

## CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Please identify the main area of interest you identify with :

- |                               |                                     |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Nature Conservation           | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Fisheries                     | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Industry/Transport            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Energy                        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Aquaculture                   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Recreation/tourism            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Academic/scientific           | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Local authority               | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Community group               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Public sector/Regulatory body | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Local Coastal Partnership     | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

Other (Please state)

Comments

**Q1. Does the NMP appropriately guide management of Scotland's marine resources?**

The objectives appear to be all encompassing, however the individual policies appear to have gaps. Refer to Q29 comments for one example of this.

**Q2. Does the NMP appropriately set out the requirement for integration between marine planning and land use planning systems?**

There appears to be no suggestion as to how integration should, or could, take place. The consultation document appears to make no proposals as to how a holistic approach could or should be achieved by a Marine Planning Partnership, especially when in conjunction with a multi-departmental local authority. In our direct experience local authorities have no commercial marine knowledge or experience.

For example, as part of our own project referred to in Q29 above, we

wished to establish that our project has no effect on the behaviour of the local cetaceans; no comment was received from any consultee for this project, but on our own decision. By observation over and above an established WDC scheme we have that information for our local area. However should another third party project be proposed in the future and this question does arise, your proposals do not seem to include a mechanism that would allow any involvement to source this information, ie there is no given methodology to involve such local organisations as ourselves.

The onshore planning application process involves Community Councils as a consultee, and we feel that this should also be the case for all marine planning applications too, due to considerations of a number of impacts a project may have, plus that a local community organisation of a coastal area is likely to have local knowledge that the local authority, with specific disciplines only, may not have.

**Q3. Does the NMP appropriately guide development of regional marine planning? What, if any, further guidance is required for regional marine planners in terms of implementation and how to interpret the NMP?**

Our response to Q2 is relevant to this Q3 as well; ie what does “regional marine planners” actually mean, and who else should they consult with.

**Q4. The Marine Regional Boundaries Consultation proposed that in addition to regional marine planning, further integrated management of key marine areas would be achieved by designating the Pentland Firth; the Minches and the mouth of the Clyde as Strategic Sea Areas.**

**Should the NMP set out specific marine planning policies for Strategic Sea Areas?**

Comments

**Q5. Are the objectives and policies in the NMP appropriate to ensure they further the achievement of sustainable development, including protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the health of the sea?**

With reference to Q1 and Q29 response, until the National Marine Plan is all-encompassing of every marine activity, the objectives cannot be achieved.

**Q6. Chapter 3 sets out strategic objectives for the National Marine Plan and Chapters 6 – 16 sets out sector specific marine objectives.**

**Is this the best approach to setting economic, social and marine ecosystem objectives and objectives relating to the mitigation of and, adaptation to climate change?**

Comments

**Q7. Do you have any other comments on Chapters 1 – 3?**

Comments

### **General Planning Policies**

**Q8. Are the general policies in Chapter 4 appropriate to ensure an approach of sustainable development and use of the marine area? Are there alternative policies that you think should be included? Are the policies on integration with other planning systems appropriate? A draft circular on the integration with terrestrial planning has also been published - would further guidance be useful?**

Comments

**Q9. Is the marine planning policy for landscape and seascape an appropriate approach?**

Comments

**Q10. Are there alternative general policies that you think should be included in Chapter 4?**

Comments

### **Guide to Sector Chapters**

**Q11. Do you have any comments on Chapter 5?**

**Are there other sectors which you think should be covered by the National Marine Plan?**

Comments

### **Sea Fisheries**

**Q12. Do you have any comments on Sea Fisheries, Chapter 6?**

Comments

**Q13. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?**

Comments

### **Aquaculture**

**Q14. Does Chapter 7 appropriately set out the relationship between terrestrial and marine planning for Aquaculture? Are there any planning changes which might be included to optimise the future sustainable development of aquaculture?**

Comments

**Q15. Do you have any comments on Aquaculture, Chapter 7?**

Comments

**Q16. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?**

Comments

### **Wild Salmon and Migratory Fish**

**Q17. Do you have any comments on Wild Salmon and Migratory Fish, Chapter 8?**

Comments

**Q18. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?**

Comments

### **Oil & Gas**

**Q19. Do you have any comments on Oil and Gas, Chapter 9?**

Comments

**Q20. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?**

Comments

### **Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS)**

**Q21. Do you have any comments on Carbon Capture and Storage, Chapter 10?**

Comments

**Q22. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?**

Comments

### **Offshore Renewable Energy**

**Q23. Should the NMP incorporate spatial information for Sectoral Marine Plans?**

Comments

**Q24. Do you have any comments on Offshore Renewable Energy, Chapter 11?**

Comments

**Q25. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?**

Comments

### **Recreation and Tourism**

**Q26. Do you have any comments on Recreation and Tourism, Chapter 12?**

Comments

**Q27. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?**

Comments

### **Transport (Shipping, Ports, Harbours & Ferries)**

**Q28. Should the NMP specifically designate national significant ports/harbours as described in Chapter 13: Marine Planning Policy Transport 2?**

No. Of course some ports are larger than others and have a greater throughput but general planning policies should prevent any restriction to “access to ports and harbours” whether nationally or regionally significant or not. But others ports not mentioned in this draft document, eg Macduff, are of vital importance to our local economy, although they may not fit your ill-defined word of “regional”. Why should larger ports be singled out; all ports should have the same protection. Even if a harbour isn’t being used significantly now it represents a significant resource which the development of offshore wind farms, or another future development not presently under consideration, may give the opportunity to grow the use of that harbour, and your proposed Policy 2 could limit that future development.

**Q29. Do you have any comments on Transport, Chapter 13?**

A number of scenarios are referred to, international shipping access and navigational safety, and a number of Transport planning principles are listed. These however do not appear to be all inclusive, and we are concerned that the planning policies proposed in this document could make certain applications more complex rather than the stated aim to promote development and support sustainable economic growth.

To illustrate our concern we give the following example:

Banff and Macduff Community Council recently undertook a project to attract large ocean-going vessels to anchor off our port and receive services from launches operating out of the harbour. This project has met some success. However in setting this up we needed to designate an anchorage area for these ships to use. To do this we ended up with a list of 18 local and national bodies with which to consult, the final one being the UK Safety of Navigation Committee. Your consultation document does not make it clear if any future similar project would require reference to all these bodies or whether just to one Scottish Marine Planning body.

Clearly the fact that not one of these 18 organisations could advise us of any definitive list of consultees for our type of project illustrates that it is an unusual type of project; and hence supports the idea of a single Scottish Marine Planning Policy. But as our project appears to comply with all the General Policies given in Chapter 4 of this consultation document we are surprised that it does not appear to fall within the types of project envisaged within “Transport” of Section 13, or indeed any other sectoral section.

We specifically suggest that Section 13, Part 2, should be re-worded to be all encompassing, rather than just shipping and ferry routes and the development of ports and harbours.

**Q30. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?**

Comments

### **Telecommunication Cables**

**Q31. Do you have any comments on telecommunications, Chapter 14?**

Comments

**Q32. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?**

Comments

### **Defence**

**Q33. Do you have any comments on Defence, Chapter 15?**

Comments

**Q34. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?**

Comments

### **Aggregates**

**Q35. Do you have any comments on Aggregates, Chapter 16?**

Comments

**Q36. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?**

Comments

### **Business and Regulatory**

**Q37. Please tell us about any potential economic or regulatory impacts, either positive or negative, that you think any or all of the proposals in this consultation may have.**

**Equality**

**Q38. Do you believe that the creation of a Scottish National Marine Plan discriminates disproportionately between persons defined by age, disability, sexual orientation, gender, race and religion and belief?**

Yes  No

**Q39. If you answered yes to question 23 in what way do you believe that the creation of a Scottish National Marine Plan is discriminatory?**

Comments

**Sustainability Appraisal**

**Q40. Do have any views/comments on the Sustainability Appraisal carried out for the NMP?**

Comments