



The Marine Management Organisation and Marine Licensing

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October 2014



Content of todays presentation....

- Introduction to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO);
- 2) Marine Planning;
- Marine Licensing;
 - a) Marine licensing an overview;
 - b) Licensing aggregate dredging;
 - c) Licensing dredging; and
 - d) Dredge disposal





1. Introduction to the MMO



Creation of the MMO



Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009





Department of Energy & Climate Change

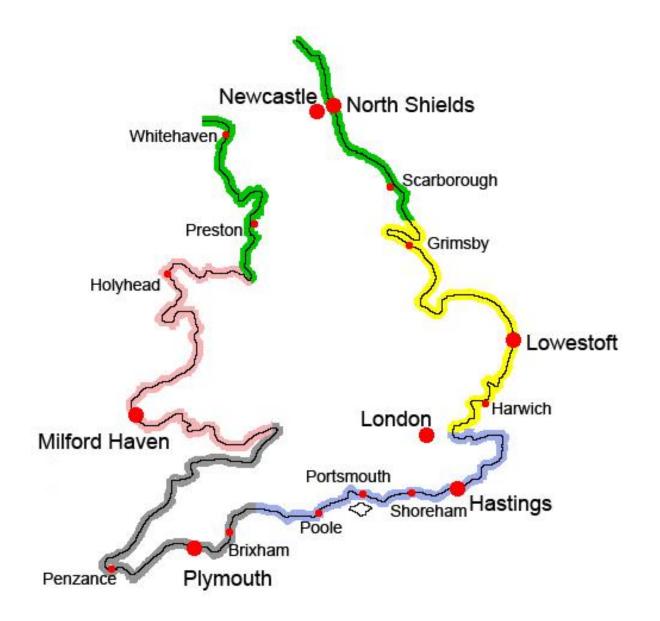


Department for Transport

(Some functions)



MMO offices



MMO Core Functions





Considerations

Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (MCAA, 2009)

It is the duty of the MMO to secure that the MMO functions are so exercised that the carrying on of activities by persons in the MMO's area is managed, regulated or controlled—

- (a) with the objective of making a contribution to the achievement of sustainable development,
- (b) taking account of all relevant facts and matters, and
- (c) in a manner which is consistent and co-ordinated





2. Marine Planning



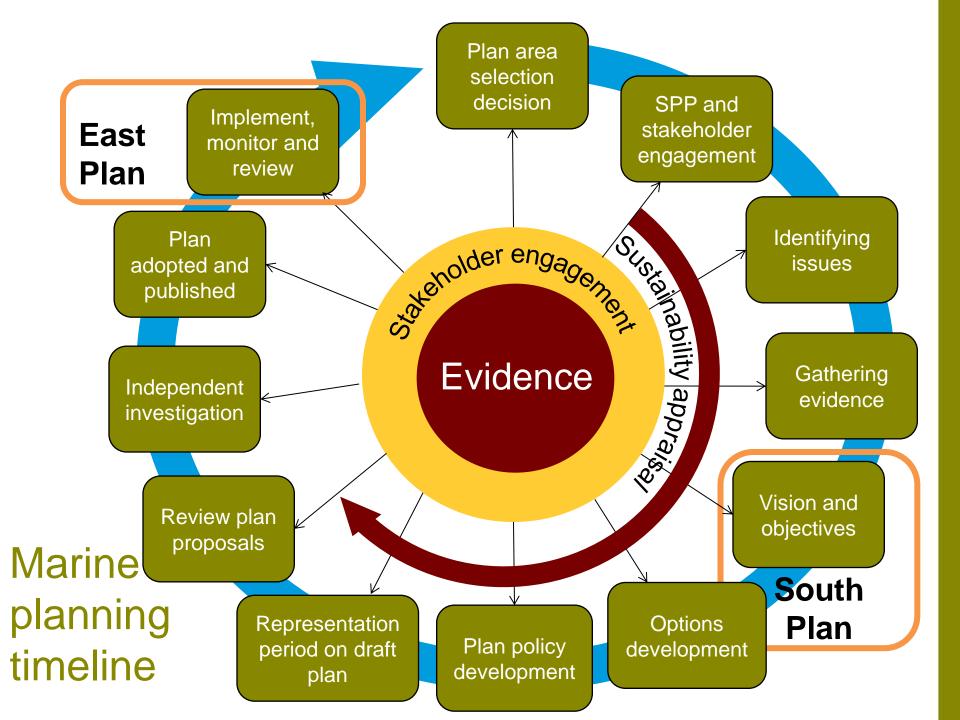
Marine planning

- Movement to a plan led system
- 11 marine plan areas



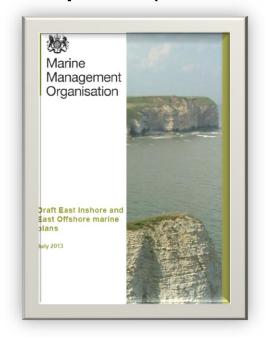


A short video
 <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/marine-planning-in-england</u>



What are the benefits of marine plans to decision making?

- A strong evidence base
- A decision making framework (material consideration)
- The decisions will be made in accordance with the plan (where relevant)





http://planningportal.marinemanagement.org.uk

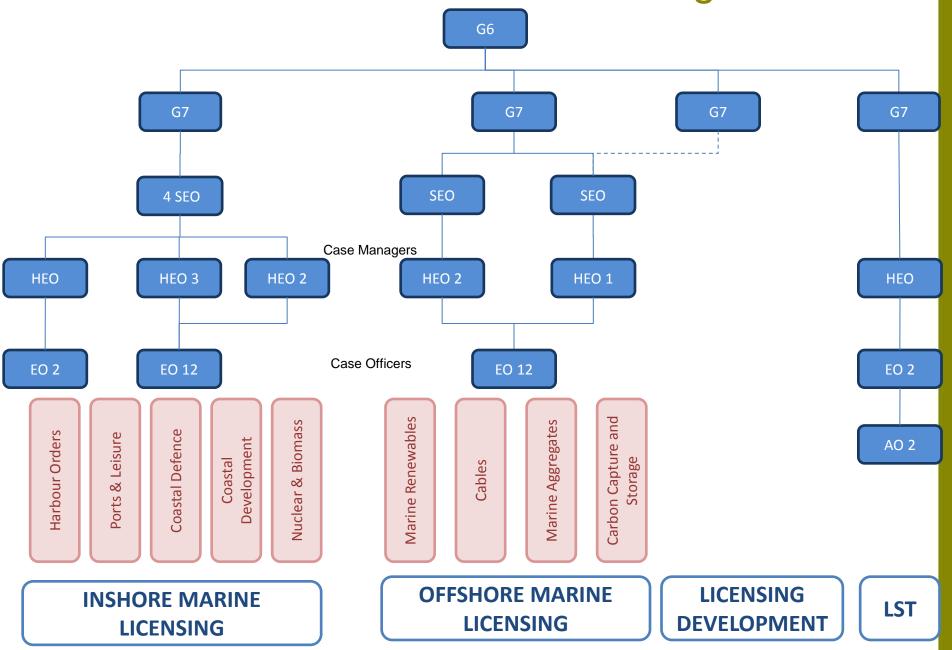




3. Marine Licensing



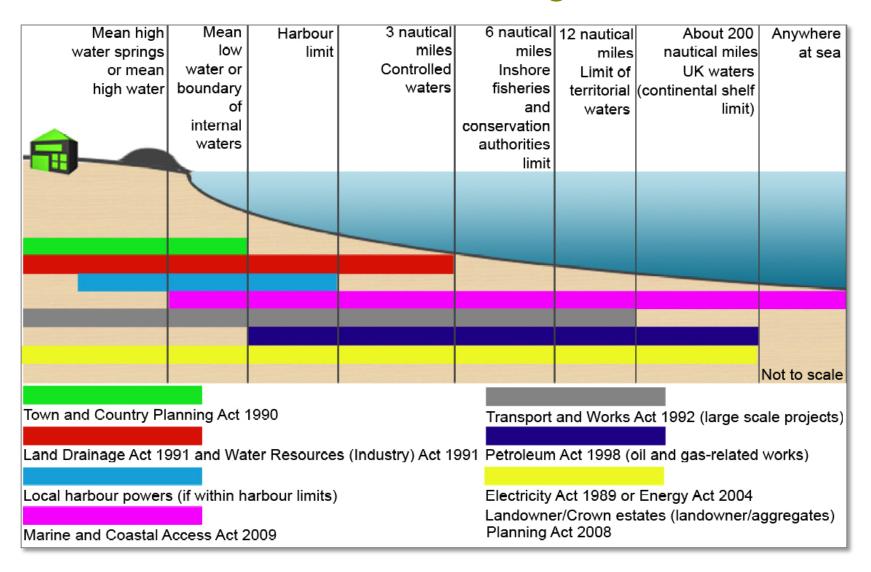
The structure of the marine licensing team



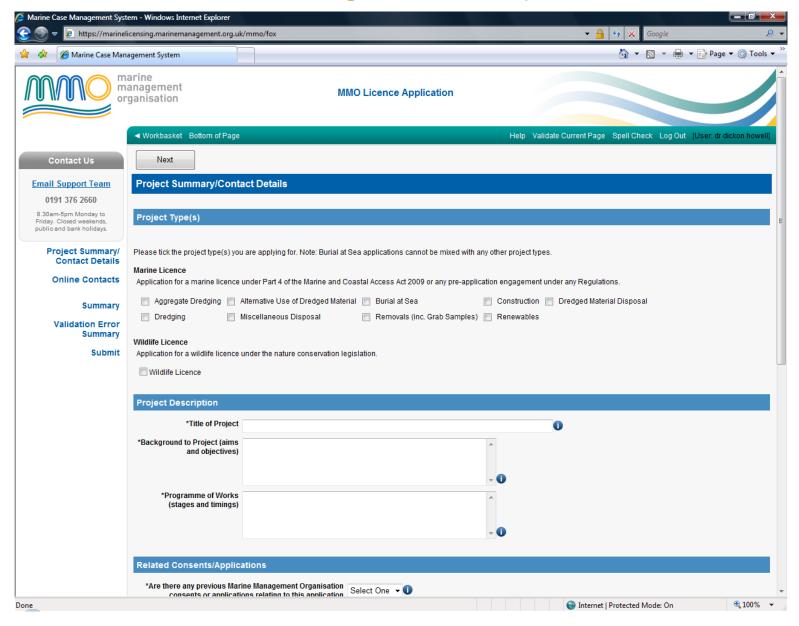
What may require a marine licence?

- Any works below MHWS;
- Any deposits in the sea, on or under the seabed;
- Any construction, alterations or improvement to any works in or over the sea, or on or under the sea bed;
- Any removals from the sea bed; and
- Any form of dredging (whether or not involving the removal of material from the sea or sea bed)

Overview of marine licensing



Marine Case Management System



Over to you...



Who do you think are the MMO's key stakeholders in the marine licensing process?

Advisers

MMO Advisers

- Marine Planning
- Marine Nature Conservation
- MMO Coastal Offices
- Evidence
- Legal
- Communications

Primary Advisers

- English Heritage
- Environment Agency
- Harbour Authority
- IFCA
- JNCC
- Local Planning Authority
- MCA
- Natural England
- Trinity House

Technical Advisers

- Cefas
- Individual Technical Experts

Other interested parties

Other Government Departments

- Defra
- DECC
- DCLG
- DCMS
- MOD

Non-Government Organisations

- RSPCA
- Wildlife
- Friends of the Earth
- NFFO
- Shellfish Association of Great Britain

Industry

- Applicants
- Developers
- Consultants
- Trade Bodies
- Other sea users

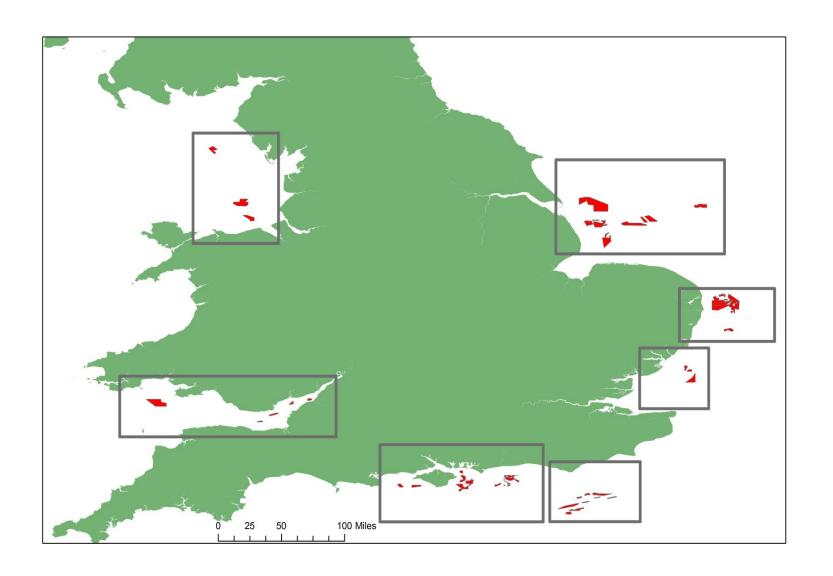
Local interest groups

- General public
- Recreational sports groups

Licensing offshore aggregate dredging

Section 66(1) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (MCAA) includes "the use of a vessel (etc.) to remove any substance or object from the sea bed as a licensable marine activity" (item 8): this includes the extraction of marine sand, gravel, crushed rock and other minerals – collectively, marine aggregates – from the sea bed.

Currently licensed dredge areas



Working with industry

Short term marine licence process

- Strategic working to ensure EIA compliance;
- Licensing of 25 limited term marine licences.

15 Year renewal programme

- More strategic working to deliver:
 - OTE SPA Appropriate Assessment;
 - Regional Herring and Sandeel Assessment; and
 - Palaeo-Yare Assessment.

 We are now coming to the end of the 2 year programme, in which 25 marine licences have been issued.





Working with industry going forward

Regional monitoring

- Co-ordinated monitoring across industry; and
- Sufficiently meeting the requirements of the regulator

Regional Seabed Monitoring Plan

- New monitoring approach;
- Co-funded; and
- Better regulation

Licensing dredging

Section 66(1), item 9, of the MCAA provides that a marine licence is required to carry out any form of dredging within the UK marine licensing area.

Section 66 (2), item 1 (a) provides that dredging includes using any device to move any material (whether or not suspended in water) form one part of the sea to another part. Therefore, this includes using any mechanical device or device powered by a vessel (water pump, air hose or jetting or blasting) to move sediment.

There are 2 main types of navigation dredging (non-aggregate) licensed by MMO. These are capital dredging and maintenance dredging.

Licensing dredging from April 2014

- Transitional arrangements postponed implementation for 3 years until April 2014
- From 6th April 2014 all forms of dredging require a marine licence:
 - Hydrodynamic dredging, e.g. Water injection dredging
 - Hydraulic dredging, e.g. Trailer suction hopper dredging
 - Mechanical dredging, e.g. Backhoe dredging
- The MMO have been working with industry and our primary advisers to develop an accelerated process for small scale, low risk activities that do not fall within the exemption.

Exemption

The Marine Licensing (Exempted) Activities) (Amendment) Order 2013 came into force on 6 April 2013. It exempted:

Navigational dredging of not more than 500m³ per campaign, and no more than 1500m³ per annum

The Order exempts dredging for the purposes of conserving, maintaining or improving the navigation of an area of sea from requiring a marine licence. The exemption is subject to very specific conditions.

Accelerated licensing process

Navigational dredging with a volume of 500m³ - 3,000 m³ per campaign, and <10,000 m³ per annum

- It is ongoing dredging that has been carried out in the same way for at least 3 years;
- Dredging campaigns are separated by at least one month
- Evidence on the quality of the sediment;
- Assessed as part of a Maintenance Dredging Baseline document, or another form of assessment agreed with Natural England of likely impacts;
- Agreement to precautionary conditions agreed with EA and NE on a local/regional level; and
- Our aim is to issue licence within 28 days. This includes 14 days limited consultation with specific advisers, i.e. Cefas

Standard licensing process

Navigational dredging with a volume of >3,000 m³ per campaign, and >10,000 m³ per annum

Or

Where accelerated process criteria / conditions cannot be met

Or

Capital dredging associated with an EIA project

Full consultation with our advisers and standard processing time. Potential additional conditions.

Licensing dredged material disposal

Part 4 of the MCAA only permits licences to be granted for disposal at sea for limited types of waste, and even then, only following a detailed assessment of their risks.

The main types of disposal at sea that may be licensed by the MMO are:

- Dredged material;
- Miscellaneous disposal including fish waste; and
- Explosives/munitions and tracers

Suitability of dredged material

The suitability of dredged material for disposal at sea must always be assessed. The assessment process is undertaken in line with the OSPAR Guidelines for the management of dredged material. These guidelines provide generic guidance on determining the conditions under which dredged material may (or may not) be deposited at sea.

The OSPAR guidelines involve consideration of:

- Alternative uses;
- Disposal sites; and
- The suitability of the dredged material for disposal to sea (sediment sampling)

Disposal sites

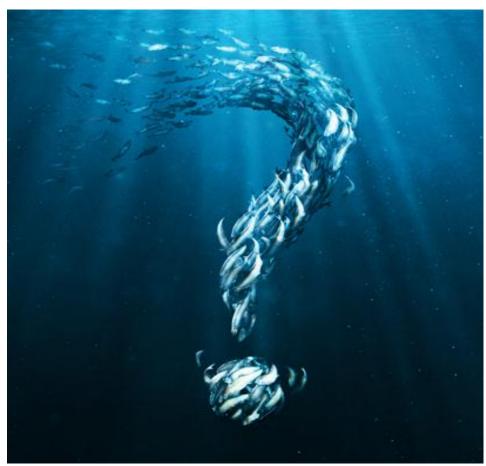
There are over 150 sites designated for the disposal of dredged material in the seas around England. They are located on the coast of the mainland, generally within a few miles of a major port or estuary entrance.

A new disposal site may be required when:

- There are no existing disposal sites which the project can logistically use;
- The available disposal sites cannot take the type of material that will be dredged; and
- The capacity at an existing disposal site has been reached

When designating a disposal site the applicant will have characterise the site to determine it's suitability for disposal.

Questions?



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