural Capital Approach' (Or jobs for economists)

**The accounting frame** - 'Natural Capital Asset accounting (Assets) combined with ecosystem services and flows (Revenue).

AND We have **guidance on NCA** – recognised internationally with protocols – of how to do it

<u>Natural Capital Valuation</u> (PDF, 282KB, 10 pages) lays out the types of decisions for which natural capital values might be useful and some principles to guide the choice of approaches to valuation. The NCC Practical Guide is here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/608852/ncc-natural-capital-workbook.pdf - this purports to tell us how to apply the natural capital approach.

#### **BUT ... Natural Capital & Valuation & The Marine Environment - Some observations**

We have been valuing the environment for at least **40 years**; Ask Bud Ehler he lead a team on the **Amoco Cadiz oil spill** (1978) looking at the social and environmental costs

**People get £'s (Common currency)** & **Routine Use** We have **an armoury of techniques** which are routinely applied to projects CBA – Ecosystem Goods and Services – Multiple benefit assessment for delivering partnership projects – regularly described at CF event for 15 years Natural Capital Accounting is a newish addition

BUT **The language around valuation** isn't getting any easier to understand for non-economists and Emma McKinley's talk will illustrate this .... and it needs **data and new information** which is expensive

For the last 3 years at CF I have tried to find examples of the Natural Capital Approach applied to practical marine examples and have found this very difficult ... two reasons

- **1. Ownership** One reason why NCA might be less taken up in marine is that it is only Government that owns the assets in the sea so that there will be less organisations willing to pay for Natural Capital Assessments
- **2. £ Supporting project decision making** Another reason is that plenty of the existing valuation techniques provide perfectly adequate ways of helping value and support decision making.

A challenge to those in the hall to tell me about any examples for next year

Principles ...... response to the forthcoming consultation & embedded in international Conventions – Be prepared!

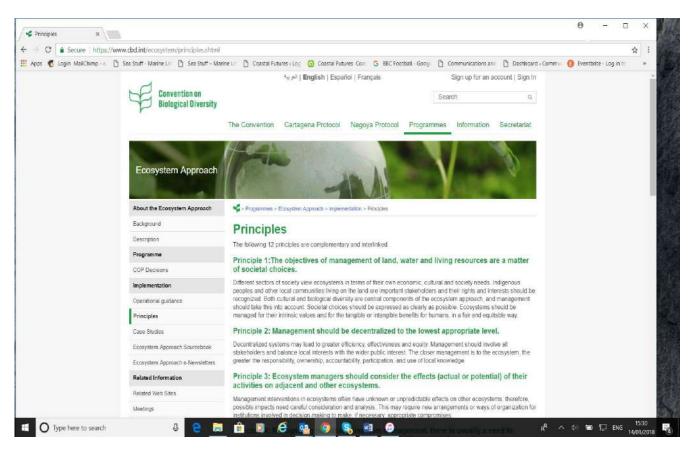
'Powerful Generic ideas that have resonance across many disciplines and sectors'

**Example: The precautionary principle** 

- Combatting marine pollution in the 1980s -> In OSPAR
- Fisheries in the 1990s (global)
- Habitat protection (2000's)

The Ecosystem Approach ... How many of you think this is helpful in the context of the marine environment? Hands Up? ...

Only two mentions in the Fisheries section! Convention on Biological Diversity .. (CBD)



# **Sustainability packages – Different brands for different audiences**







Sustainability packages [CSR, ICZM, MSP, Ecosystem Approach] are comprised of lots of 'principles'

Sustainability Packages all do roughly the same job

BUT They are branded differently - Different languages - different audiences

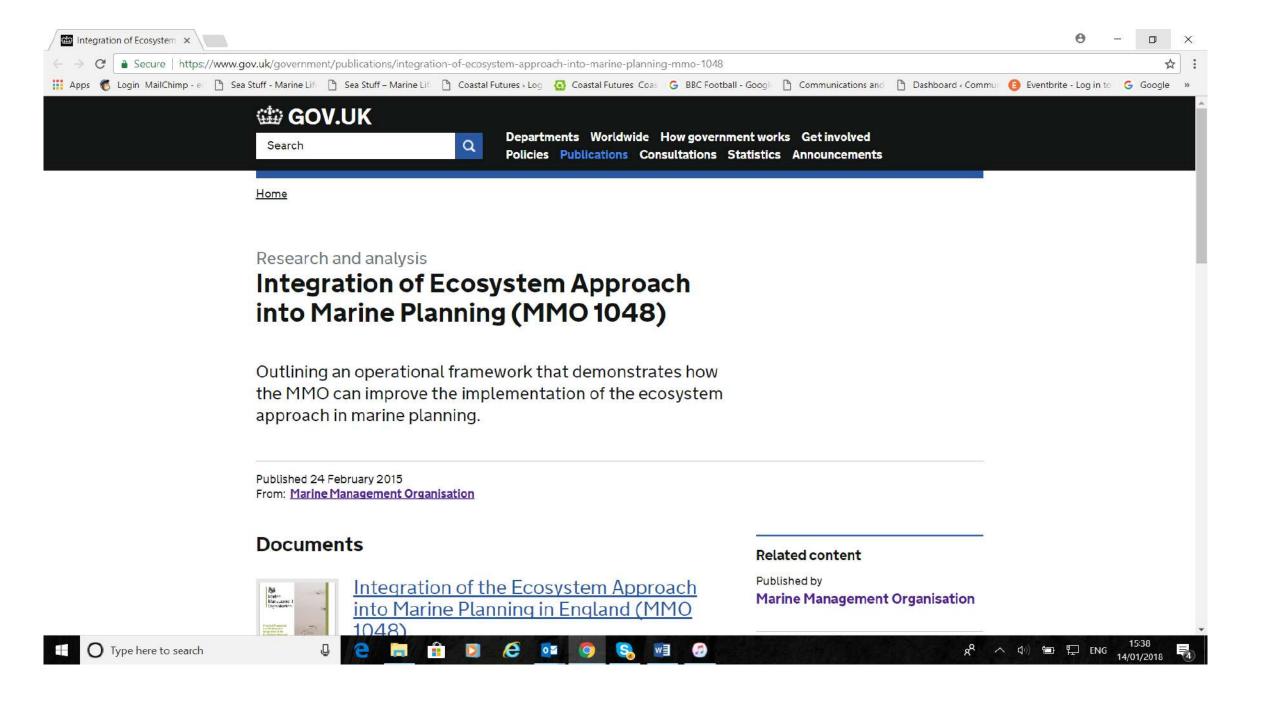
They are however broadly EQUIVALENT in terms of the ideas and they seek to communicate

Lots of 'social' elements in these 'principles'

#### **Equivalence** [Carol Somper]

- •The same key ideas and principles occur in the approaches
- •If you know what they are all you need do is advocate their use (ie without the package label)

ICZM UK Gvt 2009 Principles	Ecosystem Approach UK Gvt 2007	Ecosystem Approach CBD – 12 principles (2000)
A long term view	-	Yes (8 and 9) Recognise temporal change
A broad holistic approach	A holistic approach to policy making	Yes Appropriate spatial and temporal scales (7)
	Appropriate spatial scale	Appropriate spatial scale
Adaptive Management [Management system]	Adaptive management	Management mentioned in 6 of the principles
Participatory planning		Yes (1) Management by societal choice
Working with natural processes	Environmental limits Environmental services	Yes 4,5,6,10 limits, services, economics, balance



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#### **Conclusions**

Good news ... a new start

A reminder of some basics – perhaps forgotten? – Old friends

Be prepared for the consultations

And the thought police

#### Beware infatuations ... and memory ...

Resilience as a system ... source DEFRA! Resilience is a good word for flooding – Oliver Letwin loved it in the Cabinet Office 2010-2015 ... we must be wary of fashions ...

