

Sixth
annual report

April 2016 – April 2017

9-1-18



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Introduction

1. NWIFCA is the lead statutory regulator under MACAA for protection of the marine environment and sustainable use of sea fisheries resources within its District. The Authority's duties are defined in MACAA Sections 153 to 184.
2. S177 requires each IFCA to publish as soon as practical after the end of each year a report on the work of the Authority for that year. The report may be used by Defra to measure the performance of the Authority, accountability and value for money.
3. **IFCA Vision** (Defra 2009): To lead, champion and manage a sustainable marine environment and inshore fisheries in its District by successfully securing the right balance between social, environmental and economic benefits to ensure healthy seas, sustainable fisheries and a viable industry.
4. Priorities for the year 2016-17 were set out in the 2016-17 Annual Plan. Outcomes and delivery are summarised in Annex C the Authorities objectives and Annex B the Defra 2015 monitoring template.

The Authority: Members, meetings, governance

5. The full membership is 30 members (as defined in SI2200, 2010). Members are listed in table 1. In March 2017, there were 3 MMO vacancies.
6. The Authority and TSB Sub-committee met quarterly. Meeting dates are in table 2. Standing Orders are in the Constitution which is on the website.
7. All meetings were open to the public. There were no closures for confidential matters. Committee papers were posted on the website 7 days in advance of all meetings.
8. Risk strategy and risk registers were reviewed by the Authority in December 2016 by the Auditors in July 2017 and are available from the Clerk.
9. An independent retained consultant continued a systematic analysis of all areas of the Authority's Health & Safety policy and risk assessments. The Policy is available from the Clerk. Incidents recorded were reviewed before each full Authority meeting.

Resources

10. The budget for 2016-17 was agreed by the Finance Sub-Committee December 2015.
11. There was again no increase in the levy for core costs compared with 2013-14. Therefore the budget was effectively cut again last year by the annual rate of inflation.
12. As resolved by the Authority in 2013, the Levy was increased by 2% and will be similarly increased by 2% per year in future to provide funding for the replacement patrol vessel.
13. Budget Review for the year ended 31 March 2017 is table 3.
 - a) Income from shellfish sampling was less than expected because shellfish stocks

were low and less sampling was required. Byelaw 3 fees increased slightly as interest in cockles increased.

- b) Working surplus was 95,331, plus £60,473 set aside from 2% levy increase to fund patrol vessel replacement, total £155,803 was put into Reserves.
14. **Audit**
- a) Accountants Moore and Smalley LLP, conducted the internal audit on 12th July 2017.
- b) The Audit Report, Internal Controls Review and Accounting Statement to 31st March 2017 are available on request. Summary findings are:
- i. Internal Audit Report Financial systems were found to be in order. A recommendation to annually review the Risk Management Strategy with the Risk Assessment which is approved annually by the Authority at the December quarterly meeting will be implemented in 2017-18.
- ii. Internal Controls Review NWIFCA fully complied with relevant procedures and objectives.
- c) The Bank Reconciliation for the Year Ended 31st March 2017 (table 4) was checked by Moore and Smalley LLP.
15. **Officers and equipment:** NWIFCA continued to have 20 full time equivalent staff. Premises, vessels and vehicles are listed in table 5.

District fisheries

16. **Commercial fishing North of Haverigg Point:** trawling and netting for prawns (*Nephrops*) sole, brill and turbot, plaice, cod, codling, skate (thornback ray). Intertidal fisheries for periwinkles, cockles, mussels, angling. Potting for crab, lobster and whelk.
17. **Commercial Fishing South of Haverigg Point:** Boat and shore based recreational angling, cockle fisheries (Dee Estuary managed under the Dee Order) shrimps. Cockles were sparse throughout the District with no commercial stocks since 2012. Bass, plaice, dab, fluke, whitebait, mullet and codling were species mostly fished.
18. **Fishing vessels in the District:** Records of registered and licensed fishing vessels are maintained by MMO. The latest data dated January 2017) is shown below. Unlicensed and unregistered vessels includes hobby fishing boats and charter angling vessels.

District commercial vessels >10m	22
District commercial vessels <10m	71
Visitor vessels >10m	43
Visitor vessels <10m	18
Unlicensed / unregistered vessels	304

19. **Recreational fisheries:** Non-commercial fishing included nets and lines set from the shore. Unlicensed fishing from boats appears to be increasingly popular both traditional angling but also using pots for lobster, crab and whelks. Bait collection for peeler crabs, lug, rag and other worms as well as razor clams is common.

Enforcement

20. Regular IFCO weekend working introduced in 2015 was effective in monitoring weekend fishing activity. Weekend working while not popular gives IFCOs greater long term certainty about their forthcoming work programmes than in the past.
21. NWIFCA was a pilot area in a joint MMO – IFCA project to introduce an intelligence management system for England. Intelligence is securely recorded on line and shared with partners including MMO and other IFCA's.
22. Regular weekly tasking of IFCOs to meet intelligence received and risks identified is working well. Tasking is also shared with partner bodies and resultant joint working with MMO is increasing.
23. Table 6 provides inspection and compliance data for the year to 31 March 2017.

Byelaws and regulations

24. **Prohibition on foul hooking:** Made by the Authority in 2015 reached the advertising and formal consultation stage by March 2017. This byelaw replaces 3 similar inherited byelaws which currently cover the District. This byelaw was put on hold until other byelaws had reached the same stage to reduce advertising costs.
25. **Permit to fish for cockles and mussels (Byelaw 3):** A review of this byelaw started in 2015. The plan is to introduce a new flexible permit scheme byelaw. This type of byelaw has emerged as a possible route for giving IFCA's increased flexibility in byelaw measures to assist the development of more sustainable regulation of fisheries. This byelaw was put on hold as the Permit to Dredge byelaw assume higher priority (see below).
26. **'Permit to dredge:** Threats to start dredge fishing in Cumbria area February 2015 triggered the Authority to immediately put in place an emergency byelaw to prohibit dredging. Drafting of a byelaw to replace the NWSFC byelaw 12 and extend management of dredging to the whole NWIFCA District commenced. The NWIFCA prohibition on dredging emergency byelaw (February 2016) was extended for 6 months (Feb – August 2017)
27. Consultations with industry indicated support for a flexible permit scheme byelaw with charges for permits linked to vessel size. By March 2017, a flexible permit conditions byelaw was ready to be made by the Authority at the June 2017 meeting.
28. Further EU bass regulations were established for 2017 and implemented.
29. Species and gear landing obligations and discard plans were extended in 2017 as below.

Gear	Species	Applicable to	Exemptions
Trawl/seine	Hake	All using specified gear	No
Gill/trammel/hook & line	Hake	Those meeting threshold	No
Trawls/seines/pots & traps	Nephrops	Those meeting threshold	Catch from trawls pots and creels could be discarded
Trawls & seines	Haddock	Those meeting threshold	None

Science and survey

30. Science continued to support the Authority's fisheries management decisions in 2016. The science team worked with many agencies, NGOs and stakeholders to deliver its wide remit. Main areas of work were stock assessments, field surveys, HRA, MMO Marine Licence consultations and work with developers over major infrastructure projects. Officers attended and contributed to national workshops and training events in partnership with the main Defra agencies.
31. Table 7 A-D report the science programme in 2016-17:
 - A. MMO licence consultation responses mostly consisting of development applications for which the Authority is a consultee;
 - B. Meetings training and workshops attended;
 - C. Surveys and inspections carried out;
 - D. Projects active in the year.
32. The main science priorities during 2016-17 were:
 - I. on-going work to achieve the December 2016 deadline for management of fisheries within European Marine Sites as part of the 'Defra Review'
 - II. engagement with Defra, NE, MMO over MCZ management (T2 site) and proposed T3 site designations
 - III. management of active cockle and mussel fisheries in the District including the facilitation of the multi-sectoral Bivalve Mollusc Working Group (BMWG) and carrying out Habitats Regulations Assessments prior to authorising fishing
 - IV. participation and representation of NWIFCA and marine interests in major infrastructure developments within the District, such as the North West Coast Connections project (National Grid), NuGen's new nuclear power station at Moorside and Halite Gas Storage Project, Preesall, Wyre.
 - V. NWIFCA byelaw review, stakeholder consultation and regulatory impact assessments – including Emergency Dredge Byelaw
 - VI. National IFCA Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meetings
 - VII. development of recording, collation and analysis of inshore fisheries activities data for both shore and boat patrols
 - VIII. engagement with Defra, Cefas and stakeholders over EU bass measures, and proposals for future research projects including Cefas C-Bass research
 - IX. participation in meetings of Solway Firth Partnership, Dee Estuary Conservation Group, Shellfish Liaison Group, Celtic Seas Partnership
 - X. drafting of NWIFCA Recreational Sea Angling Strategy and start of engagement with stakeholders. Email: angling@nw-ifca.gov.uk
 - XI. co-working research on 3 projects relating to shellfish in Morecambe Bay EMS
 - XII. development of Conservation and Ecology pages for new NWIFCA website
 - XIII. development of NWIFCA Small Fish Survey programme
33. Work to deliver the Defra policy on Fisheries Management in EMS continued. By 31st March 2017 the total number of HRAs expected was 45. Once signed off by Natural England they are published on NWIFCA website and Marine Protected Area Management Huddle page (accessed by IFCA's, MMO, NE, Defra).

34. Individual HRAs are carried out for all cockle and mussel fisheries. In 2016-17 the following additional HRAs were conducted:
- I. Leven Sands cockle hand-gathering April 2016
 - II. Heysham Flat seed mussel hand-gathering
 - III. South America seed mussel dredge fishery
 - IV. Fleetwood seed mussel dredge fishery
 - V. Leven Sands cockle hand-gathering Nov 2016
 - VI. Pilling Sands cockle hand-gathering Nov 2016
35. Shellfish (crab and lobster landings in the NWIFCA district in 2016-17 as recorded in the National Shellfish Licensing Scheme database are shown in Table 10.
36. Defra announced 2016 that an Inshore vessel monitoring system (iVMS) would be implemented nationally via an SI if ministerial approval were secured. The SI would require all under 12m vessels (not captured by the VMS requirements) to have iVMS fitted.

Partnership working

37. Working in partnership with other agencies continued to be a high government priority. In 2016-7 the Authority worked with other IFCA, AIFCA, COG, TAG, NIMEG, Natural England (NE), the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), Environment Agency (EA), Gangmaster Licensing Authority (GLA); Councils, Environmental Health Services (EHS), Food Standards Agency (FSA), Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) Natural Resources Wales (NRW), Marine Scotland.
38. MMO: The Authority shares intelligence, tasking training with MMO. MMO is responsible for quality assurance of byelaws and appointment of members. The Authority undertakes regular joint patrols with MMO on land, in ports and using IFCA vessels.
39. Natural England were consulted under the 2010 Habitats Regulations on all HRA assessments of new activities in EMS or MCZ. There were 2 meetings were NE Director of marine work. Regular meetings continued with the NE Marine team.
40. The Authority consulted NE on all new fisheries on protected sites: SAC, SPA and MCZ.
41. The Authority worked with Local Authority Environmental Health Services (EHS) to ensure all Intertidal shell fisheries complied with shellfish hygiene standards as laid down in the Shellfish Waters Directive by collecting shellfish samples and assisting enforcement of the requirement for registration documents.
42. The Authority and Councils convened multi-agency committees as required to prepare operational plans for cockle fisheries at Pilling and Levan Island to manage the diverse socio-economic and environmental impacts of cockle and mussel harvesting. NWIFCA continued to contribute to Council chaired shellfish liaison Committees in Lancashire and other parts of District.
43. GLA use Gang master licences to bring more effective regulation into the shellfish industry and ensure labour is not exploited. The NWIFCA supports this policy to improve

standards of financial and management practice and shared Byelaw 3 data with GLA and HMRC.

44. EA is responsible for delivery of the EU WFD and MSFD. NWIFCA continued to stand ready to undertake duties arising from these directives. NWIFCA assisted NRW and EA with management of the Dee cockle fishery and attended the Dee Estuary Fisheries Liaison group.
45. The NWIFCA consulted NGO in the development of policies. The Science team continued collaboration with RSPB and County WLT in the District on the Authority and the BWG to develop management plans for shellfisheries. Also North West Coastal Forum, Solway Firth Forum, Duddon Estuary partnership, Irish Sea Forum, EA Standing environment group, Dee Estuary cockle management Committee

Publicity and Communications

46. The NWIFCA communicated effectively with members, partners and stakeholders. The communications and engagement strategy was revised and developed in 2016.
47. The website at www.nw-ifca.gov.uk was redeveloped by 'IBEX creative' in 2016 to make current and background information about the Authority more accessible. Press releases for urgent communications were sent to media contacts and put on the website throughout the District.
48. Stakeholder consultation and discussion meetings were held as required. A text alert system was used to inform stakeholders of urgent information
49. The Bivalve working group a cross sectoral committee set up in 2015 to address historical conflicts between various fisheries continued work commenced development of Management plans for Morecambe Bay shellfish.
50. A new database was developed and commissioned by LDNP in 2016 and permit card printers were installed to provide more robust permits for holders and support efficient enforcement.

Staff Training

51. Officers skills were updated under the Authority's training programme. Training objectives were identified in staff reviews. The training programme included:
 - I. Defined training programmes aimed at specified roles and responsibilities provided in house, by the IFCA as a group, by MMO and outside providers;
 - II. Tailored training to meet organisation and personal objectives for each officer delivered by the Head of Enforcement;
 - III. Assessment of the Authority's existing and future skills and needs by senior officers.
 - IV. Consideration of external training available to bridge capacity gaps;
 - V. Monitoring and evaluation of training to achieve added value and effectiveness.

52. Two IFCOs attended the annual 5 day IFCO training course February 2017 to receive an IFCO warrant. Other mandatory and essential training was maintained. New IFCOS received mandatory internal and external training in:
- I. Use of the Health and Safety policy,
 - II. Use of equipment,
 - III. risk management,
 - IV. operation of the enforcement policy including the IFCO code of conduct
53. Implementation of the FCO accreditation pilot scheme continued with the aim of creating a level 3 qualification in fisheries and marine enforcement. The aim is for 3 IFCOs to work through units 1 & 2 by March 2017. The Head of Enforcement was appointed a local assessor for this training.
54. New Authority members received an induction pack of information about the IFCA and the role of members. MMO provide training for new members in delivery of the role. NWIFCA provide awareness days to inform new members about the work of the Authority. An awareness day will be planned for 2016 if required.

Performance

55. Performance in delivery of the remit is measured locally and nationally. Local priorities for this District set by the Authority are in Table 7 A. National criteria and performance indicators set by Defra are in Table 7B
56. The Authority aims to be an efficient and fair regulator, which manages the exploitation of sea fisheries resources sustainably in accordance with EU and UK law and NWIFCA byelaws. The Authority has a range of compliance measures and sanctions which are regularly reviewed. Compliance measures are applied to fully meet the UK Government Regulators' Code which is at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/300126/14-705-regulators-code.pdf
57. HOE had daily responsibility for Enforcement action. HOE and CEO signed off decisions on Fixed Administrative penalties and prosecutions.
58. **Equality Act 2010:** As a public sector body and employer the Authority complied with the Equality Act and standards.

Table 1 Authority membership April 2016 - March 2017

Council Members		Date of appointment
Blackpool Borough Council (1)	Councillor J. Elmes	July 2015
Cheshire West and Chester Council (1)	Councillor P. Williams	
Cumbria County Council (2)	Councillor AJ Markley Councillor K. Little	
Halton Borough Council (1)	Councillor B. Woolfall	May 2015
Lancashire County Council (2)	Councillor K. Brown Councillor L. Beavers	
Liverpool City Council (1)	Councillor J. Noakes	July 2015
Sefton Council (1)	Councillor R. L. Owens	June 2016
Wirral Metropolitan Council (1)	Councillor B. Mooney	

MMO Appointees and their Affiliations:		
Marine Environment	Dr J. Andrews	October 2015
Marine Environment	Dr E. Baxter	
Marine Science/Environment	Mr C. Booth	
Commercial Fishing	Mr D. Clarke	2011, 2015
Anglers and Recreational Fishing	Mr B Crawford	2011, 2015
Commercial Fishing	Mr R. Graham	
Shellfish aquaculture	Mr D. Grunshaw	2011, 2015
Marine Environment	Mr D. Harpley	
Commercial fishing and aquaculture	Mr T. Jones	
Anglers and Recreational Fishing	Mr B. Leigh	
Commercial fishing	Mr S. J. Manning	
Marine Environment	Mr M. Oddy	October 2015
Marine Environment	Miss S. Salthouse	
Commercial fishing and aquaculture	Mr K. Thompson	
National Agency appointees		
Natural England	Mark Johnson	Sept 2016
Environment Agency	Stewart Mounsey	
Marine Management Organisation	Daniel Ward	August 2015

NOTES:

Ms P. Taylor resigned June 2016

There are 3 MMO appointee vacancies as at March 2017

Table 2 Authority and other major meetings attended by officers

		Dates
NWIFCA	Authority	10 th June 2016 16 th September 2016 9 th December 2016 17 th March 2017
	Technical Science & Bylaws Committee	10 th May 2016 9 th August 2016 1 st November 2016 7 th February 2017
	Finance Committee	9 th December 2016
	Chairman's Committee	5 th May 2016; 13Dec16
	Vessel Committee	18 th April 2016 25 th April 2016 12 th December 2016
Joint IFCA	Association of IFCA (AIFCA)	14Jun16; 7Mar17; 27Sep16; 6Dec16;
	Chief officers group COG	12-13Ap16; 13Jul16; 12Oct16; 17Jan17; 8—9Feb17;
	IFCA Technical Advisory Group (TAG_	
	NIMEG	12Jul16; 8Nov16
	TAG	1Jun16
Defra	West of Walney wind Bass Nursery areas	5Sep16 14Nov16
	Natural England Liaison Environment Agency	17May16; 23Nov16; 2-2-17
	MMO; Liaison	21-3-16 Mr Haslam 1-2-17; Byelaws13Feb17; Marine planning 28Feb17; 18-19Ap16; 18Aug16
Fisheries Liaison	Bivalve Working Group	13May16; 9Jun16; 8Aug16; 10Oct16;
	Dee Estuary Liaison group	17June16; 23June16; 15Sep16;
	Solway mussels Siloth	18-1-17
Partner meetings. IFCA; Government, NGO; Conferences, Media	Irish Sea Forum	20-Oct 16;
	BBC interview Morecambe Bay cockles; One Show	4Ap16; 19Ap16
	IUU event Defra	11 Ap-16
	LCC Vessel procurement, Preston	4-Ap16.
	Northern IFCA's Whitby	12May16
	LDNP Database	9May16; 8Aug16;
	Defra	
Training	IFCO training Torquay	29.1.17 – 3-2-17

Table 3: Budget review 1 April 2016 - 31 March 2017

	ANNUAL BUDGET	ACTUAL	BETTER+/WORSE-THAN BUDGET
EXPENDITURE			
Employees	892,417	832,023	60,394
Premises	55,150	52,634	2,516
Transport 3151-3651	205,340	182,337	23,003
Vessel Purchase 3652 (Transport)	71,247	10,774	60,473
Supplies/Services	57,800	53,209	4,591
Corporate	30,300	27,417	2,883
Total Expenditure	1,312,254	1,158,394	153,860
INCOME			
Levy	1,235,254	1,235,254	0
Shellfish sampling	15,000	8,798	-6,202
Byelaw 3 Permit Fees	58,000	61,500	3,500
Interest	4,000	8,645	4,645
Total Income	1,312,254	1,314,197	1,943

Surplus	155,803
Less Vessel Purchase Surplus	60,473
WORKING SURPLUS	95,331

NOTE: Increase of Levy of 2% per year for 5 years is kept (in Vessel Purchase 3652) and transferred to Reserves at year end until needed for funding replacement Patrol Vessel
In 2016-17 £10,774 was spent on vessel procurement process.

Table 4: Bank Reconciliation for the year ended 31 March 2017 (£)

Bank Account:	NatWest Current Account (Unadjusted Fig. Note 1)	1,077,616	
Add	Unpresented Cheques: None	0	
Add	Uncleared Payments: None	0	
Add:	Petty Cash	200	
Add	Lancashire County Council Investment	1,347,000	
TOTAL CASH AND SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS			2,424,816
<i>Note 1: Reconciliation of bank account figure with Profit & Loss</i>			
	<i>Unadjusted Bank Account</i>	<i>1,077,616</i>	
	<i>Less Unpresented Cheques</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1,077,616</i>
	<i>Profit & Loss 8255 Bank</i>		<i>1,077,616</i>

Table 5 Assets: Premises, vessels, vehicles 2016-7

Offices	Leased main office	Carnforth 9 base for 10 staff
	Cumbria Council Office	Whitehaven base for 6 staff
Garage/stores	All leased. Used for storing ribs, quads, other equipment and as offices for home based IFCOs.	Whitehaven Barrow Carnforth Blackpool Liverpool
Vessels	FPV "Solway Protector"	1989, 16 metre Arun class GRP vessel - based in Whitehaven
	FPV "Protector Bravo"	1999, 7 metre RIB – based in Whitehaven
	FPV 'Protector Gamma'	2011 6m RIB – Based in Barrow
	FPV "Bay Protector"	7.5m RIB based in Liverpool
	Zodiac	4.5m based in Morecambe
Road vehicles	4 Nissan Navara 4WD 1 Isuzu Rodeo Denver 4WD 3 Renault Kangoo vans	2 Whitehaven, 1 Barrow, 1 Liverpool Carnforth 2 Carnforth, 1 Blackpool
ATV 'quad' bikes	10 Honda ATV	Whitehaven, Barrow, Carnforth, Blackpool, Liverpool

Table 6 Inspection and compliance data

6A: summary of quarterly reports

First quarter April - June:

- i. Opening of the Leven Island craam cockle fishery on 4th April.
- ii. First cockle fishery in Morcambe Bay since 2008.
- iii. Numbers of gatherers varied from 0 – 50 depending on tides and demand.
- iv. The cockle closed season commenced 1st May.
- v. Low level of Foulney mussel activity continued dependent upon tidal conditions.
- vi. Nephrops fishery began April, within and outside the district.
- vii. Vessel landings up to 400 stone for 3 - 4 days fishing.
- viii. Lobster and crab fishing gear returned to the water in May June.
- ix. Landings moderate.
- x. Whelk landings into Whitehaven were good 8 – 10 tonnes at a time. Codling and plaice were caught by anglers throughout the district.

Second quarter July - September

- i. Moderate landings of nephrops, shrimps, lobster and crabs.
- ii. Poor bass returns across the District.
- iii. Light inter-tidal hand gathering for mussels throughout the quarter.
- iv. Heysham mussel seed fishery continued until mid-September.
- v. South America, dredge fishery commenced 11th July. Perch Scar / Black Scar later.
- vi. The renewal of NWIFCA byelaw 3 permits for the 2016/17 season, were issued via the new database and in a plastic credit card format.
- vii. Cockle beds closed season continued to end august, then replaced by Byelaw 3 closures.
- viii. Shellfish surveys throughout the quarter
- ix. Local Authority Environmental Health sample collection continued throughout the district.
- x. Joint enforcement operations were carried out with the MMO and EA.

Third quarter October - December

- i. Good catches Thornback ray.
- ii. Shrimping was variable, tractors had reasonably success.
- iii. Potting continued to about end November.
- iv. Licensed netting vessels continued fishing during the quarter.
- v. Anglers were active, mainly at weekends.
- vi. Mussel gathering reduced significantly over the quarter as stock declined.
- vii. Very sporadic bass catches from boats, shore netting slightly better. Bass continues to maintain its high media profile.

Fourth quarter January – March 2017

- i. Thornback rays were dominant catch in the northern sector,
- ii. Shrimping ended with moderate catches but small average size.
- iii. Pilling and Leven cockle fishery opened fishing effort was low,
- iv. Mussel gathering was limited due to very little stock.
- v. Angling effort continued low throughout the district.
- vi. Contributed to a national intelligence management pilot project in cooperation with the MMO and Natural England and other northern IFCAs.

6B Authorisations to fish issued under byelaws in 2016-7

	Period of permit	Year	Number issued
NWSFC Byelaw 1 Scientific derogations	Various periods up to max 1 year	2016-7	16
Cockle and mussels Byelaw 3	1 Sept – 31 Aug 2016	2015-6	111
	1 Sept – 31 Aug 2017	2016-7	116
Netting Byelaws 26/27 Areas 8, 9,10 &11.	1 May - 30 Nov 2016	2016	141
Netting Byelaw 26 Areas 2 & 3	1 July –30 Nov 2016	2016	7
Netting Byelaw 26 Area 5	1 - 31 May &	2016	4
	1 Sept -30 Nov		6
Hobby potting Byelaw 30 NWSFC area	1 Jan - 31 Dec	2016	39
	1 Jan - 31 March	2017	38
Hobby potting Byelaw 26 Cumbria SFC area	1Jan - 31 Dec	2016	51
	1 Jan – 31 Mar	2017	51

6 C Patrol and inspection data 2016-7

At sea	number of vessel patrols	74
	number of boardings	26
	number of gear inspections	136
	number of fish & shellfish inspections	19
On land	number of shore patrols	1077
	number of port visits (within shore and ATV patrols)	1092
	number of premises inspections	7
	number of landing inspections	1091
	number of other inspections	2149
Outcomes	number of verbal warnings	19
	number of written warnings	86
	number of FAPs	5
	number of individuals prosecuted in court	0

6 D Shellfish (crab & lobster) landings (Fleetwood to Whitehaven) - April 2016 - March 2017. Data from National shellfish licensing scheme

Gear Pots/Nets Section		Edible Crabs (Kgs)			Spider Crab	Lobster	Other	Berried hens returned	under sized returned
No of pots set	No of pots hauled	Cocks	Hens	Mixed	Kgs	Kgs	Kgs	Kgs	Kgs
33987	32327	285	75	4337	20	12412	717	136	16

Table 7 Performance Monitoring

7 A: Delivery of local priorities in 2016-17

1.	Operate the Authority to highest standards of probity. In compliance with public sector regulations and policies, health and safety, financial auditing transparency, freedom of information data protection. In compliance with the Authority's constitution and standing orders.	Fully delivered
2.	Properly manage and care for officers and members. Provide training, job reviews, information and consultation on all relevant matters; and delegation of appropriate responsibility.	Fully delivered
3.	Work towards full compliance with all EU, UK and NWIFCA regulations covering exploitation of sea fisheries resources. Plan, patrol and inspect all parts of the District adequately according to risk. Collect and record data on fishing in line with agreed protocols. Apply sanctions fairly and fully when offences are detected.	Fully delivered
4	Complete new EMS policy and apply management to set up the contribution of this District towards the well managed ecologically coherent network of MPA by end 2016. This includes work to support designation of MCZ tranche 2 sites and SPA extensions in the NWIFCA District	Fully delivered
5	Effectively manage all shellfish beds, in compliance with habitats regulations in partnership with other regulators and advisors. Undertake scientific stock surveys. Consult with stakeholders and develop plans as appropriate. Use cross sectoral committees to develop local management arrangements and regulations and industry committees such as the Bivalve Working Group to develop shellfish management plans as required which provide a documented rational for management decisions.	Fully delivered
6	Continue byelaw review: Current priorities as follows, but may change according to risk: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enact Byelaw 8 Prohibition of foul hooking 2. Replacement of Byelaw 3 Cockle and mussel permit scheme; 3. Byelaw prohibition of dredging without permit. 4. Byelaw lobster protection; 5. Byelaw hobby fishing; 6. Byelaw vessel size limits 	Update at 31-3-17 Ready to advertise Deferred for dredge byelaw Ready to advertise Defra policy needed Defra policy needed Not progressed
7	Progress procurement of new main patrol vessel. Contractors: Seafish and Lancashire County Council.	Procurment progressed
8	Develop new main permit database Contractor LDNP	Fully delivered
9	Develop new website.	Fully delivered
10	Implement and develop intelligence management system	Fully delivered
11	Contribute to national marine review by Defra and joint working with MMO	Defra policy stalled
12	Enhance IFCO skills with further training in evidence gathering, interviewing and intelligence handling.	Fully delivered.

7B: Performance against Defra success criteria and performance indicators

Defra Success Criteria	Strategy to meet criteria	2016-7 tasks to meet criteria	Progress and outcomes at 31-3-17	Lead
Success Criterion 1: IFCA's are recognised and heard, balancing the economic needs of the fishery whilst working in partnership and engaging with stakeholders				
SC1A: The IFCA will maintain a database of stakeholder contacts reviewed and updated by 31 March.	NWIFCA maintains an up to date stakeholder database.	NWIFCA database being restructured in 2016. Regular updating will not be hindered	Database commissioned and in use for data recording and permit issue.	Comms Officer
SC1B: The IFCA will review communication strategy and implementation plan by 31 March.	NWIFCA maintains reviews and implements a communications strategy,	Communications strategy to be reviewed and implemented.	Strategy reviewed March 2017. Implemented within available resources.	Comms Officer
SC1C: The IFCA will review website by the last working day of each month.	NWIFCA website regularly updated	Website to be restructured in 2016 by contractor. Ongoing.	New website commissioned and in full use. Further development planned subject to resources. Use of social media developed.	Comms Officer
SC1D: The IFCA will ensure website meets the objectives of communication strategy, by 31 March.	NWIFCA website regularly updated	Website to be reviewed and updated in communications strategy review.	Completed for 2016-7	Comms Officer
SC1E: The IFCA will review all Memoranda of Understanding by 31 March. Will be plan to update MoUs to agreed timescale	National MOU in place with NE, EA, Cefas and MMO. Defra do not require review.	No planned work.	New AIFCA-MMO MOU agreed early 2017.	CEO
SC1F: By 31 March IFCA will participate proportionately and at the right level of delegation, in regional and national fisheries and conservation activity identified in annual plan.	NWIFCA has contributed to all such activity as required.	NWIFCA will contribute within available resources to all relevant activity e.g.: COG, AIFCA, NIMEG, TAG, Defra policy, regional coastal fora, REMIT, Regional IFCA.	Fully delivered in 2016-7	CEO
Success Criterion 2:IFCA's implement a fair, effective and proportionate enforcement regime				
SC2A: NWIFCA will ensure enforcement risk register and strategy are published and available on its website 1 April.	Enforcement policy, strategy reviewed annually. Risk reviewed continually.	Enforcement policy and strategy to be reviewed in 2016. Risk based enforcement to continue	Completed	HOE
SC2B: The IFCA will demonstrate in Annual Report work with other regulators to achieve consistent quality,	Annual report for 2014-15 shows how NWIFCA works with other	Report for 2015-16 to be published before end 2016. Joint working will	Completed	CEO

application and enforcement of management measures.	regulators.	continue as required.		
SC2C: Record enforcement activity in a standard format, provide to NIMEG and publish on its website.	Enforcement activity is reported quarterly to the Authority & published on website.	National multi-agency Intelligence system under development	Data recorded in standard format in quarterly reports and made available to NIMEG.	HEO
SC2D: The IFCA will adopt the national Code of Conduct for IFCOs, which will be reviewed annually and published on its website by 1 April.	Code adopted. No known plans for national review	No planned work	Code adopted in Enforcement strategy. No national review has been done.	HOE
SC2E: The Code of Conduct for IFCOs is reflected in work objectives and annual IFCO appraisals	IFCOs must comply with code	Training to be maintained	Fully delivered	HOE
SC2F: IFCOs attain accreditation and undertake Continuing Professional Development (CPD).	Accreditation is not yet available. CPD available to all IFCOs. Training register in place	Register of training to be maintained	Register maintained, Available training completed. Accreditation still in development. 3 IFCOs testing development.	HOE
Success Criterion 3: IFCA use evidence based & appropriate measures to manage sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources and deliver marine environmental protection.				
SC3A: IFCA will record site-specific management considerations for MPA and report progress to the Authority	Management of MPA is kept under review	New EMS policy to be fully implemented in 2016	Fully complied with Defra / NE advice.	SS
SC3B: IFCA will publish data analysis and evidence supporting new management measures, on its website.	All reported to the Authority and reports on website	Continue as heretofore	Completed for 2016-7	SS
SC3C: Management information (e.g. sampling and/or survey results) will be collected periodically after new management measures have been implemented, to demonstrate their effectiveness.	Scientific survey undertaken to inform fisheries management	Results reported to Authority and reports on website	Done as fully as possible subject to resources	SS
SC3D: IFCA will develop criteria-based management options, explained to stakeholders through the website, and reviewed annually by 31 March.	This is done	Ongoing	Done for new management programmes in 2016-7	SS
SC3E: New IFCA management measures selected for development and implementation are delivered within agreed timescales	Done within available resources	Ongoing.	Done for new fisheries opened in 2016-7	SS
SC3F: IFCA will include shared agreed objectives and actions from Fisheries Management Plans in Annual Plan, published	Annual plans for coming year completed before start of FY	Annual plan 16-17 to be published by end March 2016	Done as required	SS

by 31 March each year.				
SC3G: Progress in Fisheries Management Plan areas, including Maximum Sustainable Yield commitments, noted in Annual Report	Plans for cockle and mussels made as required. No MSY commitments	Industry working groups in operation to agree management of cockles and mussel fisheries.	Considered for Cockle and mussel fisheries with Bivalve Working group	SS
Success Criterion 4: IFCA's have appropriate governance in place; staff trained and professional				
SC4A: IFCA will publish a Plan on its website by 31 March, setting out the main objectives and priorities for the next financial year. Copy sent to the Secretary of State.	Annual plans for coming year completed before start of FY	Annual plan 17-18 to be published by end March 17.	Plan published by deadline	CEO
SC4B: After the end of each financial year, IFCA will publish report on website describing activities, performance and summary of audited financial information in that year, Copy sent to Secretary of State.	Annual report published before end of calendar year. Annual report 2014-5 published November 2015	Annual report 2016-7 to be published by end 2016.	Plan published by deadline	CEO
SC4C: IFCA staff will have annual performance management plans in place. Annual appraisals for all staff will have been completed by 31 May	Appraisals done	Complete 2016 appraisals by end May 2016.	Completed	All line manager
SC4D: An efficient secretariat of IFCA staff support IFCA Authority meetings which are held quarterly and are quorate. Meeting documentation will meet Standing Orders.	Secretariat in place. Operation meets requirements	Continue to run meetings within standing Orders.	Completed	Clerk
SC4E: The IFCA will show, in its Annual Report, how marine, land and water management mechanisms in the District have worked responsively and effectively together.	Annual report 2014-5 published November 2015	Annual report 2015-6 to be published by end 2016	Completed	CEO
Success Criterion 5: IFCA's make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives				
SC5A: The IFCA will show progress towards identifying evidence needs by publishing a research plan each year.	Research plan published with annual plan	Plan to be published by end March 2017	Done	SS
SC5B: The IFCA will publish a research report annually that demonstrates how evidence has supported decision making.	Reports to members at each quarterly meeting	No plans	Reports done quarterly	SS
SC5C: The IFCA's contribution to TAG and progress towards a national evidence needs programme will be recorded in the IFCA's Annual Report.	Done	Will be done.	Done	SS

Table 8 Science
8A Consultation responses completed in 2016-17

Consultations	Type
Anchorsholme – United Utilities Outfall	MMO Marine Licence
Mersey Gateway Project – AECOM surveys	MMO Marine Licence
Workington Rail Transport Hub	MMO Marine Licence
Leven Viaduct repairs	MMO Marine Licence
Barrow OWF Operational and Maintenance	MMO Marine Licence
Burbo Bank OWF Operational and Maintenance	MMO Marine Licence
Rossall Coastal Defence Scheme	MMO Marine Licence
West of Duddon Sands OWF Operational and Maintenance	MMO Marine Licence
Ormonde OWF Operational and Maintenance	MMO Marine Licence
Greenodd Wastewater Pumping Station	MMO Marine Licence
Penketh Brook Outfall Refurbishment (River Mersey)	MMO Marine Licence
Ilse of Man to UK Interconnector Cable – Maintenance and repair	MMO Marine Licence
Network Rail – Parton to Harrington Sea wall repairs	MMO Marine Licence
Network Rail – Sellafeld Station pitching repairs	MMO Marine Licence
Replacement of part of Riverside Wall at Port of Workington	MMO Marine Licence
Temporary Sculpture Installation at Blackpool Beach	MMO Marine Licence
Burbo Bank Extension Mattress Remediation	MMO Marine Licence
Walney Extension Offshore Wind Farm O&M Facilities at Barrow	MMO Marine Licence
West Cumbria Mining – offshore exploratory boreholes (and variation to Marine Licence)	MMO Marine Licence
Fylde Coastal Protection Scheme	MMO Marine Licence
Workington Slag Bank at German Tunnel	MMO Marine Licence
Nethertown Wastewater Pumping Station Outfall	MMO Marine Licence
Hesketh Out Marsh East (HOME) Managed Realignment Scheme	MMO Marine Licence
Foxfield Water Main Diversion	MMO Marine Licence
Gravel Removal Northside Workington	MMO Marine Licence
Eskmeals Viaduct Repairs	MMO Marine Licence
Network Rail CP5 42 & 43 Cumbrian Coastal Protection Works:	MMO Marine Licence
Cleveleys Emergency stabilisation existing groyne	MMO Marine Licence
Lune Estuary – EA Benthic surveys	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
Liverpool University Mersey Estuary surveys	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
NERC Catchments Releases Dee and North Wales 2016	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
United Utilities: River Lune Drought Permit EAR Report	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
CEFAS Endeavour Groundfish survey	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
Lobster Hatchery – Lake District Coast Aquarium	Byelaw 8 dispensation
CEFAS Clean Seas Environmental Monitoring Programme	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
EA Mersey Guardian WFD sampling	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
Northwest Marine Plan - MMO	Response to consultation

EIA Regulations	Response to consultation
Liverpool Bay SPA Extension	Natural England consultation
Solway SPA Extension	Marine Scotland consultation (with NE)
North West Coast Connections S42 DCO Consent	Consultation
Table 8B Science Meetings, Training and Workshops	
Defra Family MPA Working Group	Monthly virtual meetings
Morecambe Bay SAC Draft Conservation Advice and Solway pSPA NWIFCA consultation response	Meeting with NE
Bivalve Mollusc Working Group	Meetings
Silloth Mussel Fisheries stakeholders	Meeting
Byelaw 3 permit holders stakeholder meeting over Byelaw 3 review	Meeting
Defra – C-Bass Steering Project Group	Meeting
Cefas Bass tagging project - planning	Meeting
MMO EU Bass Regulations meetings with fishers x 2	Meetings
Welsh Government – cockle management	Meeting
MMO team meetings with Marine Licensing, Marine Conservation, Vessel Licensing, Fisheries Management	Meetings
EA Data dissemination re. Small Fish Surveys	Virtual Meetings
Wyre Estuary Group – exploring joint working on small fish surveys	Meeting
Solway Firth Partnership	Quarterly Meetings
Leven Cockle Fishery – Joint Agency Planning	Meeting
Shellfish Liaison Group	Meeting
NWIFCA Enforcement Team	Meetings
Dee Estuary Sea Fisheries Liaison Group	Meeting
Lancaster University Masters Research Project Proposal – sediment transport and cockle movements	Meetings
Bird Model Update – NE, NRW, EIFCA	Meetings
Bird Model PhD planning – Bangor University	Meetings
Lobster Genetics PhD – Manchester University	Meeting
Northwest Tern Group with RSPB / WLT / NE	Meeting
Internal website development	Meetings
North West Coast Connections	Meetings
Moorside Nuclear Power Station	Quarterly Technical Meetings
Northwest Marine Plan - MMO	Meetings
Defra 25 Year Environment Plan	Meeting
Mersey Estuary Conservation Group	Meeting
Mersey Sediment Management Group – Peel Ports	Meetings
NWIFCA / EA Joint Working Opportunities	Meeting
MCA Oil Pollution response – NWIFCA role in northwest	Meeting
UU & EA WFD Improvements	Meeting
Heysham Power Station with NE – fish entrainment issues	Meeting

Fylde Coast Protection Scheme – pre-application for MMO Marine Licence	Meeting with Consultant Engineer
Halite Gas Storage – Preesall, Wyre	Meeting with Mott MacDonald
Cumbria Wildlife Trust Marine Trainees programme – one day training on NWIFCA	Delivering training
Sefton Seascapes – Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership, North West Coastal Forum, Sefton Council	Conference
Liverpool City Region’s Coastal Designated Sites Evidence Strategy	Workshop
Cefas C-Bass Research	Workshop
Celtic Seas Partnership Final Conference - Dublin	Conference
Coastal Futures	Conference
Solway Firth Partnership	Conference
TAG (IFCA Technical Advisory Group)	Conference and Meetings
IFCO Training Course – Torquay	Training
IFCA sonar camera demonstration – Eastern IFCA	Training
Wader Bird Training with RSPB, NE and MMO	Training
MCA National Training Course on Oil Pollution Contingency Planning and Response	Training
Lifting and Slings (Crane)	Training

Table 8C. Science Surveys and Inspections in 2016-17

<u>Species</u>	<u>Bed</u>	<u>HRA Y/N</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Active Y/N</u>	<u>Partners / Consultees</u>	<u>No.</u>
Mussels	Foulney Ditch	N	Morecambe Bay	Y	BMWG	1
Mussels	Falklands / South America	Y	Morecambe Bay	Y	Industry, Natural England, BMWG	2
Mussels	Foulney Island	N	Morecambe Bay	Y	BMWG	4
Mussels	Heysham Flat	Y	Morecambe Bay	Y	BMWG, NE, WLT	6
Mussels	Fleetwood beds	Y	Morecambe Bay	Y	BMWG	1
Mussels	Wyre End	N	Morecambe Bay	N	BMWG	1.
Mussels	Hardacre	N	Duddon Estuary	N	BMWG	2.
Mussels	Ellisons	N	Solway	N	BMWG	1.
Mussels	Silloth	N	Solway	N	BMWG, Industry, BMWG	3.
Cockles	Beckfoot	N	Solway	N		1.
Cockles	Pilling	Y	Morecambe Bay	Y	BMWG, NE	3.
Cockles	Warton Sands	N	Morecambe Bay	N	BMWG	2.
Cockles	Flookburgh	N	Morecambe Bay	N	BMWG	7.
Cockles	Leven Sands	Y	Morecambe Bay	Y	BMWG	1.
Cockles	Newbiggin	N	Morecambe Bay	N	BMWG	1.
Cockles	Aldingham	N	Morecambe Bay	N	BMWG	1.
Cockles	Middleton Sands	N	Morecambe Bay	N	BMWG	2.
Cockles	Penfold North / South	N	Southport	N	BMWG	3.
Cockles	North Run	N	Lytham	N	BMWG, WLT	2.
Cockles	Leasowe	N	North Wirral	N	BMWG	2.
<i>Sabellaria alveolata</i>	Cumbria Coast MCZ	N	Cumbria	N/A	WLT	1.
Small Fish Survey	Wyre Estuary beam trawl and seine net survey	N	Morecambe Bay	N/A	EA training for NWIFCA officers	1.
Small Fish Survey	Lune Estuary Fyke Net	N	Morecambe Bay	N/A	EA training for NWIFCA officers	2.
Small Fish Survey	River Douglas Fyke Net	N	Ribble Estuary	N/A	EA training for NWIFCA officers	2.
Small Fish Survey	Ribble Estuary seine net survey	N	Morecambe Bay	N/A	EA training for NWIFCA officers	1.
Total						53

Glossary

AIFCA	Association of inshore fisheries and conservation authorities
CEFAS	Centre for environment, fisheries and aquaculture science
CEO	Chief executive officer
COG	IFCA Chief officers group
Defra	Department for environment, food and rural affairs
EA	Environment Agency
EHS	Environmental Health Services (Local Authority)
EMS:	European marine site
FSA	Food Standards Agency
GLA	Gangmaster Licensing Authority
HOE	Head of enforcement
HRA	Habitats regulations assessment. An impact assessment required to allow an activity including any fisheries to take place on an EMS
MACAA	Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
MOU	Memorandum of understanding
MSFD	Marine strategy framework directive
NIMEG	Joint agency National Intelligence and Marine Enforcement Group
NE	Natural England
TAG	Technical officers group
WFD	Water framework directive