



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Cynllun Morol Cenedlaethol Cymru

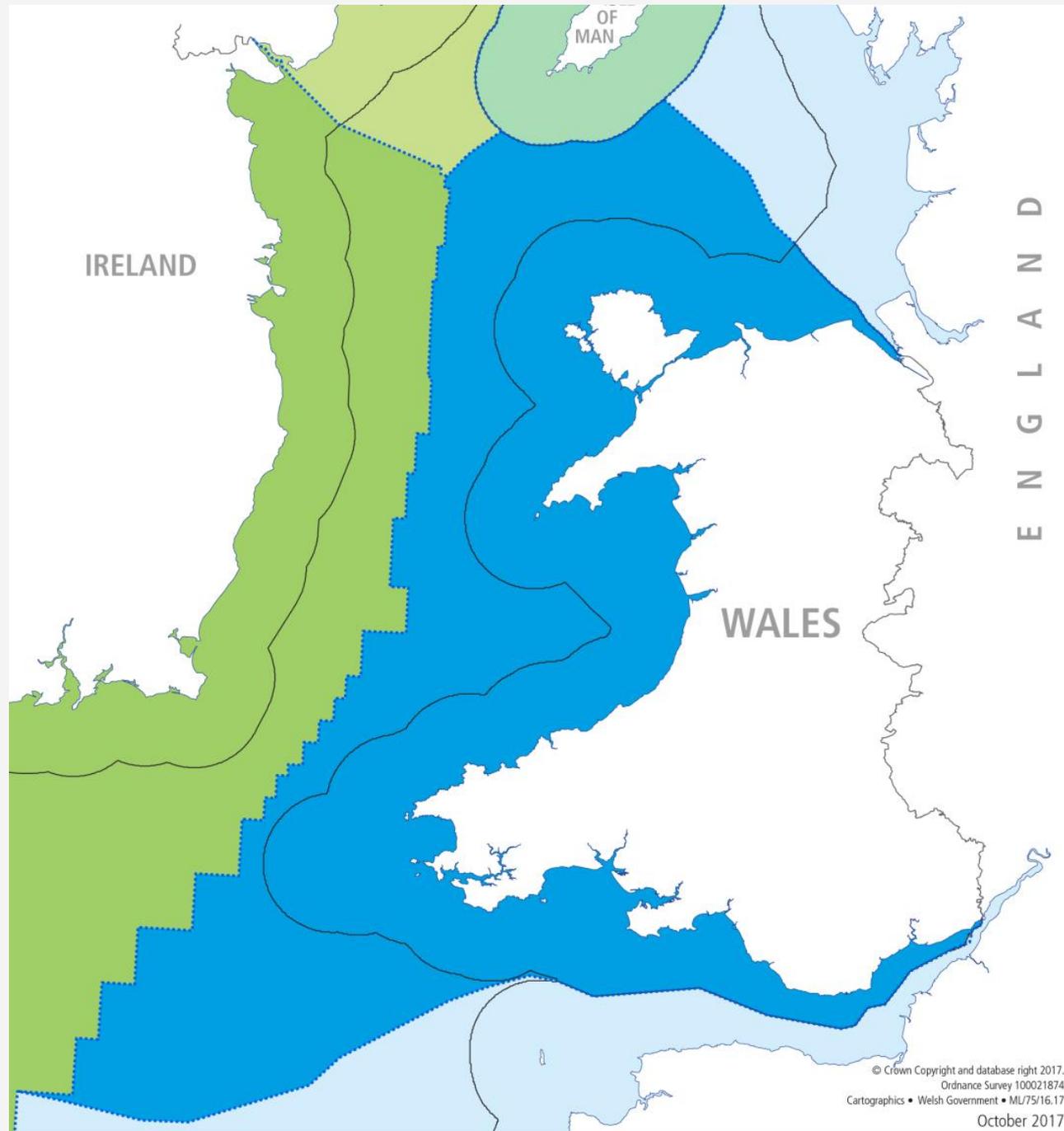
Welsh National Marine Plan

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WNMP Area



Legislative basis for marine planning

MCAA

- Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009
- Legislative basis for marine plans

MPS

- Marine Policy Statement (2011)
- Framework for marine plans and taking decisions

Marine Plans

- Will translate the MPS into detailed policy & spatial guidance & direct decision making

Sub-national

- Marine planning at sub-national level in Wales?
- Joint plans for estuarine areas?

How does the plan have effect?

- **S.58(1) - Authorisation or enforcement decisions must be taken “*in accordance with*” “unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise”**
- **Decisions not in accordance with... public authority must state reasons**
- **S.58(2) - Public authority must ‘have regard’ to marine policy documents** in taking any decision relating to the ***exercise of functions capable of affecting*** the whole or any part of the UK marine area.
- WNMP to ‘have regard’ to existing plans.

How does the plan have effect?

- Principally through decisions made by public authorities
- MCAA S.322 “public authority”: Government department, a Local Authority, a Local planning authority, a statutory undertaker.
- Types of relevant authority decision making:
 - Management measures
 - Consenting and permitting
 - Policy making
 - Nature conservation designation
 - Fisheries management
 - Marine resource strategic management
 - Funding decisions

The draft WNMP content

- Introduction – setting the scene / context.
- Vision & objectives – for the Welsh Marine Area.
- General Policies - overarching –cross cutting policies
- Ways of doing - Environment Act; Wellbeing Future generations (also SD, Ecosystem based approach etc)
- Sector specific policies
- Supporting documents / Evidence / Guidance

The draft WNMP – General Policies

- **GEN_01:** Presumption in favour of the sustainable development of the plan area.. to contribute to Wales' well-being goals.
- **GEN_02:** Relevant public authorities should take a proportionate, risk-based approach....
- **Social** (communities, access, historical, seascape, flooding, climate etc);
- **Governance** (e.g. cumulative effects);
- **Environment** (marine ecosystems, MPAs; bio-security; litter; noise & air / water quality) and
- **Science** (sound evidence, risk based, adaptive management etc).

General Policies will apply to all decisions (where relevant)

WNMP Cross border Policy

- Policy Gov 02

“Relevant public authorities . . . should have regard to:

- *Any applicable policy in a relevant marine plan*
- *Any applicable policy in relevant terrestrial plans or related documents . . .”*

English NW & SW plans, adjacent LA plans, joint estuarine area plans / agreements

The draft WNMP – Sector Policies

Sector Policies are set out for the diverse types of activity that occur in our seas, including:



Aggregates



Aquaculture



Defence



Dredging
& disposal



Fisheries



Renewable
energy



Oil & gas



Ports &
shipping



Subsea
cabling



Surface
waste water

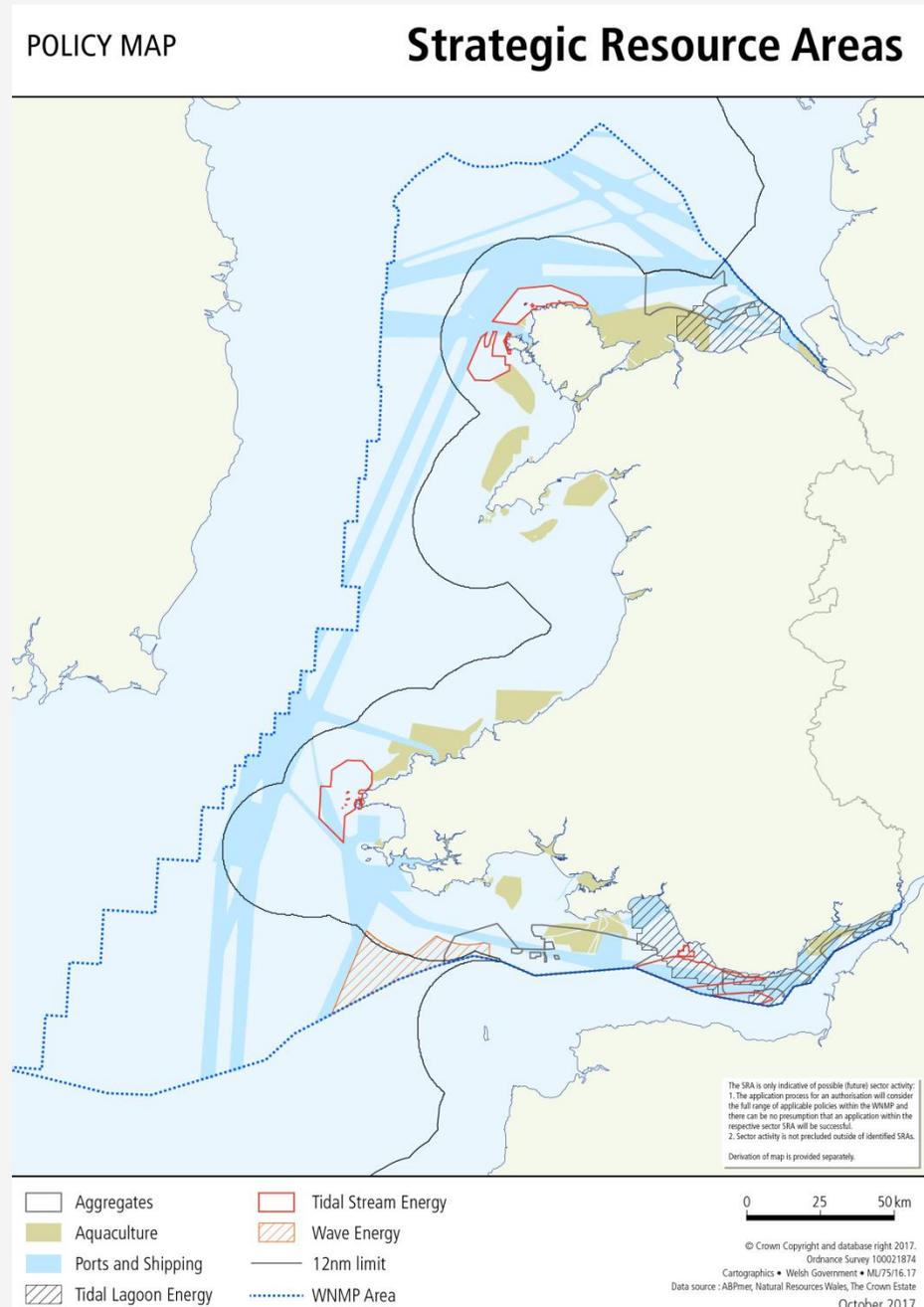


Tourism
& recreation

- **‘Safeguarding’** - to help ensure each sector considers each others needs and do not compromise areas of importance. Encourages co-existence etc
- **‘Supporting’** - to encourage sustainable growth via general support, or within areas with good potential for future activities

Strategic Resource Areas

- Key areas of sector importance or resource are identified on Indicative maps as **Strategic Resource Areas (SRAs)**
- **GIS Portal** has live information



WNMP - Timeline

- Consultation closed - April 2018
- Summary of Responses - July 2018
- Stakeholder workshops - July-Sept 2018
- Adoption - Spring 2019?

NB. The WNMP is arguably a “relevant consideration” in decision making now (MPS) but will fully take effect on adoption

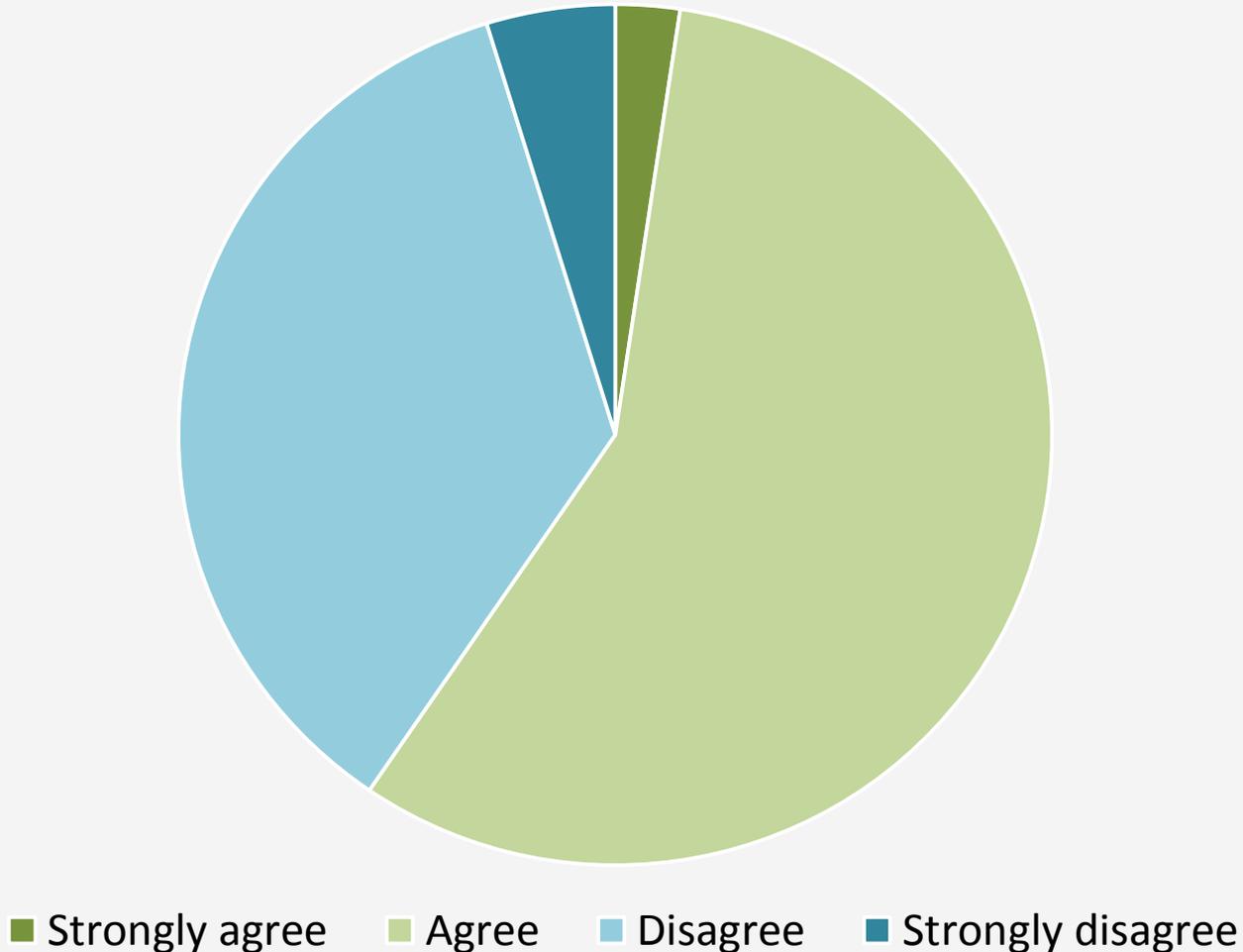
WNMP – Summary of Responses

- Key themes:
 - Sustainable development
 - Strategic Resource Areas
 - Evidence for planning
 - Cross border management

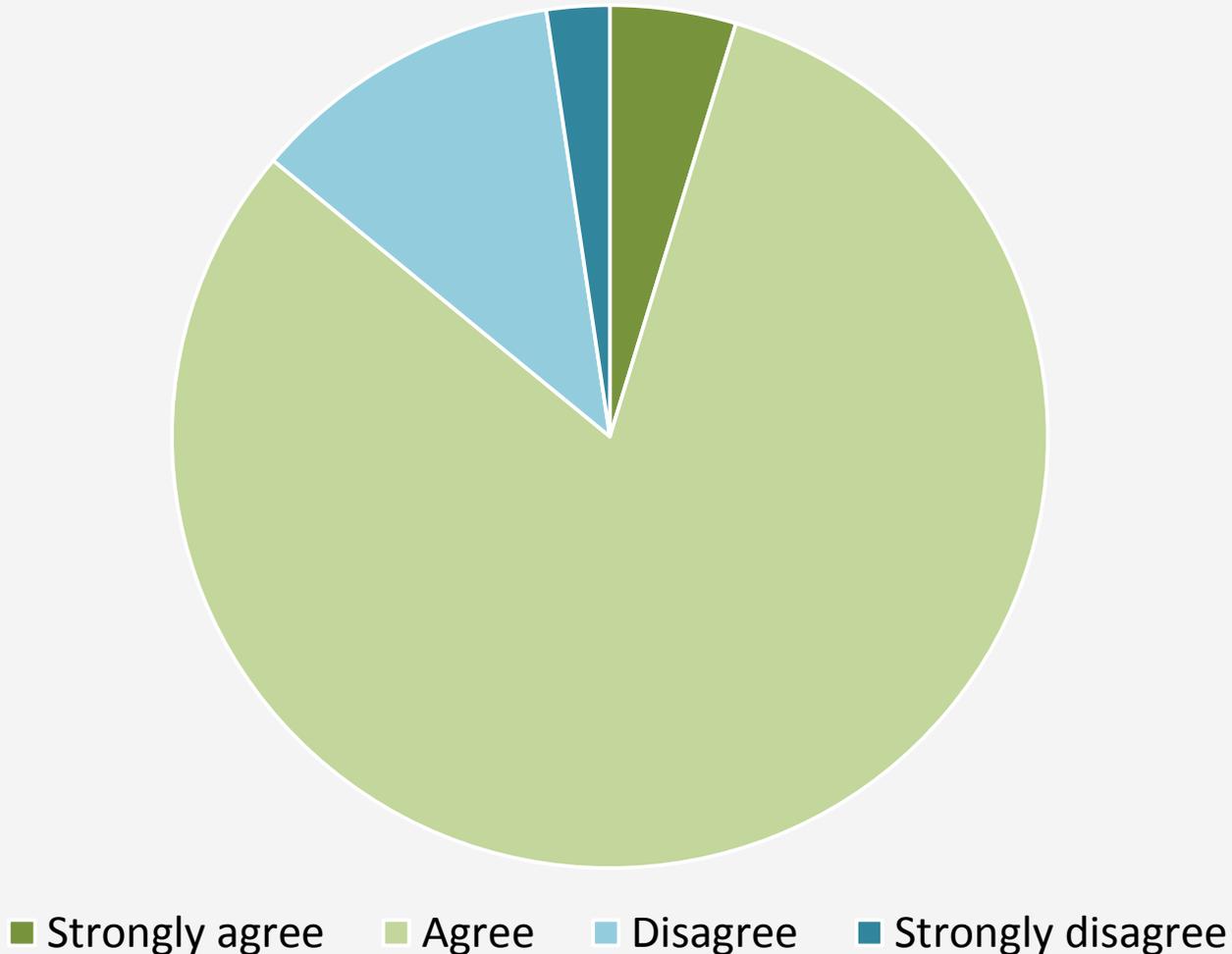


“respondents welcomed the focus of the plan and noted the challenges; due to marine plans in the UK and Ireland being at different stages of development. However some requested a more transparent / joined-up approach, particularly in the shared estuarine waters of the Severn and Dee. We are committed to cross border working and collaboration and will continue to work closely with other marine planning authorities.”

The draft WNMP sufficiently considers cross-border marine planning challenges and opportunities, particularly in areas where Wales adjoins England



The draft WNMP can support the integration between land and sea management and contribute to the principles of Integrated Coastal Zone Management



Consultation responses - Issues for consideration

- More clarity in certain sections of the plan on cross-border impacts
- Consideration of cross-border matters in implementation guidance
- Need for guidance & training, update of Technical Advice Notes
- More transparent, joined-up approach – particularly in Severn & Dee Estuary areas
- How to encourage / facilitate cross border working for future management?

Proposed amendments

- Condense plan
- Separation of guidance from policy
- Additional references to cross-border implications in sector chapters
- Further identification of neighbouring plan areas & expansion of references
- Discuss TANs with terrestrial policy leads
- Consult with other relevant plan authorities - Is our current and proposed level of cross-border engagement sufficient?

WNMP - Implementation

- Supporting decision making by:
 - Working with Relevant Public Authorities
 - Advice from M Planning Stakeholder Reference group
 - Considering lessons learnt elsewhere, test and refine
 - Developing supporting information / guidance
 - Considering training needs for RPAs
 - Developing approach to monitoring and reporting
 - And more (*..... cross border delivery , inform evidence needs, provide expert advice on the plan*)

Countdown to the WNMP



Any questions?

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