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Marine Planning in Wales

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What will this presentation cover?

1. Background and commitments.

2. Welsh Government progress to date.

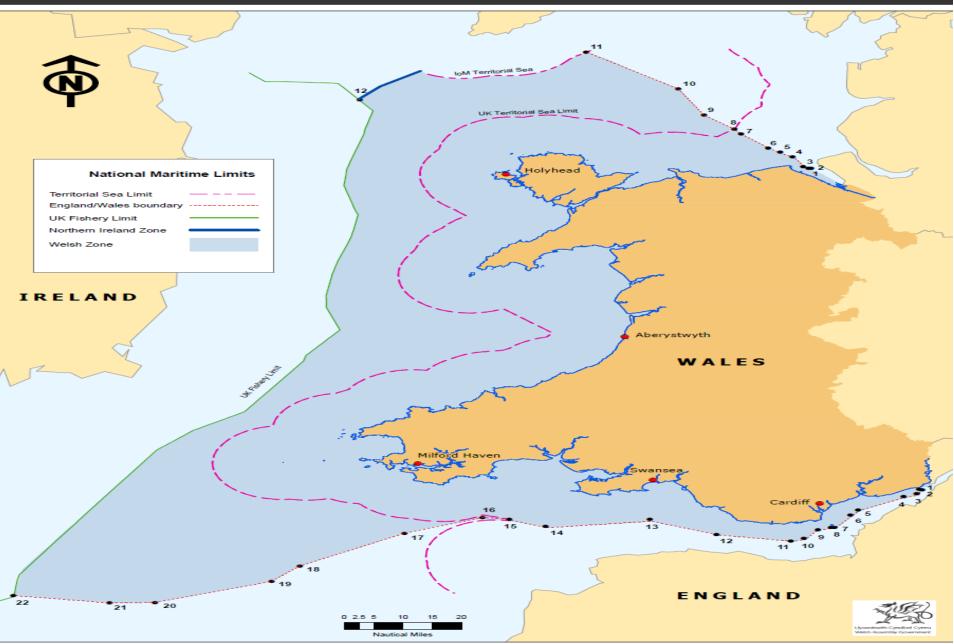
3. Next Steps?

Background and commitments

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- The Welsh Ministers are the marine planning authority for the Welsh inshore and the Welsh offshore areas (i.e. out to the median line) but need all plans for the offshore (12 nautical miles to the median line) agreed by the Secretary of State
- Also plans for the inshore (out to 12 nautical miles) if they cover reserved matters e.g. energy, need to be agreed by the Secretary of State
- All four administrations committed to planning jointly in cross-border areas where practicable.

Welsh Zone



- The previous administration went out to consultation on our approach to marine planning in Feb 2011.
- Key commitments, messages and questions were:
 - commitment to national planning with spatial priorities.
 - Relatively open questions on the level sub-national planning
 - Open question on land/sea integration.
 - Open questions on evidence and data.
 - A proposed governance structure.
 - Commitment to openness, engagement and transparency.

Responses

- Stakeholders were in broad agreement with the need for a national plan with spatial priorities.
- Stakeholders were split on the level of detailed sub-national planning.
- Several evidence gaps were suggested Mobile species, sea bed mapping, socio-economic data.

New Administration

- The Minister supports in principle the approach but with a review of timings.
- The Minister has also asked for this approach to be cleared by Cabinet.

WG Internal marine planning group

- Chaired by Matthew Quinn, Director Enviro & SD.
- Consists of the Heads of each relevant policy area tourism, energy, CADW, Conservation, Ports, Fishing etc.
- Key current responsibility is to help shape the paper on approach planned for marine planning for Cabinet this Autumn
- Likely to form the basis of the overarching Marine Programme Board/Marine Planning Steering Group.
- Agreement to create a WG Marine Evidence Group.

WG Marine Programme

- Holistic approach to the various marine elements; Planning, MSFD, Licence policy, MCZs.
- Programme Board, Evidence Group, Stake Holder Group, ad hoc Task and Finish Groups.

Next Steps

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- A cabinet paper is being prepared for Ministers to illustrate what marine spatial planning could look like in practice. To inform the paper, each policy department is being asked to:
- Express their priority policies spatially in terms of the coast and the marine area.
- Provide the views of their sector on what it requires from marine planning more generally
- Can we spatialise them?
 - If not why not ?
 - Evidence gaps?
 - Lack of consensus?
- Co-location of activities?