

# NWIFCA Quarterly Meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026

REPORT NO.  
6

## DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27

**Purpose:** For members to consider the contents of the draft Annual Plan for 2026/27 and feedback accordingly.

**Recommendations:** The draft Annual Plan is agreed so that it can be published on our website.

### 1. Background

The Authority is required to produce an Annual Plan every year. This draft plan for 2026/27 follows the format adopted in recent years, with a structured focus on specific objectives and priorities for the year ahead.

This current year's 2025/26 Annual Plan has proven a very useful strategic tool against which the senior management team and I have been able to mark progress during the year, noting of course that certain operational priorities can transpire during the year that were not anticipated at the time the Annual Plan was drafted.

The complementary Annual *Report* sets out the Authority's progress against what was planned, and the Annual Report for 2025/26, which I will be drafting in the coming months, will provide members assurance of the Executive's accountability and assessment of performance against the strategic objectives for the year, alongside the pre-existing Success Criteria.

For 2026/27, an accompanying draft Annual Plan is included for members' consideration and feedback. It is similar in format to 2025/26's, and sets out our key objectives and priorities for the year ahead across:

- Operations
- Science
- Enforcement
- Administration
- Fisheries
- Marine Environment
- Communications
- Governance
- Staff

*Mark Taylor, North Western IFCA CEO, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026*