



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Welsh National Marine Plan: General Update & Cross Border Work

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The draft WNMP content

- Introduction – setting the scene / context
- Vision & objectives for the Welsh Marine Area.
- General Policies: overarching – cross cutting policies
- Environment Act; Wellbeing Future generations; SD, Ecosystem based approach etc.
- Sector specific policies
- Supporting documents / Evidence / Guidance

The draft WNMP – General Policies

- **GEN_01:** Presumption in favour of the sustainable development of the plan area.. to contribute to Wales' well-being goals.
- **GEN_02:** Relevant public authorities should take a proportionate, risk-based approach....
- **Social** (communities, access, historical, seascape, flooding, climate etc);
- **Governance** (e.g. cumulative effects and cross border);
- **Environment** (marine ecosystems, MPAs; bio-security; litter; noise & air / water quality);
- **Science** (sound evidence, risk based, adaptive management etc).

General Policies will apply to all decisions (where relevant)

The draft WNMP – Sector Policies

Sector Policies are set out for the diverse types of activity that occur in our seas, including:



Aggregates



Aquaculture



Defence



Dredging
& disposal



Fisheries



Renewable
energy



Oil & gas



Ports &
shipping



Subsea
cabling



Surface
waste water



Tourism
& recreation

- **‘Safeguarding’** - to help ensure each sector considers each others needs and do not compromise areas of importance. Encourages co-existence etc
- **‘Supporting’** - to encourage sustainable growth via general support, or within areas with good potential for future activities

WNMP - Timeline

- Consultation closed - April 2018
- Summary of Responses - July 2018
- Stakeholder workshops - July-Sept 2018
- Adoption - Spring 2019?

NB. The WNMP is arguably a “relevant consideration” in decision making now (MPS) but will fully take effect on adoption

WNMP – Summary of Responses

- Key themes:
 - Sustainable development
 - Strategic Resource Areas
 - Evidence for planning
 - Cross border management



“Strategic Resource Areas (spatial prescription) and Sustainable Development were key themes throughout. SRA’s - respondents broadly welcomed the concept, but commented on the need for greater clarity on their practical application in decision-making. Also there is a need to define SD, Blue Growth and related terminology”

“respondents welcomed the focus of the plan and noted the challenges due to marine plans across the UK and Ireland being at different stages of development. However some requested a more transparent / joined-up approach, particularly in the shared estuarine waters of the Severn and Dee. We are committed to cross border working and collaboration and will continue to work closely with other marine planning authorities.”

WNMP Cross border Policy

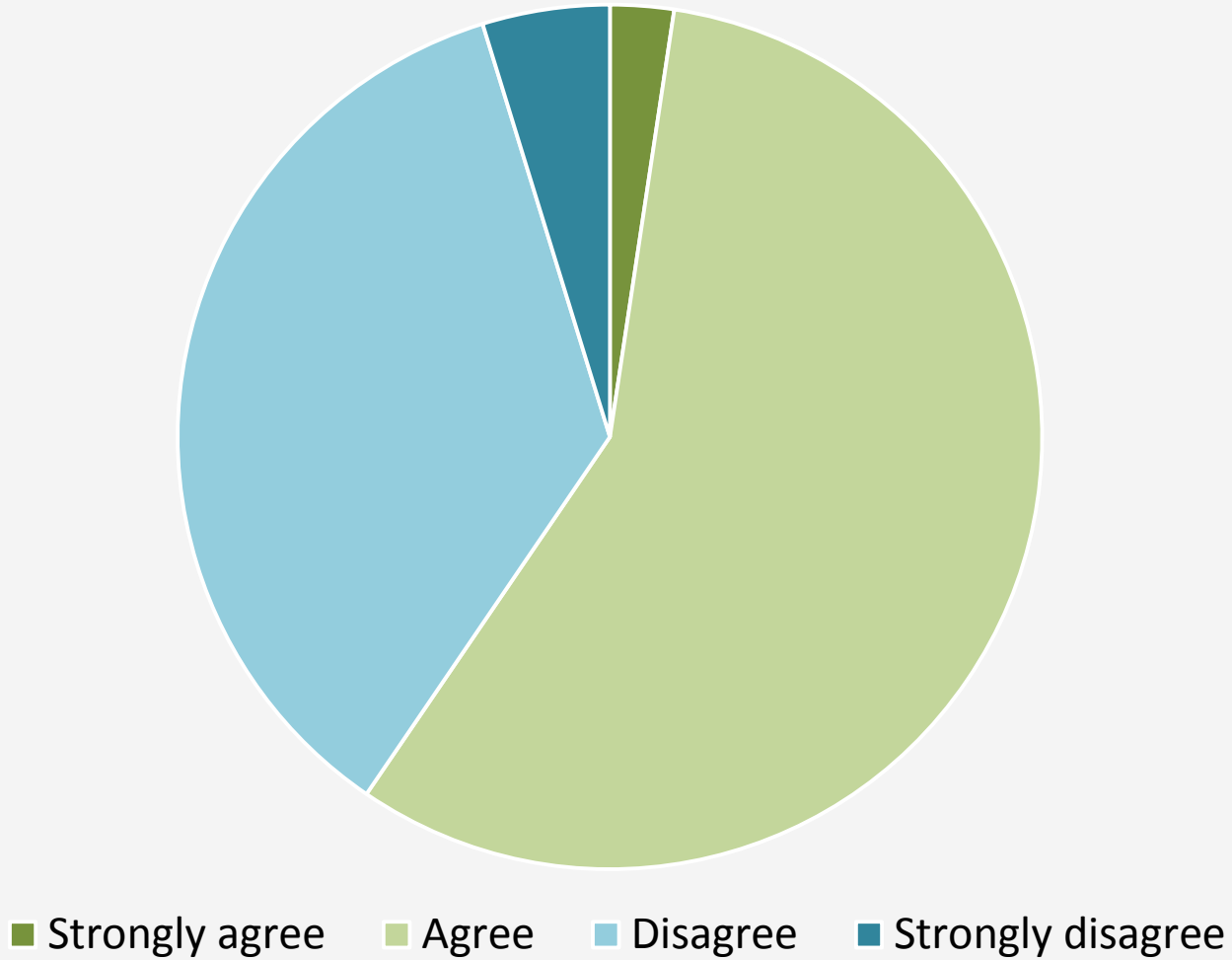
- Policy Gov 02

“Relevant public authorities . . . should have regard to:

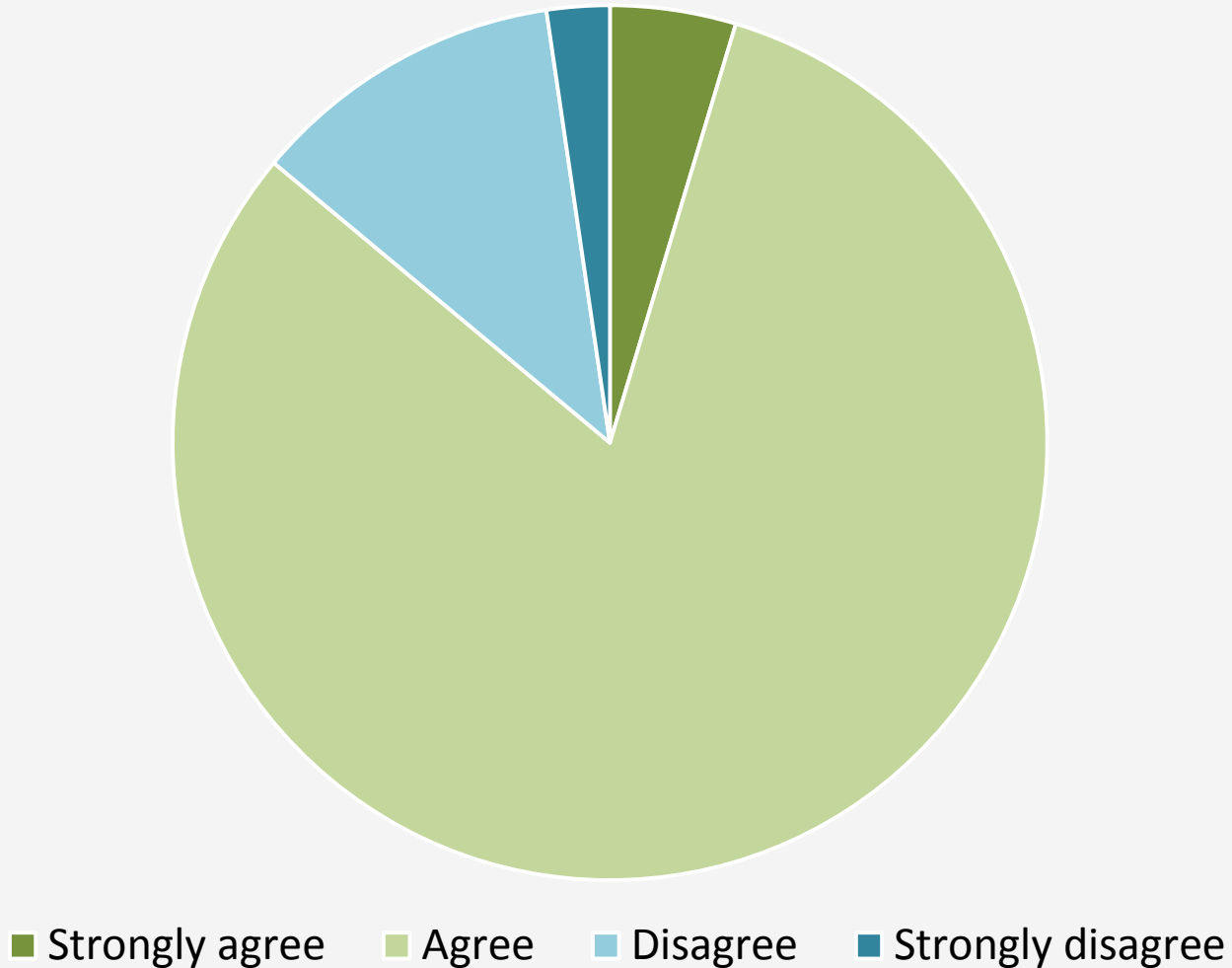
- *Any applicable policy in a relevant marine plan*
- *Any applicable policy in relevant terrestrial plans or related documents . . .”*

English NW & SW plans, adjacent LA plans, joint estuarine area plans / agreements

The draft WNMP sufficiently considers cross-border marine planning challenges and opportunities, particularly in areas where Wales adjoins England



The draft WNMP can support the integration between land and sea management and contribute to the principles of Integrated Coastal Zone Management



Consultation responses - Issues for consideration

- More clarity in certain sections of the plan on cross-border impacts
- Consideration of cross-border matters in implementation guidance
- Need for guidance & training, update of Technical Advice Notes
- More transparent, joined-up approach – particularly in Severn & Dee Estuary areas
- How to encourage / facilitate cross border working for future management?

Q. Should there be a separate policy in regard to cross-border marine compatibility?

- Gov 02 – the intent and content are there but it is hidden because the policy is called “Wales’ well-being goals” This title confuses things
- Need to clarify reference to well-being in this cross-border context
- Clarify the policy wording/narrative
- Amend the title of policy Gov 02

Decision: Do not need a new policy or to separate the existing policy.

Q. Mechanisms to support further cross-border collaboration?

- There are already mechanisms in place to allow discussion with other administrations.
- The 'plan' process is different from the 'decision-making' process. Maybe there needs to be more discussion on the decision-making process to improve cross-border integration
- Would need to fully consider the purpose and value of any new group before establishing

Decision: Not necessary to establish any new cross-border groups at this stage - Focus on ways of working.

Proposed amendments

- Condense plan
- Separation of guidance from policy
- Additional references to cross-border implications in sector chapters
- Further identification of neighbouring plan areas & expansion of references
- Discuss with terrestrial policy leads
- Consult with other relevant plan authorities

Severn & Dee Estuary areas

- Attendance at Dee & Severn Estuary group meetings
- Regular meetings/telecons with MMO
- Keeping up to date on NW & SW cross-border policy development
- Commitment to working together on implementation and future decision-making
- Discussion on joint evidence gathering and monitoring/reporting
- Explore options for *future development* of joint sub-national plans for Dee and Severn

Post-consultation cross-border stakeholder engagement

- 4th & 5th Jul, Llandudno – WG stakeholder workshop
- 21st Aug, Chester – WG-MMO joint workshop
– Northwest Coastal Forum/Dee Estuary Group
- Telecons with MMO NW & SW planning teams

Planned:

- 8th Oct, Buckley – Tidal Dee Catchment Partnership meeting
- **9th Oct, Newport – Severn Estuary Forum**

Countdown to the WNMP



Any questions?

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