

# NWIFCA Authority Meeting

## 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020; 11.00 a.m.

**AGENDA  
ITEM NO.  
11**

### Byelaw Update September 2020

**Purpose of Report:** To report progress with byelaw development and update annual plan.

**Recommendation:** Receive the report

1. At the August 2020 meeting TSB requested an update on byelaw developments with a review of byelaw targets in the Annual plan 2020-21.
2. Byelaws in development are listed in the table below

Byelaws in development	Update	Suggested Target
1. Byelaw 3 Cockle and Mussel permit scheme	Amended byelaw sent to MMO for confirmation July. Comments received 12 August which are being addressed. The existing byelaw remains in force and fully effective	Sign-off by Minister by December 2020
2. Byelaw 4 Potting	Byelaw sent to MMO for confirmation in July. MMO deadline for response is 24 September	Sign-off by Minister by April 2021
3. Byelaw 1 Minimum Conservation Reference Sizes	Considered by TSB on 11 August. On agenda today to be made	Sign-off by Minister by April 2021
4. Emergency byelaw made 3 June 2020 North Wirral Foreshore Bivalve Mollusc	Byelaw in force for 12 months from the date of making. A permanent byelaw is under consideration by TSB. A 6 month extension allowed by emergency byelaw regulations would extend the byelaw to November 2021	Sign-off by Minister by April 2022
5. Byelaw to consolidate Netting regulations:	Consultations with industry and stakeholders are continuing to agree and develop the measures to be included in this byelaw	Draft byelaw by April 2021

#### **Byelaw review and priorities**

6. The second meeting of the NWIFCA byelaw review group consisting of TSB Chair and Vice Chair was held on 29 May online and reported to TSB on 11 August. TSB requested the Authority review byelaw priorities in the annual plan at this meeting.
7. Byelaw priorities in the 2020-21 annual plan approved in June 2020 are as follows:
  - i. Complete Byelaw 3 Cockle and mussel permit scheme
  - ii. Complete District wide potting permit byelaw.
  - iii. Review and remake District wide netting byelaws
  - iv. Draft and make Minimum Conservation Reference Size byelaw

- v. Implement emergency byelaw to prohibit shellfish gathering on Wirral June 2020
  - vi. Draft and make iVMS byelaw in line with national policy. Currently not needed pending national redevelopment of the iVMS project.
  - vii. Continue Byelaw review and make recommendations to the Authority
8. Other work and priorities have delayed progress on 'iii. District wide netting byelaw'. The IVMS byelaw is on hold pending a national reassessment of the IVMS policy. Both these may be deleted from the list this year with an option to bring them back in future if appropriate.
9. Byelaws 1,3, 4 and the conversion of the emergency byelaw will fully occupy available resources for byelaw work for the remainder of 2020-21.
10. **Recommendation:** The Annual plan 2020-21 Table 3 Section 7 Byelaw priorities for 2021 is amended to:
- i. Complete Byelaw 3 Cockle and mussel permit scheme
  - ii. Complete District wide potting permit byelaw.
  - iii. Draft and make Minimum Conservation Reference Size byelaw
  - iv. Implement emergency byelaw to prohibit shellfish gathering on Wirral June 2020
  - v. TSB to continue the Byelaw review and make recommendations to the Authority

CEO September 2020