

Communities

Calling all those with an interest in local coastal and marine areas



What is Marine Planning?

Marine planning is a new approach to the management of our seas. It aims to ensure a sustainable future for coastal and offshore waters through managing and balancing the many activities, resources and natural features of our marine environment.

Marine planning follows a similar approach to terrestrial planning – setting the direction for policies at a local level. These plans are used by public authorities as part of the decision making process for all new activities and developments affecting the marine area.

The MMO values the expert opinions of coastal communities in helping to develop policies for the new South West Marine Plan; the Plan that will shape the ways our seas are used for years to come. All operators and regulators will be expected to work to the same Plan to make decision-making as fair and as transparent as possible.

It is therefore essential that coastal communities are aware of, and understand, the implications of the new South West Marine Plan as it is developed.

Marine Planning in the Severn

The Severn Estuary is a single waterbody covered by two marine planning systems. The South West Marine Plan is being developed by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and the Welsh National Marine Plan is being developed by Welsh Government (WG).

Why Does Marine Planning Matter to Communities?

No one knows the local Severn Estuary coastline better than the people who live, work and play there. Do you have views on how your local coastal and marine area should be managed alongside other marine activities in the future?

How Can You Get Involved?

We want to make sure that everyone has the opportunity for their voices to be heard. To play your part in the development of the South West Marine Plan, you can join in on a series of events this Spring, including the **MMO's South West Marine Plan Workshop**, 7th February 2019, in Taunton. SEP will be there!

Visit the Severn Estuary Partnership website to find out more on Marine Planning in the Severn Estuary and the event above: severnestuarypartnership.org.uk

If you want to find out more information in the meantime, do not hesitate to contact the MMO team at: planning@marinemanagement.org.uk or the WG team at: marineplanning@wales.gsi.gov.uk



Who are the Severn Estuary Partnership?

We work with all stakeholders to promote a sustainable approach to the planning, management and development of the Severn Estuary for those who live and work here, and for our future generations.

Find out more about what we do: [@SevernEstuary](https://twitter.com/SevernEstuary) Severn@cardiff.ac.uk [SevernEstuaryPartnership](https://www.facebook.com/SevernEstuaryPartnership)

