



Department for  
Business & Trade



# 53rd Annual Conference

Shellfish Association of Great Britain

#SAGB53

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and Rural Affairs (Defra)

 @SAGB



Shellfish  
Association of Great Britain



Llywodraeth Cymru  
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Department  
for Environment  
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The  
FISHMONGERS'  
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**SEPA**matic



Crown Estate  
Scotland  
Oighreachd a' Chrùin Alba

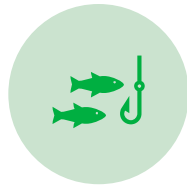
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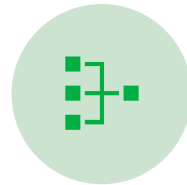
Marine  
Management  
Organisation

# Shellfish Fisheries Management Plans

## What we will cover



What are Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs)?



Why are FMPs being developed?



How have FMPs been developed?



What is in an FMP?



Where are we now?



What are the next steps?

# What are FMPs?

Evidence-based action plans to deliver sustainable fish stocks



- Fisheries Act 2020 requires the development of plans which set out how we maintain or restore fisheries to sustainable levels. We also have obligations to consider the wider marine environment



- The government is also committed to enabling a profitable fishing sector



- There are also commitments to ensuring vibrant coastal communities

# Why are FMPs being developed?



- Leaving the EU presents an opportunity for the UK to reconsider how best the UK's fisheries are managed



- Internationally, FMPs are considered the best way to sustainably manage fisheries



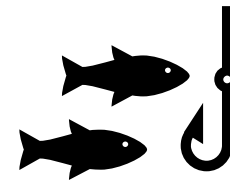
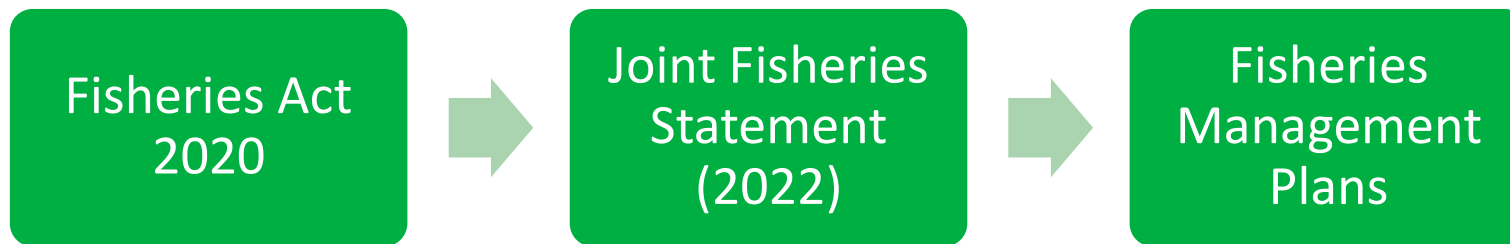
- Championing sustainable fishing and adopting measures to rebuild and maintain stocks is central to future management



- Delivering bespoke, flexible, and transparent approaches for practical fisheries management
- FMPs will provide opportunities for broader stewardship of our fisheries resources and marine environment

# What are the legal drivers?

Legal context

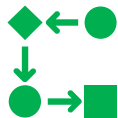




# How will FMPs work?



- Set out the goals and actions to achieve sustainable fisheries



- Developed as adaptive plans that will iterate and build over time



- Deliver agile management that can quickly respond to new evidence and changes in stock status

# Three FMPs selected for early development



- Crab and Lobster FMP for English waters



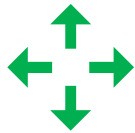
- Whelk FMP for English waters



- King Scallop FMP for English and Welsh waters

# How FMPs have been developed

Based on closer collaboration between fisheries stakeholders



- Opportunity to trial different methods of delivery



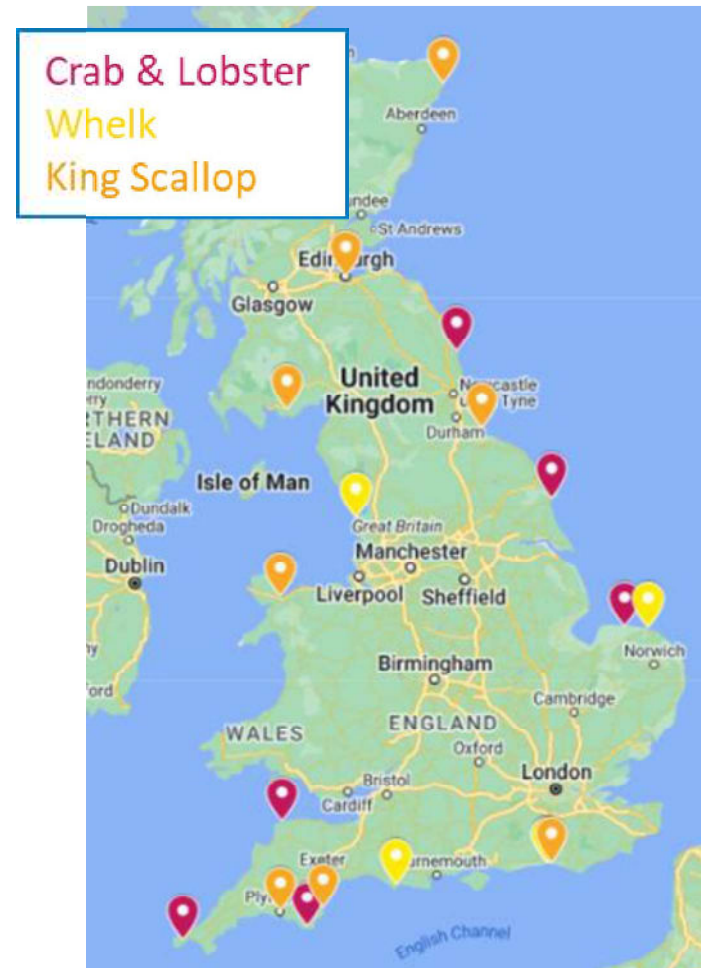
- Developed with and through leading industry groups



- Involved significant engagement with fisheries stakeholders

## Stakeholder engagement – what's happened so far?

- A number of events took place at the end of 2022 around the coast
- The aim of these was to raise awareness about FMPs and gather initial feedback on draft content
- Feedback gained has helped to shape the FMPs further
- Reports of this engagement will be published alongside the FMPs



# What is in an FMP?

FMPs consider all aspects of a fishery to determine the actions necessary to deliver long-term sustainable management. The first 3 shellfish FMPs cover -



- Shellfish Industry Advisory Group Shared shellfish principles



- Species-specific objectives



- Evidence statement and research plan



- Short-term management measures to increase stock protection whilst the evidence base improves



- Long-term management measures developed – as the evidence base builds

# What to expect to see in the plans...

## Summary

- The plans set out the evidence and what we know about the state of the stocks.
- They set out all the current management we have in place for these stocks.
- And crucially, there are suggestions for actions, some short, medium and longer term in each plan.

## Where are we now?



- Government is still at the review and clearance stage and will soon be launching a consultation on the first FMPs and supporting Environmental Assessments



- Each consultation will be hosted on a Gov.uk consultation page, which will direct stakeholders to submit responses



- Each FMP will have a separate consultation page that will include a short overview and link to the consultation questions as well as all relevant documents



- **HAVE YOUR SAY!** The consultation period will be a further chance for stakeholders to view the proposed FMPs and measures and feed in views ahead of them being published

# Further stakeholder engagement events



- Planning is underway for another series of events to take place around the coast, to promote and encourage participation in the FMP consultation



- We are exploring innovative ways in which to use feedback received at events to be fed into and inform the formal consultation



- Various materials are available to help inform and promote further stakeholder engagement on FMPs, including:
  - **Posters and flyers** on the FMP programme and frontrunner FMPs
  - **FMP video** now live on various media streams
  - **Gov.uk** improvements to structure and content



# Next Steps - Implementation

Management measures need to be implemented to be effective



- FMPs will propose new measures but will not implement them



- Implementation mechanisms depend on the policies of each plan



- Each FMPs must be reviewed within 6 years of its publication

# Looking further ahead

Continued development of management measures and FMPs and learning how to improve future FMP delivery



- Publication of the three shellfish FMPs and Tranche 2 FMPs by the end of 2023 (flatfish is due 2024)



- Tranche 3 FMPs due to be published by the end of 2024
- Learning lessons to improve future FMP delivery and maintaining a collaborative approach to fisheries management



- Continued development of further FMPs in line with the Joint Fisheries Statement



- Review and amendment of FMPs to ensure accuracy and relevance against changes to evidence bases and stock health

# Conclusion



- An important next step for the UK to deliver sustainable fisheries as an independent coastal state



- Drafted collaboratively with the fishing sector and set the direction for these fisheries



- Move us towards the long-term sustainable management of these fisheries



- FMPs will continue to adapt and respond to deliver sustainable stocks through continued stakeholder engagement



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

Thank you for listening

Further information is available at:  
[Fisheries management plans - GOV.UK](http://www.gov.uk)  
[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

And feel free to contact us via our mailbox at:  
[FMPs@defra.gov.uk](mailto:FMPs@defra.gov.uk)



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