CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Please identify the main area of interest you identify with:

- Nature Conservation
- Fisheries
- Industry/Transport
- Energy
- Aquaculture
- Recreation/tourism
- Academic/scientific
- Local authority
- Community group
- Public sector/Regulatory body
- Local Coastal Partnership
- Other (Please state)

Other (Please state)

Comments

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

Yes

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

Yes

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?
Yes the NMP does appropriately guide development of regional marine planning. Guidance on implementation and interpretation of the NMP would be useful.

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?

Yes, the NMP should set out specific marine planning policies for Strategic Sea Areas.

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?

Yes

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?

This approach is clearly defined and easily to follow, although it just not take into account identification and management of cumulative effects.

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

No

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?

I would welcome further definition and guidance on GEN5 and in particular the explanatory text, “Where different activities are incompatible or mutually
exclusive, some areas maybe identified within Regional Marine Plans for preferential use by specific sectors”. Specifically I would be interest in who decides if an activity is identified for preferential use and how that decision is made.

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

Yes.

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

No.

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?

I welcome that Chapter 5, a guide to sector chapter, lists ‘interactions with other users as one of the key issue for marine planning.

Sea Fisheries

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

I agree with the text on page 46, “There is opportunity for fishing to interact positively with other sectors”. With the potential increase in offshore marine renewable developments, I would welcome guidance on how the fishing industry and marine renewables industry should interact.

I would disagree that displacement is an effect of interaction page 47. Displacement of fishing activity can potentially occur as the result of development. A definition of interaction would be useful in this regard.

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?

No comment.

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

No comment.

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

No comment.

Wild Salmon and Migratory Fish

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

No comment.

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

No. I welcome the marine planning policy on the impact of development and use of the marine environment on migratory fish species.

Oil & Gas

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

No comment.

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

No comment.

Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS)

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

No comment.
Q22. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?

No comment.

**Offshore Renewable Energy**

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

Yes

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

No.

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

No.

**Recreation and Tourism**

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

No.

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

No.

**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 comment.

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

No comment.
Q30. Are there alternative planning policies that you think should be included in this Chapter?

No comment.

Telecommunication Cables

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

The development of good practice in relation to cable laying and cable installation is also relevant to the offshore renewable energy sector.

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

No comment.

Defence

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

I would welcome further definition and guidance in relation to the text, “conversely the development of new infrastructure, such as that of marine renewables, may lead to navigational issues and possible disruption to MOD activity. Radar activity can also be affected by some installations and development requires careful consideration” on page 123.

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

No comment.

Aggregates

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

No comment.

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

No comment.
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.

No comment.

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 2338? in what way do you believe that the creation of a Scottish National Marine Plan is discriminatory?

N/a

Sustainability Appraisal

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

No comment.