SUBMITTING EVIDENCE TO A SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT COMMITTEE

DATA PROTECTION FORM

Name:	
Date:	**08/07/2019**
Organisation: (if required)	**Clyde Marine Planning Partnership**
Topic of submission:	**Regional Marine Planning**

☒ **I have read and understood the privacy notice about submitting evidence to a Committee.**

☒ **I am happy for my name, or that of my organisation, to be on the submission, for it to be published on the Scottish Parliament website, mentioned in any Committee report and form part of the public record.**

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Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee

Regional Marine Planning

SUBMISSION FROM Clyde Marine Planning Partnership

Subtitle (Arial 12, bold, left aligned)

Body text (Arial 12, left aligned)

Please do not add any organisation logos

Please keep to the guidance as stated above.

1. **Are the objectives for the establishment of the Scottish Marine Regions still appropriate?**

The Clyde Marine Planning Partnership (CMPP) consider that the reasons to establish Scottish Marine Regions to develop Regional Marine Plans are still valid.

2. **How effective has the approach to establishing Marine Planning Partnerships been in practice? Are they working as aniticipated? What are the opportunities/constraints/barriers to success?**

The CMPP produced a lessons learned report in April 2018, covering development of Governance and the Assessment in the Clyde – included below. The CMPP is in the process of developing a regional marine plan and has therefore not formally reviewed this process yet.

An interesting insight from recent pre-consultation work is that certain communities are interested in becoming more closely involved in marine planning.

Start of Lessons Learned report*

Clyde Marine Region – Governance and Assessment – Lessons Learned Report – April 2018

Establishment of the Marine Planning Partnership

The main considerations for the Clyde Marine Region in terms of Governance are:

- **Firth of Clyde Forum**

The Forum had been in existence since 1992 and had undertaken various projects over the years contributing to the understanding of the marine and coastal environment and the sustainable use of marine resources. Forum Members were the steering group responsible for development of the SSMEI[1] voluntary Clyde Marine Spatial Plan from 2006 to 2010. It was important to use this source of expertise and to motivate the Members to remain engaged in the marine planning process. It was therefore considered that the Marine Planning Partnership should evolve from the Firth of Clyde Forum. It was recognised that some Forum Members would not continue with the Partnership, whilst new Members would join the new Partnership.

The Firth of Clyde Forum was an unincorporated association without a constitution. Forum staff had been employed by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) for many years.

- **Size and complexity of the region**

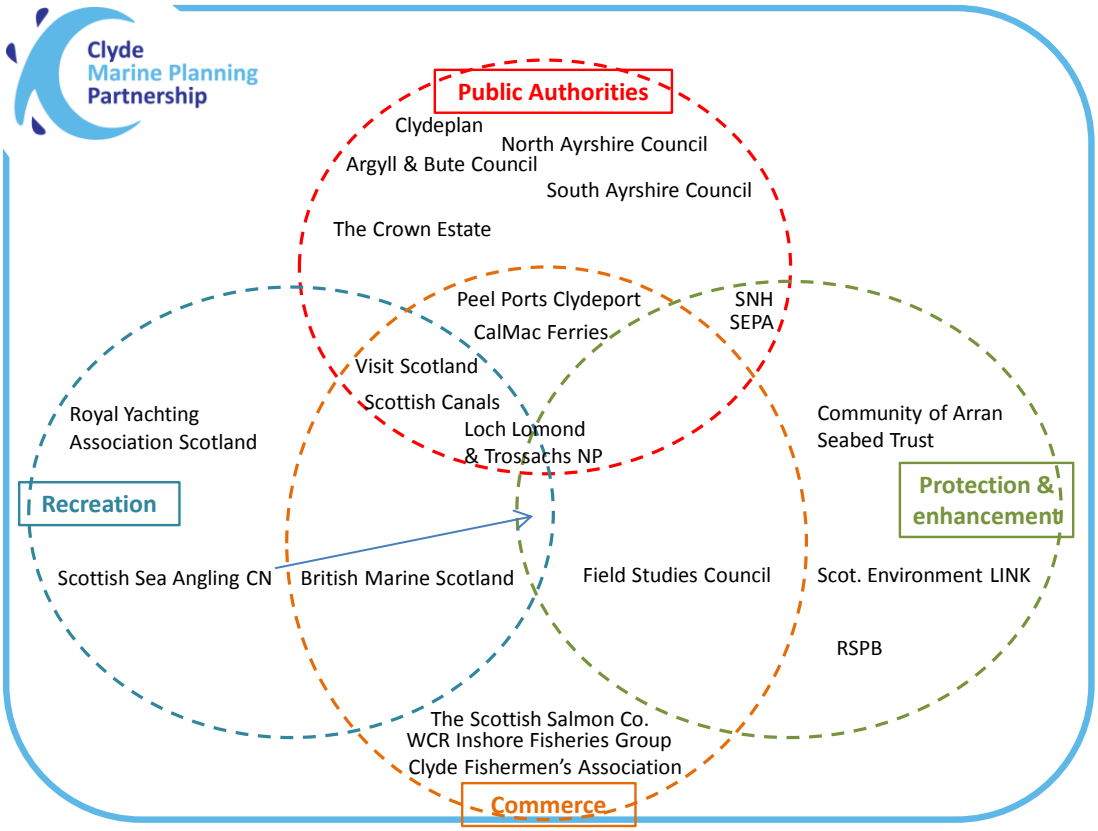
There are 8 Local Authorities within the region and 1 National Park. Given that the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 requires a public authority to be included in the delegate, a mechanism is needed to ensure that these are represented. The current Partnership includes: South Ayrshire Council, North Ayrshire Council, Clydeplan (to represent 5 Local Authorities),

[1] Scottish Sustainable Marine Environment Initiative

Argyll & Bute Council and Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park. The other public authorities in the Partnership are: CalMac Ferries Ltd, Clydeport Operations Limited, The Crown Estate Commissioners[2], Scottish Canals, Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (pending), and Visit Scotland.

There are many different sectors and activities within the region. The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 requires that, where the delegate is a group of persons, it must comprise representatives with an interest in protection and enhancement, recreation and commerce.

The current Membership is shown below in terms of the broad categories of public authorities, environment, commerce and recreation.



The challenge with a Partnership of this size is being able to ensure representation from the different interests, whilst keeping the Membership to a manageable size, for example to ensure all Members' points of view can be represented at meetings. It is therefore not possible to include all community, recreation, sectoral or issue-based groups at a national or regional level within the Partnership itself, but it must be very clear from the planning process, that these groups can and should get involved in Plan development. Before the Partnership was established, meetings were held with interested parties from outside the Firth of Clyde Forum Membership (Scottish Environment LINK, COAST[3] and WCRIFG[4]) to keep them informed of the intended Governance structure. These organisations are now Members of the Partnership.

[2] This report was written before the devolution of Crown Estate Commissioners to Crown Estate Scotland.
[3] Community Of Arran Seabed Trust
[4] West Coast Regional Inshore Fisheries Group

The size of this region also poses challenges in terms of staff resources. Funding from Marine Scotland allows for 2.2 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) members of staff[5]. Partnership Members provide expertise and can provide in-kind support, and Marine Scotland also provides expertise and GIS support. Despite this, it remains challenging to deliver high quality plan development in a region of this size in a timely manner. The original team structure proposed by the Forum, of 4 FTEs, has not been realised in the current economic climate. Partnership staff continue to be housed within Scottish Natural Heritage, who provide in-kind line management and other support. This provides advantages in terms of access to human resource management, procurement and finance systems, office space and a document management system.

- **The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010**

Interpretation of exactly what the Governance options are for a delegate under this piece of legislation is challenging. The process was aided by the Dundas & Wilson report commissioned by the Scottish Coastal Forum in 2011. The process was also supported by Marine Scotland staff and Scottish Government legal advisors.

Under this legislation, marine regions extend to the 'Normal Tidal Limit' of all rivers. In terms of the River Clyde, the Normal Tidal Limit extends beyond the limit of the Firth of Clyde Forum and thereby includes an additional Local Authority – South Lanarkshire – on the southern bank of the river. This was taken into account and South Lanarkshire Council is represented by Clydeplan in the Partnership.

Considering the Governance structure – the process

The Firth of Clyde Forum considered options for Governance of a Marine Planning Partnership from 2012 to 2015. An initial proposal was put forward to Marine Scotland in October 2012 which suggested that members of the Forum would act as an advisory group and that a delegate would be established of less than 10 individuals, acting in the interests of the whole of the region, who were appointed by the steering group and ratified by Scottish Ministers. The establishment of this style of delegate was not considered appropriate by Marine Scotland due to its 'quango' nature.

The Firth of Clyde Forum presented a further structure to Marine Scotland in 2015. This suggested that the Forum change to the Clyde Marine Planning Partnership (CMPP), an unincorporated association with a constitution. This Partnership would be the delegate. The CMPP would have a Board made up of permanent positions for key public authorities, and elected positions from the rest of the Membership. SNH agreed to continue to employ the staff until completion of the Plan, estimated at 3 years. It was therefore decided that there was no requirement to form an incorporated body, charity or otherwise, at this stage, even though this could potentially limit the ability of the Partnership to apply for some funding streams.

This Governance structure was agreed by Marine Scotland in October 2015, the constitution was signed in February 2016, and the Direction was issued in March 2017.

The Constitution

[5] Since drafting this report, staff complement is now 2.5 to deliver plan development, with 1 FTE funded externally for non-statutory public engagement work (discussed further under question 6).

The Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations template was used as a basis for the constitution. One of the key requirements from Members was the ability to continue work other than development of the plan (resources permitting), and this was included within the Objectives. Forum Members provided comments and suggestions to improve the constitution and, towards the end of this process, the SNH legal adviser also provided comments.

Challenges

- It was recognised that whilst most of the business of the CMPP would be done through consensus, there would be certain points when Members would not agree and when a decision would need to be taken by another mechanism. Unlike other organisations, the Board of the CMPP is there mainly to take decisions when Members cannot reach agreement. Individuals, whether from an organisation with a permanent board position or nominated on an annual basis from amongst Member organisations are not on the Board to represent sectoral or interest group views but to make decisions based on the main objectives of the CMPP.

- Some organisations (WCRIFG[6], CFA[7], SCF[8]) and the Chair are not incorporated bodies - the governance of their own organisation prevents the organisation from becoming a signatory of the CMPP constitution. Individuals are therefore able to be Members to overcome this issue. In all cases except the Chair, individual signatories represent their organisations.

- Some organisations needed more time than others to agree and sign the constitution. Approval processes vary and may need several committees, a wider group of members, or legal advice in order to approve membership.

- It was considered useful to have further detailed guidelines on responsibilities for the Board, Members and Staff, voting for new Members, conflicts of interest, ethical standards and how meetings operate. The Operational Guidance document provides these guidelines and was agreed by Members and published on the website.

- The Clyde 2020 project is chaired by the Chair of the CMPP and supported by staff of the CMPP. Clyde 2020 seeks to bring together both scientific research and practical measures to improve the marine ecosystem of the Clyde. The objectives of Clyde 2020 align closely with those of the CMPP and initiatives from Clyde 2020 could contribute to development of and delivery of the Clyde Regional Marine Plan. Clyde 2020, whilst including a number of Members of the CMPP, allows for an increased and more diverse Membership of organisations and people. Clyde 2020 is focused in particular on issues that have been highlighted as main concerns in the Assessment (see below), notably seabed, fish and shellfish. It therefore made sense, once the CMPP was established, for Clyde 2020 to become a subgroup of the CMPP. The constitution of the CMPP allows for the establishment of subgroups and Clyde 2020 now operates within the terms of the CMPP constitution.

[6] West Coast Regional Inshore Fisheries Group
[7] Clyde Fishermen's Association
[8] Scottish Coastal Forum

- The CMPP is not incorporated and so undertakes procurement and accesses additional funding for projects through Members' procurement systems, in the main part through Scottish Natural Heritage. It may be more appropriate for CMPP staff to be employed by another mechanism. At some point in the future, it will be necessary to consider whether the CMPP should become an incorporated body and employ staff. A clause within the constitution can enable this to happen.

Establishment of the Clyde Marine Planning Partnership - Summary	
What went well	**Suggested improvements**
Firth of Clyde Forum provided basis for MPP development. Clydeplan is able to represent 5 Local Authorities. Continued agreement from SNH to house staff with related benefits, however → Picked up the Normal Tidal Limit implications for South Lanarkshire. From 2015, governance structure agreed and constitution developed and signed (i.e. CMPP formed) in under 1 year, however → Use of the SCVO template as a starting point. → Input from SNH legal adviser. Individuals are able to become Members to represent unincorporated associations. Operational Guidance provides more details on roles, responsibilities and procedures, however → Enabling the formation of sub-groups, as included in the SCVO template.	Ideally for this region more staff resources are required. Once the Plan has been finished, SNH have requested that a permanent solution be found for (Clyde and other) MPP staff. It is important to allow enough time for all involved organisations to run any proposed constitution through committees/members. SCVO template is for incorporated bodies – an even simpler template could have been used. Due to the requirement to keep the Partnership to a manageable size, it is important to ensure effective and inclusive engagement with other stakeholders at all stages. OG could be included in the constitution.

<u>Delegating Regional Marine Planning</u>

Marine Scotland led the process of drafting and issuing the Direction, which is the legal document delegating responsibility for development of the Plan. A public notice must be issued in advance, outlining the intention of Scottish Ministers and sharing a draft of the Direction. The public notice was issued in March 2016 for both Shetland and Clyde. Following this, there was a longer than expected delay for the Clyde whilst the Scottish

Government legal advisers considered the wording of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 in terms of delegating to both the CMPP **and** its public authority Members. Ultimately it was decided that whilst the Direction is issued to the CMPP and its public authority Members, the public authorities can undertake their duties through their involvement in the CMPP. An agreement is in place between the public authorities and the CMPP about carrying out their duties together and can be viewed here http://www.clydemarineplan.scot/about-us/about-the-clyde-marine-planning-partnership/#direction. Consent was required to the Direction from the public authorities and the CMPP, which took further time, as there were 11 public authorities. The Direction was issued in March 2017. Once the Direction had been received, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs for Northern Ireland and Dumfries and Galloway Council were notified of the intention to prepare a regional marine plan, in accordance with the Marine (Scotland) Act. The individual Councils from Clydeplan with a coastline in the Clyde Marine Region were also notified.

Delegating Regional Marine Planning - Summary	
What went well	**Suggested improvements**
Co-ordination between Marine Scotland, CMPP and public authorities.	Delay in interpretation of Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, however, future MPPs should benefit from lessons learned in delegating to a MPP **and** its public authorities. May be an argument to simplify the legislation when there is an opportunity to do so – should be simply one singular delegate: the MPP.

Marine Licensing

The CMPP is a statutory consultee for (marine) pre-application consultations and marine licence applications in the Clyde Marine Region. This duty came into force when the Ministerial Direction for the CMPP was issued in March 2017. Given that there is not yet a statutory regional marine plan, Members agreed that the CMPP will not respond to consultations and licence applications except in exceptional circumstances where they do not comply with the National Marine Plan or UK Marine Policy Statement. Pre-application consultations received from organisations and marine licence applications received from MS-LOT are reviewed by staff and a list is regularly updated and provided to Members. It is useful to consider the number and type of applications requiring attention – this should help develop policy which can facilitate decision-making on licence applications. The resources in terms of staff time and Member input to licence applications will increase once the statutory Plan is in place, and this should be taken into account at that stage. CMPP staff did most of the fact finding about licensing, how it operates and the role that the CMPP plays. It would be useful to have guidance for future MPPs on their role in marine licensing (as well as how land planning and other consenting regimes relate to this).

Marine Licensing - Summary	
What went well	**Suggested improvements**
Timely understanding of the CMPP role and Member agreement on the process for dealing with applications.	MPP guidance on their role in marine licensing, including the pre-application process.

State of the Environment Assessment

The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 requires an assessment to be undertaken on the condition of the Scottish Marine Region, including a summary of the significant pressures and human impacts. This was the first stage of the marine planning process from 2015 to February 2018.

Process

The Clyde Marine Region Assessment follows a similar structure to that of Scotland's Marine Atlas. It contains the following sections: physical characteristics; clean & safe; healthy & biologically diverse; productive. The idea was to produce a Clyde-specific version of the Atlas. Shetland Isles Marine Region also developed an Assessment at the same time and the 2 documents followed a similar structure. Each chapter was drafted by CMPP staff using information available from online sources and through discussions with organisations working across specific areas that held relevant information or expertise. The draft was checked at various stages by staff within SNH, SEPA and by the Members of the CMPP. Members of the Clyde 2020 Research Advisory Group also viewed the draft. The Productive section was drafted by a consultant, EKOS, using data from Marine Scotland and other public sources, and also working with key CMPP Members. Marine Scotland provided support for mapping which used, in the main part, layers from the NMPi[9] system. A few maps in the productive section were developed by EKOS for Clyde-specific information. The productive section focused on those sectors which were active in the Clyde Marine Region and some chapters, which were separate in the Marine Atlas, were amalgamated for the Clyde.

Analysis of the use of the Ecosystem Approach during development of the SSMEI Clyde Marine Spatial Plan identified that Ecosystem Services was an area of weakness. The Assessment therefore considered the functioning of Ecosystem Services within each chapter as relevant.

Scoring is similar to Scotland's Marine Atlas, using a traffic light system ranging from many concerns, to some concerns, to few concerns. Certain chapters in the physical section have no score, as they are a physical description, rather than an assessment of condition. Arrows are used to indicate where the situation is improving, deteriorating or static. A confidence rating is included to show where confidence in the quality of data available is high, medium, or low.

Towards the end of the drafting process, Marine Scotland Science provided comment on various chapters. A final draft was prepared for review by scientists from different universities within the Marine Alliance for Science and Technology Scotland (MASTS).

Following this, the Assessment went through design by a consultant. Due to the length of the document, this stage took much longer than anticipated, delaying publication by several months. At that stage, the Clyde Fishermen's Association stated that they had not been able to comment on the draft as they had not signed the constitution until December 2016, and further amendments were made to 3 chapters, in particular the fish and shellfish chapter, in conjunction with other Members of the CMPP and Marine Scotland. These late changes were mainly updates to data and information. They were driven both by the design delay and by the fact that the Clyde 2020 work on a Layman's Guide began, which used the

[9] National Marine Plan interactive http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/seamanagement/nmpihome

Assessment as a starting point to develop a guide to 'the condition of seabed habitats, fish and shellfish of the Clyde Marine Region'.

The final designed Assessment was approved for publication by the CMPP in January 2018.

Topic Sheets have also been developed on particular issues and to give a background to marine planning and the Clyde Marine Region. These provide a more accessible summary of issues and are for use during engagement for draft policy development. Animations have also been produced to describe the condition of the seabed, fish and shellfish in the Clyde – this initiative came out of the Clyde 2020 project and will also prove useful for plan development.

Content

It was useful for the staff to have a background in marine or environmental science in order to know what the potential issues are for an estuarine environment, where to look for data, and to interpret information from various sources. Much of the clean & safe data are available through Scotland's environment web and on SEPA's website, and much of the healthy & biologically diverse data are available in publications and reports on the SNH website. However, it was also essential to make contact with the experts within these organisations to ensure that the draft was correct and that data had been interpreted correctly. For several chapters, data were provided by other organisations, such as the Community Of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST), the Clyde Marine Mammal Project, RSPB, the Wetlands Bird Survey (WeBS), the Marine Conservation Society Beachwatch. Other information was taken from relevant scientific papers. A call was put out to the MASTS network for any recent or ongoing work relating to the region. Most data were available at a Clyde or smaller level. The Clyde Ecosystem Review was an extremely useful document, containing many primary sources of data. A decision was taken to use a consultant for the productive section due to their economic expertise and to save staff time.

It should be noted that it takes a considerable amount of time to deal with comments received on the draft, particularly where there is further consideration of reports, papers and data required.

Technical challenges

The main data challenges were:

- The relative lack of precise data for all parts of the region (compared to terrestrial data) in terms of the location of and condition of species and habitats including Priority Marine Features. The location of pressures and impacts on the environment – it was often not possible to be precise about the exact location of impacts and relate that directly to specific activities. This is due to the more challenging and expensive nature of surveying in the marine environment. However, it was possible to provide a general picture and data are constantly improving to provide more specific detail.
- Fisheries data are reported at the ICES area level and stock assessments on certain shellfish are not available.
- In the productive section, sector based economic data such as turnover and Gross Value Added is only available at the land-based planning authority level. This means

that for Argyll and Bute figures are inflated as they include the entire contribution of that area, and not just the activity within the Clyde Marine Region.

- In the productive section, some data that could potentially identify individuals or businesses cannot be disclosed due to commercial confidentiality – this was an issue within aquaculture.
- Scoring of the chapters/issues was guided in the most part by Scotland's Marine Atlas. Any difference in scoring was due to the availability of more detailed or more recent data available at the local level and was indicated at the start of each chapter. There were no major disagreements between stakeholders on the scoring of the issues.
- Writing technical/complex scientific issues in a language that was relatively accessible. Deciding how much background to provide on issues; for this version of the Assessment, there is a large amount of background information which could be provided by linking to other websites for future versions. Indeed future iterations of the Assessment for this region could be in the form of much shorter updates, or alternatively by updating the Topic Sheets as new data reporting cycles occur.

Finalisation and publication

The draft Assessment was produced as a word document and needed to be designed for publication. This stage took from May 2017 to January 2018, which was far longer than anticipated. As previously noted, there were changes made to 3 chapters during this time, mainly to update information. The final designed document was approved for publication at the January 2018 Members' meeting. It was published on the website, along with Topic Sheets, in February 2018.

State of the Environment Assessment - Summary	
What went well	**Suggested improvements**
Scotland's Marine Atlas as a starting point – used similar structure and scoring system. Highlighted where Clyde Assessment scoring was different and why. Also the Clyde Ecosystem Review was very useful. Subcontracting the productive section to an economic specialist. Incorporating regional/local information, e.g. bird count data, litter data….. The integration of Ecosystem Services within the Assessment. GIS support from Marine Scotland. Topic Sheets on specific issues are particularly useful for public engagement.	Consider a web-based system to provide direct links to data sources and background information, keeping the assessment itself much more concise. If producing a final printable document, keep the design element in-house to avoid delays at the end of the process. A more direct link between the activities in the productive section and the pressures and impacts in the other sections, potentially spatial where possible. Consider how to further integrate Ecosystem Services. Emphasise to Members that new information/data can be incorporated during development of the Plan – the Assessment is valid at a point in time.

Developing a Regional Marine Plan and supporting documents

Development of the Clyde Regional Marine Plan is in its early stages and so comments are limited here to work completed to March 2018[10].

As the CMPP was established in February 2016, work was underway on communications. The staff team developed a new logo, a new website, a twitter account, an e-newsletter mechanism and updated contacts databases. Note that there will be an impact on the number of subscribers to the e-newsletter as a result of General Data Protection Regulations coming into force on 25th May 2018.

A Statement of Public Participation (SPP) had been drafted and agreed by Members by March 2017, however, changes were made to the content of this by Marine Scotland and so the final SPP was not submitted to Scottish Ministers for approval until November 2017. It was published on the website in January 2018. The SPP will be updated at the end of each stage of the marine planning process. Each update must be approved by Scottish Ministers. Whilst the SPP is an essential document to set out the process and milestones for development of the Plan, it is necessary to keep stakeholders, including the public, informed of activities, meetings and workshops separately to this, as they are scheduled and updated on a more frequent basis.

CMPP Members' meetings take place every 2-3 months. This has been adequate for development of the Plan to date; however, as draft policy is developed, it may be necessary to have more frequent meetings at some points, perhaps for smaller groups of Members, in order to ensure that the pre-consultation draft is produced in a timely manner. Due to the number of Members, meetings can be somewhat unwieldy, and it may be that more use could be made of the Board in other regions as relevant to drive Plan development with less frequent Members' meetings.

There is some disquiet from organisations or community groups that are not in the CMPP and wish to be more closely involved in Plan development.

Members have agreed that, based on issues identified in the Assessment, the following sectoral working groups and issue-based workshops will take place for development of the pre-consultation draft:

Work stream
Working groups • Fisheries (working with WCRIFG, Clyde 2020 and wider stakeholders e.g. processors) • Aquaculture • Sports, recreation and tourism • Shipping, ports, harbours and ferries • Regional socio-economic opportunities – regeneration, coastal communities, Clyde the brand
Workshops • Mobile species (mammals, sharks, skates, rays, seabirds and waterbirds)

[10] Based on work completed at the time of writing this report.

and Noise • Marine Litter (especially plastic) • INNS • Submarine cables (tbc dependent on work above with WCRIFG)
Subgroup • Clyde2020 – identify the issues and propose solutions to factors which are limiting improvements to the Clyde ecosystem, covering in particular 'shallow and shelf subtidal sediments', 'biogenic reefs', and 'marine fish and shellfish'.
Other • Sea-level rise and coastal change covered through Climate Ready Clyde and/or SEPA Flood Risk Management meetings. • Meetings with SEPA, MoD and Historic Environment Scotland required.

To date, the following working groups have begun: shipping, ports, ferries, harbours; fisheries; and aquaculture. Work is underway to begin the recreation working group and to run workshops on mobile species (including birds) & noise and marine litter. It has been decided that due to the amount of work done by the Firth of Clyde Forum and the CMPP on invasive species, that this section can be drafted without a workshop. Her Majesty's Naval Base Clyde is involved in the shipping working group and an initial meeting with Historic Environment Scotland has been held[11]. SEPA has decided to join the CMPP.

Sustainability Appraisal

Various documents must be developed to support the Plan. These include a Strategic Environmental Assessment, Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment, Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment, Equality Impact Assessment, Habitats Regulations Assessment. Members of the CMPP have decided to produce a Sustainability Appraisal, including the Strategic Environmental Assessment, in order to consider Environment, Economy and Society together. A scoping report for the Sustainability Appraisal is currently in draft. It is expected that development of these documents will be resource intensive for staff whilst developing the Plan. It is considered that the Sustainability Appraisal, including SEA, is best done in house by staff, whilst an agency or other resource may be required for some of the other documents[12].

Human Resource

Whilst the development of the Plan and associated documents is ongoing, there are other tasks that must be completed by the CMPP staff. These include consultation responses (to Main Issues Reports, proposed Local Development Plans, Shoreline Management Plans, and others eg Crown Estate Scotland), dealing with enquiries from and meeting the public and stakeholders, reviewing marine licence applications, and managing the Clyde 2020 project. These all add to staff time required to support operation of the CMPP (and Clyde 2020). Due to a member of staff leaving in December 2017, and the requirement to wait until March 2018 to have confirmation of ongoing funding from Marine Scotland, staff

[11] Based on progress at the time of writing; this work has now taken place and contributed to the development of the Pre-consultation draft Clyde Regional Marine Plan.
[12] Work in this area has also progressed since the time of writing this report.

resources available have been lower for several months. Being housed within SNH provides various benefits noted in the 'Establishment of a Marine Planning Partnership' section above; however, offering and renewing contracts on an annual basis, due to the Marine Scotland funding cycle, is not ideal for staff recruitment, retention and motivation.

Developing a Regional Marine Plan - Summary	
What is going well	**Suggested improvements**
Early comms work on logo, website, e-newsletter, twitter. Sectoral workshops, whilst time consuming, will add value to the National Marine Plan by producing Clyde-level objectives and policy. Decision to produce a Sustainability Appraisal, including Strategic Environment Assessment. Support from SNH for the recreation and mobile species workshops. North Ayrshire Council procurement support and funding support from Marine Scotland, South Ayrshire Council, North Ayrshire Council and Peel Ports Clydeport for the socio-economic study.	More staff resource would enable the plan to be developed in a timely manner and enable wider and more in-depth engagement with the public across what is a very large region. CMPP is applying for additional resource through EMFF funding, however, this is not guaranteed[13].

[13] This bid was successful, more details provided under question 6.

TOP TIPS (these may form the basis of a Marine Scotland topic sheet to be made public for emerging MPPs)

Governance

Work closely with local stakeholders and Marine Scotland to ensure that the delegate is the most suitable for the region, and that it conforms to the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010. Different models will work for different regions. It is important to balance inclusivity with practical and legal requirements.

Ensure that there is a decision-making or conflict resolution mechanism within a delegate with a large membership.

It is never too early to begin work to consider Governance options for a Marine Planning Partnership, nor to initiate projects that will contribute to knowledge about the marine region or that will address marine planning issues. Agencies and other stakeholders, in particular Local Coastal Partnerships, are often aware of regional issues. Of particular relevance are cross-boundary (regional) and cross-agency projects.

Allow time for organisations to consider and approve any Governance structure or constitution. If stakeholders can apply for Membership, then there will probably be several applications within the first year of a Partnership being established.

Assessment

Consider how to integrate Ecosystem Services functioning within the Assessment more fully. Is there a more direct link to be made between the Assessment and the Strategic Environmental Assessment process for the Plan itself, by structuring the Assessment to support the SEA process?

A web-based Assessment would allow links to be made to various other websites for background information on issues, and this could also link to maps and up-to-date data from various websites. This would keep the Assessment 'live' and avoid the production of a large document.

Amalgamate sections wherever possible to keep the document or any web-based system to a manageable and usable size. For example the 'Clean & Safe' section could probably be condensed down.

Allow time for the considerable work involved in reviewing comments.

Topic Sheets on various issues are extremely useful for engagement. Use of film and animation also prove useful to illustrate particular issues within a region.

*****End of Lessons Learned Report*****

3. **What progress has been made in the development and implementation of Regional Marine Plans and what are the objectives and priorities for the next 5-10 years?**

Since its formation in February 2016, the CMPP has carried out the following projects/activities:

Clyde Marine Region Assessment, Socio-Economic Review, Public Dialogue, Schools engagement, workshops/working group meetings as noted in the Statement of Public Participation, pre-consultation draft of the Clyde Regional Marine Plan and interim Sustainability Appraisal including Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Progress reports are available at https://www.clydemarineplan.scot/marine-planning/clyde-regional-marine-plan/.

The CMPP is still developing the Clyde Regional Marine Plan and therefore does not have comments on implementation. It is envisaged that an Action Plan will be published alongside with the Clyde Regional Marine Plan setting out priorities over the following 5 years for work to support implementation of the Plan or to support future iterations of the Plan.

It should be noted that other projects were undertaken by the Firth of Clyde Forum and partners in previous years which all contribute to underpin data and information to inform development of the Regional Marine Plan and these were: Impacts of Sea-Level Rise and Storm Surges in the Firth of Clyde (SNH Commissioned Report no. 891), Scottish Marine Recreation and Tourism Survey, Seascape/Landscape assessment of the Firth of Clyde, Firth of Clyde Biosecurity Plan, Marine Biosecurity Planning Identification of Best Practise: A review (SNH Commissioned Report no. 748), Shoreside access and infrastructure audit, Marine litter strategy for the Firth of Clyde step 1: Defining the status quo, Coastal Litter Management Guidelines for Duty Bodies. Further information is available at https://www.clydemarineplan.scot/marine-planning/marine-planning-projects/.

4. **Is the system of marine planning sufficiently integrated with the terrestrial planning system?**

The Clyde Marine Planning Partnership includes the following planning authority Members who regularly attend meetings and contribute to plan development: Clydeplan, North Ayrshire Council, South Ayrshire Council, Argyll & Bute Council, Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park. The pre-consultation draft Plan includes a section on ‘marine and land use planning alignment’ and Members have agreed to produce a Protocol to support use of the Clyde Regional Marine Plan by planning authorities in the region to ensure a more integrated approach to development and activities. Regional Marine Planning offers the opportunity for marine and terrestrial planners to work more closely together in support of delivery of the overarching framework of the National Marine Plan.

5. **What is required to deliver an effective Marine Planning system under Part 3 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010? Is the National Marine Plan capable of delivering sustainable development within Scottish Marine Regions in advance of those areas having an RMP in place?**

No comment.

6. **What funding and support is available for the development of RMPs?**

The CMPP receives an annual grant of £119k from Marine Scotland for development of the regional marine plan and support of the Clyde 2020 project. This funds 2.5 Full-Time Equivalent staff and a Chair. The staff are housed within Scottish Natural Heritage. Most of the work to develop the plan is delivered by the staff, with external projects delivered by additional funding from Members and others. Delivering some aspects of work is more challenging due to lack of funding, for example mapping spatial data gaps.

The CMPP has received an award of £200k from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for a public engagement officer to deliver ongoing public engagement work, including public dialogue, animations, film and an interactive display stand. This funding contributes greatly to CMPP work, enabling the wider public voice to be heard in a large marine region with many different types of communities.

It should be noted that it is not possible to apply to many funding streams for the core work of developing a statutory regional marine plan as statutory work is usually excluded.

Partnership Members input a significant contribution to the development of regional marine planning in the Clyde through staff time dedicated to the process. There is concern, particularly amongst smaller/charitable organisations, that operate on a National level, as to how this level of commitment could be sustained going forward as further marine regions and development of regional marine plans is rolled out.

7. **What duties/requirements are there on local authorities to develop and implement RMPs?**

See answer to question 4.

8. **Is there sufficient marine planning expertise in all Local Authorities for development of RMPs?**

The development of Regional Marine Planning is a learning curve for regional marine planners and terrestrial planners involved in developing the plan. It is important to provide sufficient training and resources to marine and terrestrial planners, to assist in delivering the aspirations of the Partnership for the region.