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Wales and England Cross-border Marine Planning Workshop

Welsh Government and Marine Management Organisation

Norwegian Church, Cardiff

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Report prepared for:	Report prepared by:
Welsh Government: Marine and Fisheries Division	Severn Estuary Partnership
Paula Whitfield	Lucy Taylor, with contributions from Dr Rhoda Ballinger and Harriet Yates-Smith.
Website: http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/marineandfisheries/marine-planning/?lang=en	Email: TaylorL14@cardiff.ac.uk Phone: 02920 874 713 Website: www.severnestuary.net

The views presented in this report were suggested by delegates during the workshop sessions and are not necessarily the views of Welsh Government, the Marine Management Organisation and the Severn Estuary Partnership.

Executive Summary

The Severn Estuary Partnership (SEP) facilitated a workshop for Welsh Government (WG) and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) on cross-border marine planning on 15th March 2016. The workshop was held in Cardiff. 29 people attended, including facilitators, representing 20 different sectors.

The aim of the workshop was to discuss the approach to cross-border issues to inform marine planning compatibility and integration. The workshop's main objective was to develop understanding of opportunities for taking forward approaches to cross-border marine planning, across the Welsh and English marine areas. This was achieved through initiating stakeholder comment related to the:

- identification of common issues and associated evidence;
- understanding the relationship with other relevant plans in cross-border areas;
- development of responses to cross-border issues that promote compatibility and integration of marine plans or with other alternatives;
- exploration of the role of partnership working and liaison to facilitate approaches to cross-border marine planning; and,
- lessons learned from planning and management initiatives in the Severn Estuary that could inform cross-border marine planning elsewhere.

The first workshop session aimed to identify common cross-border issues and their associated evidence requirements, across differing sectors. Some of the key issues highlighted in Session 1 were related to governance and evidence, cumulative impacts, renewable energy, marine aggregates and marine licensing. The second workshop session aimed to develop potential responses to these cross-border issues, particularly focusing on those that promote compatibility and integration of marine plans. Examples of actions included the creation of a cross-governance board with WG and MMO representatives on both renewable energy and marine licensing.

The overall feedback from the event was positive, with delegates supporting the first of cross-boundary discussions with stakeholders. It brought together a wide range of sectors to discuss, gain insight and stimulate debate on the wide variety of issues affecting cross-boundary areas. Whilst there was good representation from the Severn Estuary, there was limited attendance from the Dee Estuary due to the travel distance and short notice, but there is potential to host another workshop on the Dee Estuary at a later date. The lessons learned from this workshop however, will still be able to be applied in the Dee Estuary and elsewhere throughout the UK. Further engagement is required with representatives of other sectors, particularly ones deemed harder to reach. The challenge now lies in building on this successful event, maintaining momentum and developing tangible solutions to the issues identified.

To find out more on marine planning in England and Wales:

- Marine Planning in England: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/marine-planning-in-england>
 - Marine Planning in SW England: <http://mis.marinemanagement.org.uk/south-west>
 - Marine Planning in NW England: <http://mis.marinemanagement.org.uk/north-west>

- [Marine Information System http://mis.marinemanagement.org.uk/](http://mis.marinemanagement.org.uk/)
- Marine Planning in Wales: <http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/marineandfisheries/marine-planning/?lang=en>
 - Marine Planning Evidence Portal: <http://le.wales.gov.uk/apps/marineportal/#lat=52.5145&lon=-3.9111&z=8>

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Glossary of Acronyms

ASERA	Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities	IFCA	Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
BCSEG	Bristol Channel Standing Environment Group	IMADP	Interim Marine Aggregates Dredging Policy
BMAPA	British Marine Aggregate Producers Association	JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
CEA	Cumulative Effects Assessment	MCAA	Marine and Coastal Access Act
DECC	Department of Energy & Climate Change	MCZ	Marine Conservation Zone
FLOWW	Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group	MMO	Marine Management Organisation
GEMS	Welsh Group of European Marine Site Officers	MPA	Marine Protected Area
HRA	Habitats Regulation Assessment	MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
		NGO	Non-Government Organisation

NNFO	National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations	TAN-14	Technical Advice Note (TAN) 14: Coastal Planning (1998)
ORJIP	Offshore Renewables Joint Industry Programme	VMS	Vehicle Monitoring System
SECG	Severn Estuary Coastal Group	WCD	Wales Coastal Directory
SEP	Severn Estuary Partnership	WFD	Water Framework Directive
SMP	Shoreline Management Plan	WG	Welsh Government
SoNaRR	State of Natural Resources Report	WNMP	Welsh National Marine Plan

1.0 Introduction

The Severn Estuary Partnership (SEP) facilitated a workshop for Welsh Government (WG) and Marine Management Organisation (MMO) on cross-border marine planning on 15th March 2016. The venue of the workshop was the Norwegian Church in Cardiff Bay. The aim was to discuss the approach to cross-border issues to inform marine planning compatibility and integration. The objective of the workshop was to develop an understanding of opportunities for taking forward approaches to cross-border marine planning, across the Welsh and English marine areas. This was achieved through initiating stakeholder comment related to the:

- identification of common issues and associated evidence;
- understanding the relationship with other relevant plans in cross-border areas;
- development of responses to cross-border issues that promote compatibility and integration of marine plans or with other alternatives;
- exploration of the role of partnership working and liaison to facilitate approaches to cross-border marine planning; and,
- lessons learned from planning and management initiatives in the Severn Estuary that could inform cross-border marine planning elsewhere.

John Harrison, Chair of SEP, welcomed and thanked delegates (Appendix 7.2) for travelling to Cardiff Bay for the workshop. John introduced himself, explaining that he had worked within the Severn Estuary for 40 years, recently retiring from his post as Operational Manager in Natural Resources Wales.

Paula Whitfield, WG, explained the aim and schedule of the workshop to delegates (Appendix 7.1). She noted the importance of cross-border compatibility and integration between the different plans and processes. She suggested that the lessons learned from this workshop and particularly the comments related to the Severn Estuary could also help inform cross-border marine planning in the Dee Estuary, and elsewhere across the UK. She explained that this was the beginning of cross-border stakeholder engagement and suggested a more formal advisory panel on specific cross-border issues could be developed, if considered necessary.



Figure 1. John Harrison, Chair of SEP, welcoming delegates to the workshop.

2.0 SESSION 1: Common Issues and Associated Evidence

2.1 Introduction

Welsh National Marine Plan

Paula Whitfield, WG, provided an update on the Welsh National Marine Plan (WNMP). She explained that WG had shared an initial draft of the WNMP with stakeholders from November 2015 to January 2016. She noted that six stakeholder drop-in sessions had been held across Wales, with just under 100 people commenting on the draft plan. The drafting team, led by John Hamer, are now working to incorporate and refine the plan in light of the comments received. Paula explained that there is clear scope to input the cross-border aspects discussed at this workshop into the plan. She also suggested that the WNMP is likely to be adopted and operational within the next 18 months.

South West Marine Plan

Mel Nicholls, MMO, provided an update on the marine planning process in England. He explained the legislative basis for marine planning and plans within the UK, referring to the Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009) and the Marine Policy Statement (2011). Mel outlined some of the benefits of marine planning, which included the plans providing clear direction for a range of marine and coastal authorities and organisations, integration of the environmental, social and economic sectors and providing a single evidence base. He explained the challenge of developing four marine plans for seven areas by 2021. The MMO are developing the North West, South West, North East and South East plans simultaneously, which provides considerable opportunities for integration and facilitates building on lessons learned from the East and South plan development process. Some of these key lessons learned were identifying compatibilities of some policies, early engagement, targeting decision-makers, highlighting relevance for stakeholders and front loading implementation. He noted that Neal Gray will be the key South West MMO contact and that there will be a launch event for the stakeholder engagement process during April 2016.

2.2 Common Issues & Opportunities

Neal Gray, MMO, provided an introduction to the group work session with a presentation on the English-Welsh cross-border issues and opportunities (Appendix 7.3). He explained some of the examples of the cross-border challenges and opportunities that the MMO had identified for both the South West and the North West, which included fishing, aggregates, habitats and species, renewables, tourism and recreation and nuclear activity.

2.3 Group Work

The aim of Session 1 was to identify common issues, and their associated evidence, across differing sectors:

Key questions posed in this session:

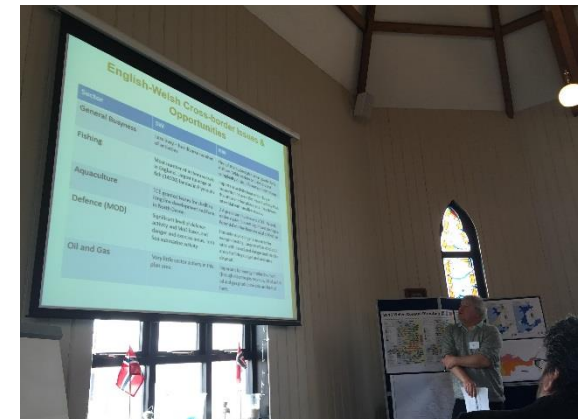


Figure 2. Neal Gray (MMO) presenting on the common issues and opportunities within the Severn and Dee estuaries.

- What are the issues facing your sector that you think may impact across borders?
- Identify those issues that have more of an effect on:
 - The Welsh marine plan area,
 - The English South West marine plan area,
 - The English North West marine plan area, or
 - A combination of marine plan areas.
- Prioritise those issues that require an integrated response across borders through marine plans or alternative means.
- What evidence is available to identify these issues?
- What gaps in the evidence base need to be filled?

Delegates split into the following groups, with a representative from the Severn Estuary Partnership and either WG or the MMO (See Appendix 7.4 for further information):

- Group 1 delegates: Rhoda Ballinger (SEP/Cardiff University); Emma Barton (Royal Yachting Association); Jean-Francois Dulong (Welsh Local Government Association); Leanne Fraser (Welsh Government); Dave Harris (Monmouthshire County Council/Severn Estuary Coastal Group); Neal Gray (MMO South West England); Clare Reed (Marine Conservation Society/Wales Environment Link); Dale Rodmell (NNFO); Jo Russell (Natural England).
- Group 2 delegates: Natasha Barker-Bradshaw (UWE); Jim Evans (WFA); Zahra Fatima (Cardiff University); Deanna Groom (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales); Kirsty Lindenbaum (Natural Resources Wales); Mel Nicholls (MMO); Mark Stafford (Welsh Government); Alec Taylor (WWF-UK); Lucy Taylor (SEP/ASERA).
- Group 3 delegates: Sarah Canning (JNCC); Mark Hazelton (The Crown Estate); Joe Holcroft (CEMEX UK Marine Ltd./BMAPA); Liz Hopley (Natural England); Mike Jones (Environment Agency); Louise Mann (Hanson Aggregates Marine Ltd); Robert Merrylees (UK Chamber of Shipping); Paula Whitfield (Welsh Government).



Figure 3. Workshop delegates in the group work sessions.

2.4 Feedback and Plenary Discussion

2.4.1 Group 1 – Facilitated by Neal Gray (MMO) and Rhoda Ballinger (SEP/Cardiff University)

Table 1. Group 1 feedback from Session 1. The views presented here were suggested by delegates during discussions and are not necessarily the views of WG, MMO and SEP.

Issues	Discussion on Key Issues
Joint Strategy for Key Issues	The suggested key topics requiring such a strategy included: tidal power; tourism; seascape; bathing water quality.
Different Legislative Drivers	The group suggested that there were contrasting drivers influencing the development of legislation and policy on the English and Welsh sides of the estuary, which it considered were causing continued divergence in the approach to the management of the estuary. In this context, the group highlighted the implications of some of Welsh Government's recent legislation (notably, the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and the Well-being of Futures Generations Act 2015).
Planning	Delegates highlighted issues associated with different political priorities and drivers in in Wales and England resulting in potential incompatibilities between plans and policies produced for either side of the estuary. There was also some concern related to inconsistencies in planning terminology, emanating from differing guidance. Cross-border issues associated with the IROPI process for the SMP2 for the Severn Estuary were noted, with participants suggesting there could be lessons from this for other planning efforts in the Estuary.
Coastal Change and Flooding	The commonality of issues on either side of the Estuary was discussed alongside the potential of in-combination effects of large-scale developments on flood risks across the shores of the Estuary. The potential for lesson-sharing on longer-term issues related to climate change was noted. The need for a common system of monitoring of coastal change (including post-storm morphological changes) was suggested. The lack of an equivalent to the SW Coastal Observatory for Wales was also noted.
Cumulative Pressures	The group outlined issues for fisheries (displacement); flood risk; marine biodiversity and navigation/safety related to the cumulative impacts of multiple developments.
Evidence Portal	The group expressed concern about the compatibility of planning portals for marine planning on either side of the Estuary.
Protection & Enhancement of European Marine Sites	The need to take a holistic, estuary-wide view of impacts on the European Marine Site were discussed. In this context the need for better evidence was referred to. This issue was deemed relevant to both the Severn and the Dee.
Consenting Process	Delegates suggested issues with differences between Welsh (WG) and English (MMO) processes. They also expressed concern about the clarity of the process and the burden on developers for small-scale proposals.

Relationship between WFD and MSFD	There was some concern regarding the litter and noise MSFD descriptors and their lack of inclusion within the WFD.
Fisheries	This compatibility of the fisheries evidence base across different marine plan areas was raised as an issue in relation to a MCZ proposal in the North West between the NW and Ireland.

2.4.2 Group 2 - Facilitated by Mel Nicholls (MMO) and Lucy Taylor (SEP)

Table 2. Group 2 feedback from Session 1. The views presented here were suggested by delegates during discussions and are not necessarily the views of WG, MMO and SEP.

Issues	Discussion on Key Issues
Renewables Priority 1	The group suggested that sustainable development of renewable energy is impossible without any impact on seascape, the historic environment and nature conservation objectives. Knowledge of future resource requirements is uncertain and there is already considerable competition for resources in the Welsh inshore area. There is often a lack of expertise around engineering issues related to major projects and impacts. The Sustainable Severn group were highlighted as supporting a more strategic approach to the development of the renewables in the Severn Estuary.
Marine Licensing	The process of marine licensing is complex between England and Wales as there is no standardised final review process between Natural England/MMO and Natural Resources Wales. Clarity for cross-border users is urgently required. There are also issues related to land to sea integration and standardisation. There is limited post-development regulation.
Historic Environment	The group noted that there is limited statutory protection of historic environment assets in the marine area. The diversity of heritage assets is not often recognised or taken into account in planning. There are good practice guidelines on the historic environment produced by The Crown Estate. Evidence requirements include calculating the economic benefit of the historic environment and for further research into Welsh waters.
Governance Priority 1*	Managing the Severn Estuary as an ecological unit or ecosystem is difficult with an administrative line down the centre of the estuary. Issues also included policy alignment cross-boundary (e.g. Environment (Wales) Act; Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015) and cross-sector, matching planning scales at a regional sea scale and how the principle of ecosystem services should be to incorporate into marine planning. The differing terminology between Wales and England needs to be addressed and standardised. The methodology from moving from compatibility (of plans) to integration (of process) is unknown. Ensuring that SEP and the Severn Estuary Strategy are kept involved and are incorporated within cross-border discussions is essential. The key theme throughout this discussion was the lack of evidence available; it prevents the formulation of robust policies and constrains decision makers – an increase in evidence equals an increase in plan effectiveness. Key evidence gaps included fisheries and bird movements and status of passage birds. There are limited government resources available to address these evidence gaps.

Coastal Change Priority 1	Coastal change was highlighted as a key issue facing the Severn and Dee estuaries. The Severn Vision (group of NGOs) are undertaking some work which focuses on coastal change in the Severn Estuary.
Fisheries	There is limited understanding of inshore fisheries within the Severn Estuary. The permitting system of fisheries and Several and Regulating Orders were highlighted as key issues. There are also issues associated with the mapping of vessels movements <10m as they are not picked up by VMS.
Pollution	<i>Pollution was identified as an issue but was not discussed by the group.</i>
Cumulative impacts	There is considerably limited guidance on cumulative impacts available, which makes it difficult for decision-makers to make robust decisions. More information on the sensitivities of the environment to multi-uses is required. Some guidance is available however for Habitat Regulation Assessments (HRAs).
Aggregates Priority 1	The group expressed concern that there are no cross-border policies for aggregates in the Severn Estuary. The impacts and effects of aggregate extraction on the seascape and nature designations is largely unquantified. There are inconsistencies in marine licensing applications and exemptions across the border.
MPAs	The future designation of MPAs and completion of the MPA network was raised as a potential issue. It was highlighted that there was a significant lack of evidence on the conservation status of the features within MPAs. There is no Relevant Authority Management Group on the Dee Estuary.

2.4.3 Group 3 - Facilitated by Paula Whitfield (WG) and Harriet Yates-Smith (SEP)

Table 3. Group 3 feedback from Session 1. The views presented here were suggested by delegates during discussions and are not necessarily the views of WG, MMO and SEP.

Issues	Discussions
Aggregates	The Interim Marine Aggregates Dredging Policy (IMADP) is overly constraining and pre-dates the Marine and Coastal Access Act (MCAA) licensing regime. Marine planning gives WG the opportunity to re-think the IMADP but it must take into consideration tonnage caps, and 'preferred areas'. Aggregates are not constrained by political boundaries – both marine plans need consistency in their approach. It was suggested that the licensing regime for aggregates on the Welsh side of the estuary forces the industry to make decisions that they should not have to.
Cross-border Designations	Cross-border designations need to ensure that there is a single, integrated plan for cross-border estuaries to ensure the protection of the environment and to avoid confusing developers. Marine plans need to take into account the cumulative impacts of major developments across borders –protecting both sides of the estuary from development impacts is important. The group considered that providing cross-border license advice for applicants would be particularly useful.

Governance	There needs to be a collaborative portal across Wales, England and Scotland and a cohesive display of data across plan areas (i.e. maps showing both the features and activities north and south of plan border). Extracting data from the Marine Data Exchange is very difficult. Cross-border working could be much more productive if the MMO and WG shared and presented data holistically. Licence conditions should have uniform methodologies to avoid differences in data collection for both sides of the estuary. There should eventually be a joint plan for both the Severn and the Dee Estuaries as further consistency of planning in these areas is needed. Economics of scale can be achieved by working together in partnership.
Port Development	Consistency is required in current and future plans for access to ports, trading and shipping routes. Plans must avoid of anti-competitive policies across borders as inconsistency can affect the entire industry e.g. Cardiff and Bristol ports are in direct competition and inconsistent policies would lead to difficulties for the industry if plans favoured one port over the other e.g. draft requirements, maintenance and capital dredging
Resources	The Bristol Channel has finite resources. Resources require a clear policy landscape and a joint position/direction from the English & Welsh side.
Renewables	Marine plans need a joined up approach to also take into account land to sea integration. For example, the export cable for the Burbo Bank Extension offshore wind project will connect the electricity generated by the offshore wind turbines in England to the offshore substation in Wales. Supporting guidance for projects such as these will be required.
Existing Plans	There is a need to ensure coherence with existing plans like Shoreline Management Plans and River Basin Management Plans. A consistent approach to WFD delivery across borders is important.
Timing of Plans	Different time scales and levels of prescription within the two plans may lead to difficulty for industry to develop truly sustainable and effective projects.

3.0 SESSION 2: Compatibility and Integration between Welsh and English Marine Plans (and with other plans)

3.1 Presentation: Terrestrial Planning Policies Relevant to Marine Planning, Dr Rhoda Ballinger

Dr Rhoda Ballinger, Cardiff University, presented on the project funded by WWF, on behalf of the WG Marine Planning Stakeholder Reference Group. The project was undertaken by the Severn Estuary Partnership and Cardiff University. The review examined the extent and nature of marine and coastal policy content within terrestrial planning policy both in Wales and in coastal cross-border areas (Dee, Mersey and the Severn Estuaries).

Rhoda outlined the aims to the project:

- a baseline of policies of relevance to the introduction of marine planning, particularly the WNMP
- a methodology/approach for monitoring changes in planning policy
- a catalyst for engagement with planners on land-sea integration

She provided an overview of key findings and results, summarised in a report supported by a large database and series of maps. Rhoda explained that there are a considerable number of policies of relevance to the development of marine plans, including many related to coastal and marine tourism, recreation and ports. The employment opportunities of the fishing industry was also a focus within a few plans. She noted that the different characteristics between the landward side and marine area could make coordination difficult as the marine plans progress. Rhoda went on to explain that there were “planning traditions” possibly associated with the culture of various local authorities which could explain the focus of some of the planning policies. She also noted a significant difference in policies between adopted and emerging (draft) development plans, citing the example of policies relating to Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs). Many older plans make limited recognition of these plans in contrast to newer, draft plans where coastal risk management is often considered in more detail, particularly in the Severn Estuary where there is a strong Coastal Group. She also noted that historically there has been a significant focus on nature conservation with planning policy and it is well embedded within different types of policies.

Rhoda summarised the challenges and opportunities for marine and terrestrial planning compatibility. Some of the challenges included the contrasting timelines and time frames, as well as spatial scales and level of prescription. There are different terminologies and planning styles, as well as “planning traditions” which need to be addressed. The opportunities for plan compatibility that Rhoda noted included building on the

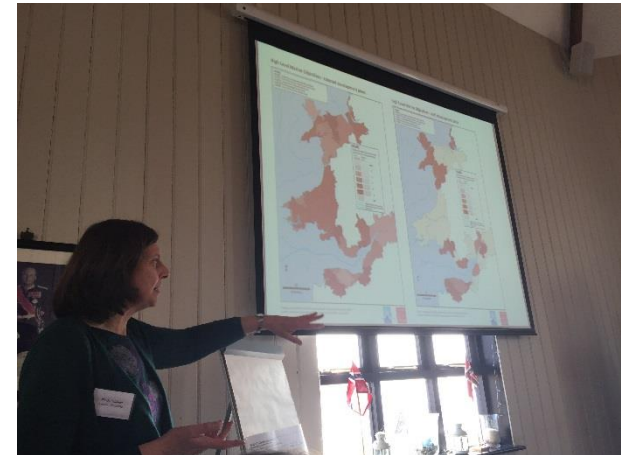


Figure 4. Dr Ballinger presenting on the review of terrestrial planning policies.

strong local traditions of joint partnership working within the estuary, as well as regular plan revisions, best practice examples and training opportunities to increase understanding.

For further information on the project, please contact BallingerRC@Cardiff.ac.uk.

3.2 Group Work

The aim of Session 2 was to develop responses to cross-border issues that promote compatibility and integration of marine plans or with other alternatives.

Key questioned posed in this session:

- What are the potential responses to the priority cross-border issues identified in Session 1?
- What happens now across borders between Wales and England that assists a response to these issues?
- How could it work better?
- Which responses to the issues are considered appropriate for the marine plans?
- Which responses to the issues are considered appropriate for other plans or mechanisms?
- How can this further work be undertaken?



Figure 5. Harriet Yates-Smith and Lucy Taylor providing feedback after the group work sessions.

3.3 Feedback and Plenary Discussion

3.3.1 Group 1 – Facilitated by Neal Gray (MMO) and Rhoda Ballinger (SEP/Cardiff University)

Table 4. Group 1 feedback from Session 2. The views presented here were suggested by delegates during discussions and are not necessarily the views of WG, MMO and SEP.

Issues	Discussion
Joint Strategy for Key Issues	The group highlighted the UK Marine Policy Statement as an overarching policy framework providing high level, common priorities. The Crown Estate’s broad geographical remit and approach to licensing was also noted. Issues associated with the limited scope of marine planning particularly relating to reserved matters were highlighted. A discussion of the role of marine plans in signposting where there might be constraints for such sectors followed.
Coastal Change	A wide range of plans were noted in this context including the SMP2, Flood Risk Management Plans, the Welsh National Strategy and the Severn Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy (still to be finalised). It was noted that the complexity of the planning framework for flood and coastal risk erosion management is a major challenge. It was noted that there continues to be significant pressures for development around the estuary in flood risk areas and some participants suggested that some planning guidance in Wales (TAN-14 and 15) was in need of updating. Some of the group highlighted issues associated with the ‘live’ status of the SMP2, particularly in the context of the limited funding available to implement SMP2 policy. In relation to issues associated with climate change, it was suggested that marine plans could potentially help to bring together data and clarify predictions to be used for other plans. There were even some suggestions that marine plans may be a catalyst for funding on this.
Planning	In terms of terminology, it was suggested that lessons from the East Marine Plan could be useful in providing some consistency between marine plans. Suggestions also included the need for a glossary of terms to be included within each marine plan. Issues associated with slightly different interpretations and definitions of the term ‘sustainable development’ were raised, particularly highlighting the approach used in the Well-Being of Future Generations Act 2015. Some of the group pointed out, however, that the different wording and approaches in plans can be beneficial as this helps demonstrate the contrasting priorities of each.
Evidence Portal	Some of the group suggested there was less available data on and less functionality of the WNMP portal compared to some marine plans in England. The need for compatibility between data and some interaction/signposting between the portals of neighbouring plans (including the WNMP and those for bordering English regions) was requested. There was also a suggestion that the portals and the data/information on them should be kept ‘live’ even once the respective plan had been completed.
Cumulative Pressures	Reference was made to existing Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA) resources and research as well as CEA being a requirement for marine plans, the WFD and Habitats Regulations. In this context, the Defra guidance which is being finalised was mentioned. It was suggested that <i>Charting Progress 2</i> provides an evidence base to inform CEA for marine planning.

3.3.2 Group 2 - Facilitated by Mel Nicholls (MMO) and Lucy Taylor (SEP)

Table 5. Group 2 feedback from Session 2. The views presented here were suggested by delegates during discussions and are not necessarily the views of WG, MMO and SEP.

Issues	Discussion
Renewables	<p>The group noted that the Crown Estate has produced good practice guidance notes on renewable energy. Within The Crown Estate's leasing rounds, there are non-disclosure agreements, which prevents the sharing of evidence.</p> <p>The Sustainable Severn is an industry-led group, which includes academic, local authority and NGO representatives. The Offshore Renewables Joint Industry Programme (ORJIP) was set up to reduce consenting risks for offshore wind and marine energy projects. The Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW) aims to encourage good relations between the fishing and offshore renewable energy sectors and encourage co-existence of the industries. Concerns were raised as the topic of renewable energy is split between many WG Ministerial portfolios. It was suggested that the WG and MMO had representatives on the other's governance boards. DECC have recently commenced a review of potential sites for tidal lagoon developments at a UK-level. Marine plans need to get ahead of The Crown Estate leasing rounds process.</p>
Marine Licensing	<p>There is a requirement to balance commercial confidentiality and transparency. The onus is on the developer to maintain the monitoring aspect attached to a granted marine license. This is often not checked and followed up by Natural England/Natural Resources Wales due to both resource and time pressures. The evidence provided by developers from this monitoring activity should feed into a cross-border database that would assist the conservation agencies with the assessment of cumulative impacts in HRAs.</p>
Historic Environment	<p>The Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment survey and CADW work are current initiatives, although there is a need to revise (and do more) for the Welsh RCZA. A Maritime Research Framework is in preparation. The BMAPA strategy for discovering assets is useful (see Aggregates). Guidance required must be aligned to marine planning. There is a requirement for a maritime guidance note for historic assets but it needs integration with that for the natural environment. Welsh Historic Environment Group is undertaking a review of sites (and condition). Historic Environment Record/NMRW maps sites at risk of coastal change/flooding. CADW Operational Maritime Policy is forthcoming. Historic Environment (Wales) Act was passed in February 2016.</p>
Governance	<p>Natural Resources Wales are producing Area Statements, which will set out the priorities and opportunities for area-based management of natural resources, and a State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR), as a requirement under the Environment (Wales) Act. They need to be issue, not place, driven. Whereas the group considered governance to be in place for Natura 2000 sites it suggested it is lacking elsewhere. The application of monitoring is restricted e.g. fishing is not evidence-based approach (i.e. it is over precautionary – a “virtual loop of ignorance” or “cycle of stupidity”). Marine plans can break this loop/cycle by linking policy to evidence. Monitoring and the gathering of evidence should be developer-funded.</p>
Coastal Change	<p>Coastal Groups in cross-border areas: Severn Estuary Coastal Group, South West Coastal Group and the North West Coastal Group. It was suggested that the MMO should increase involvement with these groups. There is pressure from Defra not to include non-statutory plans within the SW Marine Plan, which may become an issue. There is the concern that these are solely engineer-driven groups. Marine plans</p>

	can do more than conventional engineering solutions, but this change must come from within local authorities. The South West Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme (Plymouth Coastal Observatory) has a significant amount of data available for users. The Welsh Coastal Monitoring Centre is currently on hold so there will be considerable gaps in data associated with this.
Fisheries	The Common Fisheries Policy and various domestic legislation is already in place. The key concern raised was that the bulk of the fishing fleet is <10m and inshore fishing fleets <10m are not required to have a VMS. The Devon & Severn IFCA are proposing a Severn focus group, similar to the NW. Authorities to join-up Several Order processes - especially in the Dee.
Cumulative impacts	It is well understood that there is limited knowledge and guidance available on cumulative impacts. Cumulative effects are only really identified for Natura 2000 sites where there is good practice guidance in place. Cumulative impact assessments are often regarded as a reactive approach and seeking ways to co-locate activities is perhaps a more proactive approach. Much of the information surrounding these impacts exists but is not input into an existing cross-border data information system due to resource pressures and constraints. Need to compare with ecosystem services as baseline.
Aggregates	IMADP is being revised in Wales at the moment, which has been raising a series of concerns regarding the level of prescription. There is limited openness and transparency due to commercial confidentiality agreements. The process is license orientated, as opposed to taking a strategic approach. BMAPA is a cross-border group, which has a sustainable development plan for aggregates and an industry protocol for reporting historic finds.
MPAs	The Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (ASERA) are likely one of the most long-standing cross-border groups on the estuary. There is wide representation of both local authorities and the nature conservation authorities. There is a need for a similar group for the Dee. There are also EMS officer networks in both Wales (GEMS) and England (facilitated by Natural England). Discussions are ongoing within WG with regard to MPA management in Wales, identifying potential ways to include sites such as the Dee Estuary into the MPA management network (i.e. to consider a similar group to ASERA for the Dee). The Severn Vision also have a key interest including on shoreline realignment (see Climate Change).

3.3.3 Group 3 - Facilitated by Paula Whitfield (WG) and Harriet Yates-Smith (SEP)

Table 6. Group 3 feedback from Session 2. The views presented here were suggested by delegates during discussions and are not necessarily the views of WG, MMO and SEP.

Issues	Discussions
Timing of the Plans	The group shared their views on the timing of the Welsh National Marine Plan (WNMP) and raised their concerns that the SW plan and WNMP will never be at the same stage to be able to judge if there is disparity between them. There was also concerns regarding the Welsh plan pre-empting the SW marine plan.

Statement of Collaboration	There were discussions around the possibility of a statement of collaboration for the WG and the MMO to commit to work together and share thinking in marine planning. It would be used as a mechanism to facilitate better dialogue and acknowledge the differences in the political landscape. There were some concerns that it was too late to bring together a stakeholder group as the WNMP is already in development. The WG shared the view that all plans were in draft stages and there is still time for input on cross-border issues.
Cross-Border Role in Impact Assessment	In light of the risks associated with developers working with two sets of marine plans it was suggested that there should be an impact assessment for cross-border areas. Impact assessments predominantly look at terrestrial activity but it was suggested there could be the potential to extend boundaries on the English and Welsh side to assist people planning cross-border programmes and projects. It was agreed that stakeholder engagement was essential to help planners make these decisions.
Monitoring	The group discussed the need for a shared evidence base that should be implemented through licensing for both the English and the Welsh sides of the estuary. Differences in methods of sampling in the aggregate industry could result in an administrative line down the middle of the Severn Estuary. There is a requirement for common approaches to monitoring, as a small difference in the data can make a significant difference within a marine licensing application.
Aggregates	The licence regime for marine aggregates on the Welsh and English side is not consistent and can sometimes disadvantage the Welsh industry. The IMADP is currently being reviewed and stakeholders urged the WG to make sure it is more consistent with SW marine plans to ensure that the industry is not impacted.

4.0 SESSION 3: Partnership Working

4.1 Welsh Government and MMO Cooperation

Paula Whitfield (WG) provided an update on the current coordination between the WG and MMO in relation to marine planning. She noted that WG and MMO have initiated joint work on evidence and data gathering for the cross-border areas. She explained that they are working together on the identification of cross-border issues and liaising on stakeholder engagement. They will build on this following the workshop discussions. She pointed out that the WNMP had been shared with MMO which had responded with comments to WG for consideration.

4.2 Presentation: Good Practice – Severn Estuary Partnership, John Harrison, Chair

John Harrison, Chair of SEP, provided a presentation sharing some examples of good practice from the planning and management of the Severn Estuary. He began by explaining his previous role with the Bristol Channel Standing Environment Group, noting that SEP provided the core, secretariat services for this virtual group.

He provided a brief background to SEP, explaining that it was set up in 1995 to provide support to many organisations who have responsibilities or interests in the estuary. He explained that SEP is an independent partnership of public, private and voluntary organisations, which is hosted by the School of Earth and Ocean Science within Cardiff University. He stressed the role of SEP in providing an interface between organisations and the public and in encouraging partnership working. He also highlighted SEP's promotion of integrated thinking on issues, policies and proposals for action using a robust evidence base. John noted SEP's key role in disseminating information and sharing of best practice via its communication networks including its monthly e-newsletters, annual forums and social media. It is also involved in projects such as the Wales Coastal Directory and a new community-led campaign, Litter Free Coast and Sea Somerset. SEP facilitates and ensures the efficient working of estuary-wide groups, including the Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (ASERA), the Severn Estuary Coastal Group (SECG) and the Bristol Channel Standing Environment Group (BCSEG).

The Partnership developed the first State of the Severn Estuary Report in 2011 and has since undertaken five annual updates which focus on key themes such as ports and shipping, bathing waters and marine aggregates. He highlighted the review and revision of the 2001 Severn Estuary Strategy, noting the importance of this revised strategy in promoting integrated sustainable development thinking for the estuary (<http://www.severnestuarypartnership.org.uk/sep/strategy/20152016-2/>). The Strategy will provide a framework to inform more coordinated policy development, practices and strategies and to support decision-making for a wide range of proposed estuary developments. As marine planning develops in both SW England and Wales, the Strategy's development should help to ensure an integrated approach for the Severn Estuary Region.



Figure 6. Mel Nicholls and Paula Whitfield presenting on Welsh Government and MMO cooperation on marine planning.

Finally, he noted that SEP had also been involved in various EU Interreg projects including the Interreg IVB project IMCORE (2010) which had created exploratory scenarios for the estuary in the context of climate change.

4.3 Plenary Discussion; Q & A

- **Q – Mel Nicholls, MMO** – Where shall we go from here – another group meeting workshop/work as a virtual group?
- **A – Paula Whitfield, WG** – People today have raised the suggestion of a “Severn Estuary Marine Plan”. Welsh Government has responsibility for marine planning in the Welsh marine area only, but we appreciate and support the work of the Severn Estuary Partnership in developing a strategic approach here.
- **Q – Mel Nicholls, MMO** – How would you like the MMO/WG to contribute and work with you?
- **A – Dave Harris, Chair of SECG** – As Chair of the Severn Estuary Coastal Group, I have invited Neal Gray (MMO, SW Marine Plan) to attend our next meeting and we look forward to him engaging with the group.
- **A – Clare Reed, Wales Environment Link** – Once the East Marine Plan has been reviewed (2017), another workshop like this would be useful to build on any outcomes as a result of the review. Additionally, compatibility between the WG and MMO evidence portals is essential moving forward.
- **A – Paula Whitfield, WG** – There is the potential for setting up a task and finish group to discuss specific cross-border issues like the marine planning portals if required.

- **Mel Nicholls, MMO** – Mel noted he was struck by the “planning tradition” Rhoda had mentioned within planning authorities and he suggested the need to create a new tradition of working together on marine planning.

- **Emma Barton, RYA** – We are all working within limited resources so it is difficult to commit a huge amount of time to another group. Once there are some more tangible aspects to discuss, it would be useful to meet again to help WG/MMO with the details of a particular issue. She raised the issues of the timing of the plans, that the WNMP will nearly be finished before the SW/NW England plan will have started.

- **Mel Nicholls, MMO** – Mel noted he is hoping to sustain the momentum gathered by the WNMP. He suggested the formation of a virtual group as the cross-pollination of ideas from the various sectors at the workshop has been invaluable. Emma suggested using existing forums already in place.

- **Q - Dale Rodmell, NFFO** - What is the engagement process for the SW Marine Plan?
A – Mel Nicholls, MMO – The SW team will be launching the engagement process with drop-in sessions in the week commencing 11th April.

- **Alec Taylor, WWF-UK**- Alec thanked all for a really useful day of discussions. He noted that he hoped it would be the first of many discussions and targeted conversations. He also reiterated the importance that the estuary needs to be managed as one system.
- **Emma Barton, RYA** – Emma suggested a further workshop on the plans as they develop, potentially focussed around issues, to check policies.
- **Kirsty Lindenbaum, NRW** – Kirsty noted that it was a good opportunity for the SW Marine Planning team to review the draft set of Welsh policies within the WNMP
- **Paula Whitfield, WG** - Paula agreed that this would be a useful exercise and noted that WG are currently refining their policies in light of the pre-consultation.
- **Q - Mel Nicholls, MMO** – Mel questioned which groups/sectors were not present here today?
- **A - Rhoda Ballinger, Cardiff University** – The networks and forums that are listed within the Wales Coastal Directory.
- **A - Jim Evans, WFA** – Jim noted that the aquaculture sector is not represented.

Mel Nicholls, MMO, thanked all delegates for their hard work and participation and apologised for the late notice of the meeting. He noted that it was the role of the marine plan to broker the links between sectors and to address many of the issues raised at this workshop. He noted the importance of stakeholder input and ownership of the marine plan, which enables the transition from compatibility (of plans) to integration (of process).

John Harrison closed the meeting at 16.00 and thanked everyone for their invaluable input into the cross-border discussions.

5.0 Conclusion

The primary aim of the workshop was to discuss the approach to cross-border issues to inform marine planning compatibility and integration. 29 people attended the workshop, including facilitators (Appendix 7.2), representing 20 different sectors from the shipping to fishing industries. Only one representative from the North West of England was able to attend the workshop due to the travel distance and short notice, but the potential to host another workshop on the Dee Estuary was discussed. The lessons learned from this workshop however, will still be able to be applied in the Dee Estuary and elsewhere throughout the UK.

The overall feedback from the event was positive, with delegates supporting the first of stakeholder cross-boundary discussions. It brought together a wide range of sectors to discuss, gain insight and stimulate debate on a wide variety of issues affecting cross-boundary areas. Some of the key issues highlighted in Session 1 were related to governance and evidence, cumulative impacts, renewable energy, marine aggregates and marine licensing. More detailed information on Session 1 is available in Section 2.4 and Appendix 6.4. There were a wide variety of suggestions for actions to resolve these issues; for example it was suggested by delegates that a cross-governance “virtual stakeholder group” with representatives from WG and the MMO could potentially be set up to deal with various issues, such as cross-border marine license

applications and proposed renewable energy developments. Issues related to marine aggregates could potentially be resolved with WG liaising with the MMO during the review process of IMADP to improve consistency on cross-border sites. Seeking ways to co-locate activities within the marine plans could help to reduce difficulties surrounding cumulative impact assessments of proposed developments. Further information on Session 2 is available in 3.3 and Appendix 6.4.

The challenge now lies in building on this successful event, maintaining momentum and developing tangible solutions to the issues identified.

The organisers of the cross-border marine planning workshop at the Severn Estuary Partnership, Welsh Government and the Marine Management Organisation would like to thank all those who attended for their participation and useful contributions.

7.1 Delegate Programme



Marine
Management
Organisation



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

www.cymru.gov.uk

Wales and England Cross-border Marine Planning Workshop

Welsh Government and Marine Management Organisation

Norwegian Church, Cardiff

15 March 2016

Aim: To discuss the approach to cross-border issues to inform marine planning compatibility and integration.

Objectives:

To develop understanding of opportunities to take forward approaches to cross-border marine planning, across the Welsh and English marine areas, through initiating stakeholder contribution to:

- identification of common issues and associated evidence;
- understanding the relationship with other relevant plans in cross-border areas;
- development of responses to cross-border issues that promote compatibility and integration of marine plans or with other alternatives;
- exploration of the role of partnership working and liaison to facilitate approaches to cross-border marine planning; and
- lessons learned from planning and management initiatives in the Severn Estuary that could inform cross-border marine planning elsewhere.

Venue details

- Norwegian Church – Cardiff Bay - http://www.norwegianchurchcardiff.com/content.asp?nav=1&parent_directory_id=1
- Travel details: http://www.norwegianchurchcardiff.com/content.asp?nav=3.9&parent_directory_id=1

PROGRAMME GUIDE

Time	Activity	Details	Owner/actions
09:30 – 10:00	REGISTRATION, TEA AND COFFEE	Registration including issuing of name badges. Tea and coffee is available. Networking.	SEP
10:00 - 10:10	WELCOME	Welcome from John Harrison, Chair of the Severn Estuary Partnership.	John Harrison (SEP)
10:10 - 10:35	INTRODUCTION	To provide delegates with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an overview of the aims and objectives of the day, - legal and policy framework Wales /England/national/regional different requirements and commitments, - scene setting – updates on marine planning in Wales and England, - steps taken to date to promote a more joined-up approach between marine planning by the Welsh Government and the MMO. 	Paula Whitfield (WG) and Mel Nicholls (MMO)
10:35 – 10:45	SESSION 1: Common Issues and Associated Evidence INTRODUCTION	Identification of common issues and associated evidence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issues definition, - Overview of issues/trends/themes of cross-border importance that potentially require an integrated policy response (based on the Wales Marine Evidence Report, Wales Marine Portal, MMO Marine Information System), - Explain the Group Work for Session 1. 	Neal Gray and Mel Nicholls (MMO)
10:45 -11:45	SESSION 1: Common Issues and Associated Evidence GROUP WORK	To identify common issues, and their associated evidence, across differing sectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the issues facing your sector that you think may impact across borders? - Identify those issues that have more of an effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Welsh marine plan area, • The English south west marine plan area, • The English north west marine plan area, or • A combination of marine plan areas. - Prioritise those issues that require an integrated response across borders through marine plans or alternative means. - What evidence is available to identify these issues? 	ALL

		- What gaps in the evidence base need to be filled?	
11:45 – 12.10	FEEDBACK AND PLENARY DISCUSSION	Feedback and discussion on Session 1.	ALL
12.10 – 12.15	MORNING WRAP-UP		John Harrison (SEP)
LUNCH: 12:15 – 13:00 (45 mins)			
13:00 – 13:05	POST-LUNCH INTRODUCTION	Introduction of the afternoon programme.	John Harrison (SEP)
13:05 – 13:20	SESSION 2 Compatibility and Integration between Welsh and English Marine Plans (and with other plans) INTRODUCTION 1	Dr R Ballinger to present the results of work commissioned by WWF on behalf of / through the Stakeholder Reference Group to inform Welsh Government's approach to Marine Planning. She will focus on lessons relevant to (cross-border) plan compatibility.	Rhoda Ballinger (Cardiff University)
13:20 – 13:30	SESSION 2 Compatibility and Integration between Welsh and English Marine Plans (and with other plans) INTRODUCTION 2	Development of responses to cross-border issues that promote compatibility and integration of marine plans or with other alternatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Noting MACAA Art 58: what happens now across borders between Wales and England? - Compatibility then integration? - Summarise the feedback from Session 1: highlighting cross-border issues and sectors. - Explain the Group Work for Session 2. 	Mel Nicholls (MMO) and Paula Whitfield (WG)
13:30 – 14:30	SESSION 2 Compatibility and Integration between Welsh and English marine plans (and with other plans) GROUP WORK	To develop responses to cross-border issues that promote compatibility and integration of marine plans or with other alternatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the potential responses to the priority cross-border issues identified in Session 1? - What happens now across borders between Wales and England that assists a response? - Does it work well? - Which responses are considered appropriate for the marine plans? - Which responses are considered appropriate for other plans or mechanisms? 	ALL

7.2 Delegate List

Wales and England Cross-border Marine Planning Workshop Delegate List

Name	Organisation
Rhoda Ballinger	SEP/Cardiff University
Natasha Bradshaw	UWE
Emma Barton	Royal Yachting Association
Sarah Canning	JNCC
Jean-Francois Dulong	Welsh LGA
Jim Evans	WFA
Zahra Fatima	Cardiff University
Leanne Fraser	Welsh Government
Neal Gray	MMO
Deanna Groom	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales
Dave Harris	Monmouthshire County Council/SECG
John Harrison	Severn Estuary Partnership
Mark Hazelton	The Crown Estate
Joe Holcroft	CEMEX UK Marine Ltd/BMAPA
Liz Hopley	Natural England
Mike Jones	Environment Agency
Pat Lehain	Natural England
Kirsty Lindenbaum	Natural Resources Wales
Louise Mann	Hanson Aggregates Marine Ltd.
Robert Merrylees	UK Chamber of Shipping
Mel Nicholls	MMO
Clare Reed	MCS/Wales Environment Link
Dale Rodmell	NNFO
Jo Russell	Natural England
Mark Stafford	Welsh Government
Alec Taylor	WWF-UK
Lucy Taylor	Severn Estuary Partnership/ASERA
Paula Whitfield	Welsh Government
Harriet Yates-Smith	Severn Estuary Partnership

7.3 English-Welsh Cross-border Issues & Opportunities

Sector	SW	NW
General 'Busyness'	Less busy – but diverse number of activities.	One of the busiest plan areas, particularly inshore. Wide variety of activities and complexity of six different administrations.
Fishing	Most number of inshore vessels in England. Largest tonnage of fish (14000) landed in Plymouth.	Important activity here with a larger proportion of over-15m vessel activity than the other marine plan areas. Dee fishery intertidal with smaller vessels.
Aquaculture	TCE granted leases for shellfish long line development and farm in North Devon.	2 Aquaculture businesses 2013. Mussel, native oyster, but not significant tonnages. Potential marine biomass algal cultivation.
Defence (MOD)	Significant level of defence activity and MoD bases, and danger and exercise areas. Irish Sea submarine activity.	Has extensive danger areas used for weapon testing. Large number of coastal sites with associated danger and exercise areas for firing ranges and ordnance disposal.
Oil and Gas	Very little sector activity in this plan area.	Important for energy production, both through discrete gas reserves, 6% of all UK oil and gas production jobs are located here.
Renewables	Wave Hub in NW Cornwall and test site in Falmouth. Significant tidal resource in Bristol Channel.	The Irish Sea Round 3 wind farm zone is located here as well as a significant number of Round 1 and Round 2 projects.
Subsea Cables	29% of all cables in English waters including a significant number of vital connections across Atlantic to the USA.	Several cables crossing the Irish Sea linking England with Ireland, Northern Ireland and a power interconnector to the Isle of Man.
Nuclear	Hinkley Point B nuclear power station, producing 1,220MW of energy through two AGR generators. Decommissioning due to start In 2023 With Hinkley Point C is under development.	Heysham 1 and Heysham 2 generate 1160MW and 1250MW of energy. Decommissioning is due 2024. and 2030 respectively.
Aggregates	S Wales port-based dredgers taking English sand to Wales.	English and Welsh dredgers taking Welsh sand to England.
Tourism & Recreation	Significant sector; focus is on surfing (Cornwall), 8 world heritage sites, 10 blue flag beaches, 140 RYA cruising routes, half of all Heritage Coast designations in England.	Diving off NW Wirral. RSPB Reserve on Dee. Medium use RYA cruising, racing and sailing areas.
Habitats and Species	Certain deep sea habitats found only in SW Offshore, experience of impacts from abrasion and litter. Important for basking sharks. Significant number of AONBs, SACs, SSSIs and MCZs.	Sea surface warming is more pronounced here than other areas. Any sea level rise will affect intertidal habitats which balance delicately on the basis of tidal inundation.

7.4 Results of Workshop Sessions

Session 1: Common Issues and Associated Evidence

Group 1 Neal Gray (MMO)

Rhoda Ballinger (Cardiff University)

Group NB/RS

SESSION 1: Common Issues and associated evidence

What are the issues facing your sector that you think may impact across borders?
Identify those issues that have more of an effect on:
The Welsh marine plan area, the English south west marine plan area, the English north west marine plan area or a combination of marine plan areas.

Prioritise those issues that require an integrated response across borders through marine plans or alternative means.
What evidence is available to identify these issues?
What gaps in the evidence base need to be filled?

Issues	Potentially			Priority	Evidence/Gaps
	Welsh	SW	NW		
Protect + enhance EU + national wildlife sites. (sites/ports)	✓	✓	✓		"impoverish" (Dec. good) Common open areas.
Develop overall strategy for tidal zone/in Sev. Est. (Data review?) (fisheries)	✓	✓	✓		Dairies, 'Catalpa', 'Relit. driven' Combined impacts.
had + seascapes (seascapes) (water quality)	✓	✓	✓		
Long term coastal change (adaptation) - joint approaches	✓	✓	✓		Considerable / population / demographics.
Displacement / vulnerability of fisheries (long term 'sea space' displacement)	✓	✓	✓		
Extent of different pressure regimes (small fisheries / limited extent)	✓	✓	✓		
Monitor of coastal change (esp post storm)	✓	✓	✓		SW coastal Observatory / Wcaic?
Cumulative pressures - marine bedwents (access plans) / diversity (loss of nature)	✓	✓	✓		Poor - Process issue.
Consent process (Mar. Regs) - MMO / MCR differences (border - small scale)	✓	✓	✓		MMO coastal Cascadat / ten. clarity in Wales
Planary consistency - Should have account of / consistency	✓	✓	✓		Active ocean - use
Different legislation drivers (WBFG / low EU) - area (Brent)	✓	✓	✓		
Compatibility of policies with plan (not priorities)	✓	✓	✓		Case by case - M.P.S - marine policy - is that support?
Can we learn from SW / NW / PLMPs - success / failure (LEP1, SW...)	✓	✓	✓		LEP1 - learn from what's gone wrong.
Need for sea protection / promotion for facilities for recreation / access policies	✓	✓	✓		
Safety of navigation - combined / displacement joint plan	✓	✓	✓		in MCRS not a WFD descriptor (+) - litter / noise (boundaries)
Good SW / SW / SW - achieving this under WFD / MSFD - UK level	✓	✓	✓		
Overlapping plan - focus on MSFD in M.P.S	✓	✓	✓		PE
Compatibility of fisheries evidence base across different plan areas	✓	✓	✓		Each marine zones / copy right.
Planary coastal compatibility - MMO / MG	✓	✓	✓		Need - common approach?
Presence of data? (baseline / UK data on fisheries) / Fisheries evidence	✓	✓	✓		
Related co-location with fisheries	✓	✓	✓		North West / Ireland. (Sea Farm)
MCZ NW Proposal - proposed by fisheries / crosses border	✓	✓	✓		

Group 2 Mel Nicholls (MMO)

Lucy Taylor (SEP)

SESSION 1: Common Issues and associated evidence

What are the issues facing your sector that you think may impact across borders?
Identify those issues that have more of an effect on:
The Welsh marine plan area, the English south west marine plan area, the English north west marine plan area or a combination of marine plan areas.

Prioritise those issues that require an integrated response across borders through marine plans or alternative means.
What evidence is available to identify these issues?
What gaps in the evidence base need to be filled?

Issues	Welsh	SW	NW	Priority	Evidence/Gaps
RENEWABLES - COMPETITION	✓	✓	✓	1	SUSTAINABLE SEVERN
- KNOWLEDGE OF RES. RIGHTS	✓	✓	✓		
- IMPACT	✓	✓	✓		
LICENSING - CO-OP X-BORDER PROCESS	✓	✓	✓		MONITORING REGD OF APP CLAIMS
- MONITORING	✓	✓	✓		Standardised final review process. Land to sea gaps (!) IT.
HIST. ENV. - NO PROTECTION OF MANY ASSETS	✓	✓	✓		Post-development regulation
- DIVERSITY OF ASSETS	✓	✓	✓		Eco benefits of multi-use env.
ECOSYSTEM SERVICES	✓	✓	✓		LEGENDS BUT NEED MORE RESEARCH / EVIDENCE
MAR - NETWORK DEVELT - SEVERN 'ON' 0-4 HRS TO DO	✓	✓	✓		MGMT? HOW FAV. CONDITION? ENSURE?
- FUTURE DESIGNATION	✓	✓	✓		
GOVERNANCE - ECO SERVICES / EBA - SEVERN	✓	✓	✓		ENSURE SEP/SIS IS NOT UNDERMINED (BY THE WAY)
- TERMINOLOGY CONSISTENT?	✓	✓	✓		Ecosystem - similar - Env. Bill + WB (Future Gen)
- RESOURCES - TO CATER FOR GROWING	✓	✓	✓	1	↑ EVIDENCE ↑ PLAN EFFECTIVENESS
- MONITOR	✓	✓	✓		STATE OF N.E. RIT ENDZON?
COASTAL Δ - HABITAT MGMT	✓	✓	✓	1	SEVERN VISION
- HABITAT CREATION	✓	✓	✓		
FISHERIES - SEVERAL & REG ORDER	✓	✓	✓		LID AREAS MAP
- MAPPING LID AREAS	✓	✓	✓		
POLLUTION	✓	✓	✓		
WELL-BEING? WELSH DUTY. > 4/16	✓	✓	✓		COASTAL PATH, LEISURE / REC & TOURISM
CFX / IN-COMPO FX	✓	✓	✓		MORE ON SENSITIVITIES OF ENV. TO MULT-USE
AGRICULTURE - X-BORDER POLICIES?	✓	✓	✓	1	HRA → SEVERN - GOOD PRACTICE / WELL STUDIED
- SEASCAPE IMPACT	✓	✓	✓		- SPECIFIC, BUT SOME LESSONS
- NAT. DESIGNATIONS IMPACT	✓	✓	✓		

7.3 English-Welsh Cross-border Issues & Opportunities

Group 3 Paula Whitfield (Welsh Government)

Harriet Yates-Smith (SEP)

SESSION 1: Common Issues and associated evidence

What are the issues facing your sector that you think may impact across borders?
Identify those issues that have more of an effect on:
The Welsh marine plan area, the English south west marine plan area, the English north west marine plan area or a combination of marine plan areas.

Prioritise those issues that require an integrated response across borders through marine plans or alternative means.

What evidence is available to identify these issues?
What gaps in the evidence base need to be filled?

Issues	Welsh	SW	NW	Priority	Evidence/Gaps
Consistency of approach between marine plans - Joint planning, policy, management, monitoring, reporting, assessment, etc. - Welsh Government, English Government, Welsh Marine Plan Area, English Marine Plan Area, etc. - A whole systems approach is needed. Joint marine planning needs to be an iterative process.	✓	✓	✓	High	
Protected sites					
Economics of scale to be achieved by working together. - Difference in levels of evidence, data, etc. - Build back development - create positive, locally driven, training, etc. in a formal requirement that leads to English, Welsh, etc. exchange system, improve marine.	✓	✓	✓		2020-23, 2024-26, etc.
Need clear advice. - Different levels of involvement needed. - Welsh Government, English Government, etc.	✓	✓	✓	High	Need evidence to link up across borders. Data gaps.
Safeguarding needs + evidence to go it alone. - Policy development - consistency needed around. - Avoid anti-competitive policies across borders, necessary could run.					
Offshore wind - link to National Grid, etc. - Sea energy policy, etc.					
Produce one side of the change! - How to change industry making decisions that they shouldn't lead to.					
Dialogue kept up - communication + joint thinking. - Business case plan / with sea plan.					
Further cohesion especially in the PCC. - Governance, etc.					
Cross border group to determine clear working. - Don't want to end up closing one side for the other, etc.					
Collaborative portal - Wales / England / Scotland. - Need to involve stakeholders, etc.					Evidence depends on what is needed.
Timing of the respective plans - need to co-ordinate.					

Handwritten notes:
- Interpretation differs? language - terminology / glossary.
- How does it work? - change with? - proposed role - cross border implications.
- Key principles: evidence, consistency, working, communication, etc.

Session 2: Compatibility and Integration between Welsh and English Marine Plans (and with other plans)

Group 1 Neal Gray (MMO)

Rhoda Ballinger (Cardiff University)

Session 2. Compatibility and Integration between Welsh and English marine plans

What are the potential responses to the priority cross-border issues identified in Session 1?

Issues	Already in place?	Working well?	Marine plans?	Other plans or mechanisms?	How undertaken?
1) JOINT OVERALL STRATEGY FOR KEY ISSUES - e.g. Renewable energy	- Marine Policy Statement (UK) - High level priority - Sector Policies (Plans, Ports, Oil & Gas) - Some developed - But others not: RBMPs, UK Marine Strategy, Crown Estate Leasing Strategy, etc.	- Yes through plans but high level. - Some developed others not. - No plan for Severn + estuary strategy (not spatially resolved). - Crown Estate to develop at all issues. - Don't have Wales equivalent. - Cross border working could be better. - Management through marine licensing.	- Some of these sectors are outside remit of marine plan, e.g. O&T, Gas, defence, etc. plan don't have remit to develop. Plans have to close help to determine what constraints are. - Not a common trading mechanism for fisheries (CFM, Fisheries Role already). - Marine Plan can support the coherence of the network. - Further work on funding of cumulative impacts.	- Data evidence gathering, joint work opportunities.	
2) COASTAL CHANGE - FCERM - CLIMATE CHANGE - MONITORING	- UK Marine Strategy, Crown Estate Leasing Strategy, etc. - IFCAs have management plans - ECoN of MPA's + well managed	- Big issue with funding. - Some local plans take more account of them than others. - Huge pressures for development in high risk areas. This is not SPP's due to climate change but not funding to update / improve. UK SPP is being updated.	- Marine Plan can support the coherence of the network. - Further work on funding of cumulative impacts. - Don't have Wales equivalent. - Cross border working could be better. - Management through marine licensing.	- Data evidence gathering, joint work opportunities.	
3) PLANNING - TERMINOLOGY - COMPATIBILITY - PROCED	- SMPs, Welsh Cross Maritime Strategy, Flood Risk Management Plans, local strategies (e.g. Severn) - Working in legislation - Existing plans to look for best fit - Environmental Plans terminology - UK Sustainable Development Strategy	- Difference priorities of SD in the UK, etc. - Can't develop sector done by different teams in Wales Plan. - Different language used in documents. - Limited data - Lack of consistency in approach. - Limited data - Lack of consistency in approach. - Limited data - Lack of consistency in approach.	- Marine Plan can support the coherence of the network. - Further work on funding of cumulative impacts. - Don't have Wales equivalent. - Cross border working could be better. - Management through marine licensing.	- Data evidence gathering, joint work opportunities.	FUNDING!!!
4) EVIDENCE PORTAL COMPATIBILITY	- Portal exists but limited data on it (Wales has less than England)	- Difference priorities of SD in the UK, etc. - Can't develop sector done by different teams in Wales Plan. - Different language used in documents. - Limited data - Lack of consistency in approach.	- Marine Plan can support the coherence of the network. - Further work on funding of cumulative impacts. - Don't have Wales equivalent. - Cross border working could be better. - Management through marine licensing.	- Data evidence gathering, joint work opportunities.	
5) CUMULATIVE PRESSURE	- Existing resources on CEA by MMO, NE, etc. carrying out reports to understand issues. - Industry guidance exists (tensands) from the seas report - help to inform evidence base for CEA.	- Difference priorities of SD in the UK, etc. - Can't develop sector done by different teams in Wales Plan. - Different language used in documents. - Limited data - Lack of consistency in approach.	- Marine Plan can support the coherence of the network. - Further work on funding of cumulative impacts. - Don't have Wales equivalent. - Cross border working could be better. - Management through marine licensing.	- Data evidence gathering, joint work opportunities.	- More buy-in from Gov, dep'ts, LAs, etc. - Glossary of terms important. - Compatibility between Portals is a must!

7.3 English-Welsh Cross-border Issues & Opportunities

Group 2 Mel Nicholls (MMO)

Lucy Taylor (SEP)

SESSION 2 Compatibility and Integration between Welsh and English marine plans (and with other plans)
What are the potential responses to the priority cross-border issues identified in Session 1?

Issues	Already in place?	Working well?	Marine plans?	Other plans or mechanisms?	How undertaken?	
RENEWABLES	Wind energy, local planning, development, EIA, offshore renewable zone, industry partners, DECA, potential carbon sites	Yes, but not always. Wind energy - DECA - not always. Offshore renewable zone - industry partners - not always. DECA - not always. Potential carbon sites - not always.	Yes, but not always. Wind energy - DECA - not always. Offshore renewable zone - industry partners - not always. DECA - not always. Potential carbon sites - not always.	Yes, but not always. Wind energy - DECA - not always. Offshore renewable zone - industry partners - not always. DECA - not always. Potential carbon sites - not always.	Yes, but not always. Wind energy - DECA - not always. Offshore renewable zone - industry partners - not always. DECA - not always. Potential carbon sites - not always.	Industry led (mostly UK)
LICENSING						
HISTORIC ENV.	REAS - SHIP - CADW - EIA	Yes, but not always. REAS - SHIP - CADW - EIA	Yes, but not always. REAS - SHIP - CADW - EIA	Yes, but not always. REAS - SHIP - CADW - EIA	Yes, but not always. REAS - SHIP - CADW - EIA	Wales HER - SHIP - CADW - EIA
COASTAL CHANGE	DIAGNOSTIC - S.E.C.G. / S.U.C.C. / N.U.C.C. - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. DIAGNOSTIC - S.E.C.G. / S.U.C.C. / N.U.C.C. - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. DIAGNOSTIC - S.E.C.G. / S.U.C.C. / N.U.C.C. - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. DIAGNOSTIC - S.E.C.G. / S.U.C.C. / N.U.C.C. - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. DIAGNOSTIC - S.E.C.G. / S.U.C.C. / N.U.C.C. - S.M.P.	Wales HER - SHIP - CADW - EIA
GOVERNANCE EVIDENCE BASE RESOURCES MONITORING TERMINOLOGY (ECOSYSTEM) WELLBEING / ENV BILL (WG) FISHERIES	WELSH AREA - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. WELSH AREA - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. WELSH AREA - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. WELSH AREA - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. WELSH AREA - MARINE - S.M.P.	Wales HER - SHIP - CADW - EIA
AGGREGATES	S.M.P. - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. S.M.P. - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. S.M.P. - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. S.M.P. - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. S.M.P. - MARINE - S.M.P.	Wales HER - SHIP - CADW - EIA
COMBINATION EFFECTS	EX - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. EX - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. EX - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. EX - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. EX - MARINE - S.M.P.	Wales HER - SHIP - CADW - EIA
PAS	WELSH AREA - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. WELSH AREA - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. WELSH AREA - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. WELSH AREA - MARINE - S.M.P.	Yes, but not always. WELSH AREA - MARINE - S.M.P.	Wales HER - SHIP - CADW - EIA
UTION						

Group 3 Paula Whitfield (Welsh Government)

Harriet Yates-Smith (SEP)

Session 2

Issues

- AGGREGATES
- PROTECTED SITES
- DIFFERENT LEVELS OF EVIDENCE
- PORT DEVELOPMENT
- BRISTOL CHANNEL - FINITE RESOURCES
- CROSS BORDER DESIGNATIONS
- OFFSHORE WIND
- CONSIDERATION OF UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES.
- TIMING OF PLANS

Already in place?

Working well?

Marine plans?

Other plans or mechanisms?

How undertaken?

Statement of common goals?

7.5 Participant Feedback Form



Marine
Management
Organisation



Wales and England Cross-border Marine Planning Workshop

Participant Feedback Form

Thank you for participating in today's workshop. We would welcome feedback on your experience to enable improvements in the future.

Section 1 – Your Experience of the Day

During the day, you have experienced a range of presentations, activities and plenary sessions. Please tick the appropriate box for each question, adding comments as necessary.

	Strongly agree ---- Strongly disagree					Comments
	1	2	3	4	5	
The Welcome and Introduction provided context for me to understand my role on the day.						
The Introduction Presentation for SESSION 1: Common Issues and Associated Evidence provided me with a good understanding of how issues have been defined and identified.						
The Group Work for SESSION 1: Common Issues and Associated Evidence provided me with an adequate opportunity to contribute to the identification and prioritisation of cross-border issues (what they are, where they have an effect), and related evidence.						
The two Introduction Presentations for SESSION 2: Compatibility and Integration between Welsh and English Marine Plans (and with other plans) has given me a good understanding of the challenges in securing compatibility and integration between plans.						
The Group Work for SESSION 2: Compatibility and Integration between Welsh and English Marine Plans (and with other plans) provided me with an adequate opportunity to develop responses to cross-border						

	Strongly agree ---- Strongly disagree					Comments
	1	2	3	4	5	
issues that promote compatibility and integration of marine plans or with other alternatives.						
The Introduction Presentation for SESSION 3: Partnership Working has given me a good understanding of the role of partnership working and liaison.						
The Plenary Discussion for SESSION 3: Partnership Working provided me with an adequate opportunity to input to future work/groups/and other initiatives to facilitate partnership working between stakeholders in support of Welsh and English marine planning.						
I understand the Next Steps in the planning process to promote compatibility and integration between Welsh and English marine planning.						

Section 2 – Facilities, Accessibility and Administration

	Strongly agree ----- Strongly disagree				
	1	2	3	4	5
Before the workshop I was provided with adequate information to prepare me for the day.					
On arrival, the venue was accessible and it was easy to locate .					
There was enough refreshment provided during the day and the quality met my expectations.					

How could these events be improved in the future?

Optional:

Name:

Organisation:

Email:

7.6 Delegate Feedback Form Summary

Table 1. Section 1 Feedback – Your Experience of the Day.

	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
The Welcome and Introduction provided context for me to understand my role on the day.	2	8	2			1
The Introduction Presentation for SESSION 1: Common Issues and Associated Evidence provided me with a good understanding of how issues have been defined and identified.	1	10	2			
The Group Work for SESSION 1: Common Issues and Associated Evidence provided me with an adequate opportunity to contribute to the identification and prioritisation of cross-border issues (what they are, where they have an effect), and related evidence.	3	10	1			1
The two Introduction Presentations for SESSION 2: Compatibility and Integration between Welsh and English Marine Plans (and with other plans) has given me a good understanding of the challenges in securing compatibility and integration between plans.	2	8	2	1		
The Group Work for SESSION 2: Compatibility and Integration between Welsh and English Marine Plans (and with other plans) provided me with an adequate opportunity to develop responses to cross-border issues that promote compatibility and integration of marine plans or with other alternatives.	1	8	1	2		
The Introduction Presentation for SESSION 3: Partnership Working has given me a good understanding of the role of partnership working and liaison.	3	9	1	1		
The Plenary Discussion for SESSION 3: Partnership Working provided me with an adequate opportunity to input to future work/groups/and other initiatives to facilitate partnership working between stakeholders in support of Welsh and English marine planning.	1	9	1	1		
I understand the Next Steps in the planning process to promote compatibility and integration between Welsh and English marine planning.		4	4	2		

Table 2. Section 2 Feedback - Facilities, Accessibility and Administration.

	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Before the workshop I was provided with adequate information to prepare me for the day.	1	5	8			
On arrival, the venue was accessible and it was easy to locate.	9	3	2			
There was enough refreshment provided during the day and the quality met my expectations.	5	5	4			

Table 3. Some of the general comments received from both Section 1, Section 2 and Section 3 - How could these events be improved in the future?

Theme	Comments
Travel & logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great choice of venue - being by the sea always helps! • Excellent venue and very interesting and useful day Although unavoidable, more notice would have been beneficial i.e. travel costs • More notice of venue and agenda would have been useful to be prepared for event • Communication pre-event quite sporadic/late

7.6 Delegate Feedback Form Summary

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good chance to talk through ideas however just heard about marine plans coming to our area so more background on marine plans, lessons learnt etc., would have been beneficial and more time to talk through issues internally
Chair & facilitation of sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SEP is an excellent group to facilitate this session and for future joint working on the Wales Marine Plan and the MMO Marine Plan for the Severn Estuary • Well chaired • Well chaired day in general • Very good workshop, well chaired and facilitated, quality of discussion and detail thought provoking. Great step in right direction. • Overall a very good event in discussion sessions, many thanks • Workshop sessions a bit long • Good time for discussion – well facilitated • Good group of stakeholders
Future meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hopefully a list of regular set of meetings on Wal/Eng cross-border planning • Please repeat in 12 months time! • Next step a forum on 2 estuaries and rest of Wales (3 'Welsh Marine Areas'), so value in MMO/WG cooperation for each estuary (Dee & Severn) separately to get increased engagement. • Keen to be involved where appropriate, personally prefer face to face meetings but logistics difficult so options for virtual meetings would be helpful
Other general comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncertain on next steps but welcome future engagement, using SEP expertise where possible • Need more clarity between engagement in England and Wales plans generally and further discussion as Severn Estuary issues • WG - Only high level government coordination but a cross-border statement of intention between WG & MMO would be very welcome and helpful for levering partnership working at estuary scale • Statement of intent between WG and MMO providing collaboration framework. Resolution mechanism needed for divergent policies. • It would be really useful to circulate a list of attendees, their names and roles in respect of the Severn. Half the problem is a lack of knowledge of contact details into sectoral specialists on different banks of the estuary • A list of key people on either side of the border would be useful • Useful event for good networking opportunities