

Irish Sea Maritime Forum  
28 June 2012

# Marine Planning Overview

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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

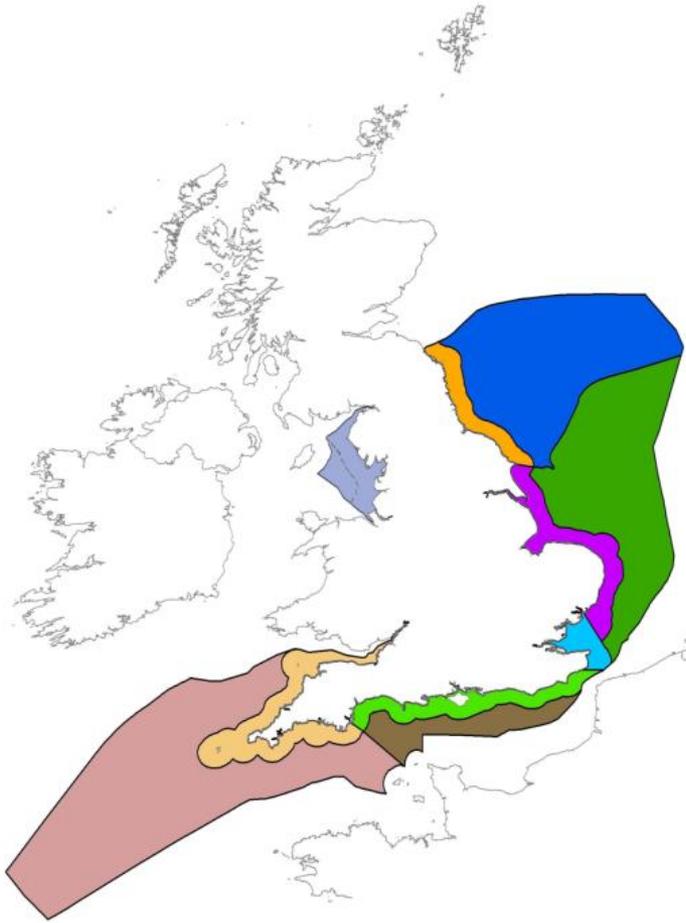


# Benefits of marine planning – some examples

- **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

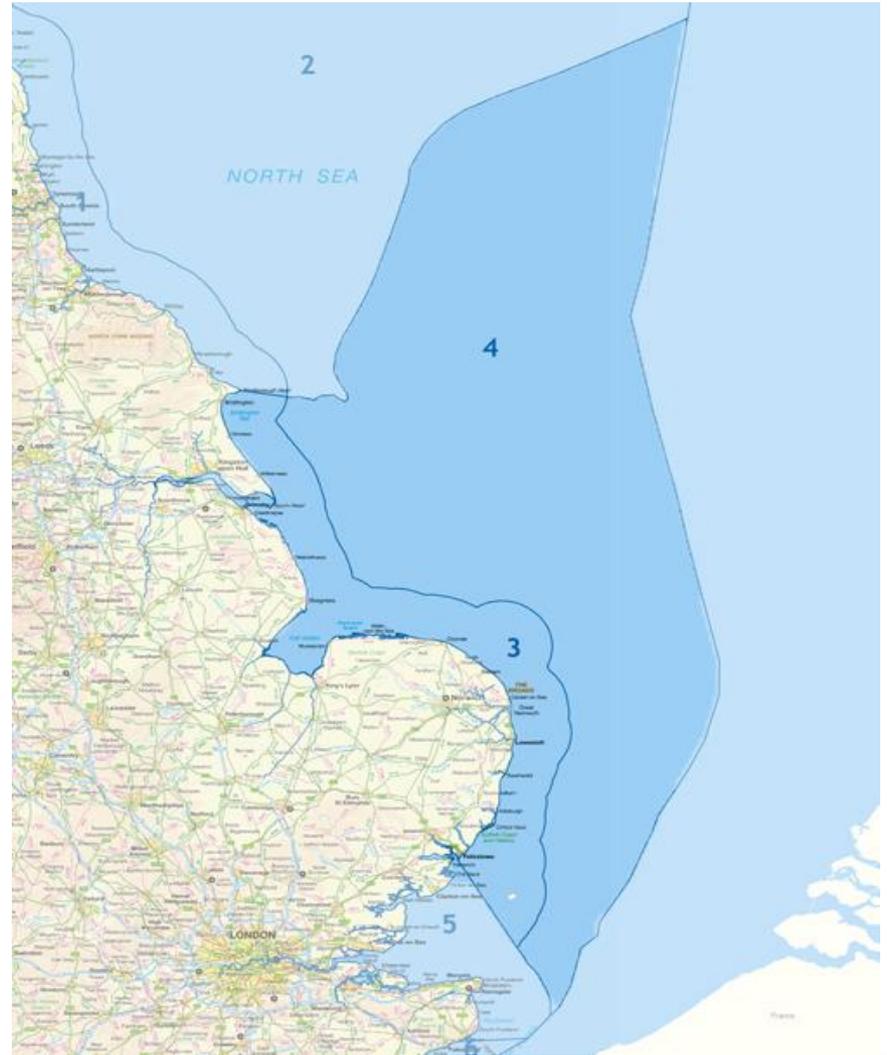
Offshore – out to 200nm

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 km<sup>2</sup>
- Two plans delivered through one process
- One Issues and Evidence Report for both plans



# Summary of our progress so far...

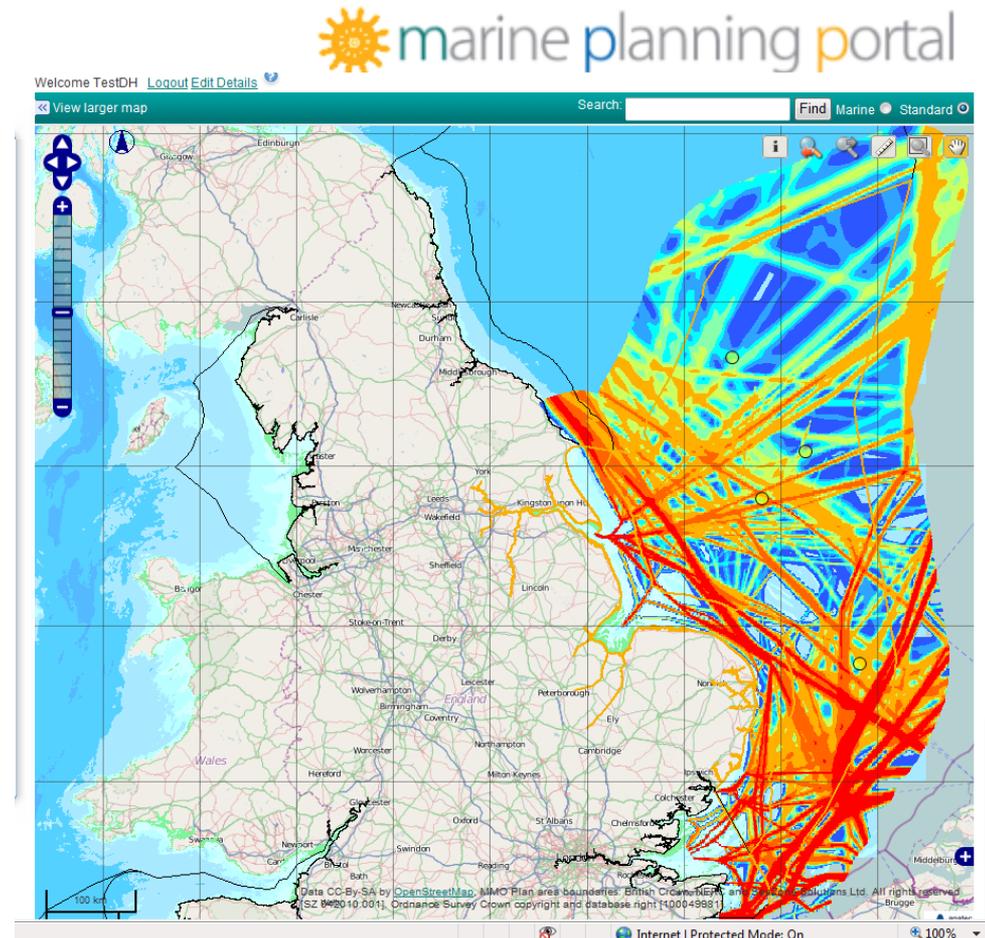
- Statement of Public Participation published - April 2011
  - Strategic Scoping Report published - May 2011
  - Marine Planning Portal went live - May 2011
  - Socio-economic research completed – Nov 2011
  - Revised evidence and issues report following consultation – Feb 2012
  - Draft vision and objectives 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
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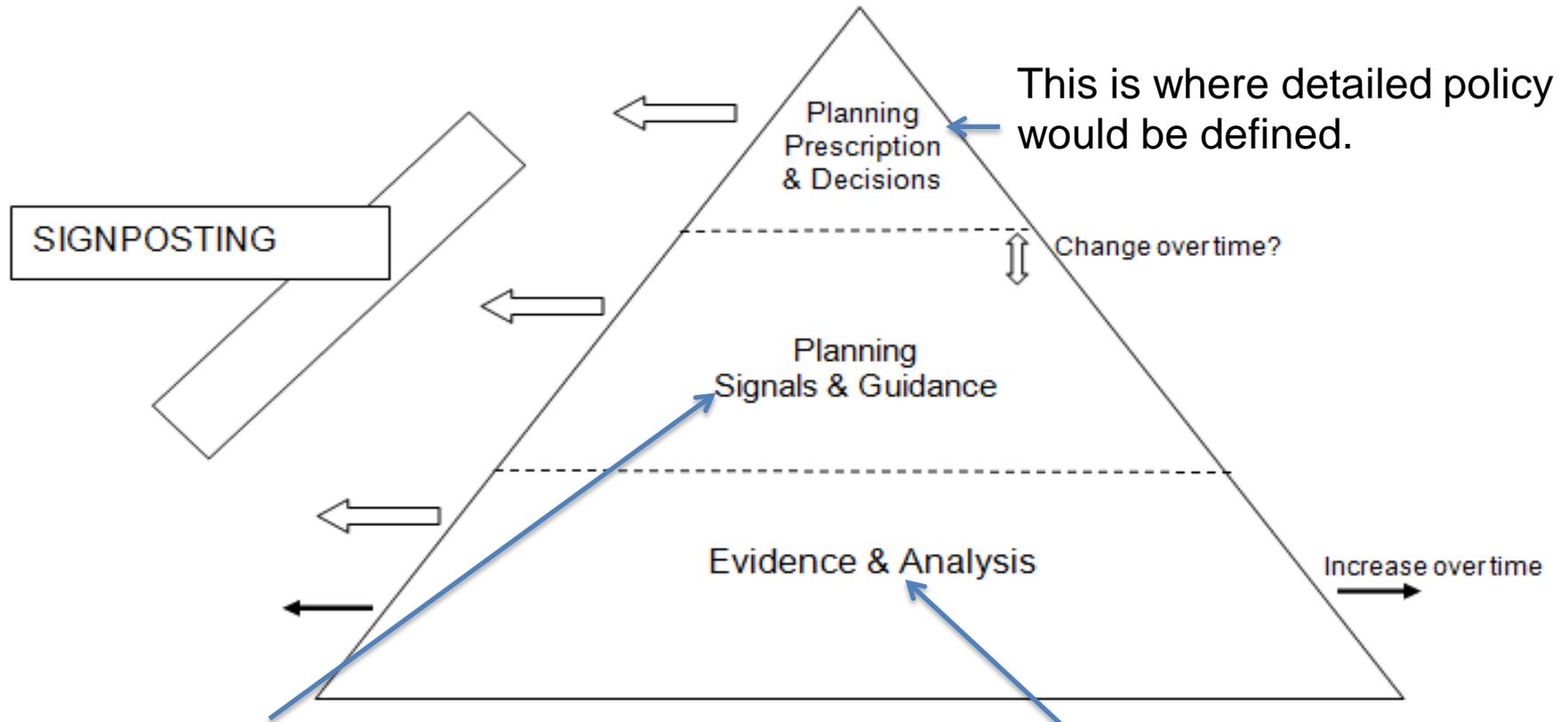
# Marine Planning Portal

- 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



Policies that 'signal' intent, supported by guidance

Key issues emerge from information & data

# 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 ETRS89 Coordinate Reference System



North West  
Plan Area

IRISH SEA

- Numbered units in nautical miles
- 6 LIVERPOOL
  - 7 BOLTON
  - 8 SALFORD
  - 9 TRAFALD
  - 10 ROCHDALE
  - 11 MANCHESTER
  - 12 TAMESIDE
  - 13 OLDHAM
  - 14 CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON
  - 15 WALSLEY
  - 16 SANDWELL
  - 17 DUDLEY
  - 18 BIRMINGHAM
  - 19 SOLIHULL
  - 20 COVENTRY

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MMO Marine Plan Areas

# 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
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# Contact details

**Marine planning team:**

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# Questions