

Irish Sea Maritime Forum
28 June 2012

Marine Planning Overview

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Head of Marine Planning



marine
management
organisation

Introduction to the MMO

- Responsible for marine planning, marine licensing and regulation, marine wildlife, marine environmental emergencies, nature conservation and fisheries management
- Established in 2010
- Sponsored by:
Defra (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs),
DECC (Department for Energy and Climate Change), MoD (Ministry of Defence), DfT (Department for Transport) and DCLG (Department for Communities and Local Government)



Marine Planning

- Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009 provides legislative basis for a marine planning system
- Marine Policy Statement (MPS) is the overarching policy framework for the UK marine area
- Marine Plans will translate the MPS into detailed policy and spatial guidance for each Marine Plan area
 - informed by a common, integrated evidence base
 - working closely with stakeholders throughout the process
 - guide and direct decision makers, **including Licensing**
 - 20 year vision
- Aim - contribute to and help deliver sustainable development

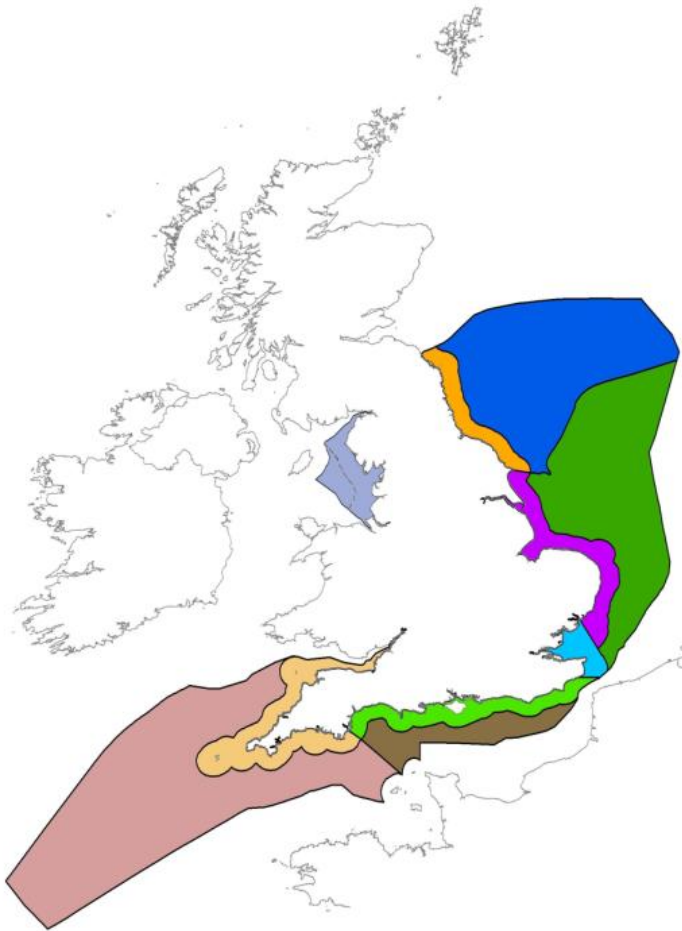


Benefits of marine planning – some examples

- **Proactive and forward planning**
- **Plan for new activities and changing technologies**
- Strategic approach that integrates **economic, social and environmental** objectives
- **Greater certainty for investors/developers**
- **Cohesion with coastal, estuarine and terrestrial plans**
- Consistent, evidence-based decision making
- Sustainable use of marine resources
- Improved basis for addressing cumulative effects



Marine Plan Areas – geographical extent



2 years and 9 months to produce first marine plans

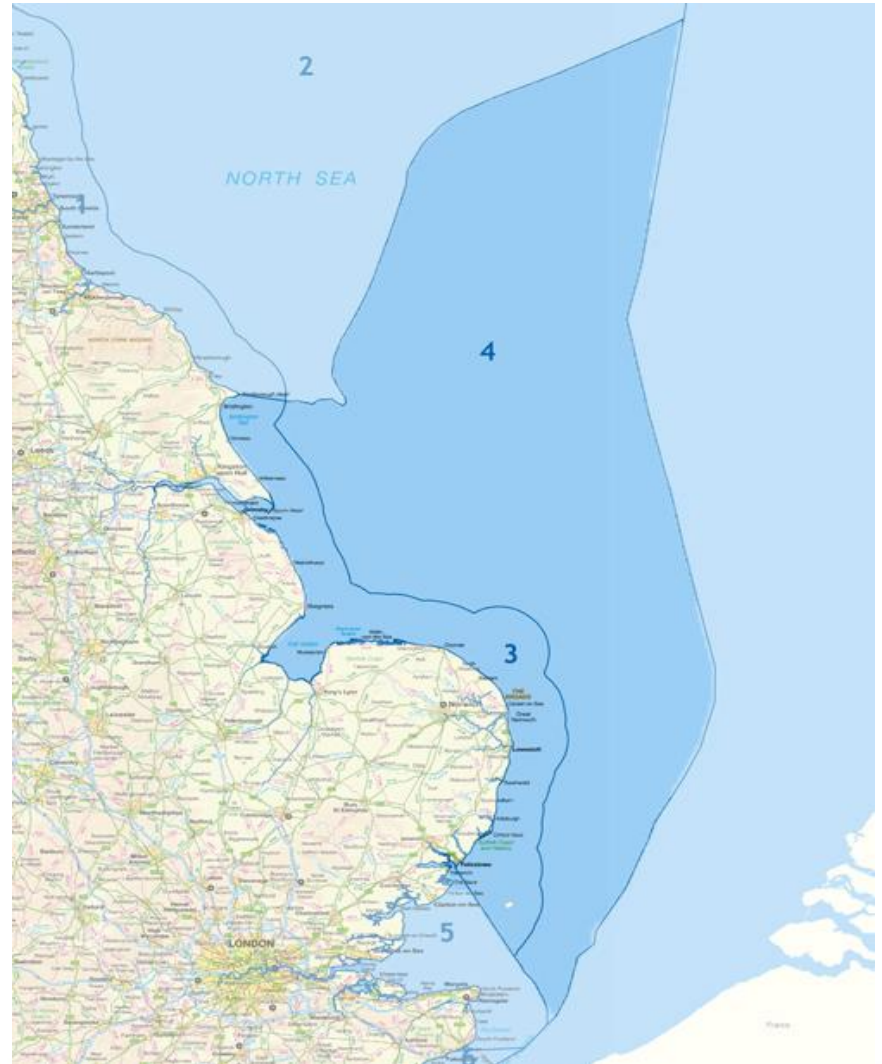
Offshore – out to 200nm

Inshore – out to 12nm

Marine Plans extend to the tidal influence of rivers

Marine Plan Areas – current plan areas

- Inshore and Offshore
- Cover 58,700 km²
- Two plans delivered through one process
- One Issues and Evidence Report for both plans



Summary of our progress so far...

- Statement of Public Participation published - April 2011
- Strategic Scoping Report published - May 2011
- Marine Planning Portal went live - May 2011
- Socio-economic research completed – Nov 2011
- Revised evidence and issues report following consultation – Feb 2012
- Draft vision and objectives published – May 2012
- Development of plan options and policies to deliver vision and objectives – ongoing to August 2012



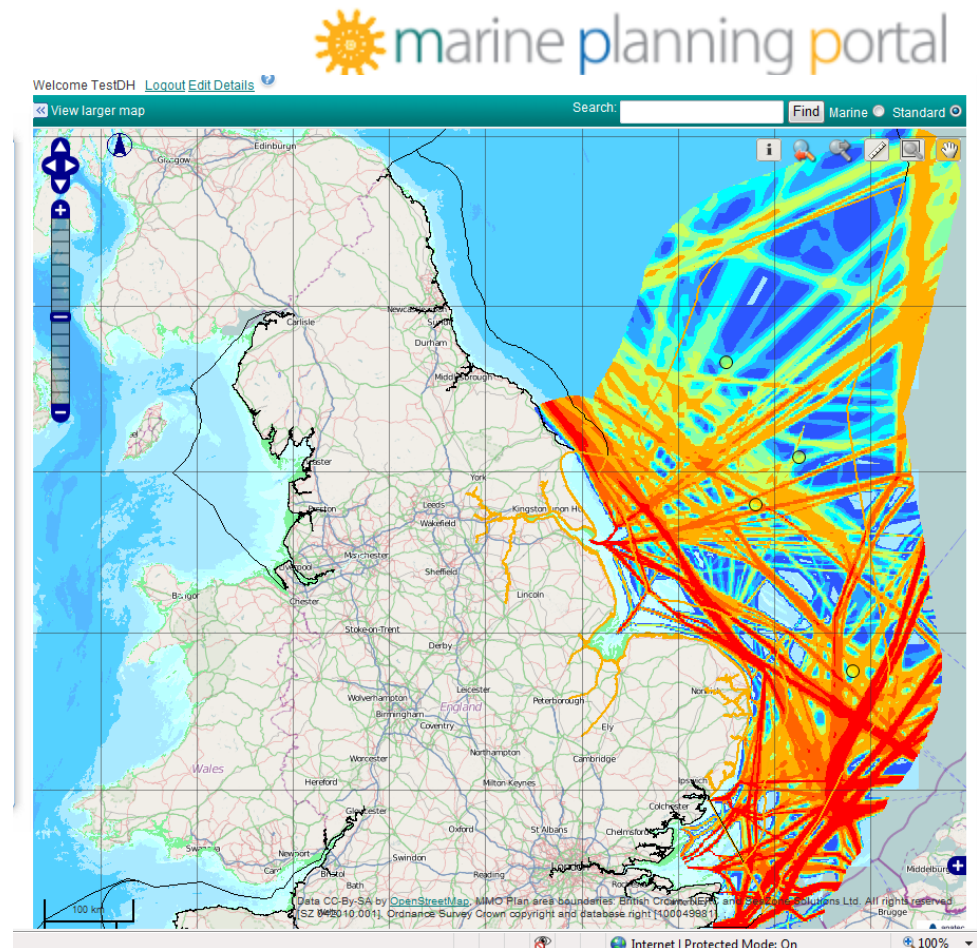
Stakeholder Engagement

- Informal consultation on Evidence and Issues – 63 responses
- Evidence and Issues workshops – over 100 attendees at 3 workshops
- Public drop-in sessions -12 events attracting over 600 local stakeholders
- Local Authority workshops with The Crown Estate and National Grid – 2 events with 18 representatives from LAs
- Two day International workshops – representatives from The Netherlands, Norway, Belgium, European Commission and France
- Informal consultation on Vision and Objectives – 73 responses



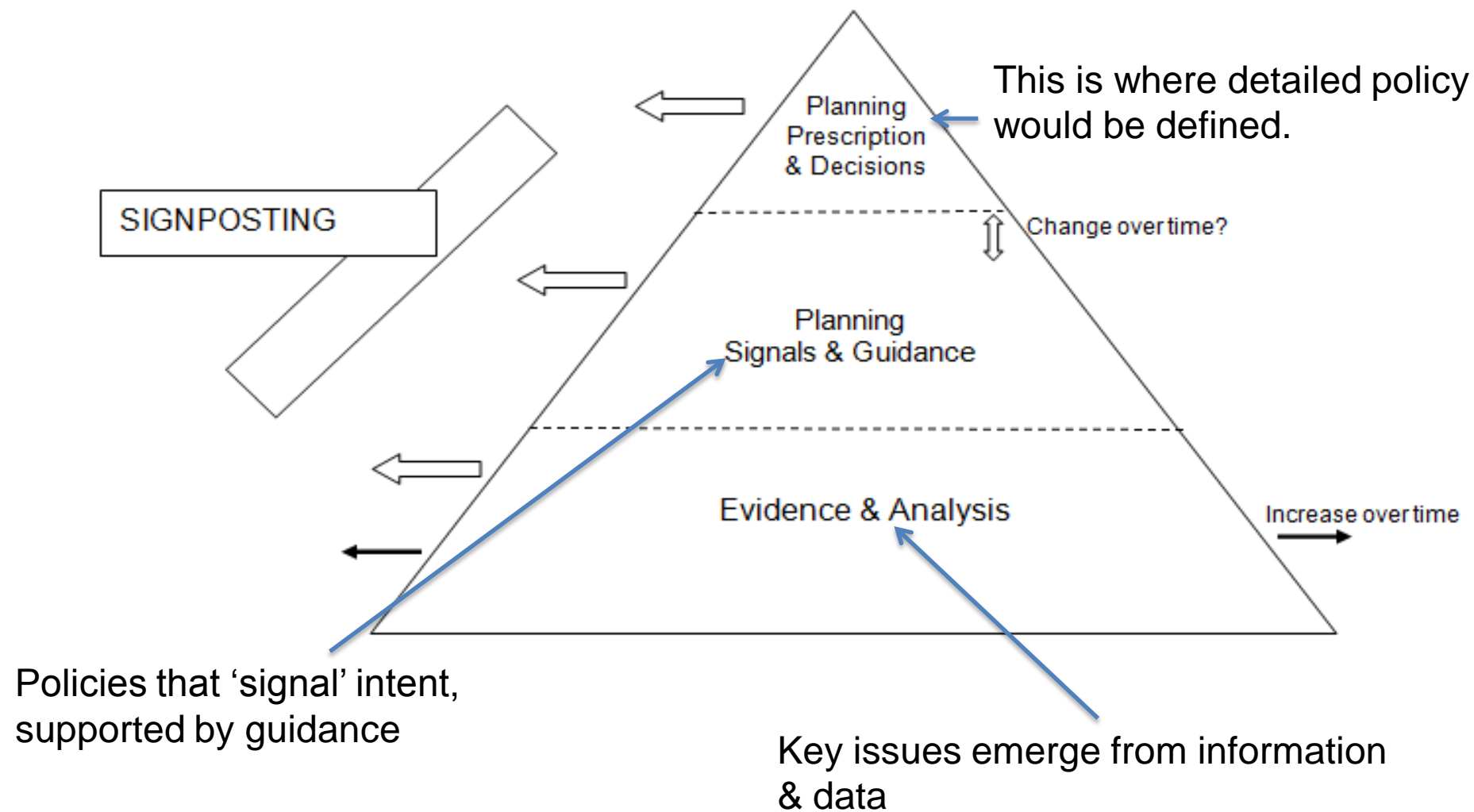
Marine Planning Portal

- Online tool for stakeholders to interact with the planning process
- Through the portal stakeholders can...
 - view existing data from the evidence base
 - Comment on the data we are using
 - Suggest a new dataset to the planning team



<http://planningportal.marinemangement.org.uk>

Approach to marine planning



Next Steps

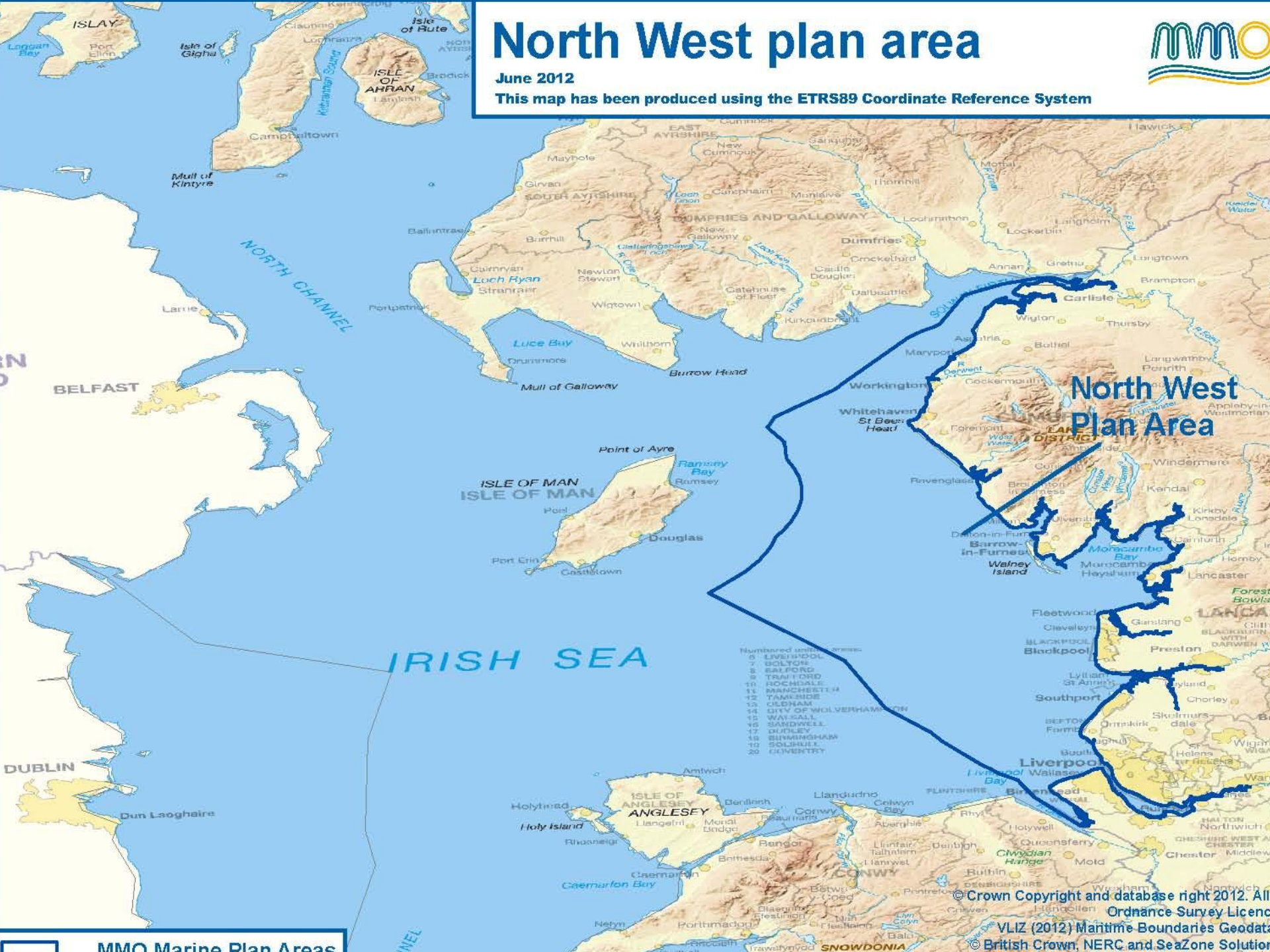
- Develop options and policies for East plan areas (June-Sept 2012)
- Establish which areas will be planned next (July 2012)
- Start planning in new plan areas (October 2012)
- Government approval of draft plans (Dec 2012)
- Formal consultation on draft plans (Jan – Mar 2013)
- Independent Investigation?



North West plan area

June 2012

This map has been produced using the ETR589 Coordinate Reference System



North West
Plan Area

IRISH SEA

MMO Marine Plan Areas

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Value of Forum - adopts an integrated approach to managing a shared resource

- Increased understanding of cross-boundary issues and impacts
- Raise awareness of research activities in the Irish Sea
- Agree cross- boundary evidence gaps, identify new research requirements
- Established stakeholder contact database and forum for stakeholder engagement
- Forum for sharing best practice which will minimise the duplication of effort and utilise resources



Contact details

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Questions