



UK Marine Policy Statement

Impact Assessment

HM Government
Northern Ireland Executive
Scottish Government
Welsh Assembly Government

Title: Marine Policy Statement Lead department or agency: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Other departments or agencies: On behalf of: HM Government Northern Ireland Executive Scottish Government Welsh Assembly Government	Impact Assessment (IA)
	IA No: Defra 1009
	Date: 7/03/2011
	Stage: Final
	Source of intervention: Domestic
	Type of measure: Other
Contact for enquiries: Sue Goligher 0207 238 6607	

Summary: Intervention and Options

What is the problem under consideration? Why is government intervention necessary?

Our seas are subject to competing demands, pollution and other damage, and yet the ecosystem services they provide are invaluable (e.g. regulation of climate change, flood risk, water quality and cultural services such as recreation). The current system for management is ad hoc, inconsistent, incoherent and fails to fully consider the cumulative impact the decisions we take have on the environment. It is also considered to be a burden to both regulators and industry, acting as a barrier to economic growth. Government intervention is necessary to introduce a more integrated forward looking policy and evidence driven approach, simplifying the system and enabling a consistent, coherent approach to decision making and to enable industry to be clear on how their proposals may be viewed.

What are the policy objectives and the intended effects?

The objective of marine planning is to manage marine activities in a more strategic way, avoiding and managing conflicts and taking account of how ecosystems function. The overall policy goal is to contribute towards clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas. The approach is guided by 5 high level marine objectives to which this proposal should contribute (known as the 'high level marine objectives'). The high level marine objectives are: achieving a sustainable marine economy; ensuring a strong, healthy and just society; living within environmental limits; promoting good governance and using sound science responsibly.

What policy options have been considered, including any alternatives to regulation? Please justify preferred option (further details in Evidence Base)

The preferred option is option 1: to introduce the UK Marine Policy Statement (UK MPS). Several public consultations since the Marine Stewardship Report in 2002 have sought views on marine planning and the approach to it. As a result of these considerations the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (the Act) provided for a system of marine planning. There are two distinct components of marine planning set out in the Act; 1) the UK MPS which sets out the policy framework 2) Marine Plans which implement those policies in Marine Plan areas. This document assesses the impacts of the UK MPS compared with a situation where marine planning is introduced without the UK MPS. A consultation was undertaken from July to October 2010 seeking views on the draft UK MPS and this has subsequently been refined taking account of respondents' comments.

Will the policy be reviewed? It will be reviewed. **If applicable, set review date:** 2015

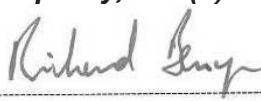
What is the basis for this review? Duty to review. **If applicable, set sunset clause date:** Not applicable

Are there arrangements in place that will allow a systematic collection of monitoring information for future policy review?	Yes
--	-----

SELECT SIGNATORY Sign-off For final proposal stage Impact Assessments:

I have read the Impact Assessment and I am satisfied that (a) it represents a fair and reasonable view of the expected costs, benefits and impact of the policy, and (b) the benefits justify the costs.

Signed by the responsible SELECT SIGNATORY:



Date: 7 March 2011

Summary: Analysis and Evidence

Policy Option 1

Description:

Price Base Year N/A	PV Base Year N/A	Time Period Years 20	Net Benefit (Present Value (PV)) (£m)		
			Low: Optional	High: Optional	Best Estimate: None

COSTS (£m)	Total Transition (Constant Price) Years	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Total Cost (Present Value)
Low	Optional	Optional	Optional
High	Optional	Optional	Optional
Best Estimate	None	None	None

Description and scale of key monetised costs by 'main affected groups'

The UK MPS guides the implementation of the marine planning system and of management of the marine environment before marine planning is fully implemented. No direct costs associated with having the UK MPS have been identified.

Other key non-monetised costs by 'main affected groups'

None

BENEFITS (£m)	Total Transition (Constant Price) Years	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Total Benefit (Present Value)
Low	Optional	Optional	Optional
High	Optional	Optional	Optional
Best Estimate	None	None	None

Description and scale of key monetised benefits by 'main affected groups'

None of the benefits from the UK MPS have been quantified although as noted below the benefits from marine planning system (see e.g. the IA for England marine planning system) would not be fully realised without the UK MPS in place.

Other key non-monetised benefits by 'main affected groups'

The UK MPS is expected to clarify in one place the principles and objectives guiding marine planning, making it easier to develop Marine Plans in a consistent and transparent way, facilitating co-operation between authorities, helping provide clarity and investment certainty for marine activities and providing an overarching framework under which future issues can be resolved. Although these benefits have not been quantified, the benefits of marine planning are unlikely to be fully achieved without the UK MPS.

Key assumptions/sensitivities/risks

N/A

Discount rate (%)

N/A

Direct impact on business (Equivalent Annual) £m):			In scope of OIOO?	Measure qualifies as
Costs: N/A	Benefits: N/A	Net: N/A	No	IN/OUT

Enforcement, Implementation and Wider Impacts

What is the geographic coverage of the policy/option?	United Kingdom				
From what date will the policy be implemented?	01/04/2011				
Which organisation(s) will enforce the policy?	Marine planning authorities and other bodies				
What is the annual change in enforcement cost (£m)?	N/A				
Does enforcement comply with Hampton principles?	Yes				
Does implementation go beyond minimum EU requirements?	N/A				
What is the CO ₂ equivalent change in greenhouse gas emissions? (Million tonnes CO ₂ equivalent)	Traded: N/A		Non-traded: N/A		
Does the proposal have an impact on competition?	No				
What proportion (%) of Total PV costs/benefits is directly attributable to primary legislation, if applicable?	Costs: 0		Benefits: 0		
Distribution of annual cost (%) by organisation size (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Micro 0	< 20 0	Small 0	Medium 0	Large 0
Are any of these organisations exempt?	No	No	No	No	No

Specific Impact Tests: Checklist

Set out in the table below where information on any SITs undertaken as part of the analysis of the policy options can be found in the evidence base. For guidance on how to complete each test, double-click on the link for the guidance provided by the relevant department.

Please note this checklist is not intended to list each and every statutory consideration that departments should take into account when deciding which policy option to follow. It is the responsibility of departments to make sure that their duties are complied with.

Does your policy option/proposal have an impact on...?	Impact	Page ref within IA
Statutory equality duties¹ Statutory Equality Duties Impact Test guidance	No	10
Economic impacts		
Competition Competition Assessment Impact Test guidance	No	10
Small firms Small Firms Impact Test guidance	No	10
Environmental impacts		
Greenhouse gas assessment Greenhouse Gas Assessment Impact Test guidance	No	10
Wider environmental issues Wider Environmental Issues Impact Test guidance	No	10
Social impacts		
Health and well-being Health and Well-being Impact Test guidance	No	10
Human rights Human Rights Impact Test guidance	No	10
Justice system Justice Impact Test guidance	No	11
Rural proofing Rural Proofing Impact Test guidance	No	10
Sustainable development Sustainable Development Impact Test guidance	No	11

¹ Public bodies including Whitehall departments are required to consider the impact of their policies and measures on race, disability and gender. It is intended to extend this consideration requirement under the Equality Act 2010 to cover age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and gender reassignment from April 2011 (to Great Britain only). The Toolkit provides advice on statutory equality duties for public authorities with a remit in Northern Ireland.

Evidence Base (for summary sheets) – Notes

Use this space to set out the relevant references, evidence, analysis and detailed narrative from which you have generated your policy options or proposal. Please fill in **References** section.

References

Include the links to relevant legislation and publications, such as public impact assessments of earlier stages (e.g. Consultation, Final, Enactment) and those of the matching IN or OUTs measures.

No.	Legislation or publication
1	http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/marine-policy/100721-marine-policy-statement.pdf
2	http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/marine/legislation/strategy.htm
3	http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/marine/legislation/mcaa/index.htm
4	http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/marine/legislation/planning.htm
5	

+ Add another row

Evidence Base

Ensure that the information in this section provides clear evidence of the information provided in the summary pages of this form (recommended maximum of 30 pages). Complete the **Annual profile of monetised costs and benefits** (transition and recurring) below over the life of the preferred policy (use the spreadsheet attached if the period is longer than 10 years).

The spreadsheet also contains an emission changes table that you will need to fill in if your measure has an impact on greenhouse gas emissions.

Annual profile of monetised costs and benefits* - (£m) constant prices

	Y ₀	Y ₁	Y ₂	Y ₃	Y ₄	Y ₅	Y ₆	Y ₇	Y ₈	Y ₉
Transition costs										
Annual recurring cost										
Total annual costs										
Transition benefits										
Annual recurring benefits										
Total annual benefits										

* For non-monetised benefits please see summary pages and main evidence base section

Evidence Base (for summary sheets)

Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of the proposed UK Marine Policy Statement (UK MPS) is to provide an overarching policy framework to guide the development of Marine Plans. It ensures consistency at the UK level by setting out the approach and principles for marine planning and consolidating a wide range of existing policies that are relevant to marine management into a single document to make the job of developing Marine Plans easier and the process more transparent.
- 1.2 The UK MPS will inform marine planning in each Administration. Given that the purpose of the UK MPS is to inform the way marine planning is done, its impact is compared with a situation where a marine planning system is implemented without the UK MPS. Marine Plans would be guided by the array of relevant policies without the UK MPS setting out the overarching objectives and principles that should govern planning and consolidating relevant policies in one place. This IA isolates the impact of the UK MPS, rather than considering the impact of introducing both the planning system and UK MPS at the same time because, while the UK MPS is at UK level, individual administrations are responsible for developing planning systems and any accompanying assessments. This IA is therefore relatively brief and any IA covering the relevant planning systems will be more detailed.
- 1.3 A consultation seeking views on the draft UK MPS accompanied by an earlier version of this IA was carried out in July 2010. The UK MPS has subsequently been refined and this IA has also been amended to reflect the updated UK MPS and comments received, for example, identifying additional benefits of having a policy statement in place. A number of other comments focused on issues to be taken into account as part of implementing marine planning- such as the importance of monitoring and review.

Problem under consideration

- 2.1 Increasingly there are competing and conflicting demands for UK marine space and resources e.g. from renewable energy, aggregate extraction or fisheries. Overall this increases pressure on marine ecosystems resulting in a decline in the socio-economic value derived from them. Decisions on individual activities are, to varying degrees, taken independently making it challenging to avoid and manage conflicts and to take account of the way ecosystems function. This problem is documented in a series of reviews and reports dating from the Marine Stewardship Report in 2002.

Rationale for intervention

- 3.1 The externalities imposed by marine activities on each other and on the marine environment are complex. The current system of marine management whereby decisions on activities are generally taken one-by-one limits the ability to take account of information on the full range of interactions between activities and the marine environment, including the cumulative effects. A wide range of potential approaches to address this problem have been considered and consulted upon several times since 2002. Through this process it was concluded that government

intervention is necessary to introduce a more integrated forward looking policy and evidence driven approach. That is the rationale for a system of marine planning in the first place.

- 3.2 This IA considers the impact specifically of the UK MPS. There is a wide range of policies relevant in varying degrees to how different activities in the marine environment should be managed. Given what may sometimes be a complex landscape of interacting policies, in the absence of a policy framework to consolidate them, it is unlikely to be clear to marine planning authorities how Marine Plans should give effect to these policies and consistency maintained across the UK.

Description and impact of options being considered

Background to the UK Marine Policy Statement

- 4.1 Enacted on 12 November 2009, the Marine and Coastal Access Act introduced a new system of marine planning, which includes the UK MPS. By adopting the UK MPS the Devolved Administrations will also be able to plan for their offshore areas and inshore for retained functions, subject to Secretary of State approval, ensuring consistency across the UK. The purpose of the UK MPS is to provide a clear and consistent framework for marine planning authorities when developing Marine Plans. The UK MPS will also be relevant to other decision makers who make decisions on specific activities or uses which affect the marine area. The UK MPS should also guide decision-making during the transitional period while Marine Plans are being developed. The UK MPS has been developed by the UK Government and Devolved Administrations.
- 4.2 The UK MPS gives effect to the high level marine objectives published in April 2009 in “Our Seas – a shared resource: high level marine objectives”. These set out the outcomes the UK Government and Devolved Administrations are seeking which will contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development in the marine area and the wider context. The UK MPS explains how these objectives should be applied for each marine sector, taking account of the various policy frameworks relevant to each activity. It explains the approach to the range of economic, social and environmental impacts that need to be integrated and considered in the development of Marine Plans. It also explains the wider principles that should govern marine planning: such as being evidence based, participatory, forward-looking and streamlined, taking account of international obligations, being compatible with terrestrial planning systems and based on an ecosystem approach.
- 4.3 Marine Plans must be developed in accordance with the UK MPS unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise. These Plans will set out how the UK MPS will be implemented in specific areas. Each Marine Plan will be subject to a Strategic Environment Assessment which will be part of the Plan’s Sustainability Appraisal to ensure it contributes to sustainable development. The process of developing the plan will integrate consideration of social, economic and environmental implications. The UK MPS will also set the direction for new marine licensing systems. The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 requires that licensing (or other authorisation) of activities by public authorities which affect or might affect the marine area be in accordance with the UK MPS and Marine Plans when in place, unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise.

The options

4.4 Two options are considered:

- **The do nothing option** which outlines the impact of implementing a marine planning system without a UK MPS and provides a baseline for option 1;
- **Option 1** considers the impact of introducing the UK MPS.

The 'do nothing' option

4.5 The 'do nothing' option entails introducing a marine planning system but without the UK MPS in place. This would mean that the UK planning authorities and other relevant decision-making bodies would need to be guided by the range of relevant policies without reference to an overarching policy framework to guide how Marine Plans should be developed and other decisions made. It would also mean that in the transitional period until Marine Plans are in place, licensing and other marine management activities would continue referencing the range of policy documents rather than being governed by the UK MPS. Devolved Administrations would not be able to plan where responsibilities have not been devolved. This includes certain 'retained' functions in the area beyond 12 miles from the coastline. This would prevent the full benefits of integrated UK marine planning.

Introduce the UK Marine Policy Statement

4.6 This option is to introduce the UK MPS to guide how Marine Plans are developed and implemented as well as to govern decisions affecting the marine environment more widely even before Marine Plans are in place.

4.7 This section covers the costs and benefits of introducing the UK MPS.

Costs

4.8 In general terms the UK MPS consolidates existing policies and in doing so does not introduce new costs for any party. There have been some relatively small resource implications in developing the UK MPS. These will very largely have been incurred when the decision this IA is intended to inform - of whether to go ahead with the UK MPS – is taken: so these are considered sunk costs.

Benefits

4.9 In general terms it is expected that the UK MPS will help underpin a more coherent approach to marine planning and help achieve the potential benefits of a marine planning system. This section explains the ways in which the UK MPS will help to secure those benefits. It is not immediately possible to quantify the extent to which the benefits of marine planning will increase as a result of having the UK MPS.

4.10 **Benefits to government (central, devolved, local, agencies) include:**

- An overarching policy statement setting out a coherent picture of UK Administrations' policy will make it easier for marine planning authorities to develop Marine Plans;

- Even before Marine Plans are implemented, the UK MPS will make it easier for licensing authorities and others to weigh up the combined intent of many different policies, for example in deciding on licence applications;
- A common document is expected to make co-ordination between different government bodies more straightforward, including co-ordination with terrestrial planning systems;
- It is expected to make decision-making more transparent and consistent, reducing the risk of challenge on individual Marine Plans;
- The fact that the UK MPS is UK-wide allows common principles to be applied across UK Administrations and, although not legally required, will encourage consistency and coherence of approach to management;
- Although Devolved Administrations could produce Marine Plans without adopting the UK MPS, they would not be able to plan where responsibilities have not been devolved. This includes certain 'retained' functions in the area beyond 12 miles from the coastline; this would prevent the full benefits of integrated UK marine planning;
- Local Authorities who take decisions that affect the marine environment will have a central point of reference to guide them;
- Clear specification of the objectives of marine planning in the UK MPS will provide a sound basis for evaluating the effectiveness of the marine planning system.

4.11 **Benefits to business, other marine users and the public include:**

- The overall framework for marine management will be clearer and more transparent making it easier for marine users to know what will be delivered through marine planning. This will have a positive effect on businesses' ability to plan and help improve certainty for investment;
- Those undertaking activities in the marine environment will have an overarching document which will provide clarity including on how issues may be solved in future which may mean that there will be fewer documents they need to refer to so saving time and cost;
- It will be clearer to the wider public what the UK administrations' objectives and level of ambition for the marine environment is;
- It will facilitate more efficient and strategic use of the marine environment.

4.12 **Benefits to the environment include:**

- Further embedding of sustainable development principles into marine management;
- Integrating policies may help to take better account of and address cumulative impacts;
- Integrating all policies into a high level framework for marine planning and decision making that requires consideration of climate change impacts should help to ensure that, where climate change impacts act in combination with other more directly controllable pressures, the latter are managed to avoid irreversible damage.

Scale of benefits and interaction with the marine planning system

- 4.13 The interaction between the UK MPS and the marine planning system is very important such that the main impact of the UK MPS is in facilitating more coherent

marine planning. This is why the marine planning system is in the do nothing option (see paragraph 4.5) facilitating a comparison between a marine planning system with and without the UK MPS to guide it.

- 4.14 It should nevertheless be noted that it would, in principle, be feasible to introduce the UK MPS without the marine planning system. Doing this is still likely to be beneficial in that it would help to bring a number of interrelated policies into a single document providing marine authorities, developers and others with a more accessible and coherent overview of the marine policy landscape. This has the potential to reduce effort in understanding marine policies and contribute to more coherent and consistent decision-making even in the absence of a marine planning system.
- 4.15 This IA has not attempted to quantify the benefits of the UK MPS. As an example, the Impact Assessment for the marine planning system in England (IA no. Defra 1010) assesses the impact of introducing both the UK MPS and the marine planning system so, for England, this should incorporate the benefits of the UK MPS. It would be very difficult to isolate what proportion of those benefits would not arise in the absence of an overarching policy statement. However, to illustrate, if one took the view that foregoing the benefits identified above in paragraphs 4.10 to 4.12 could reduce the economic benefits of the marine planning system by 10%, this could reduce its impact by around £50m in England alone. No attempt is made to quantify these definitively as not only would it be very uncertain, but it would also double count impacts that are captured in the IA with reference number Defra 1010 and other marine planning system IAs.

One-in, One-Out

- 4.16 There are no costs to business expected from the UK MPS alone and any potential benefits to business from the UK MPS are captured in marine planning system IAs.

Specific Impact Tests

Statutory equality duties

Race, disability and gender equality

- 5.1 While it is thought that marine activities referred to in the UK MPS have the potential to result in benefits and costs upon coastal communities and groups of society which may have equalities target groups embedded within them, the UK MPS is guided by the high level marine objectives which make specific provisions to ensure that decisions on marine activities benefit society as a whole and are made in the context of ensuring a strong, healthy and just society.
- 5.2 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening exercise was carried out on the UK MPS to identify any areas of the UK MPS which may impact on gender, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief. This exercise concluded that the UK MPS would not discriminate against any sections of society and it therefore supports the provisions in equalities legislation and the Welsh Assembly Government's Welsh Language Scheme. It therefore concluded that there is no requirement for a full Equality Impact Assessment.

Economic impacts

Competition Assessment

- 5.3 Since the UK MPS draws together and clarifies existing policies in the marine environment it is unlikely in itself to have any material impact on competition. In terms of the Office of Fair Trading (OFT)'s filter questions for Competition Assessments, it will not directly or indirectly limit the number or range of suppliers, limit the ability of suppliers to compete or reduce suppliers' incentives to compete vigorously. Where there is impact on competition this is expected to be positive by producing a more equitable situation both across and within different industry sectors. Set up costs and current barriers to market entry for new or potential firms are expected to reduce as a result of increased transparency and the clear communication of the strategic plan for sustainable marine development. This will be beneficial to both new entrants and existing firms, facilitating economic growth.

Small Firms Impact Test

- 5.4 Since the UK MPS draws together and clarifies existing policies in the marine environment its additional impact on small firms is anticipated to be minimal. Some positive benefits may be expected due to the greater ease and simplification of accessing information and greater alignment of policies within the UK MPS.

Environmental Impacts

Greenhouse Gas Assessment

- 5.5 As part of the wider proposals set out in the Marine and Coastal Access Act, the UK MPS will help the UK Government and Devolved Administrations meet targets to limit greenhouse gas emissions. The objective of managing the marine area in a more sustainable manner will help maintain the sea's crucial role in CO₂ absorption.

Wider environmental issues

- 5.6 To the extent that the UK MPS enables effective marine planning it is likely to improve environmental outcomes – this is covered in the main narrative of this IA.

Social impacts

Health Impact Assessment

- 5.7 We are confident that the UK MPS will not raise any negative health issues. It is not expected to affect health and well-being or health inequalities compared to the baseline 'do nothing' option.

Human Rights

- 5.8 The UK MPS is not considered to present a breach of Convention rights. A detailed assessment of the impact of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and its provisions on human rights was undertaken through the development of the memorandum on the Act's compatibility with Convention rights which accompanied it at Bill stage upon introduction to Parliament.

Rural Proofing

- 5.9 The UK MPS applies to the UK marine area and activities that take place there, mainly affecting the rights of the users of the marine area and the wider public interest of protecting the marine environment. However, there is some inevitable overlap between marine and land issues. Rural communities will benefit from

increased certainty that will be generated for marine and coastal developers and better management of marine and coastal resources.

Sustainable Development

- 5.10 Marine planning will help the UK Government and Devolved Administrations achieve their sustainable development objectives. The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 makes it clear that the UK MPS should contribute to the sustainable development of the UK marine area. Overall sustainable development benefits will be generated from better use of the marine area brought about by the UK MPS.

Appraisal of Sustainability

- 5.11 The UK MPS has been subject to, and informed by, an Appraisal of Sustainability (AoS). This incorporated the requirements for a Strategic Environmental Assessment. The AoS identified and assessed alternatives to the UK MPS, indicating those that are not considered feasible as they would not deliver sustainable development effectively. The AoS assessed the UK MPS and alternatives against a set of sustainability objectives. These objectives cover all the individual topics required by the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive and reflect sustainable development principles. The AoS concluded that the UK MPS supports achievement of all the sustainability objectives for all the individual topic areas.

Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 5.12 The Habitats Regulations Assessment considered the potential effects on sites of European nature conservation significance of implementing the UK MPS. It reflects the strategic, high level nature of the UK MPS and so has identified high level impacts only. It concluded that at this stage it is not possible to exclude the possibility that the integrity of one or more European sites could be adversely affected by activities identified in the UK MPS. For this reason an assessment of alternative solutions and Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI) has been undertaken. All Marine Plans and projects carried out in accordance with the UK MPS will be subject to the appropriate assessment procedure. If they adversely affect the integrity of European sites, issues relating to IROPI, site integrity and compensation will be addressed in accordance with European Commission Guidance.

Legal Aid

- 5.13 Since the UK MPS draws together and clarifies existing policies in the marine environment its additional impact on legal aid is anticipated to be minimal.

Annexes

Annex 1 should be used to set out the Post Implementation Review Plan as detailed below. Further annexes may be added where the Specific Impact Tests yield information relevant to an overall understanding of policy options.

Annex 1: Post Implementation Review (PIR) Plan

A PIR should be undertaken, usually three to five years after implementation of the policy, but exceptionally a longer period may be more appropriate. If the policy is subject to a sunset clause, the review should be carried out sufficiently early that any renewal or amendment to legislation can be enacted before the expiry date. A PIR should examine the extent to which the implemented regulations have achieved their objectives, assess their costs and benefits and identify whether they are having any unintended consequences. Please set out the PIR Plan as detailed below. If there is no plan to do a PIR please provide reasons below.

<p>Basis of the review:</p> <p>The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 provides that the UK MPS should be reviewed as and when the policy authorities (the Secretary of State in conjunction with devolved authorities) consider it necessary.</p>
<p>Review objective:</p> <p>Reviewing the UK MPS is to ensure that it remains fit for purpose - in particular whether there has been a significant change in evidence underpinning policies, whether there are new policies that need reflecting in the UK MPS and whether the UK MPS' policy objectives need amending.</p>
<p>Review approach and rationale:</p> <p>Each Marine Plan is to be kept under review and a report written at intervals of not more than three years. This will enable identification of any specific problems. In addition 6 years after the passing of the Act and every 6 years up to 2030 there must be a report on all Plans. This will provide the opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of the UK MPS at informing the development of plans.</p>
<p>Baseline:</p> <p>The review of the planning system as part of which the UK MPS will be reviewed will use a baseline of continuing to manage the marine environment without marine planning. The specific question of the effectiveness of the UK MPS will use a baseline of marine planning continuing without the UK MPS. Should international obligations for marine planning be introduced meanwhile the baseline may have to be reconsidered.</p>
<p>Success criteria:</p> <p>The overall sustainable development outcomes targeted need to be considered in reviewing the planning system as a whole. The detailed success criteria will be developed during the coming months. However, paragraphs 4.10 to 4.12 provide a guide to the benefits success criteria will need to capture.</p>
<p>Monitoring information arrangements:</p> <p>Monitoring indicators will be developed to determine whether marine plans are achieving their objectives. More detail is included in the consultation on the marine planning system.</p>
<p>Reasons for not planning a review: N/A</p>