



**North Western
Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
Meeting 2
8th February 2011, Bootle Town Hall, 10.30 a.m.**

Agenda Item 7

**NORTH WESTERN IFCA – FIRST ANNUAL PLAN:
CONSULTATION DRAFT**

Recommendations:

1. **That the NWIFCA approves the content and format of the draft Annual Plan.**
2. **That members provide comments on the draft by 15th April 2011.**
3. **That following amendments an Annual Plan should be approved at the May 2011 meeting.**
4. **That the Annual Plan be maintained on the website as a working document, which will be reviewed and updated to meet changing events.**

Background

1. All IFCAs are required to prepare annual plans and reports to the Secretary of State as set out in Sections 177 and 178 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (MACA).
2. Annual planning and reporting are 2 mechanisms by which the NWIFCA will be held publicly accountable and made transparent. Plans and reports should demonstrate how the NWIFCA represents good value for money and what it is achieving with the funds used.
3. The information contained within annual plans and reports will be used to inform the four-yearly review of the NWIFCA which the Secretary of State is required to undertake under s.183 of the MCA Act.
4. The annual plans and reports are public documents and should be easily understood and used by NWIFCA members, employees partner organisations, stakeholders and the general public and Government.
5. Annual plans and reports should be available on the NWIFCA's website.

Draft Annual Plan 2011 – 2012

6. The draft of the first NWIFCA annual plan is being developed in line with Defra's guidance.
7. Officers propose that further development of the plan should be iterative and involve contributions from all members and partner bodies. It will be kept as a 'live' document during the course of the year and will be adapted and amended according to the development of the NWIFCA and the implementation of its duties. It will be used to inform the first Annual Report and the subsequent second Annual Plan for 2012-13.

Links with MoUs

8. Draft Memoranda of Understanding were discussed by the NWIFCA at its first meeting. Subsequent drafts were reviewed by Officers and representatives of Natural England, the Environment Agency, the Marine Management Organisation on 11 January 2011. The aim of the meeting was to formulate the local action plan annexes to the MOUs.
9. It was agreed that the NWIFCA's Action Plan for the first year should form the local Action Plan Annex to the three MoUs with the EA, NE and the MMO for which the national components had already been considered. The Action Plan for Year One contained within the draft Annual Plan is a result of the joint work and discussion at that meeting. It was also agreed that meetings with these partner representatives should continue during the course of the year to review the plan and assist its development.

**IFCA Implementation Officer
Chief Executive
25 January 2011**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT, 1985

List of Background Papers

1. Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c.23). Part 6 – Management of Inshore Fisheries. Chapter 1 – Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities.
2. Guidance to Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities on Annual Planning and Reporting Requirements under s.177 and s.178 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. (August 2010).