Clyde Marine Planning Partnership
Progress Update – December 2019

In March 2017, Scottish Ministers gave a Direction to the Clyde Marine Planning Partnership (CMPP) and its public authorities to develop a Regional Marine Plan for the Clyde Marine Region (CMR).

This document provides an update on activities carried out by the CMPP from July to December 2019. The previous progress reports can be found here.

Statement of Public Participation (SPP)

- The Statement of Public Participation (SPP) was updated in August following discussion with Marine Scotland. A further update to the SPP has since been undertaken to reflect dual timelines if the optional stage of an independent review is required.
- The SPP timeline has also been updated to reflect additional time required to discuss management policy within the Plan and to make a decision on the future direction of this issue.
- The revised SPP will be submitted to Scottish Ministers for approval in early 2020.

Marine Plan development

- Following on from the pre-consultation held in the previous reporting period, staff have considered responses and have made changes to the Plan based on these.
- Many comments identified straightforward changes/improvements across all areas of the Plan; these have been actioned by staff. Some feedback identified areas of the Plan as requiring considerable further work and discussion; these were within the natural heritage, aquaculture and fisheries chapters. Working group meetings/workshops were held over late October/early November 2019 to discuss initial changes made by CMPP staff and receive further feedback on suggested revisions from wider sectoral stakeholders, Clyde 2020 and CMPP Members. Outcomes of discussions from these meetings were reflected in further re-drafting of the Plan.
- Plan development will also consider recommendations from a public dialogue process, which has been carried out as part of the European Maritime Fisheries Fund Clyde-wide public engagement project. The public dialogue events sought to elicit views of members of the public on key areas of policy: fisheries and aquaculture. The events ran over two sessions in three locations – Glasgow, Ayr and Dunoon.
- On-going discussions around the inclusion of 'management' policy will also be taken into account whilst re-drafting the Plan. This is being reviewed as concerns have been raised that because management policy does not fall under existing authorisations and consenting processes it may not be either monitored or enforceable and therefore that the additional layers of direction given to decision makers should be avoided. This issue was discussed by CMPP Members at the December meeting with agreement from Members that within the current draft, anything related to authorisations and enforcement currently within management policy is moved into authorisations and consents policy and all other management policy be re-framed as 'local management recommendations'. Members will review the Plan again and will make a decision on this issue in the next reporting period.
- Staff and/or Chair attended the follow meetings/workshops:
    - Working group meetings on the beneficial use of dredged materials, coordinated by Peel Ports ClydePort. This is an ongoing project involving several stakeholders to consider alternative uses for dredged material in the Clyde area, following a similar successful project on the Mersey;

- Staff continue to contribute to the Marine Alliance for Science and Technology Scotland (MASTS) Marine Planning and Governance Forum;
- Staff remain involved in PERICLES, an EU funded project which promotes sustainable, participatory governance of cultural heritage in European coastal and maritime regions;
- Staff continue to support the West Coast Inshore Fisheries Group, taking minutes at the Management Meetings;
- Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Wildpark Marine Group;
- Presentation and discussion of demographics of coastal towns and communities
- Staff presented at the annual Millport Marine Symposium;
- Coastal Challenge Summit and Coastal Partnerships Network Annual Forum;
- Marine Scotland stakeholder meeting to discuss Phase 2 MPA and PMF management measures;
- Ayrshire Marine tourism workshop;
- Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2) Glasgow City Region options and interventions workshop and
- Staff and Chair also met with members of the ECCLR committee that are undertaking a review of regional marine planning

Associated Assessments

- Staff have prepared a list of proposed questions and potential businesses/representative organisations to interview for the Business Regulatory Impact Assessment (BRIA). This interview process will take place during the consultation, so that those interviewed have sight of the draft Plan, and will contribute to the final BRIA. CMPP Members have also suggested that a shorter online survey could be undertaken to reach a wider range of potential businesses/representative organisations and contribute to the BRIA.
- There was minimal feedback provided through the pre-consultation on the impact of the pre-consultation draft Plan on people with protected characteristics. It is anticipated that a light touch approach can be taken on the draft Equality Impact Assessment. Relevant stakeholders will be contacted to encourage their feedback through the consultation on any potential impacts the Plan may have on people with protected characteristics.
- Preparatory work has been undertaken on the draft Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment. This will be consulted on during the statutory consultation in 2020.
- Scottish Government guidance for the Island Communities Impact Assessment was expected by December 2019, and drafting of this assessment will occur when this is available.
- Minimal feedback was provided through the pre-consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal including Strategic Environmental Assessment. Further work on this assessment and the Habitats Regulations Appraisal will take place whilst the Plan is being finalised during early 2020.

Public Engagement and communication

- In the period July-December, the CMPP website generated approximately 2,754 user sessions and between 821 and 1,510 page views per month. Approximately 94% of the users are 'new' rather than existing.
- Also in this period, 3 newsletters have been issued. The e-newsletter has 888 subscribers up from 875 from the last period and has an average open rate of approximately 28%, against the industry average of 23%.
- The CMPP currently has 554 followers on Twitter, 129 more followers than the last period. The busiest month on Twitter was July where 11 tweets were sent, 157 users visited our profile and 13 new users followed us. This is likely due to the public engagement events the CMPP attended throughout July.

- The European Maritime Fisheries Fund (EMFF) Public Engagement Officer attended a range of events to increase awareness of marine planning in the Clyde and the Clyde marine environment: Loch Fyne Viking Festival, Glasgow Canal Festival, RSPB Kelvingrove event, Yorkhill and Kelvingrove Community Council Gala, Clyde Built Festival, Scotland's Boat Show and a range of talks with natural history, RSPB and Scottish Wildlife Trust local groups.
- As part of the EMFF Clyde-wide public engagement project, early work has begun to produce a film which will provide an overview of the CMPP and include interviews with CMPP members, to share their experiences of marine planning.

Clyde 2020

- A Clyde 2020 joint Steering Group and Research Advisory Group meeting was held in October 2019. The group discussed options for the future of Clyde 2020. A discussion paper was circulated with several recommendations. In summary, the general feeling among the Clyde 2020 group is that they support having a research advisory group and are interested in supporting projects with a focus on ecosystem health, which would contribute towards the CMPP's work in a more effective manner. The future of the group will be discussed further with stakeholders and Marine Scotland.
- An event will be organised to celebrate scientific research in the Clyde. This coincides with 2020 being the themed Year of Coasts and Waters. The event will be targeted at a non-scientific audience and will provide PhD students, researchers and others with the opportunity to share their work and ongoing research taking place in the Clyde.
- The CMPP's Action Plan was also shared with the Clyde 2020 group at the October meeting for review.

Governance

- Isabel Glasgow chaired the Firth of Clyde Forum over many years and also the CMPP since its inception in 2016. In September 2019 she was forced to resign due to ill health. The CMPP wishes to thank Isabel for all her work in partnership with many stakeholders to promote sustainable development and use of the Clyde.
- After a recruitment process carried out by CMPP Board Members, Anthony Gallagher was appointed to the role of CMPP Chair in September 2019.
- Rhona Fairgrieve withdrew her membership of the CMPP after resigning from her post with the Scottish Coastal Forum.
- In this period both North Ayrshire Council and Clydeport Operations Ltd. changed their nominated permanent Board members.
- Two CMPP Members' meetings have been held since July 2019.

Staff resources

- The Public Engagement Officer, whose post is funded separately through the EMFF, resigned in October. Recruitment was undertaken and a new officer began in December to deliver the EMFF Clyde-wide communications and engagement project.