

**NWIFCA Quarterly Meeting
6th December 2018: 11.00 a.m.**

**AGENDA
ITEM
8**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Purpose of Report: Information

Recommendations:

1. **Receive the report**

This report covers:

- I. **Personnel, Health & Safety**
- II. **Communications**
- III. **Association of IFCA**
- IV. **iVMS**

I. Personnel, Health and Safety, complaints

1. There were no staff changes this quarter.
2. There were no member changes this quarter. There is one remaining MMO vacancy.
3. There have been no reportable H&S incidents this quarter. Updating the H&S policy continues with advice of our retained H&S consultant.
4. There are no outstanding complaints against the Authority

II. Communications

5. The Communications Officer has been out in the district photographing notable sites and features. Given the time of year it has also been a great opportunity to brush up on wading bird identification.
6. Work has been resumed on a recreational angling section for the website. An Officer in Science team has been tasked to develop working with anglers.
7. A presentation was given to Southport Angling Club and another is booked with a Merseyside angling club for Monday 26th November. Science officers gave a presentation on NWIFCA at a Solway Firth Partnership event in November.
8. A timeline has now been implemented under the history section of the website. The history of the patrol vessels operated by the North Western Sea Fisheries Committees in the 20th century has been documented using a reference report originally created by Mr. Steve Brown while working as an Officer of the Authority. Now the timeline is setup, the aim is to keep adding information to build up a history of the Cumbria and Lancashire Sea fisheries Committees.
9. The front page of the website has been reworked to present news in a single column.

Website Change Log (does not include front page posts)		
Date	Change Made	By
28/09/18	Bass measures posted + update on sizes page	AG
08/10/18	Explanatory text added to explain borders within minimum sizes	AG
09/10/18	Updated HRAs and fishery list	AG
05/11/18	Front page updated to one column and timeline implemented for history (content to be filled)	AG
06/11/18	Updated fishery list re impending closure of Flookburgh/Leven	AG
07/11/18	Updated fishery list with Flookburgh/Leven to closed	AG
16/11/18	Updated meetings with 2019 dates and expanded meeting archive. Further work on timeline.	AG
20/11/18	Further timeline work.	AG

III Association of IFCA

10. Members received minutes of the June AIFCA meeting on 13th September. The last AIFCA meeting was on 25th September, the next meeting is on 4th December. Ratified minutes of 25th September should be available at NWIFCA on 6th December with a verbal report of the 4th December meeting. Notes of this meeting by CEO are at Annex A.
11. AIFCA internal review: A contract has been let to the consultancy firm 3KQ. Their proposal is available in PDF form at Annex B. The budget of £10,000 is from reserves. A first report from the contractor should be provided at the December meeting

IV Defra

12. Report to Parliament: A draft of this report for which data was provided in August was received on 16th November for comment by 21st November. Approximately 10 factual inaccuracies in the text were found and figures in tables reporting IFCA levies were incorrect.
13. SR19 (Spending Review): AIFCA is preparing a paper to make the case for continued funding of IFCA in the 2019 spending review. At present all IFCA receive a share of £3M per year from Defra in so-called New Burdens funding provided from 2010 to fund the new IFCA duties arising from the Marine Act and the transformation from SFC to IFCA. However, Defra have only committed new burdens funding which represents approximately one third of the NWIFCA budget to the end of the year 2019-20. A draft of this report may be presented at the December AIFCA meeting and tabled at the NWIFCA meeting.
14. Defra Commissioned evaluation of IFCA on 7th November: Defra announced that a review of IFCA would be undertaken. The message received on this is at Annex C. No further details are available yet

V ivMS

15. The Project Board has reconvened following agreement that MMO would fund procurement of units. There are weekly update phone conference calls. Cath Dobson is monitoring the project and managing installation of units on NWIFCA vessels. The timescale for commencement of installation on fishing vessels remains uncertain.
16. An EMFF application template for use by IFCA to apply for patrol vessel installation has been compiled. The project is aiming to progress this aspect first. The Authority will commence preparation of an application for 4 units to be installed on North Western Protector and the 3 large RIBs based in Whitehaven, Barrow and Liverpool. Installation will

take place whether or not the SI is introduced as it is not expected the Authority will be required to comply with its provisions.

17. The timescale for confirmation of the SI is still unclear. On 19th November the project Board was informed that the consultation had yielded 160 responses with approximately 50% support for iVMS. Government should respond to the consultation within 3 months. Data has been requested on numbers of commercial vessels in each IFCA District without a suitable power source to operate an iVMS unit. This suggests that a final decision on inclusion of such vessels in the iVMS requirement has not yet been taken. Cath Dobson is compiling this data for NWIFCA. Relevant information from members would be helpful.

Main meetings attended September- November 2018

13 th September	NWIFCA
25 th September	AIFCA Forum, London (Chairman CEO)
17 th October	Chief Officers Group London (CEO) NFFO NW Committee, Carnforth Office (SS)
22 nd October	Irish Sea Maritime Forum, Phone conf (Science Officer)
6 th November	TSB
13 th November	NIMEG, London (HOE)
22 nd November	TAG London (SS)

CEO & Communications Officer
26 November 2018

ANNEX A

AIFCA Members Forum and Directors meeting 25th September 2018

Venue - LGA – 18 Smith Square Conference Centre, London

The following are notes by SA. Ratified minutes are not available at time of writing. May be tabled if signed off at 4th December meeting.

Attendance: Tony Tomlinson (Chair), Samantha Davis (Cornwall); CEO: Stephen Bolt; Paul Skinner (EIFCA); Tom Hooper (Isles of Scilly); Robert Clark, John Humphreys (Southern), Wendy Pattison, Mike Hardy (NIFCA); Stephen Atkins (NWIFCA); Stewart Harper, Tim Dapling (Sussex IFCA); John Lamb (Kent and Essex IFCA); David McCandless, Steven Axford (NEIFCA). **Minutes:** Sally Standing

Apologies: Les Weller (NIFCA); Julian Gregory (EIFCA); Will Wright (Kent and Essex IFCA); Andy Guy (Isles of Scilly IFCA); Paul Williams NWIFCA).

1. Minutes of last meeting (5th June 2018) – Page 5 – amend monitoring.
Action 1 - SB confirmed the funding paper is on the agenda.
Action 2 – This has been circulated option 2 has been adopted.
Action 3 – New burdens funding working group – The meeting was held on 10th September
Action 4 –Superseded.
Action 5 – IVMS Legal advice was circulated. The MMO are now looking at a new funding model.
Action 6 – FAPs – SB confirmed that no response has been received regarding the IFCA's deducting costs before sending proceeds to treasury. – **Action 1: SB to chase Defra.**
Action 7: MMO appointee process - Michael Coyle is presenting as part of his update
2. AIFCA internal review: SB confirmed that he had approached four companies. Three declined citing the inadequate budget of 10K. 1 failed to respond. JL proposed inviting County Councils RC suggested NEIFCA. **Action 2: SB to forward the Revised Terms of Reference to DM for NEIFCA to consider and liaise with EIFCA HR**
SA is **not** in favour of the review or the increased budget of £2k.
3. Finance and Resources: 2018/19 First quarterly report – SB. Figs are close to budget this quarter but some costs will not show until next quarter. Venue hire is still a concern and will continue to rise. Travel and subsistence will increase with Chair and Vice Chair's expenses. Stewart Harper reported that Fishmongers have offered use of a meeting room. **Action 3: SS and SH will liaise on dates for next year's meetings to secure rooms at Fishmongers.**
4. Future Funding Paper Following the June meeting an internal Future funding working group was set up which met on 10th September to propose how IFCA's and AIFCA should engage with the 2019 spending review. Agreed that the current working group should continue primary goal of extending the current funding model beyond 2020. Defra confirmed that continued central funding is being considered as part of the spending review. A second technical working group is proposed, including Devon and Severn, to explore the current funding model and propose alternative options for future models. An overarching business case was proposed which would require information from all IFCA's and case studies. Ongoing commitment to MPA enforcement was agreed. An MPA project meeting took place on 26th September. **Action 4: SB to email all members by the end of October with first draft of the business case for future funding.**
5. **MPA project:** A conference and launch of the report is proposed for February 2019
6. Involvement of Devon and Severn in future workstreams; CEO suggested that they could be included in the technical working group looking at the new burdens funding model. JL voiced his concerns regarding D&S and feels that they should not be involved in this

funding work as they had resigned from the Association. TT asked for views. SA, PW, WP, and MH agreed with JL. JH stated that D&S not being part of the Association is damaging

7. Graham Lott – Defra: The wider government white paper has gone for consultation.
8. **ivMS**. MMO will take over EMFF funding from the IFCAs. TT confirmed that he has sent a letter to Anne Freeman confirming continued IFCA support for the project. There will be a consultation in October, but GL is unsure of what the processes will be. **Action 5: SB will forward the consultation process to members.**
9. **Defra (cont) Martina Di Fonzo update** conduct and operations report to Parliament 2018. Evidence gathering closed 4th September. 82 individual responses, but the total number including ‘campaign responses’ expected to be much higher.
10. **Tranche 3 MCZ consultation** launched 8th June. Consultation closed at the end of July with 49,000 responses. Most are auto reply campaign responses. **Action 6: Rachel Muckle to report back to the members on how many responses were received from fishermen.**
11. **EU Exit update** – taking back control of UK waters and access will be on UK terms. Fisheries will be a separate strand. Fisheries white paper consultation closed 12th September. UK committed to securing the best deal. However, we should all prepare for various outcomes including that of a no deal. Martina read from lines that were prepared for this meeting. She will forward them to SS via email. **Action 7: Martina to email SS lines prepared for this meeting by both herself and RM.**
12. Rachel Muckle updated on the SR2019 spending review. A Marine and Fisheries spending review will take place over the next 18 months. Defra is evidence gathering. Spending review will be led by Heather Smith and Tessa Jones, Will be ‘zero based’; IFCA should feed in with plans for efficiencies and demonstrate transformation, stating how we’ve been more efficient and what differences have we made. She continued that we need strong arguments to increase our SR15 base line. Defra wants radical reform, the greenest SR ever and public sector productivity. Therefore, IFCA have to show they are good value for money. Rachel quoted from the Barber review. She will forward her notes to SS who will send them to all members. **Action 8: RM will send her meeting notes to SS who will forward to all members. Steven Axford will send some information to Rachel informing of the impact that fisheries can have on local authorities. Rachel may ask Beth Stoker from Defra Monitoring to attend the next members’ forum.**
13. Michael Coyle Update from MMO: A report on the MMO appointee process was given from notes by MMO Director, Andrew Waring. There is problem because many appointees’ terms expire in 2020 and cannot be extended because of the 10 year limit on terms of office. Consideration of how to deal with this is underway. **Action 9: MC will assess the 10-year issue and lay out plans in more detail in due course.**

Break for Lunch

14. Future funding paper item (3 above cont). **Action 10: SB to organize dates for the next working group**
15. **Budget**. SB said without D&S membership, Association income has reduced while there is continued upward pressure on the core budget. To date reserves have been increased from £87, to over £100k. 2018/19 spending is likely to exceed budget. Without raising membership fees it will become necessary to utilize some reserves. All agreed to SB’s option 1 to maintain standstill budget and continue to engage with D&S with a view to their re-joining. **Action 11: SS to send a note to all regarding value and use of shared survey equipment**

16. **AIFCA Activities of the Executive:** JH was asked by TT to prepare new procedures for aspects of Association business. His efforts had generated robust discussion with the CEO who had edited the papers without agreement with JH. JH said that individual IFCA's reputations are higher than the AIFCA. The CEO stated that in his opinion the policies and procedures set out in the three papers that JH submitted were generally a good starting point, however, they are, in his opinion, currently still incomplete and in need of further work before adoption. The CEO recommended that they are sent to the Directors for ongoing discussions in order to achieve a practicable set of procedures and policies. JH proposed the papers be adopted at this meeting as per the original recommendation. Voting was four in favour, two against with two abstentions (SA abstained). The papers were therefore adopted without further review.
17. Annual Plan SD asked for a progress report against the current plan at the next meeting. This was agreed. **Action 12: SB to give a half year progress report at the December meeting**
18. D&S update – Tony Tomlinson confirmed a robust exchange of views at the August meeting to resolve D&S membership issue. D&S stated that there had been a lack of performance and procedures, lack of KPIs, and a lack of Metrics. The Association should be clear about its relationship with individual IFCA's. D&S suggested the scope of HR, H&S, training, governance review, and revised annual plan. Another meeting was agreed at a later date but has not yet been set. TT confirmed that he came away from the meeting feeling D&S were open to negotiation; issue of membership of D&S is not going away, however, AIFCA not prepared to give all D&S want.
19. Joint Working with MMO. 1 meeting with MMO September. Further meetings to be arranged. MMO and Eastern IFCA are planning a pilot project to trial closer working practices. Starting in November SB is attending as an MMO appointee of Eastern IFCA and not in his role of CEO of the Association.
20. Directors Meetings: SB reported that two members have suggested combining members' forum and Directors meetings. TT proposed a trial in December. All agreed. **Action 14: SB & SS to arrange combined for December starting with Director business followed by the Members forum.**
21. **IFCA National Training Lead post:** MH confirmed that EMFF funding of £1500 is not available. Funding will be year by year with each IFCA paying a share. Dom Bailey suggested mainland IFCA pay £3k and IOS £300. **Action 15: MH will ask for delegate numbers from each IFCA and proceed with this option.**

15:30 Close of meeting

Next meeting Tuesday 4th December 2018 – Friends House, London