Clyde Marine Planning Partnership
Progress Update – December 2020

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 – December 2020. The previous progress reports can be found here.

Statement of Public Participation (SPP)

- The submission of an updated SPP to Scottish Ministers has been put on hold as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic response.

Marine Plan development

- The draft Clyde Regional Marine Plan was submitted to Marine Scotland for review in July. The review process is still in progress and feedback is expected early 2021.
- A summary of the plan development process was also finalised and this document will be published on the CMPP website for the consultation.
- Work to complete the final maps to be included in the Clyde Regional Marine Plan has continued during this reporting period and the maps have almost been finalised.
- CMPP staff reviewed and updated the draft Action Plan to reflect changes in the draft Clyde Regional Marine Plan and include any new, emerging work related to the actions. The Action Plan is a non-statutory document which will help implement the Clyde Regional Marine Plan, support ongoing adaptive management of marine-related issues and inform future iterations of the Plan by providing better spatial or other information.
- Managing/delivering the Action Plan was discussed at the CMPP future work activities workshop in November. A workshop to discuss the Action Plan in more detail will take place in January 2021. Outcomes from these workshops will inform the CMPP's governance considerations.
- A proposal was submitted in October to the UKRI (NERC/ESRC) Sustainable Management of the UK Marine Resources fund. The Chair of the Clyde 2020 Research Advisory Group led the development of this proposal in collaboration with the CMPP Chair and other partners. If successful, this project will provide an excellent opportunity to contribute towards the overall sustainable management of the Clyde Marine Region and will help deliver parts of the Action Plan and achieve the CRMP Vision.
- Staff and the Chair attended the follow conferences/meetings/workshops:
    - The MASTS Annual Science Meeting in October.
    - A range of webinars, such as those organised by the Marine Alliance for Science and Technology for Scotland (MASTS), Adaptation Scotland, the Coastal Partnership Network.
    - Early stakeholder engagement events and meetings, such as with Simply Blue Aquaculture, Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks and Clyde Mission staff.
    - West Coast Regional Inshore Fisheries Group Clyde subgroup and Aquaculture Working Group meetings in November.
    - The first Working Group meeting for the Wild Oysters Project in the Firth of Clyde in December.
    - Scotland's Marine Assessment 2020 Launch Event in December.
    - Meetings with the following Local Coastal Partnerships: the Solway Firth Partnership, the Forth Estuary Forum and the Moray Firth Partnership.

- Staff continue to contribute to the MASTS Marine Planning and Governance Forum meeting.
- Staff contributed towards ongoing research by participating in interviews and responding to surveys.
- Staff continue to be involved in the beneficial use of dredged materials project, 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.

Associated Assessments

- The Sustainability Appraisal including Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA-SEA) and non-technical summary, Business Regulatory Impact Assessment (BRIA), Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA), Habitats Regulation Appraisal (HRA) and Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) were submitted to Marine Scotland in July alongside the draft Plan.
- Consultation draft guidance for the Island Communities Impact Assessment (ICIA) has been published. The draft guidance indicates that steps 1 – 4 of the ICIA guidance will need to be completed before a conclusion can be drawn regarding whether the Clyde Regional Marine Plan will require the completion of an Assessment.
- CMPP staff are starting to prepare for the statutory consultation. Preparations include designing a survey to gather data to complete the Scottish Firms Impact Test which will inform the final BRIA. This draft survey was discussed with Members at the Members' meeting in November and written feedback was received from Members. The survey has also been shared with Scottish Enterprise and The Federation of Small Businesses for feedback. The survey will be updated and finalised based on this feedback.

Public Engagement and communication

- In the period July – December, the CMPP website generated approximately 1,100 user sessions and between 486 and 746 page views per month. Approximately 85 % of the users are 'new' rather than existing.
- Also in this period, four newsletters have been issued. The e-newsletter has 857 subscribers down from 881 in the last period and has an average open rate of approximately 32 %.
- The CMPP currently has 597 followers on Twitter, 14 more followers than the last period.

EMFF Clyde- wide public engagement project

- Work progressed in this reporting period to develop a film about regional marine planning in the Clyde and the CMPP. After some delays as a result of Covid-19 lockdown measures, final stages of film production and editing resumed in October.
- Three animations on climate change, marine litter and mobile species have also been developed and are almost ready to be launched. These animations will be used as engagement tools to raise awareness of some of the important topics and issues in the Clyde Marie Region.
- A community guide to regional marine planning has been written and will be made available to help inform the general public about regional marine planning in the Clyde. This document is being finalised.
- All planned events during this reporting period were cancelled/postponed as a result of Covid-19.

Clyde 2020

- A Clyde 2020 joint Steering Group (SG) and Research Advisory Group (RAG) meeting was held in December. Prior to this meeting, an email update was shared with the Clyde 2020 SG and RAG in October.
- CMPP staff are considering the future of Clyde 2020 and how it will align with the CMPP as part of the CMPP's governance discussions. See Governance section below for more information on progress.

Governance

- Two CMPP Members' meetings have been held between July and December. An Annual Members' Meeting was held in September 2020.
- At the Annual Members' Meeting, Simon Macdonald was appointed as a non-permanent Board member, replacing Alastair McNeill.
- Fiona Mills became the NatureScot representative on the CMPP in November 2020.
- A governance discussion paper is being developed by CMPP staff which aims to explore alternative governance options to improve how regional marine planning is governed in the Clyde. This discussion paper will include consideration of the future of Clyde 2020 and how it can best support the CMPP in the future. However, these discussions have been put on hold as CMPP staff await the outcomes of and/or recommendations from the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee inquiry into regional marine planning and Marine Scotland's internal review. These discussions will likely resume early 2021.

Staff resources

- The CMPP Manager transitioned to a new role between August and October 2020. During this transition period, she continued to work 0.5 day/week as the CMPP Manager. The Manager position will not be recruited for.
- The CMPP Officer started a new role in September with a transition period until October 2020 (working 1 day/week as the CMPP Officer). The Officer position was advertised in November and the application deadline was December. Interviews will take place in January 2021.
- The CMPP Coordinator will also be starting a new role in January 2021. Recruitment for the Coordinator role will take place early 2021.