



**Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting Agenda**

**30<sup>th</sup> June 2015, 10:00am – 12:30pm**

James Watt A room, Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw

Glasgow, G2 8LU **Tel: 0300 244 6888**

<https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/150+Broomielaw,+Glasgow,+Glasgow+City+G2+8LU/@55.857411,-4.2648577,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m2!3m1!1s0x4888469cb0813c9d:0x9c9d202e6f44e4f8>

		<b>Time</b>	<b>Lead</b>
	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	09:30	
1	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	10:00	Isabel Glasgow
2	<b>Minutes and Action Points from last meeting</b>	10:05	IG
3	<b>Clyde Marine Planning Partnership – Governance</b>	10:15	IG/Fiona Mills
4	<b>Project updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clyde 2020</li> <li>- Recreation and Tourism study</li> <li>- Sea Level Rise</li> <li>- Assessment for Clyde Regional Marine Plan (CRMP)</li> </ul>	11:15	Sarah Brown/FM
5	<b>Updates from Chair and Core Group members</b>	12:00	All
7	<b>Any Other Business</b>	12:15	All
8	<b>Future Meeting Date</b>	12:25	All
9	<b>Close</b>	12:30	All



**Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting  
30 June 2015  
Scottish Government offices, Atlantic Quay, Glasgow**

**PRESENT**

Isabel Glasgow (IG), FoCF Chair  
 Sarah Brown (SB), FoCF Project Manager  
 Fiona Mills (FM), FoCF Project Manager  
 Sinead Sheridan (SS), FoCF Marine Planning Coordinator  
 John Esslemont (JE), South Ayrshire Council  
 Rhona Fairgrieve (RF), Scottish Coastal Forum  
 Roger Horne (RH), Peel Ports Clydeport  
 Arthur Keller (AK), SNH  
 Dan Moncrieff (DM) Field Studies Council  
 Graham Russell (GR), RYAS  
 Kenny McNab (KM), Clyde Fishermen's Association (CFA)  
 Elaine Whyte (EW), CFA  
 Eamonn Campbell, Glasgow City Council  
 Toby Wilson (TW), RSPB  
 Anna Donald (AD), Marine Scotland (MS)  
 Morag Campbell (MC), MS  
 Mark Steward (MS), A&B Council

**APOLOGIES**

Michelle McGuckin, Clydeplan  
 Wendy Geary Marine Scotland  
 Paul Bancks, The Crown Estate  
 Allan Whyte, RSPB  
 Olivia Burns, LLTNP  
 Donald McLaren CYCA  
 Carolyn Elder, British Marine Federation  
 Rebecca Dean, Scottish Salmon Company  
 Alan Bell, LLTNP  
 Alasdair Henderson, CalMac

**1) Welcome and apologies**

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting. The recent death of Ken Clark was announced and the Core Group acknowledged his valuable contribution to the forum. RH stated that Peel Ports Clydeport will remain committed to the Forum. The Chair then introduced the new FoCF Marine Planning Co-ordinator, Sinead Sheridan, to the Core Group and all attendees introduced themselves.

**2) Minutes and action points from last meeting**

Reference	Summary	Lead
01/11/03/2015	Add MSc project as an agenda item for next meeting.	FM- Will continue to pursue this for the next academic year. Possible opportunity with the new MASTS MP group
02/11/03/2015	Governance - FM to update following discussions and submit Option One to Marine Scotland.	FM - discharged
03/11/03/2015	Assessment - Core Group to provide data to fill these gaps in the pressures and impacts section.	Core Group Members - Ongoing within 'Productive' section
04/11/03/2015	Assessment - RD to send links to information about aquaculture.	RD - ongoing within 'Productive' section
05/11/03/2015	Assessment - CFA to send any additional information about the economic impact of fisheries in the Clyde area.	CFA - ongoing within 'Productive' section

06/11/03/2015	Assessment - FM to follow up with FSC Millport re plankton and vessel movement data sets and with Marine Scotland on ecosystem services.	FM – discharged, plankton report due from MS and FSC has sent temperature data.
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### 3) Clyde Marine Planning Partnership – Governance

Stakeholder concerns regarding the governance of the Clyde Marine Planning Partnership (CMPP) were circulated to the group. FM highlighted the feedback from Peel Ports Clydeport as requiring a separate meeting to discuss; this had been arranged but was postponed due to the death of Ken Clark. AD commented that Marine Scotland (MS) is still looking into the legality of delegating powers, but are looking to delegate to wider CMPP, not the Board. It would be up to the wider CMPP to agree a decision-making mechanism.

#### Discussion:

- There was a general discussion about the appointment of individuals or representatives of an organisation to the CMPP Board.
- Staffing issues could arise if membership is attached to an individual. Additionally, appointing an individual from an organisation may be in conflict with the constitution of their organisation (e.g. CFA, where they are required to report back and get agreement from their organisation).
- The Board would be a dispute resolution mechanism, and as such should be separate from the delegated authority. To avoid a conflict of interest and inability to remain independent, there shouldn't be any crossover of membership between the two groups. Members of the Board could be present as observers at meetings of the delegated authority, to ensure clarity on all issues.
- There would only be a need for the Board to meet and take decisions if consensus amongst the delegated authority couldn't be reached. The Board would ideally have six to ten members.
- Delegation to the delegated authority seems to fit within the letter and spirit of the Act. MS to check the legal implications.
- Individuals on the Board would need to operate without prejudice to their roles out with the board. This could be enforced through instituting a professional code of conduct agreement and declaring any conflicts of interest.
- While the delegated authority would represent most of the relevant sectors, the Board could be made up of individuals with differing skills to the delegated authority such as decision-making skills and experience in areas such as finance and planning.
- There could be a danger of losing members and expertise of the Core Group to the Board- there was a suggestion that Board posts could be advertised. It was advised that MS would view this as the equivalent of a quango, which it could not approve. Additionally such a process would add to unnecessary costs and bureaucracy.
- It was proposed that the Dundas and Wilson model was the fairest way of representing all interests and prevents individual sector interests sway decisions. This would entail electing or co-opting individuals on the basis of their intellect and expertise.
- Elections of Board members would need to happen at regular intervals to be defined in the constitution. As it will be a new process and may need to be reviewed, the first Board could have a short term.
- There is Scottish Government advice and legislation on how to choose people for a trust/charity Board, as well as various national examples of this in practice

which could be of use. Systems are already in place which we should consider using.

- The governance process will be monitored by MS, who can offer advice on practice. MS will also need to be autonomous due to relationship with Ministers, but MS would alert the CMPP if there was anything flawed in the governance or plan-making process.
- There could be an independent investigation into the RMP if it was felt to be needed by stakeholders. This has been done for the National Marine Plan (NMP). Any judicial review to the RMP would go to Ministers; if this was upheld then MS would need to review the plan.

**Action (1):** FM to write a draft CMPP constitution and circulate to the Core Group for comments.

#### **4) Project updates**

**Clyde 2020** – The action plan has been agreed and signed off by the Steering Group. There has been feedback from the Chair of the Research Advisory Group (RAG) on the Action Plan. SB will continue work on Clyde 2020. There has been progress in the development of the RAG; terms of reference (TORs) have now been written and positions will be advertised in due course. TW asked if there had been any prioritisation of actions listed in the action plan. SB responded that there is colour coding and High/Medium/Low priorities set. In response to KM, who asked what was the likelihood of getting funding; SB commented that several options are being investigated. MS will provide some money which will enable administrative support and fundraising. External funds will also be sought, through mechanisms such as the European Maritime Fisheries Fund and SG.

**Marine recreation and tourism data collection** – This project has continued to be challenging. Data and maps from the Pentland Firth pilot study at the draft stage and look promising. From a marine planning perspective, this level of data is excellent as it is a huge improvement on what we currently know about marine tourism and recreation. The project website will launch on the first of August and several events and workshops have been planned for later in the summer. GR mentioned that he had been working on collating AIS data in the Firth of Clyde, which was more detailed than Royal Yacht Association Scotland (RYAS) information on vessel movements and type.

**Action (2):** SB to circulate the AIS paper to LUC and Graeme Seggie (Masters student) to see what finer level of detail could be gained.

**Sea Level Rise** – There have been difficulties in getting the finalised report handed over from the consultants – this has just been received this week and will be sent out to the steering group for review. The report will be published as an SNH commissioned report and although it has not yet been finalised, some data from it has been used already in contributing to the Clydeplan climate change adaptation workshops, and in a pre-application meeting for the proposed development at the Exxon site near Bowling as part of infrastructure investment under the City Deal.

**Clyde Regional Marine Plan Assessment** – FM thanked Core Group members for the comments received on the assessment so far and encouraged those who hadn't done so yet to submit comments. Several outstanding questions raised in the document circulated about format and style were answered including agreement on the use of indicator arrows to show if the status of different issues was improving, degrading or remaining the same. RH commented that it would be worth spending some time at the next meeting to develop a common understanding of Ecosystem Services amongst the Core Group and further suggested that all members try and gain some insight into this before the next meeting. AD highlighted that the European Environmental Agency has

produced some informative work on this. It was noted that as the assessment will be a public document, it should be as accessible as possible and terminology should not be a barrier. It was commented that Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) should be assessed, (this has not been done in the Marine Atlas). GR and AK stated that Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) have information on this, which would contribute to this section. MS commented that the assessment should acknowledge pressures that are being managed and not having a huge negative impact. GR and AD mentioned that positive impacts of certain pressures should also be discussed. AK suggested that this approach is useful especially when considering trends.

The grading for the 'Seabed Geology' chapter was discussed. This section is difficult to assess as geology is not changing and species and habitats, which are dynamic and affected by various pressures are mentioned elsewhere. However, morphology (of sediments etc.) can be impacted by activities. It was agreed that the assessment box would be split between 'Not Applicable' and 'sediments' to enable the impact on sediments to be assessed.

It was discussed that the 'Productive – Pressures and Impacts' section should be sub-contracted out in order to ensure that the assessment is delivered in a timely manner. This section has been chosen as it is quite separate from the rest of the assessment and is also the section which will require the most input from Core Group members. The Core Group requested to view the TORs to be sent to consultants so they would have time to prepare their input into this section.

**Action (3):** FM to write TORs for leasing of contract to consultants for work on 'Productive' section and circulate to Core Group.

**Action (4):** Core Group to submit suggestions for suitable consultants for the 'Productive' section

**Action (5):** SB to research geology work done in the Firth of Lorne SAC for the 'Seabed Geology' chapter.

**Action (6):** SS to write up a summary of explanation of ecosystem services and how they are relevant to the CRMP to be circulated to Core Group.

**Action (7):** FM/SS to arrange for a short session on Ecosystem Services for the next meeting.

#### **5) Updates from Chair and core group**

**Chair** - IG summarised the findings of a National Ecosystem Assessment dialogue event she, FM and SS had recently attended. The event presented the findings of a national study looking at people's knowledge and perceptions of what Ecosystem Services are and how this needs to be incorporated into policy on a national scale. She highlighted that it would be useful to incorporate the findings of this study into the marine planning process, especially when considering engaging the general public. FM noted that an engagement and communication strategy is currently in development by SS and should be ready to present at the next Core Group meeting.

**Action (8):** SS to finalise a draft CMPP communications and engagement strategy to be circulated to the Core Group.

**Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)** – The RSPB has been continuing their work on the MPA network and management measures. RSPB is involved in the proposed development on the old Exxon Mobil site at Bowling, and are keen to see how this progresses. A colony of rare sandwich terns has settled on Hunterston lagoons. RSPB are campaigning to ensure that a current review of the habitats directive, which underpins SPAs, does not lead to them being weakened.

**Marine Scotland** – AD commented that the planning team is focusing on lessons learned through the NMP process. A broader audience will be invited to review the NMP process to feed into what went well and what didn't work. This review will go up

on the MS website. The planning team is also looking at ensuring that public authorities are aware they are covered by the plan. MS will communicate with them to make sure they all know. In addition the planning team is working with licensing colleagues so that their case managers have information on how the plan is working. On regional planning, the statutory instrument on regional boundaries has been passed through parliament. MS are now working on Governance for Clyde and Shetland. Potential funding opportunities are being looked at, which will require creative thinking to try and align these with what we need to do. Any feedback on this process would be welcome.

MC mentioned that she and WG would be looking at how Local Authorities will work with MPPs on regional marine plans.

**Peel Ports Clydeport** – Recruitment has begun to fill the position left by the loss of Ken Clark, with the hope of appointing someone in the near future. The Clyde Leisure Navigation Guide has been updated and has been welcomed by the marine leisure sector. Peel Ports Clydeport Port Director left at the beginning of June, and has been replaced by Andrew Hemphill whose appointment has been widely welcomed. Peel Ports Clydeport attended the INNS stakeholder forum in Edinburgh recently. Marine INNS were not represented well, however there was good general understanding that marine INNS are harder to control and we need to have effective measures to ensure they don't spread.

**Scottish Natural Heritage** – a new tranche of MPAs is in progress. SNH is also involved in the review of Natura; their Chief Executive has been seconded to Brussels and is on the review board. SNH have utilised data and information in the sea level rise report produced by the Forum in response to flood management plans. SNH are also advising on the proposed City Deal development at the old Exxon Mobil site in Bowling.

**Argyle and Bute (A&B) Council** – A&B council local development plan was adopted last month. Within this a lot of supplementary guidance has been adopted on aquaculture and marine development. Work on the next local development plan has now begun, and Marine Scotland is now an agency directly involved in this. In regard to marine planning, Mark Steward has been raising awareness of marine planning at senior management level generally and also has been asked to consider what the implications are for A&B council. He has also been involved in training on the National Marine Plan. The announcement on MPA management measures has been of interest, and the council will be responding to the consultation on this.

**Clyde Fishermen's Association**- CFA has recently had their AGM, which went well. The Association has also been responding to the MPA management measures announcement; this will have a massive impact on their membership. The CFA will also be meeting with the Minister on this and liaising with other inland and coastal community organisations. CFA has also been liaising with SSE in regard to cable laying in the Clyde. A lot of work has been done to the CFA website and Facebook and Twitter pages have been created, hopefully this will aid in growing membership. Further to this, the CFA has established a training fund and is supporting a scheme from the Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF) to encourage young adults to pursue fishing as a career. CFA is working on the discards ban and the possible implications to this on members. They are also looking at conducting their own socio-economic study in response to the GRID economics report.

**South Ayrshire Council** – The council is currently working on improving flood defence strategies.

**RYA Scotland** – The expanded pontoon at Campbeltown has been officially opened. RYA Scotland has been looking into the conflict between flame shell beds and anchorage sites at the Loch Fyne and Loch Goil MPA at Port Anne and Otterferry. There appears to be no overlap, so they consider this a non-issue. They are happy to work with the process to demonstrate this. It may be useful for FoCF to be involved in brokering an agreement on the South Arran MPA should the need arise.

**Field Studies Council (FSC)** – the FSC took over Millport nearly a year and a half ago. The new building is officially being opened on the 1 July. The centre has seen an increase of 30 % in learners and income. So far, £ 3.2 million worth of development has been completed and development is continuing into the next phase.

**Glasgow City Council** – GCC have been working on the City Deal project. £ 113 million has been allocated against constructing quay walls, bridges and walkways along the waterfront. The council hopes to improve community engagement and they would be keen to share information and knowledge with the forum.

**Scottish Coastal Forum** – RF explained that she had recently returned from secondment in Brussels where she was working on the EC Maritime Spatial Planning Directive.

#### 6) Summary of Actions

Reference	Summary	Lead
01/30/06/2015	Governance - Write a draft constitution for the Clyde Marine Planning Partnership and circulate to the Core Group for comments.	FM
02/30/06/2015	Circulate the AIS paper to LUC and Graham Seggie (Masters student) to see what finer level of detail could be gained.	SB
03/30/06/2015	Assessment - Draft Terms of Reference for consultants for the Productive section of the CMPP Assessment and circulate to Core Group for comments.	FM
04/30/06/2015	Assessment - Core Group to submit suggestions for suitable consultants to work on the 'Productive' section	Core Group members
05/30/06/2015	Assessment - Research geology work done in the Firth of Lorne SAC for the 'Seabed Geology' chapter.	SB
06/30/06/2015	Assessment - Summarise explanation of ecosystem services and how they are relevant to the CRMP to be circulated to Core Group.	SS
07/30/06/2015	Arrange for a short session on Ecosystem Services for the next meeting.	FM,SS
08/30/06/2015	CMPP - Finalise a draft CMPP communications and engagement strategy	SS, SB & FM

#### 7) Future meeting date

Wednesday 7 October. Time TBC.

