

NWIFCA Annual Meeting
10th June 2016: 11.00 a.m.

AGENDA
ITEM NO.
12

CEO REPORT

Purpose of Report: Update and Information

Recommendations:

- 1. The report be received**
- 2. MMO Member Mr. Brian Leigh be appointed to review Standing Orders (Paragraph 19)**

Defra

1. The marine review now taking place is described by Defra as a change programme looking at increasing efficiency of marine function delivery across government. It is examining marine delivery in MMO, Natural England, JNCC, CEFAS, EA and IFCA.
2. The aim of the review is to establish the most effective and efficient model for the essential marine and fisheries functions delivered by Defra agencies, now and in the future.
3. The proposed outcomes of the review are:
 - I. improved service delivery to customers, with clearer definition of responsibilities;
 - II. improved efficiency across Defra's marine functions; and,
 - III. ensuring the delivery network is structured to deliver policy outcomes.
4. The review has set up working groups which are now collecting data on advisory and regulatory functions and the resources allocated to each by the bodies in the review. IFCAs are represented on the working groups but papers and outputs are not yet cleared for circulating to members.
5. A Defra 5 year plan 2015-2020 is mentioned on the Defra website which states that a 25 year framework plan will be published spring 2016 and the final plan by end of 2016. I understand that a draft plan has been written but not yet released to IFCA.

NWIFCA Health and Safety policy

6. The policy has been checked for breaches and reportable incidents in the last quarter (March - May 2016). 2 very minor incidents were reported.
7. The review and update of the policy commissioned by H&S consultant Elsa Mason of DMA Safety Management Ltd, Cumbria is continuing. Ms. Mason is now appointed as the 'Competent person' for the Authority's H&S policy and has made an initial report. Officers are working to implement 25 recommendations. Further necessary risk assessments have been identified and are in preparation.
8. The register of NWIFCO training is maintained.

Officer and Member changes

9. Following interviews in January, we welcome Belinda Vause to the science team to replace Sarah Temple. Belinda brings previous fishery officer and fisheries science experience from 5 years at Sussex SFC/IFCA. She also has marine research experience from a degree at

Liverpool University and 3 years with the British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge including extended work in the Antarctic.

10. Abi Carroll was appointed to the science team in 2015 on a one year grant from Defra. She is a recent graduate of Bangor University with a Masters in Marine and Environmental Protection. Following retirement of IFCO Waite, her post has now been made permanent and she will also train as an IFCO on the next available course.
11. Councillor John Kelly (Sefton Council Member) resigned from the Authority to pursue new duties as a Council Cabinet member. Thanks are expressed to John for 3 years' service on the Authority. Sefton will confirm a replacement shortly.
12. Ms Pam Taylor (MMO appointee) resigned from the Authority as of end May and has also left the Solway Firth Partnership to take another post in Dumfries and Galloway Council. Thanks are also expressed to Pam for nearly 3 years' service on the Authority.
13. There are now 3 MMO vacancies on the Authority following the unsuccessful recruitment by MMO in January. It remains a matter of concern that too few people in this area are willing to serve on the NWIFCA. However, contributory factors maybe the lack of a budget in MMO for advertising IFCA vacancies and the complexity of the application process which requires significant IT competence.
14. Recent correspondence in Fishing News may have left the impression that IFCA's have a role in MMO appointments. In fact there is no meaningful or effective involvement of IFCA's in the appointment process which is entirely carried out by MMO.
15. This is the last meeting which Mr. Chris Lumb will attend as the Natural England representative before his retirement in July. The Authority extends sincere thanks to Chis for his 6 years of dedicated service to the Authority and previous advice to the Sea Fisheries Committees over more than 2 decades. His knowledge of the marine environment of this area is unparalleled and his efforts to achieve balance and consensus are widely respected. In a changing legal landscape where fishing increasingly has to comply with developing measures for environmental protection, Chris has always sought to bring all parties together to achieve best possible outcomes for fishing and nature. His contributions will be greatly missed but we wish him and wife Viv, long and happy retirements.

Association of IFCA (AIFCA)

16. The last Members' Forum was on 8th March. Chairman attended. Minutes are at Annex A

IT development work

17. The review and rebuild of the Authority's main permit and byelaw database by the IT team at LDNP is nearly complete. Installation and testing is expected in June. The new database should streamline and enhance the various permit schemes in operation with new plastic permit cards for Byelaw 3 holders and enhanced recording and checking of information.
18. The NWIFCA website is being rebuilt by IBEXcreative of Kendal. The IBEX team has worked closely with Officers to understand the IFCA's business and build a tailor made site to meet our needs. The new site should be available in the near future. Members will be invited to examine and test the site once it is launched.

Standing Order review

19. A review of the Authority's standing orders was commenced in 2015. MMO appointee (Recreational Sea Angling) Brian Leigh has offered to assist with drafting new Standing Orders including a new Scheme of delegations. Mr. Leigh has relevant experience and skills from working prior to retirement in the Democratic Services Department of Wigan Council.

20. The model of constitution recently developed by Eastern IFCA is considered to have elements which would be suitable for this IFCA. Eastern IFCA has agreed that this Authority can use their structure and text as required.
21. Members are invited to approve the appointment of Mr. Leigh to the task of reviewing Standing Orders.

CEO
24th May 2016

CEO main meetings March - May 2016		
Date	Event	Location
2 March	Byelaw 3 Cockle and Mussel stakeholder consultation	Cumbria
8 March	AIFCA (Apologies Chairman attended)	London
11 March	NWIFCA Quarterly	Morecambe
15 March	Website contract	Carnforth
22 March	MMO Director meeting	Carnforth
7 April	Cockle interview BBC NW TV	Carnforth
12 April	Chief Officers Group Marine Review (Apologies)	London
13 April	Chief Officers group	London
18 April	Vessel procurement, LCC, Seafish	Preston
19 April	Website contract	Carnforth
19 April	One Show interview re Levan Cockles	Flookburgh
25 April	Vessel Committee	Carnforth
5 May	Chairman's Committee	Carnforth
9 May	Database contract LDNP	Carnforth
10 May	TSB Strathmore Hotel	Morecambe
12 May	Northern IFCA	Whitby
13 May	Bivalve working group	Carnforth
17 May	Natural England marine Director (phone)	Carnforthj

ANNEX A

**The Association of IFCA's
Members' Forum Meeting
8th March 2016 – 10:00 to 15.00
To be followed by the
Association Directors Meeting**

DEFRA, Nobel House, Room 806

ACTION MINUTES

Attendance for the Meeting

CEO: Stephen Bolt (SB)

Chair: John Lamb (JL)

Attendance: Tony Tomlinson (TT), David McCandless (DM), Ian Davies (ID), Julian Gregory (JG), Mike Hardy (MH), Les Weller (LW), Rob Clark (RC), Sam Davis (SD), Steve Watt (SW), Tim Dapling (TD) Will Wright (WW), Anthony Markley (AM), Elaine Hayes (EH), Caroline Lacey (CL), Andy Guy (AG)

Minutes: Michelle Harris (MJH)

Minister

Defra: Jonathan Capstick, Jen Ashworth, Gemma Harper

MMO: Phil Haslam

LGA: Andy Smith

Apologies for absence: Chris Morris, Robert Arckless, Nigel Peters, Tony Goldson, Tim Robbins, Stephen Atkins.

David McCandless informed the Members of the sad passing of North Eastern IFCA chair Margaret Chapman

1) Minutes of the last Association meeting December 8th 2015

Item 1) Revised Success Criteria: AM reported that the issue of acceptance of the revised success criteria would be taken to committee Friday 11th March and results would be reported back to the Association.

Item 2) Marine Review: SB gave a brief update on the Marine Review so far, and mentioned that Jonathan Capstick and Jen Ashworth would attend this meeting later with a detailed update.

Devon and Severn IFCA funding constraint: This issue was discussed at length, EH said that her committees needed more evidence of quantified outcomes. It was stated that the matter would be decided on by Directors in their later meeting.

Joint Working: SB reported that agreement was almost finalised on re-direction of DEFRA funding of £30k (previously given to the Association for

the IFCA iVMS project) to support the Joint Working Board of the Joint Intelligence Programme which was in the process of being rolled out with the MMO. This item would be finalised in the Directors meeting.

Item 3) MMO Appointee process: Action 1 – All IFCAs to ensure that simple Annual appraisals are carried out, as per the MMO guidance.

Minutes of the last Association meeting December 8th 2015 - Agreed

- i) Matters arising not on the agenda - none

- 2) CEO report/update

- Association way forward

SB discussed this, highlighting the EMFF funding. Following discussion it was suggested that submitting projects that were finalised and 'ready to go' would be advisable as the funding would quickly be allocated. However discussion also highlighted the need for a strategic review of IFCA needs; this could be discussed at the upcoming COG meeting.

It was mentioned that SB sat on the UK wide Programme Management Board and the Control Fund Project Board. However IFCA representation was needed for the project panel. Eddy Derriman was the IFCA rep for EFF and an appropriate project panel representative needed to be identified.

WW suggested that sight of the Association Annual Plan at this stage would have been helpful. **Action 2: SB to produce Draft Association Annual Plan and send out by March 18th for comment. Action 3: SB to produce all Association Annual Plans by March Association meeting, (rather than the official DEFRA requirement date of 31st March). Note that in previous years the Annual Plan was discussed at the June meeting.**

- Third quarter financial report

SB explained the variances to budget on the financial report.

- Update on MMO/IFCA joint working.

SB mentioned that Phil Haslam would be giving an update shortly

- Update on MPA report to Project Board/ IFCA- Implementation group meeting

- Association meeting log December 2015 – February 2016

- 3) **11.30 DEFRA Jonathan Capstick, Jen Ashworth:** update on Marine Review

- John Tuckett (MMO) is undertaking an overarching review of the Transformation Portfolio.

Concern was expressed by the IFCA's over possible conflict of interest for John Tuckett.

- Terms of reference have been set and timelines agreed for the Marine Review. This information is awaiting imminent 'sign-off' and can then be released to stakeholders.
- The first phase of the review will be base line evidence gathering, followed by the formal review.

The IFCA's expressed concern over timeline for evidence gathering; consideration by IFCA committees during their quarterly meetings may prove difficult if time constraints imposed via the review are not co-operative.

Action 4: MJH to send Jonathan and Jen a copy of the IFCA's/AIFCA meeting dates. Done.

Action 5: Jonathan/Jen to send SB the details of the Marine Review as soon as they become available this week. Done

4) **12.00 Phil Haslam: MMO update and joint working update**

Phil gave an update on joint working. He said that the project was successful and highlighted the following:

- Work-streams were agreed last year
- The recognition that the two bodies (IFCA's and MMO) needed to remain separate, as outlined in MACCA (2009). The legal and lawful impediments to full integration were the functions of the two organisations and a requirement to delegate powers.
- A review of Estate footprint could result in savings
- Training could transform joint operations
- MMO has zero tolerance on historic prejudices which may impede future joint working
- Intelligence training
- MOU review was required and would be discussed at the joint working project board
- A legal cornerstone was required to set out requirements: what can and cannot be done

5) **12.30 Andy Smith** (Chair LGA Coastal Special Interest Group)

Action 6: MJH A copy of the presentation will be circulated to Members and Gemma Harper

6) **Gemma Harper** Introduction to Members

LUNCH

7) Unfinished items from the above

8) **14.30 Minister**

- The Minister mentioned the good news of the future funding for the IFCAs and the Association to 2020. He thanked the IFCAs for all their hard work, especially concerning the MCZ work. He announced that the 3rd tranche of MCZ would be consulted on by early next year for designation in early 2018.
- He then spoke on the quota uplifts for the under 10m fleet. A quarter uplift to this sector should help to redress the balance. Formulae would be adapted year on year to account for different species to be included in this uplift. E.g. Haddock quota uplift would benefit Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex fishermen, and the Sole uplift would benefit fishermen on the South Coast.

JL then asked several questions on behalf of the IFCAs:

Q -What did the Minister see as the IFCA role going forward beyond 2020?

A- More joined up working especially with MMO, low cost monitoring and surveillance using new technology methods would enhance enforcement, and the importance of providing a local perspective was emphasised.

Q- What were the 3 major outcomes that the Minister expected of the Marine Review?

A- Joined up approach, Licensing system, Consolidation

9) Date of next Members Forum Meeting Tuesday 14^h June 2016

10) AOB – SD raised concern that Association chairs knew nothing of the upcoming Chair and Vice Chair of the Association elections. It was agreed to take this topic to the Directors meeting

15.00 Close of meeting to be followed by Association Directors meeting

Action Number	Action	By Whom
1	To ensure that simple Annual appraisals are carried out, as per the MMO guidance.	All IFCAs
2	To produce Draft Association Annual Plan and send out by March 18 th for comment.	SB
3	To produce all future Association Annual Plans by March Association meeting, (rather than the official DEFRA requirement date of 31 st March)	SB
4	send Jonathan and Jen a copy of the IFCAs/AIFCA meeting dates	MJH
5	Jonathan/Jen to send SB the details of the Marine Review as soon as they become available this week	Jonathan Capstick, Jen Ashworth
6	A copy of the presentation will be circulated to Members and Gemma Harper	MJH