

## CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Please identify the main area of interest you identify with :

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

Other (Please state) *Local Community*

Comments

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

Comments

The document suggests "yes" but there is a long road to travel before the various policies are addressed.

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

Comments

I think it might, especially through initiatives such as the Shetland Marine Spatial Plan; but I don't see integration between the systems mentioned in the document.

**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?**

Comments

Yes, if the policies are addressed fully.

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

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

Comments

I have no intimate knowledge of these areas but it seems a reasonable approach

**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?**

Comments

The Fair Isle community will welcome a lot of the statements in the document, e.g. acknowledging quality of life, well-being, vibrant communities, "fair and just", ecosystem services including tourism and recreation, etc. But these need to be more than mere words. Fair Isle has yet to see GEN 8 – *all interests should be able to participate on an equal basis in the planning & decision making process* - applied to its marine environment. In 20+ years of trying, the Fair Isle community still has no say in how its marine area is managed despite a healthy natural marine resource being essential to the long term stability of the community. We wait with baited breath to see whether the NMP will change that.

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

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

Comments

More recognition is needed of the importance of a healthy marine resource for the socio-economic well-being of small coastal communities.

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

Comments

Chapters 1-3 contain many statements which mirror what the Fair Isle community has been saying for years, and closely parallel some of the text

in Fair Isle's MPA proposal. This is encouraging because it takes Scotland away from the simplistic perception that the marine resource is purely about oil, fishing & renewable energy. But the proof of the pudding will be the extent to which the policies within the Plan are enacted and meet their sustainability objectives.

### **General Planning Policies**

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

Comments

The General policies recognise a number of issues close to the heart of the Fair Isle community. *If implemented*, they will bring social, economic & wider benefits not just to our community but, we believe, to small communities around the Scottish coasts. But they do need to be implemented.

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

Comments

It is good to see landscape/seascape recognised as a marine value.

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

Comments

### **Guide to Sector Chapters**

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

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

Comments

### **Sea Fisheries**

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

Comments

Displacement (page 48): there is no reference to the potential gains from refuge areas – a management technique used successfully in many parts of the world not only to protect stock but leading to enhanced fishing prospects adjacent to the refuge zone.

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

Comments

### **Aquaculture**

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

Comments

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

Comments

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

Comments

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

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

Comments

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

Comments

### **Oil & Gas**

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

Comments

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

Comments

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

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

Comments

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

Comments

### **Offshore Renewable Energy**

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

Comments

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

Comments

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

Comments

### **Recreation and Tourism**

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

Comments

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

Comments There should be a policy which acknowledges the need to

maintain or enhance the wildlife and/or wilderness qualities which attract so many people to Scotland's coasts.

### **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?**

Comments

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

Comments

Small communities may be alarmed to read predictions *that cruise liners are to increase in size*. Cruise ships make a significant contribution to the Fair Isle economy but the larger boats are too large to call in. All interests should be catered for, not just the big centres such as large coastal ports.

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

Comments

### **Telecommunication Cables**

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

Comments

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

Comments

### **Defence**

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

Comments

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

Comments

### **Aggregates**

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

Comments

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

Comments

### **Business and Regulatory**

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

Comments

### **Equality**

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

Yes  No

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

Comments

### **Sustainability Appraisal**

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

Comments The Fair Isle community does not feel that enough recognition has been given to the benefits to coastal communities beyond oil, fishing & renewable energy. Fair Isle depends hugely on wildlife tourism, much of it linked to the marine. For many small coastal communities a rich

environment and fully functioning ecosystem underwrites the entire social and economic structure.