The 25th Coastal Futures Conference Review and Future Trends 17 - 18 January 2018

## The Opportunities of Brexit

Stephen Hull

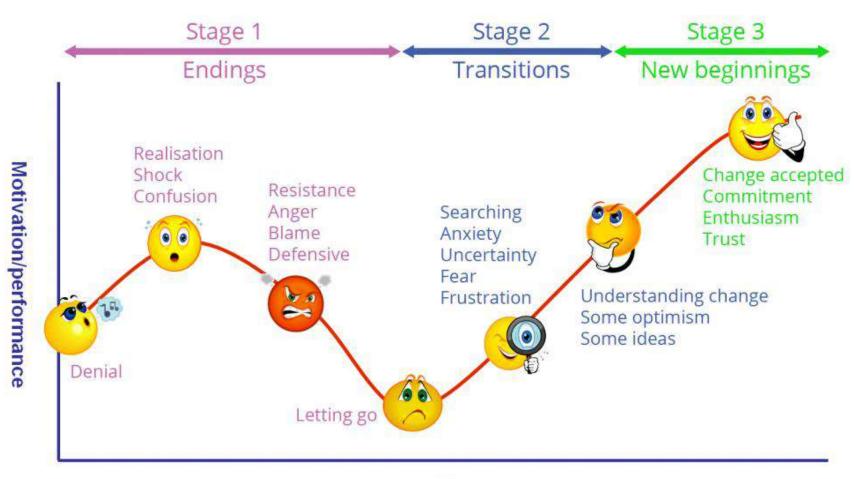




### Overview

- While Brexit is predominantly seen as a 'risk' to the marine environment, the 'opportunity' word has occasionally raised its head
- A stakeholder survey was carried out in November 2017 to gauge marine stakeholders perceptions about what the Brexit opportunities might be
- □ The presentation summarises key findings:
  - Varying (generally low) levels of support for 5 opportunity propositions
  - While opportunities are acknowledged, widespread scepticism about Government's will to deliver
  - Strong concerns remain about the marine risks of Brexit

## Brexit – a journey



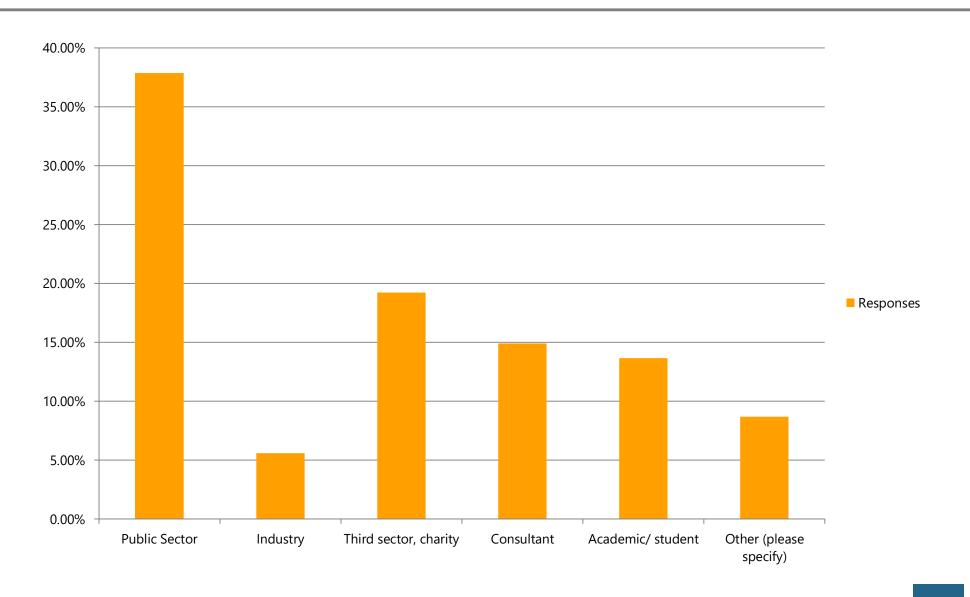
**Time** 

## About the survey

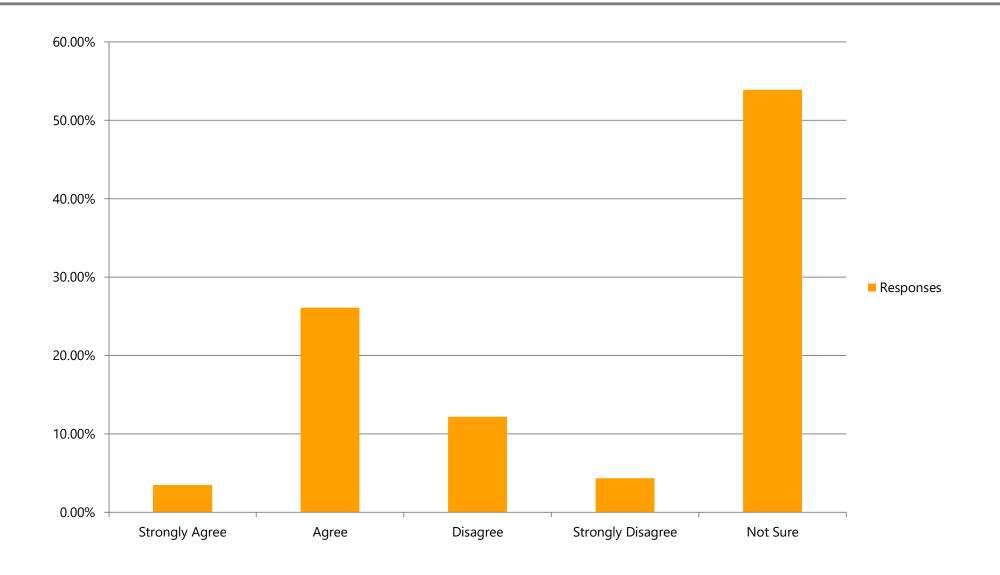
- E survey sent to >6,000 marine stakeholders on CMS mailing list
- 161 responses (2.5%)
- Survey specifically focused on Brexit 'opportunities' around:
  - 25 year environment plan
  - Marine sustainability goals
  - Fisheries
  - MPAs
  - Marine planning

NB. All of these opportunities exist outside of Brexit but Brexit may provide scope for going deeper/further

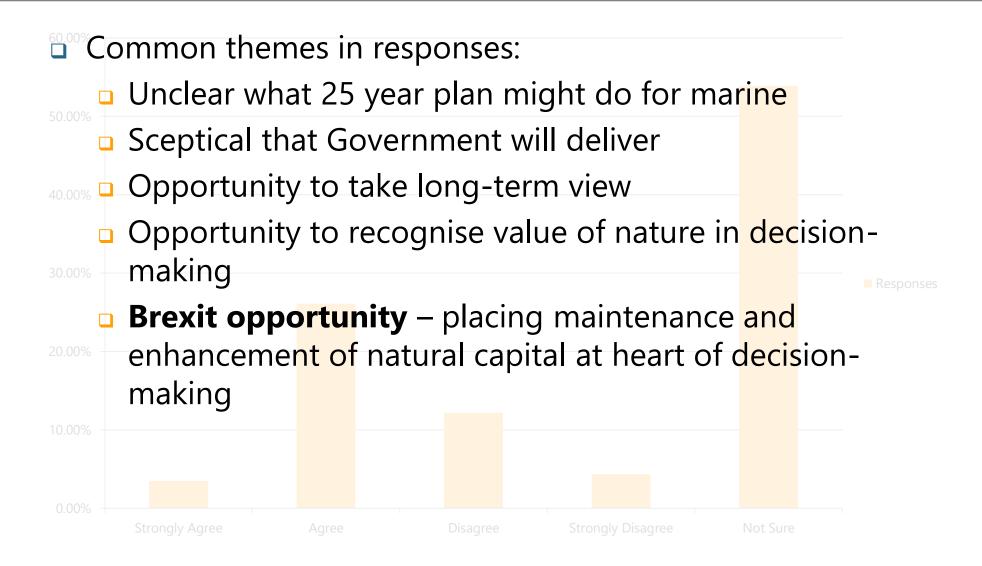
## Who responded?



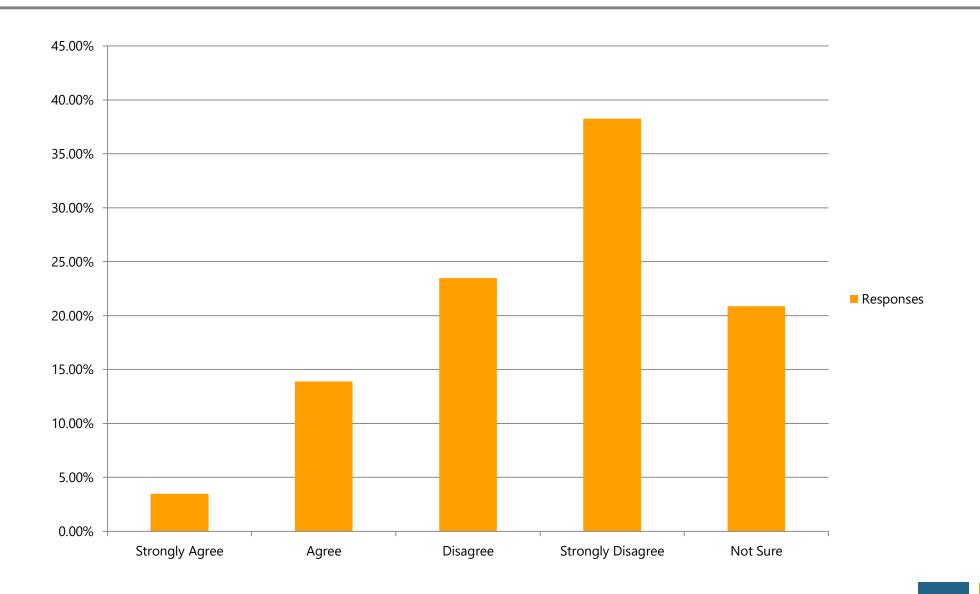
### Defra's proposed 25 year environment plan will better support marine sustainability goals



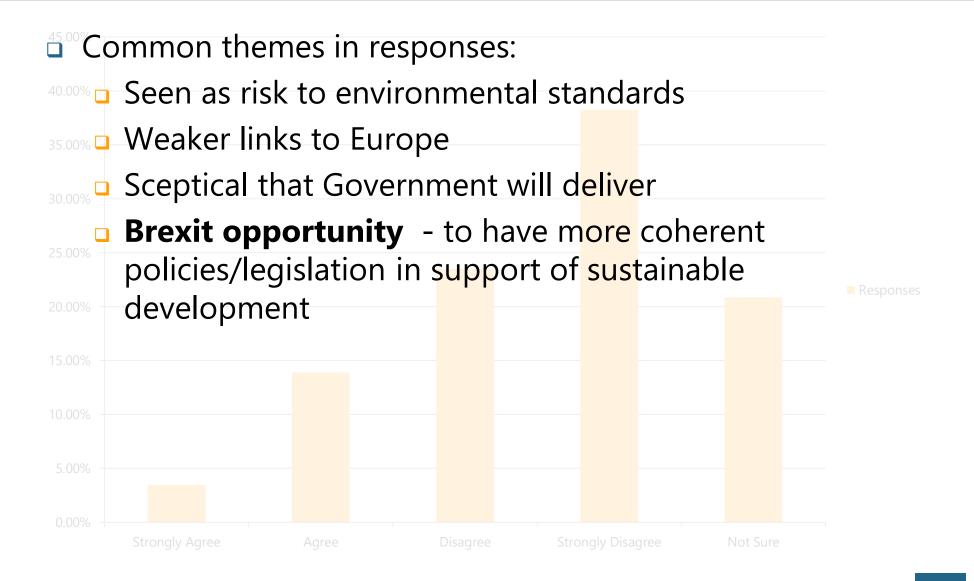
### 25 year environment plan



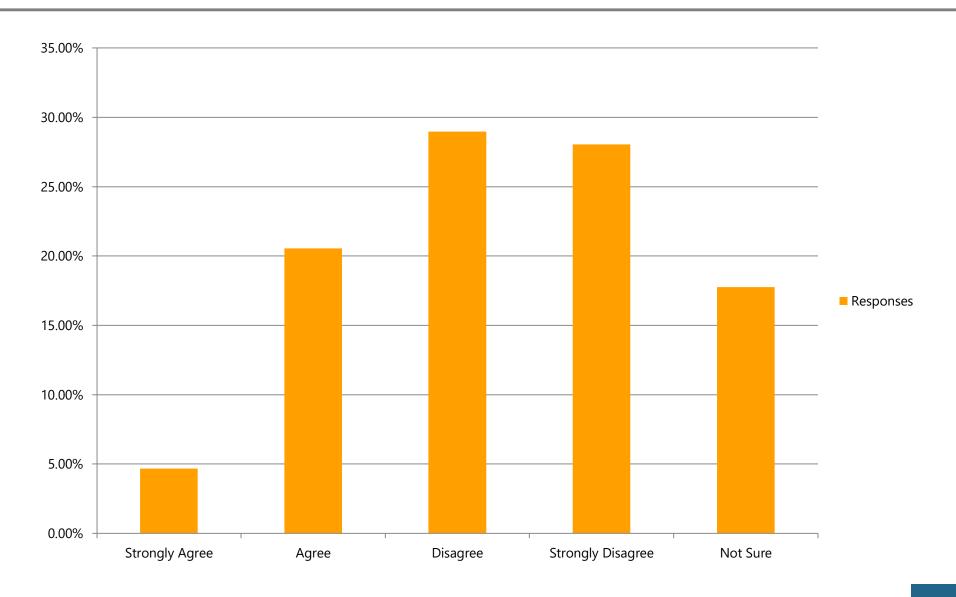
### Leaving the EU enables more effective development of policies to meet marine sustainability goals



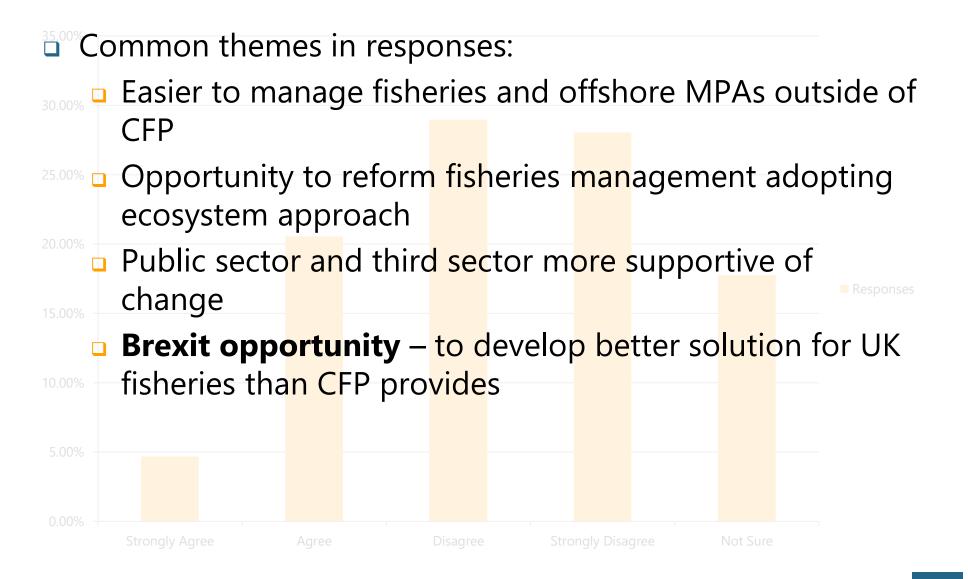
### Marine sustainability goals



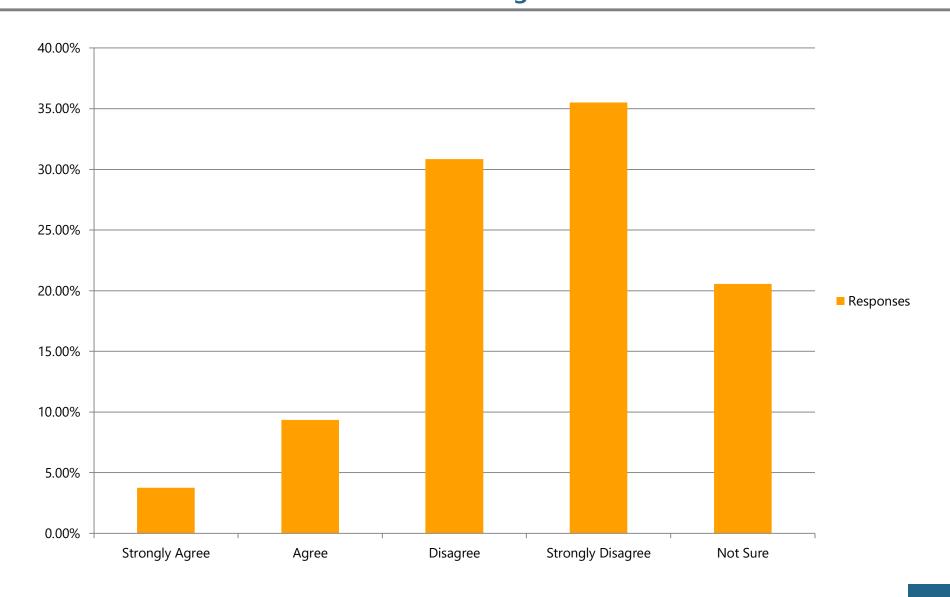
## Leaving the EU will enable more effective development of policies to sustainably manage marine fisheries



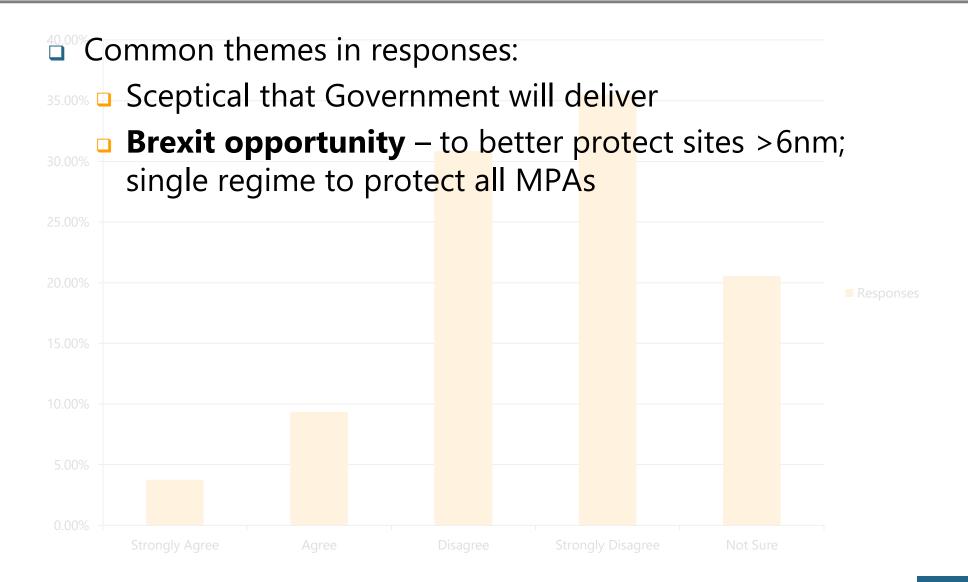
### **Fisheries**



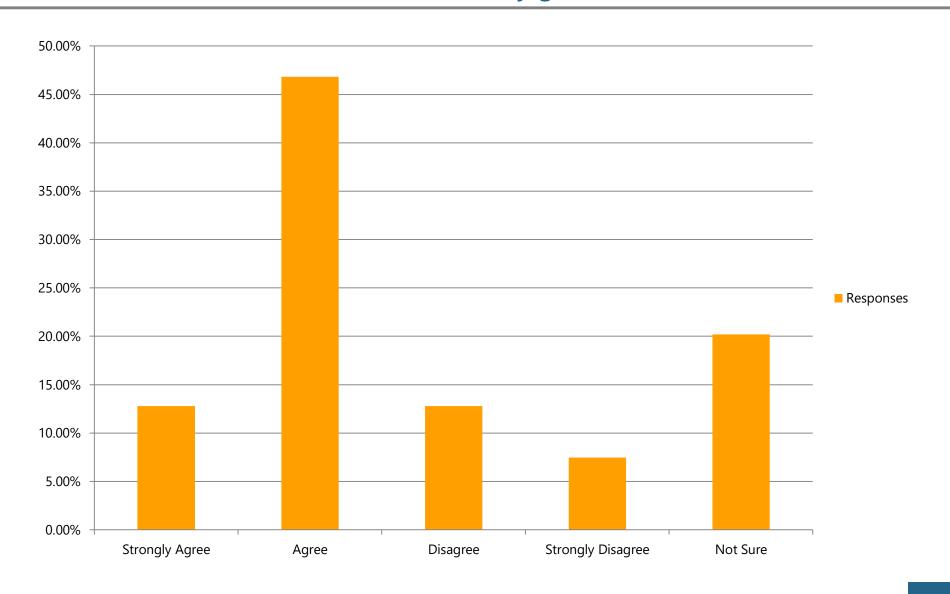
# Leaving the EU will enable the completion and effective management of a network of appropriate and well managed MPAs



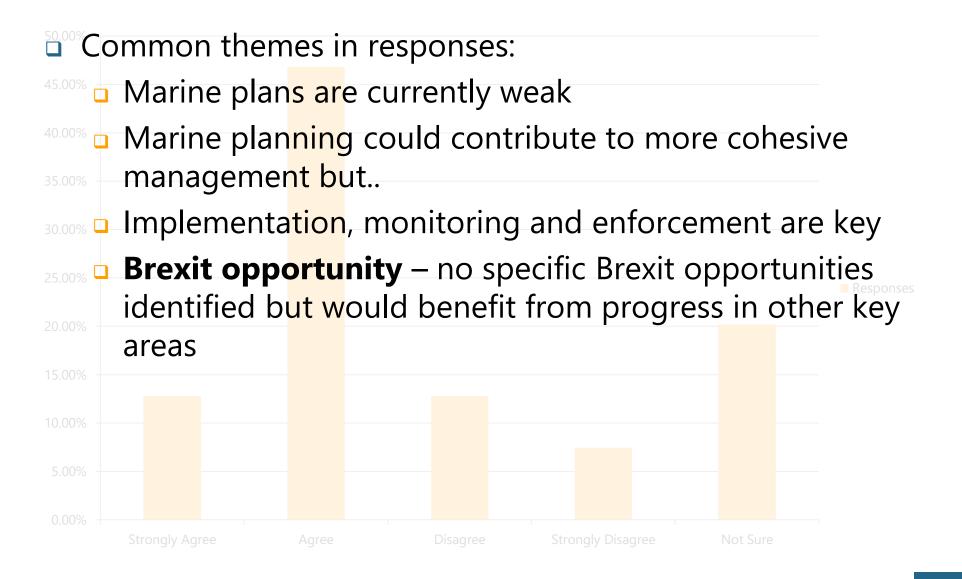
### **Network of MPAs**



# Completing the suite of marine plans for UK waters will support achievement of marine sustainability goals



## Marine planning



### Other comments

- Concerns about Brexit risks to marine:
  - Loss of EU jurisdiction
  - Loss of EU funding
- Marine is low priority for Government

### **Conclusions**

- Brexit may provide some opportunities to improve on existing policies but marine stakeholders are:
  - Sceptical that Government has the will to deliver
  - Concerned about the environmental risks associated with Brexit

## Thank you for your attention

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