



## Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting

11<sup>th</sup> March, 2015

GCVSDPA Office, Lower Ground Floor, 125 West Regent Street,

Glasgow, G2 2SA Tel: 0141 229 7730

<http://maps.google.co.uk/maps/place?q=G2+2SA&hl=en&ftid=0x4888442748beda7b:0xf5b86e716dd8b2c0> Please note this is a basement office.

### Agenda

		<b>Time</b>	<b>Lead</b>
	Lunch/Tea/Coffee	12.30	
1	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	13:00	Isabel Glasgow
2	<b>Minutes and Action Points from last meeting</b>	13.05	IG
3	<b>Project Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clyde 2020</li> <li>- Recreation &amp; Tourism study</li> <li>- Sea Level Rise</li> <li>- Marine INNS – Biosecurity Training</li> </ul>	13:15	Sarah Brown/ FM
4	<b>Clyde Marine Planning Partnership - Governance</b>	13:45	Fiona Mills
5	<b>Clyde Regional Marine Plan - Assessment</b>	14:45	Fiona Mills
6	<b>Updates from Chair and Core Group Members</b>	15:15	ALL
7	<b>AOB</b>	15:45	ALL
8	<b>Date of next meeting, agenda items</b>	15:55	ALL
9	Close	16:00	ALL



**Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Meeting  
11 March 2015  
GCVSDPA, Glasgow**

**PRESENT**

Isabel Glasgow (IG), FoCF Chair  
 Sarah Brown (SB), FoCF Project Manager  
 Fiona Mills (FM), FoCF Project Manager  
 John Esslemont (JE), South Ayrshire Council  
 Rebecca Dean (RD), Scottish Salmon Company  
 Roger Horne (RH), Peel Ports Clydeport  
 Paul Bancks (PB), The Crown Estate  
 Arthur Keller (AK), SNH  
 Dan Moncrieff (DM) FSC  
 Graham Russell (GR), RYAS  
 Kenny McNab (KM), Clyde Fishermen's Association  
 Allan Whyte (AW), RSPB

**APOLOGIES**

Michelle Carroll, GCVSDPA  
 Wendy Geary, Marine Scotland  
 Eamonn Campbell, Glasgow City Council  
 Mark Steward, A&B Council  
 Olivia Burns, LLTNP  
 Donald McLaren CYCA  
 Carolyn Elder, Largs Marina

**1) Welcome and apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and attendees introduced themselves.

**2) Minutes and Actions from last meeting**

SB expressed apologies for not circulating the previous minutes – they will be circulated with these minutes for any comments.

**Action points**

Reference	Summary	Lead
5/1/11/2013	IG to contact relevant councils once the regional boundaries have been agreed. <b>Update</b> – Regional boundaries agreement not finalised – central guidance has not yet been finalised so letter to Local Authorities is held in abeyance.	IG ongoing
4/6/8/2014	Stakeholders and Local Authorities to consider resources they could make available during RMP development.  FM is working with FSC on a potential MSc project, Clydeport happy to provide data and support and an open offer of in-kind support from Crown Estate.  Action: Add as an agenda item for next meeting.	FM
1/5/11/2014	FM to co-ordinate a meeting with Planning Aid Scotland.	FM  Not at the appropriate stage yet – hold in abeyance until

		needed.
2/5/11/2014	FM to coordinate a meeting to discuss the governance issues. Members of the core group are welcome. FM to circulate dates.	FM - discharged
3/5/11/2014	SB to send MMM proposal to GR for comment.	SB - discharged
4/5/11/2014	SB to work on volunteer proposal including investigating partnerships with TCV/SNH/Volunteer Scotland	SB - discharged
5/5/11/2014	AK and SB to discuss implications of the proposal to run biosecurity training in the Clyde.	AK/SB - discharged
6/5/11/2014	FM to add text to Climate Ready Clyde consultation response.	FM - discharged

### 3) Project Updates

#### Clyde 2020

The role of FOCF to date has been to co-ordinate the creation of a Steering Group and action plan. The Steering Group has now met - minutes and a revised agreed Action Plan are with Marine Scotland for approval and will be circulated in due course. Marine Scotland has confirmed funding contribution so that the project can continue. FOCF staff do not currently have the capacity to fulfil this additional work and therefore the work will be subcontracted in due course.

**Tourism and Recreation Data** – frustrations in delivery are starting to be resolved. This remains a difficult project.

**Sea Level Rise** – draft final report to come on Monday. Issues with LiDAR data have been worked around rather than overcome and the inner Clyde aspect of the project will not be as detailed as we would have liked. The Clydeplan Main Issues Report is now out for consultation and FoCF have been involved in drafting the SNH response rather than issuing our own consultation response. SEPA Flood Risk Management Characterisation Reports and Objectives are now open for consultation. The final sea level rise report to be circulated in due course.

**Marine INNS** – Training at SEPA and NRW went very well. Roger Horne has meeting notes from the Marine Pathways meeting and these will be circulated with the meeting notes.

### 4) Clyde Marine Planning Partnership (CMPP)

Further discussions have led to the paper circulated with options for governance. The group is very likely to be a statutory consultee for licensing for the Clyde. Each year we are expecting around 50 licensing applications. In essence the CMPP will be a voluntary body creating a statutory plan. It will not be the licensing authority.

Discussion

- how will projects which are relevant to the management of the Clyde but which are not best solved by 'planning' measures be dealt with e.g. projects which could be resolved by guidance, voluntary agreements etc.?
- There are concerns also about the ability of plans to deal with a continually changing business and ecological environment. The Regional Marine Plan will not be that specific – the plan will need to work more at an overarching,

strategic level. The RMP will provide a framework for decision making based on the National Marine Plan. It will be a fluid and iterative process which is adaptable on a local scale.

- One of the challenges is that what we do here is going to have a significant influence on how other regions are shaped.
- What will happen when applications are turned down on the basis of the statutory plan CMPP creates? When the decision making process is questioned at Judicial Review it could overturn the whole plan if the decision making process is not robust.
- Concerns were expressed about the need to ensure some distance between the individuals and the constituencies they represent.
- Pentland Firth/Orkney Waters have a good model which we could learn from. Their plan is non statutory but will be accepted as supplementary guidance.
- The process of marine planning should take into account all of the existing plans and information and distil the useful information for use in the Plan.
- We should not waste too much time analysing the detail at this time, we should take a considered approach and move forward.
- It should be noted that the decision making structure is designed to be used when there is conflict ie when decisions could not be reached in smaller forums.
- Alternates could be used to ensure that representatives are available for meetings.
- There are eleven people (approximately) in each option. If other people, not listed, who have particular expertise, were to become known then they could be co-opted.
- Information needs to be included about how it was decided who will be the permanent members and when this decision will be reviewed.
- RSPB is keen to be represented as themselves which leaves an issue for Environment LINK.

Option 1 preferred – will be adapted following the discussion and FoCF will submit the proposal to Marine Scotland who will check it with their lawyers and respond.

Option 2 – voting members would need to be ‘individuals nominated by’ rather than individuals representing organisations. This option could be explored further if option 1 was not agreeable to MS.

**Action:** FM to update following discussions and submit Option One to Marine Scotland.

## 5) Regional Marine Plan – Assessment

The first step in the marine planning process is underway. Shetland have been able to provide something of a lead in doing this. The assessment uses a lot of what is available in the National Marine Atlas and focuses on how it is relevant to the Clyde. This work will underpin the Regional Marine Plan. It includes detail on what is happening in the Clyde and includes confidence assessment for each data set.

### Pressures and Impacts section

This area is weakest in terms of information at the moment and FoCF would ask Core Group members to supply any relevant data. Some information is already available within relevant local plans for aquaculture. The Clyde IFG plan has a lot of data that can be used.

Discussion – it is important to be as consistent as possible in terms of approach and across all the sections to ensure that the document reads well. Stay high level with data and don't go into too much detail. The document should give an oversight of the issues not go into the detail.

NB this is not the Main Issues Report it should however draw attention to the important but perhaps unknown issues e.g. how much Irish boats use the Clyde fishery and how important the Firth is to the cruise industry.

Employment – there is a lot of employment provided by the Clyde which is not in the Clyde. This will be included in section 3 and 4.

MS would like to see this document peer reviewed – these individuals are yet to be identified – could be made up of SEPA, SNH, MS, MSS etc. who are already advising on the development of the Assessment.

Ecosystem Services – it was agreed that FM should ask Marine Scotland for advise on how to include these in the Assessment (either as a separate section or included within each section).

**Action:** Core Group to provide data to fill these gaps in the pressures and impacts section.

**Action:** RD to send links to information about aquaculture.

**Action:** CFA to send any additional information about the economic impact of fisheries in the Clyde area.

**Action:** FM to follow up with FSC Millport re plankton and vessel movement data sets and with Marine Scotland on ecosystem services.

## **6) Updates from Chair and Core Group**

### **Chair**

Celtic Seas Partnership – this is a mediation project focused on creating better relations between Government, conservation and fisheries with an outlook for MSFD. Work is funded by Europe and run by WWF Scotland. The next event will be held in Stirling in April.

Parliamentary celebration of the Local Coastal Partnerships – this was a successful event which included a debate in the chamber. It was an excellent, timely event organised by the Moray Firth Partnership.

Coastal Futures Conference – IG, in partnership with Marine Scotland, did a presentation on Clyde 2020.

### **Peel Ports Clydeport**

There have been some significant staff changes as roles and services are centralised. Regular shipping business continues. Cruise programme for 2015 has been issued; visitors are expected to exceed 100,000 for the first time. RH to ask Peel Ports for any economic impact information about this. Capacity is limited and they are looking at ways to provide more specialist services in the future. Andrew Hemple, the cruise manager, also chairs Cruise Scotland, the industry body.

### **South Ayrshire**

Confirmation of the interconnector has been received and the upgrade will continue.

### **RSPB/LINK**

The main focus of RSPB's work has been on MPA management measures.

### **RYAS**

They have also been involved with consultations about MPA management measures. In particular the impact about the Whiting Bay proposal to ban anchoring.

Welcome Anchorages 2015 has been published.

### **SNH**

The new tranche of marine SPA's and MPA's does not impact on the Clyde.

### **Clyde Fishermen's Association**

Fishermen are concerned about the impact of the discards ban in particular the impact on harbour and local authorities. A large volume of fish will have to be landed but reception facilities have not been defined. Fishermen will also not be paid for doing this work.

Surveys for the laying of the cables from Kintyre to Hunterson have begun. CFA is concerned that the cable may be a hazard to fishing – if the burial goes ahead it will be buried to a minimum depth of 0.6m.

### **Field Studies Council, Millport**

The new teaching block is being finished. Accommodation (additional 30 units) will arrive next week. They are working hard to attract new groups to use the resource.

### **The Crown Estate**

They appeared before a parliamentary committee last week to discuss the impacts of the Smith Commission. The Marine Tourism Strategy was launched last week. There were good messages from speakers which encouraged people to put the Strategy into action and look beyond their local interests.

### **The Scottish Salmon Company**

They have been heavily involved in the MPA management consultations. Industry is broadly supportive but concerned about the detail of the management options.

The Company is continually looking to expand and have been working hard to do this in the west of Scotland. This has been successful and the company is now keen to develop new sites and expand existing ones in the south, including sites in the Clyde. This includes critical consultation in local areas – these will be advertised within the communities as early as possible and consultation continues through the community councils.

### **Summary of Actions**

Reference	Summary	Lead
01/11/03/2015	Add MSc project as an agenda item for next meeting.	FM
02/11/03/2015	Governance - FM to update following discussions and submit Option One to Marine Scotland.	FM
03/11/03/2015	Assessment - Core Group to provide data to fill these gaps in the pressures and impacts section.	Core Group Members
04/11/03/2015	Assessment - RD to send links to information about aquaculture.	RD
05/11/03/2015	Assessment - CFA to send any additional information about the economic impact of fisheries in the Clyde area.	CFA
06/11/03/2015	Assessment - FM to follow up with FSC Millport re plankton and vessel movement data sets and with	FM

	Marine Scotland on ecosystem services.	

**Date of next meeting** – 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015