



17<sup>th</sup> September 2012

**National Assembly for Wales' Environment and Sustainability Committee Inquiry into  
Marine Policy in Wales  
Response from the Severn Estuary Partnership**

The Severn Estuary Partnership (SEP) is pleased to have the opportunity to submit evidence to this enquiry especially in terms of the marine planning process, stakeholder engagement, resources and cross border relationships.

Set up in 1995, the Severn Estuary Partnership is an independent, estuary-wide non-statutory initiative led by local authorities and statutory agencies. We work with all those involved in the management of the estuary, from planners to port authorities, fishermen to farmers and many more with an interest in the future of the estuary.

The Partnership brings people together to resolve problems and realise opportunities. We currently:

1. Facilitate effective communication across and between organisations and individuals
2. Establish and embed a set of 'common principles' for sustainable estuary use via Partners' strategies, policies and action plans
3. Act as a co-ordinating body to assist the effective and efficient delivery of agreed estuary-wide actions
4. Promote and publicise the estuary at local, national and international level
5. Add value and fill gaps in effective estuary management, providing extra capacity when required.

Given our partnership remit, our primary interest is in ensuring that all marine (specifically Severn related) stakeholders are fairly represented, play active roles and are appropriately supported so they can engage in an informed way. We also stress the significance of mechanisms being in place to support working jointly in cross-boundary areas. The integrated planning and management of the sea and its relationship to the terrestrial environment through Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) is also of paramount interest to the Partnership.

The SEP has been actively involved in the development of the evidence submitted by the Wales Coastal Maritime Partnership (WCMP) and would fully support all comments submitted by the WCMP. The Partnership also endorses the evidence submitted by the Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum.



SEP's response focuses on the following 4 questions posed in the letter of 13 August 2012 requesting data on:

- What progress has been made in relation to the development of marine spatial plans for Wales?
- Whether there is sufficient cooperation and coordination between the Welsh Government and its neighbouring administrations in relation to the management of its seas?
- Whether the Welsh Government has sufficient financial and staff resources to deliver on its marine policy and legislation objectives?
- Whether stakeholders have been sufficiently involved in the shaping of new policies and the development of legislation?

The following points summarise the Severn Estuary Partnership's responses to the key questions outlined above:

**1. What progress has been made in relation to the development of marine spatial plans for Wales?**

The SEP has been involved in various elements relating to marine policy in both Wales and England since the Partnerships conception in 1995. In particular SEP were heavily involved (through the WCMP) in the development of the Welsh Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Strategy in 2007 and helped to draft the Welsh ICZM progress indicator set. The last progress report related to 2008/9. The strategy was due for review in 2010 – as yet no review has taken place. The Welsh Government rightly stresses that the marine plan process should help achieve integration between land and sea. However, the ICZM strategy, which was prepared before the Marine Act was passed, contains many policies and actions which should also help to achieve integration. The SEP believes that an urgent review of the strategy should be undertaken, taking into account the arrival of marine planning, so that it can dovetail with the marine plan process. To this end SEP notes the European Commission and European Directorate General Environment's continued interest in and promotion of ICZM and suggest that development of the Welsh marine plan process should be mindful of any future lessons and guidance from Europe on ICZM.

More recently the SEP sat on WCMP's marine planning working group who helped to develop the Welsh Government's consultation on its approach to marine planning in Welsh Waters – '*Sustainable development in Welsh Seas: Our approach to marine planning in Wales*'. The consultation outlined Welsh Government's intention to create a national plan in Wales, with additional detail being added where necessary. The consultation asked for views on this approach; however no feedback from the consultation has yet been published.

Since this consultation and the adoption of a UK wide Marine Policy Statement (adopted by all four UK administrations) no further progress on marine spatial planning in Wales had been made and SEP are unaware of any announcements explaining this lack of progression. It has been suggested that the lack of progress is due to the need for legal clarification around the requirements of the Marine Act 2009 and also contributed to by the lack of resources currently available to Welsh Government's Marine Team. The SEP is concerned that this lack of progression and adequate resourcing will lead to severe implications for cross border planning between England and Wales in the Severn



Estuary region. We would therefore strongly request some clarity on the status and planned timescales of the marine planning process in Wales, including a formal response to the 'Sustainable development in Welsh Seas: Our approach to marine planning in Wales' consultation. Clarity and a clear forward timeframe will help Partnerships and stakeholders prepare to input into marine planning, aiding the efficiency of the process.

**2. Whether there is sufficient cooperation and coordination between the Welsh Government and its neighbouring administrations in relation to the management of its seas?**

The SEP deals with the everyday reality of working on a cross border estuary. The Partnership therefore wishes to stress the importance of managing the Severn from an ecosystems based approach and working in close partnership with the MMO and Defra as stated in our responses to: 'Sustaining a Living Wales – A Green Paper on a new approach to natural resource management in Wales' and the 'Consultation on Natural Resources Wales: Proposed Arrangements for Establishing and Directing a New Body for the Management of Wales' Natural Resources'.

The Partnership acknowledges that the Welsh Government is '*committed to planning as jointly as possible with the MMO for these areas and to use crossborder stakeholder groups to support joint planning. We will look to establish formal working arrangements to take this forward – for example by means of a concordat. We are already working on a marine planning concordat with Defra, as the lead UK Government department, which will set out the framework for administrative co-operation and management of the marine area.*'<sup>1</sup> We would however, request additional clarity and supporting timeframes where possible. Furthermore, SEP would support the urgent development of formal concordats with the MMO and Defra at cross-border areas. We are concerned that these concordats have not yet been developed / communicated despite the promise within the consultation document last year.

**3. Whether the Welsh Government has sufficient financial and staff resources to deliver on its marine policy and legislation objectives?**

It is clear that in order to implement the emerging marine legislative framework, there is a need for additional resources within the Welsh Government marine team to fully address these complex issues, not least to aid the development of marine planning. It has become apparent from past consultations such as the recent MCZ consultation, that there are insufficient resources to deal sufficiently with the emerging workloads. SEP would therefore suggest that it would be beneficial to expand current resources, however we appreciate the challenges in the current financial climate. To this end, SEP would like to recommend that the Welsh Government considers further utilisation of Partnership services (including SEP, WCMP and PCF) to help assist in the marine planning process, not least in the delivery of effective stakeholder engagement. The ability of Partnerships to deliver these services was proven towards the latter stages of the MCZ consultation process where SEP and PCF joined forces to deliver two public engagement events, in what had become very challenging circumstances. SEP would

---

<sup>1</sup> Welsh Assembly Government - Sustainable Development for Welsh Seas: Our Approach to Marine Planning in Wales - 2011



welcome early conversations and additional resources to allow better and **earlier** stakeholder engagement services to be provided throughout the marine planning process.

There is a great deal of work to be done, however SEP believes that now is the time to put in place the mechanisms through which the right people and organisations can be engaged in the process. To this end, SEP and PCF (the two CPs in Wales) wrote to the Environment Minister, John Griffiths, to stress the importance of stakeholder participation which is obligatory under the Marine Act. The Paper, *'Welsh Coastal Partnerships, current and potential role in marine planning and ICZM'*, stressed the role that CPs can play in securing buy in to the marine planning process. A copy of the full paper can be found appended to this document.

The report praised the intention of the Welsh Government to engage local communities in the marine planning process. It stressed that CPs are uniquely placed to assist in this engagement process and help to deliver marine planning and ICZM on a local scale due to their:

- a. Knowledge and expertise
- b. Experience of a wide range of means of engaging with local communities
- c. Access to many networks locally, nationally and internationally
- d. Knowledge of land and sea integration
- e. Ability to co-ordinate across borders
- f. Active promotion of an integrated approach to the coastal zone over the last 10 years or so; and above all their
- g. Neutral stance, which has brought opposing factions to the table and engendered greater understanding amongst stakeholders

These attributes were acknowledged in the ICZM Strategy for Wales, but apart from the work of the two partnerships little has been achieved in this field. It is our firm belief that the above attributes could be of great value to the Welsh Government in its quest to engage with local communities, not only in the marine plan process but in the ongoing ICZM process too.

The Report recommended early dialogue between the two Partnerships and the Welsh Government. In his letter of 15 March 2012, following receipt of the paper, the Minister, John Griffiths said:

*"I recognise the valuable work that coastal partnerships undertake in Wales and welcome your enthusiasm in taking marine planning forward."*

*"The Welsh Government's aim is to develop the first national marine plan for Welsh seas by 2014/15. We are currently considering the arrangements we need to have in place in order to help us achieve this, which will include the contribution and role that coastal partnerships could make and play"*

In a similar but parallel process, the MMO have recently commissioned a report from the National Coastal Partnership Network (CPN) (of which the SEP Manager is currently Chair) to provide a technical analysis of the levels of activity and engagement within CPs and identify gaps in spatial coverage around England in relation to the current and proposed MP areas. In addition, the report aims to describe the potential of CPs to



contribute to communications on marine planning and recommend proposals for future engagement. In addition to this document the value of CPs and the services they provide were examined and where possible quantified in the Defra commissioned Financial Benefits project taken forward by Defra in 2008; and were later summarised in the document '*Profiting from Partnership – putting a price on member benefits*'.

Although the MMO commissioned report is still awaiting sign-off it is envisaged that a copy of both documents can be made available to the committee if necessary.

Further to this work, we would welcome a meeting with the Minister to discuss CPs potential contribution to marine planning in Wales. Key topics that need discussing include:

- The attitude to public / community engagement
- The extent of engagement that can be achieved in the relatively short time allowed for the preparation of the plan
- The provision of resources for CPs to undertake significant extra work on marine planning
- The coverage of the Welsh Coast by Coastal Partnerships
- The relationship of the Welsh Government and the Coastal Partnership Network

Additional detail on many of the above topics can be found as part of Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum's submitted evidence

#### **4. Whether stakeholders have been sufficiently involved in the shaping of new policies and the development of legislation?**

SEP have sat on the Stakeholder and Citizen Engagement Group and Marine planning working group for Welsh Government and WCMP and feel that we have been engaged in the development of marine policy and legislation in Wales. However as stated in section three of this evidence, SEP feel that local level engagement is paramount to the success of the Marine Planning process and feel that early and comprehensive engagement is necessary to avoid similar issues to those that arose around the MCZ consultation. We would therefore recommend that additional resources are made available for local engagement, clear timeframes and associated communications are circulated and local CPs are utilised where available to ensure a successful and efficient engagement process, which in turn will lead to a more effective and efficient marine plan.

On behalf of the Severn Estuary Partnership, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to submit evidence to this enquiry. We would be happy to discuss any of the points raised above in additional detail as appropriate.

**Yours sincerely,  
On behalf of the Severn Estuary Partnership,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P R Parker', is written below the typed name.

**Paul Parker  
Severn Estuary Partnership Manager**

# **WELSH COASTAL PARTNERSHIPS**

## **Current and potential role in marine planning and ICZM**

**Prepared by Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum and  
the Severn Estuary Partnership**



**Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum**  
Fforwm Arfordir Sir Benfro

**January 2012**

## Contents:

1.0 Introduction: .....	3
2.0 Why Coastal Partnerships? .....	3
3.0 Knowledge & Expertise .....	4
4.0 Networks .....	4
5.0 Integrated Marine Policy Engagement .....	5
6.0 Resources .....	5
7.0 Coverage .....	6
8.0 Coastal Partnership Capacity .....	6
9.0 Communication Methods .....	6
Consultation Discussions .....	6
Debates .....	6
Conferences / Seminars .....	7
AM's event .....	7
Coastal Surgeries.....	7
Coastal Panels .....	7
Schools Project.....	7
Schools Workshops .....	7
Newsletters .....	7
Local Media .....	8
Utilisation of existing Partnership events and networks.....	8
Marketing materials.....	8
Partnership Website .....	8
Proposed: Interactive Web based stakeholder engagement toolkit.....	8
10.0 Summary and proposed way forward .....	9
11.0 Additional Information: .....	10

## **1.0 Introduction:**

The following paper has been prepared by Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum (PCF) and the Severn Estuary Partnership (SEP), in anticipation of the start of marine planning in Wales. Following consultation on the Welsh approach to marine planning in spring 2011 and continued dialogue with Welsh Government Officers through the Wales Coastal Maritime Partnership, we understand that it is the aim of the Welsh Government to engage local communities in the planning process. We strongly support this approach and believe that Coastal Partnerships are uniquely placed to assist in the engagement process and help to deliver marine planning and ICZM on a local level. The following paper outlines the strengths and benefits of this Partnership approach and highlights areas where both PCF and SEP can add value to the marine planning and ICZM process in Wales.

Coastal Partnerships (CPs) operate as key delivery agents for Integrated Coastal Zone Management and embody the Ecosystems Approach to marine resource management that underpins the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (MACAA). Where they exist, Coastal Partnerships lie at the heart of coastal management, implementing the European ICZM principles thus facilitating integration at the land and sea interface. Their networks, contacts and experience are unrivalled; their social capital and influence has no comparable model. Together they represent a unique and vital resource that is perfectly placed to play a central role in the development and delivery of marine management practices around the coast. CPs were established to deliver neutral, impartial and independent stakeholder engagement on marine and coastal matters across the UK and have been publicly funded for well over a decade to do so. With the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 comes a significant opportunity for Welsh Government (WG) to support and utilise the expertise that these partnerships have developed and engage with the extensive stakeholder and community networks that have been created.

## **2.0 Why Coastal Partnerships?**

Coastal Partnerships operate at a number of institutionally different levels. In order to be effective the delivery of marine planning and other key marine policy initiatives will require a multi-layered approach, and will depend on strong working relationships between the many different partnerships/delivery agents involved. This layering of information makes for a highly complex system. Due to the cross sectoral nature of coastal and marine issues, a systems based approach to marine planning is required.

The broad 'vertical' mixing of all coastal interests that is seen in Coastal Partnerships makes them vital fulcrums for discussion, communication and action. Therefore putting CPs to work effectively to assist with marine planning and other resource management processes could be essential for the success of the process and as a means of keeping costs, duplication and stakeholder burn-out to a minimum, at a time when such 'waste' is being intensely scrutinised by government. Other coastal/maritime groups and networks exist and contain similar members - for example Shoreline Management Planning, Local Authority groupings and Coastal Protection - however their focus is often narrow and sector specific. The membership of CPs is cross cutting, representative and unique, with representatives from Local Government, Statutory Agencies, industries, local communities and interest groups, all sitting around the same table. Perhaps most importantly coastal partnerships

offer a neutral and trusted forum for discussion and dissemination, with extensive and well established networks.

### **3.0 Knowledge & Expertise**

With a coastal and marine focus, CP's have considerable knowledge and understanding of UK and EU marine and coastal policy. They are generally established in areas of high nature conservation value and intense economic activity where there is a need for integration and collaboration. Due to this, they tend to focus in particular on the enormously complex interactions between land and sea as well as cross sectoral and inter-sectoral relationships between the broad range of agencies involved in the use and management of UK coastal areas. CP's also offer significant neutral coordination, which in turn aids integration, between administrations and stakeholders in cross boundary areas, such as the Severn Estuary.

### **4.0 Networks**

Coastal Partnership networks extend well beyond the coastal areas they operate in, particularly due to the fact that management of the coast ranges from local through to international organisations. They have strong working relationships with UK and devolved governments and this extends across a number of departments due to the range of projects and activities they are involved in. E.g., Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum's [Marine Energy Pembrokeshire](#) project has strong links with Business Energy Technology and Science and Sustainable Energy Industry Wales departments in Welsh Government as well as DECC in UK Government. Their Wales Activity Mapping project covers five local authority areas including Pembrokeshire.

Coastal partnerships have also developed EU networks through the broad range of European projects they tend to participate in. This aids the development and sharing of best practice on a variety of coastal and marine management aspects and is recognised as good practice by the European Commission. The Severn Estuary Partnership has been actively involved in numerous European Projects, including the INTERREG IVB Innovative Management for Europe's Changing Coast Resource project ([IMCORE](#)) and more recently the INTERREG IVC Project, [DeltaNet](#).

Recognising the challenges of marine planning and integrated coastal management, sharing of best practice is common place within the UK [Coastal Partnerships Network](#) (CPN) and this can be of great value, particularly to peripheral, remote coastal communities. Learning from others can significantly reduce time and costs and can lead to the development of long term and positive projects and alliances. The CPN approach aids standardisation between CPs around the UKs coast and helps to develop common resources for all.

Similarly, PCF and SEP are members of the Wales Coastal Maritime Partnership (WCMP) and support proposed moves to increase its capacity through the appointment of a dedicated full time officer. By providing a Welsh coordinating and communication role and national focus on policy issues this would allow PCF and SEP to concentrate on local engagement delivery. Furthermore, it also presents real opportunities for provision of centrally co-

ordinated services (newsletter, database, interactive website etc.) to enable consistency and cost savings across Wales.

## **5.0 Integrated Marine Policy Engagement**

Historically stakeholder consultations tend to be policy led, single issue, one-off events with limited feedback. The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 has instigated an enormous volume of coastal policy changes with strong emphasis on wide stakeholder engagement to include NEF, Marine Planning, MCZ's, Marine licensing, SMP's, WFD etc. Communities and interest groups are increasingly expected to participate in and respond to often complex and very time consuming exercises at their own expense. This has led to real confusion over the relationships between policies (not just for communities) and considerable consultation fatigue. This is a serious concern for the Wales, particularly due to the fact that the implications of many of these policy changes can have major consequences for communities.

CPs are uniquely placed to engage all relevant stakeholders from local communities to practitioners and policy makers. Partnerships have extensive contact databases and good working rapport with key stakeholders. They have developed long term relationships with coastal communities built on trust and understanding due to their impartiality and independence. Communications are ongoing and targeted, with a wide range of engagement mechanisms used to reduce the burden on stakeholders. Due to their knowledge and expertise, partnerships can translate the wide range of coastal policy to ensure it is locally focused, meaningful and clearly understood. In order to do this however, coastal partnerships must be adequately resourced.

## **6.0 Resources**

Currently, Coastal Partnerships do not receive core funding but are funded through a wide range of complex mechanisms ranging from private sector corporate and community responsibility budgets through to statutory bodies, grant funding, European project funding and membership fees/contributions. SEP and PCF have over 30 different funders each, all with differing administrative priorities which presents a significant administrative burden for both parties. Marine and coastal activities operate across government bodies and there is growing interest in utilising the services of Coastal Partnerships for specific activities and projects such as [Wales Activity Mapping](#). If a more integrated approach was taken, sharing costs across departments, and if Coastal Partnerships were funded directly from government rather than through a plethora of government agencies this could provide a very significant cost reduction for both Coastal Partnerships and government. CP networks would grow exponentially with increased use and their value to government would increase over time. Government could make use of this "ready-made and trusted" relationship with communities when necessary, but ongoing resources would be required to maintain the networks and dialogue.

To ensure that inclusive and extensive stakeholder engagement is undertaken by private sector companies, government agencies could place a condition on planning and consenting that CPs are liaised with during the application process through sub-contractual

arrangements. This would allow CP's to extend their networks further and draw in other funding for their work thus reducing support required from government. Furthermore, the use of CP services for stakeholder engagement exercises would not only be more cost effective (as much of the ground work would already be done) but it would also support CP's other sustainable coastal management activities and projects due to their 'not for profit' status. These additional sources of private sector funding would enable match funding for EU and other grant funding applications, thus enhancing Partnerships capacity.

## 7.0 Coverage

In Wales at present, CP coverage is limited to Pembrokeshire and the Severn Estuary. Both PCF and SEP recognise the difficulty this presents for government who need to be consistent in their approach across Wales. Both partnerships would welcome dialogue with Welsh Government to explore potential avenues to fill these gaps, including the development of the national WCMP. SEP & PCF have the potential to expand their remit and already operate in other areas with reference to particular activities such as Energy and Education. In order to address the lack of coverage in North Wales, a review of existing partnerships and their coverage needs to be carried out to see if they could be used and possibly broadened to take on this role. Terms of reference for CP's in Wales could be developed to ensure they meet government needs and are consistent.

## 8.0 Coastal Partnership Capacity

PCF are currently exploring the recruitment of field officers who would work on an ad-hoc self employed basis. In addition, they are in discussion with other local stakeholder engagement agencies and UK coastal partnerships to establish shared staffing arrangements. This will result in Coastal Partnerships being able to provide increased capacity and consistency.

## 9.0 Communication Methods

Current communication methods which Coastal Partnerships regularly use are outlined in Table One (For full web address against each hyperlink please see Table Two). PCF and SEP would welcome further discussions with Welsh Government to explore which methods may be of interest and identify capacity and coverage needs.

**Table One – PCF & SEP Current communication methods**

<b>Communication Method</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>	<b>Example</b>
<b>Consultation Discussions</b>	Round table discussions with consulter and key stakeholders to enable Q & A and more informed individual organisational responses.	<a href="#">Joint Advisory Committee Meetings</a>
<b>Debates</b>	Speakers representing a range of views come together with the public to discuss specific topics with a panel of experts taking questions from the floor. If possible this could be filmed	<a href="#">PCF Debates</a>

	and placed on the website.	
<b>Conferences / Seminars</b>	Covering a range of topical coastal maritime themes and either targeted at specific stakeholders or open invitation to anyone with an interest. Generally encourage WG to provide policy context and include Q & A sessions. A workshop to explore specific issues could form part of this.	<a href="#">Marine Renewable Seminar</a> <a href="#">Severn Estuary Forum</a>
<b>AM's event</b>	Specific events to raise awareness and understanding of MCZs, and other coastal and maritime topics to local politicians. Taking AM's out to potential sites is beneficial to enhance understanding, leading to greater buy-in.	
<b>Coastal Surgeries</b>	Community groups / public / stakeholders are invited to come to a central location to discuss issues in an informal environment with facilitators and relevant organisations. This is likely to be popular with those less comfortable with discussing issues in an open forum. The surgeries can be more structured if necessary with individuals booking slots. Consideration needs to be made to the type of stakeholder you are engaging with and there likelihood of being able to attend e.g. meetings in pubs in the evening has proved popular with fishermen.	<a href="#">PCF Coastal Surgeries</a>
<b>Coastal Panels</b>	A group of "experts" go into a community and invite members of the public to come and discuss policy proposals. Experts would need to represent a wide range of interests at the proposed site. The use of neutral facilitators is essential.	
<b>Schools Project</b>	Both PCF and SEP have significant experience of designing and running school educational workshops and would suggest that this would be a good way of communicating the Marine Planning process and associated themes to young people in Wales. PCF have already established the very successful Future Coasts schools project which could be expanded across Wales.	<a href="#">Future Coasts</a> <a href="#">YoCCo</a>
<b>Schools Workshops</b>	SEP have recently developed (in association with the INTERREG IMCORE Project and Beacons YoCCo project) an education pack for Key stage 4 on Adapting to Climate Change in Wales.	<a href="#">YoCCo</a>
<b>Newsletters</b>	These are produced monthly and disseminated widely. They tend to provide latest news on a range of coastal and marine issues and grouped	<a href="#">Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum</a> <a href="#">E-News</a>

	according to areas of interest e.g. marine energy. Severn Estuary Partnership E-News & Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum E-News both currently circulated to approx 1000 individuals representing over 500 organisations.	<a href="#">Severn Estuary Partnership E-News</a>  <a href="#">Severn Tidings</a>
<b>Local Media</b>	PCNPA Coast to Coast, local papers, local radio, all to be directed to information points (e.g. interactive website - see below).	<a href="#">PCNPA Coast to Coast</a>  <a href="#">SEP/PISCES Publicity video</a>
<b>Utilisation of existing Partnership events and networks</b>	Local Coastal Partnerships host a number of engagement events throughout the year such as annual forums, Joint Advisory Committees, Management Groups, Task Groups and Coastal surgeries. Partnerships actively develop links with other organisations under the Partnerships umbrella such as Coastal Groups and European Marine Site Networks. Engagement with CP's provides access to these well established and successful forums.	<a href="#">SEP Diary</a>  <a href="#">SEP Who's Who</a>  <a href="#">SEP Gateway</a>
<b>Marketing materials</b>	To include leaflets, fact sheets, display boards etc.	<b>SEP Marketing Materials:</b> <a href="#">Marketing Brochure</a> , <a href="#">Guidance Notes</a> , <a href="#">Newsletter</a>  <b>PCF materials online:</b> <a href="#">Fact Sheets</a> , <a href="#">Marine-Energy Pembrokeshire Leaflet</a>
<b>Partnership Website</b>	Individual CP websites and associated E-News offer a direct conduit for the dissemination of information to a wide ranging, cross sectoral audience.	<a href="#">SEP Website</a>  <a href="#">PCF Website</a>
<b>Proposed: Interactive Web based stakeholder engagement toolkit</b>	At the heart of stakeholder engagement there needs to be an interactive web based information source which is very user friendly, accessible and relevant to a range of audiences. It needs to use the latest technology to enable voting on issues, video links / YouTube for providing information rather than just text and	Potential role for coordination from <a href="#">WCMP</a>

	<p>links to Facebook, Twitter, QR codes, blogs etc. Included should also be template presentations for different audiences; including schools, fact sheets, Frequently Asked Questions etc. It would need to provide information on the range of organisations involved in management of the coast, roles and responsibilities, laws / by-laws, contacts, consultations and relationships between the whole suite of consultations / policies and plans to increase understanding and reduce confusion. It would be beneficial if this website was hosted by a neutral organisation (WCMP) and presented the full range of views.</p>	
--	---	--

### 10.0 Summary and proposed way forward

The above document outlines some of key opportunities and benefits that Coastal Partnerships can offer in terms of Stakeholder Engagement throughout Marine Planning and the associated implementation work. The key benefits of Partnership working delivered by both PCF and SEP are:

- Knowledge and expertise
- Experience of a wide range of means of engaging with local communities
- Access to many networks locally, nationally and internationally
- Land – Sea Integration
- Cross border coordination
- Active promotion of an integrated approach to the coastal zone over the last ten years or more; and above all
- Neutral stance, which has brought opposing factions to the table and engendered greater understanding amongst stakeholders.

Both PCF and SEP would welcome early dialogue with Welsh Government to explore the opportunities presented by local coastal partnerships and the benefits they can offer to the Welsh Government. An early, open and transparent dialogue will allow capacity to be built and mechanisms to be put in place to aid communication and engagement through the marine planning process as soon as planning begins. However in order to achieve this it is vital that steps are taken now to ensure all parties are prepared. We would therefore recommend that initial discussion points should include:

- The role and remit of Welsh Coastal Partnerships in Marine Planning and ICZM in Wales (including WCMP)
- Potential review of existing coastal partnerships and their coverage and remit (Jointly with CPN/MMO)
- Resourcing and capacity of existing local coastal partnerships
- Timescales

Should you require any additional information or to arrange a meeting to explore these ideas further, please do not hesitate to contact Tonia Forsyth, Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum (Tel: 01646 696173 Email: [tforsyth@mhpa.co.uk](mailto:tforsyth@mhpa.co.uk)) or Paul Parker, Severn Estuary Partnership (Tel: 02920 874713 Email: [Parkerpr@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:Parkerpr@cardiff.ac.uk))

### **11.0 Additional Information:**

For further information on the range of activities that Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum is involved in please follow the link to the website and Business Plan:

<http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/resources>

Or alternately take a look at each of the PCF project websites:-

1. Marine Energy Pembrokeshire [www.marineenergypembrokeshire.org.uk](http://www.marineenergypembrokeshire.org.uk)
2. Pembrokeshire Outdoor Charter [www.pembrokeshireoutdoorcharter.org.uk](http://www.pembrokeshireoutdoorcharter.org.uk)
3. Pembrokeshire Marine Code [www.pembrokeshiremarinecode.org.uk](http://www.pembrokeshiremarinecode.org.uk)
4. Wales Activity Mapping (formally known as Recreation audit) [www.walesactivitymapping.org.uk](http://www.walesactivitymapping.org.uk)
5. We are currently expanding our Future Coasts Buzz Schools Challenge project which will have its own website but is currently hosted on PCF's site [www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum/buzz.org.uk](http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum/buzz.org.uk)

For further information on the range of activities that the Severn Estuary Partnership is involved in please follow the link to the website and Business Plan:

<http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/>

<http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership.html>

Or alternately explore the following specific projects:

1. State of the Severn Estuary Report <http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/publications/soser.html>
2. Severn Estuary Forum <http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/forum.html>
3. Innovative Management for Europe's Changing Coastal Resource <http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/imcore/index.html>
4. DeltaNet <http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership/deltanet.html>
5. The All-Wales Young People's Climate Change Forum <http://www.yocco.org>

The Severn Estuary Partnership also hosts the Severn Estuary Gateway website which is a portal into numerous management organisations around the Severn and contains a plethora of information and resources. <http://www.severnestuary.net> Linked organisations/projects include:

1. Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities
2. Severn Estuary Coastal Group
3. Severn Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy
4. Bristol Channel Standing Environment Website
5. Severn Estuary Partnership

**Table Two – Full web address for hyperlinks in Table One**

<b>Hyperlink</b>	<b>Full Web Address</b>
<a href="#">Joint Advisory Committee Meetings</a>	<a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership/jac.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership/jac.html</a>
<a href="#">PCF Debates</a>	<a href="http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/resources/events/">http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/resources/events/</a>
<a href="#">Marine Renewable Seminar</a>	<a href="http://www.marineenergypembrokeshire.co.uk/about/pembrokeshire-mre-seminar">http://www.marineenergypembrokeshire.co.uk/about/pembrokeshire-mre-seminar</a>
<a href="#">Severn Estuary Forum</a>	<a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/forum.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/forum.html</a>
<a href="#">PCF Coastal Surgeries</a>	<a href="http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/resources/coastal-surgeries/">http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/resources/coastal-surgeries/</a>
<a href="#">Future Coasts</a>	<a href="http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/marine-conservation-zones/">http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/marine-conservation-zones/</a>
<a href="#">YoCCo</a>	<a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/yocco/index.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/yocco/index.html</a>
<a href="#">YoCCo</a>	<a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/yocco/index.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/yocco/index.html</a>
<a href="#">Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum E-News</a>	<a href="http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/resources/enews/">http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/resources/enews/</a>
<a href="#">Severn Estuary Partnership E-News</a>	<a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/whatsnew/archive.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/whatsnew/archive.html</a>
<a href="#">Severn Tidings</a>	<a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/publications/newsletters.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/publications/newsletters.html</a>
<a href="#">PCNPA Coast to Coast</a>	<a href="http://www.pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk/default.asp?PID=90">http://www.pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk/default.asp?PID=90</a>
<a href="#">SEP/PISCES Publicity video</a>	<a href="http://www.projectpisces.eu/about_us/sharing_what_we_learn/case_study_films/">http://www.projectpisces.eu/about_us/sharing_what_we_learn/case_study_films/</a>
<a href="#">SEP Diary</a>	<a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership/diary.htm">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/partnership/diary.htm</a>
<a href="#">SEP Who's Who</a>	<a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/whoswho.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/whoswho.html</a>
<a href="#">SEP Gateway</a>	<a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/">http://www.severnestuary.net/</a>
<a href="#">Marketing Brochure, Guidance Notes, Newsletter</a>	<a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/pdfs/sepmarketingbrochure.pdf">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/pdfs/sepmarketingbrochure.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/publications/guidancenotes.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/publications/guidancenotes.html</a> <a href="http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/publications/newsletters.html">http://www.severnestuary.net/sep/publications/newsletters.html</a>
<a href="#">Fact Sheets, Marine-Energy Pembrokeshire Leaflet</a>	<a href="http://www.pembrokeshireoutdoors.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/MCOCFactSheets.pdf">http://www.pembrokeshireoutdoors.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/MCOCFactSheets.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.marineenergypembrokeshire.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/Marine-Energy-Pembrokeshire-Leaflet.pdf">http://www.marineenergypembrokeshire.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/Marine-Energy-Pembrokeshire-Leaflet.pdf</a>