

NORTH WESTERN IFCA – SECOND 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 Friday 13 April 2012.
3. That following amendments an Annual Plan should be approved at the June 2012 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 MACA 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 2012 – 2013

6. The draft of the 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.

Links with MoUs

8. As required by the Defra monitoring framework for IFCA, England wide Memoranda of Understanding with MMO, Cefas and EA were signed by the IFCA in 2011. For various reasons the MOU with Natural England has not yet been finalised.
9. Defra recommended that the national MOU should also provide for local agreements with EA, MMO, CEFAS and NE. In the North West, IFCA members decided in 2011 that the NWIFCA annual plan should include the objectives of partner bodies and that the annual plan should form the local action plans to the MOUs. It would be efficient if this arrangement could continue, therefore all members are invited to suggest further elements of the plan relevant to IFCA objectives which would assist delivery of the objectives of partner bodies.

Chief Executive
2 March 2012

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).