

**Fifth**  
**annual report**

**April 2015 – April 2016**

**Draft 8-9-16**



**Contents**

	Page
<b>Glossery</b>	2
<b>1 Remit and purpose of the report</b>	2
<b>2 Main areas of activity 2015-6</b>	2
<b>3 Inspection and Compliance</b>	3
<b>4 Science and Survey</b>	4
<b>5 Monitoring performance</b>	6
<b>6 Risk management</b>	6
<b>7 Resources</b>	7
<b>8 Ways of working</b>	8
<b>9 Training</b>	9
<b>10 Governance</b>	11
<b>11 Performance standards</b>	11
Table 1 Delivery of local priorities	12
Table 2 Performance against Defra indicators	13
Table 3 Defra performance monitoring template for IFCA 2015.	15
Table 4 Budget review	18
Table 5 Assets: Premises Vessels, vehicles	19
Table 6 Membership 2015-6	20
Table 7 Authority meetings 2015-6	21
Table 8 Authorisations (permits) to fish issued	22
Table 9 Inspection and compliance data	
Table 10 Shellfish (crab and lobster) landings	22
Table 11 Talks and presentations	
Table 12 Science data	24

## 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 and Rural affairs
EA	Environment Agency
EHS	Council Environmental health services
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
MACCA	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

### 1. NWIFCA remit and purpose of the report

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.

### 2. Main areas of activity in 2015-6

3. **Core duties:** In 2015-6 the Authority continued its main regular routine programmes of
  - I. maintaining an effective District wide patrol and inspection regime fully utilizing all the available resources
  - II. Undertaking stock surveys and impact assessments so that shellfisheries are carried out sustainably take place with HRA as required in EMS
4. **Mussel fisheries:** Mussel fisheries in North Morecambe Bay continued throughout the year with seed mussel fisheries at Heysham and on skears in summer months.
5. **Bivalve working group:** A cross sectoral committee was set up in 2015 to address historical conflicts between various fisheries. Mussel fisheries were the first target of the Committee. Representation of the hand and dredge fisheries was agreed. 4 meetings in

2015-6, resulted in a draft mussel management plan for Morecambe Bay. Some areas of the plan are still outstanding and in 2016, the Committee intends to tackle cockle fisheries.

6. **Cockle fisheries:** There were no commercial cockle stocks except for a small area of large 3 year old cockles at Levan Island in Morecambe Bay which became evident in late 2015. There was also evidence of new settlements of cockles in Morecambe bay and the Ribble estuary indicating future potential for cockle fisheries in the District.
7. After survey and assessment of the Levan Island cockles, taking into account their age indicating they would be unlikely to survive for further breeding success it was agreed this cohort of cockles could be fished without harm to the ecosystem. The bed was opened for 1 month in April 2016 with a condition that fishing must be using a cram only to ensure only large cockles were removed. A total of 20.7 tons of cockles were declared in catch returns.
8. Other than the Levan Island bed, all cockle beds in the District were closed under byelaws throughout the year as has been the Authority's practice in recent years while cockle stocks have been low.
9. **Bass fisheries:** The need to address declining Bass stocks around the UK was addressed by Defra with measures at EU level. Catch limits were applied in 2015 and the MLS was increase from 37 to 42 cm.
10. **Database rebuild:** A new database and card printers were commissioned from the Lake District National park IT team. The main purpose is to improve and streamline the issue of fishing permits using plastic credit card style permit cards. The database is being built in collaboration with the Clerk and IFCOs to the Authority's detailed requirements for permit schemes operated under byelaws. The new database will be installed in 2016.
11. **Website:** A Kendal company 'IBEX creative' was commissioned to develop a new website in 2016. Work to build the site has started and will be continued in 2016.
12. **Byelaws:** After consultation and assessment, The '**Prohibition on foul hooking** byelaw' was drafted and made by the Authority in 2015. It is now ready to be advertised. This will replace 3 similar inherited byelaws which currently cover the District. There will be no change in the byelaw measures.
13. An update to the byelaw: '**Permit to fish for cockles and mussels**' was started in 2015 with plans to introduce a new flexible permit scheme type of 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.
14. In February 2016, the Authority was informed of threats to start dredge fisheries in Cumbria area. An emergency byelaw was considered necessary to regulate any activity which might start and was immediately put in place. Work started on a '**Permit to dredge byelaw**' to be made as soon as possible.

### **3. Inspection and Compliance: summary of quarterly reports**

15. **First quarter:** A slow start to the netting and potting season was attributed to extended low temperatures. *Nephrops* returns were about average. Mussel fisheries continued

throughout the district mainly in Morecambe Bay, Duddon & Ribble estuaries. There was occasional razor clam gathering at Leasowe on spring tides.

16. **Second quarter:** Continued average and patchy landings of *Nephrops* were recorded with the best catches obtained in hours of darkness. Also average landings of crabs but poor lobster returns in Whitehaven. Mussels were patchy across the district but a low level of effort continued. Bass landings were very low compared with previous years.
17. **Third quarter:** Whelk were landed into Whitehaven as usual in autumn with low landings of *Nephrops* from day fishing vessels. There were seed mussel fisheries at Lytham and Heysham and small size mussel fisheries continued throughout the quarter.
18. **Fourth quarter:** All fisheries were hampered by adverse winter weather. The Heysham seed mussel fishery was closed with the possibility arising that mussel present could survive to MLS. This brings into question the policy of designating the seed at Heysham as ephemeral. The mussel fishery at Lytham was restricted by high **E.coli** readings which led to the bed temporarily losing its B classification.
19. Shellfish (crab and lobster) landings in the NWIFGCA District in 2015-6 as recorded in the National Shellfish Licensing scheme database are shown in Table 10.
20. There were two legislative changes in 2015-6. Firstly, new seasonal closures and recreational catch limits for bass were introduced from June 2015. The minimum landing size (MLS) was renamed the minimum conservation reference size (MCRS) and increased from 37 to 42 cm.
21. Secondly, an error by Defra in revoking of SI 1081, (2000) removed IFCA powers to enforce EU technical regulations and revoked the EU lobster minimum landing size (MLS) in English waters. Fortunately this did not have the adverse impact in this District that could have occurred.
22. The Authority assisted in preparation for the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the demersal landing obligations that began in 2016. When fully implemented by 2020, this will require commercial vessels to retain and land all quota species. Fish below the MCRS must be stowed separately and not used for human consumption. Amendments were made to NWIFCA byelaws to resolve conflicts with the demersal landing obligations. The main change was the addition of a clause to relevant byelaws to exempt landing obligations from requirements to return undersize fish to the sea.
23. NWIFCA contributed to development of a national intelligence management pilot project in cooperation with the MMO and Natural England and other northern IFCAs.
24. Compliance was generally good during the year. Inspection and compliance data is in table 9.
25. There was one prosecution of a non-commercial fisherman found guilty at Workington Magistrates Court on 20 Oct 2015 of landing undersize fish and byelaw offences in respect of 35 crab and 1 lobster. The fine was £800. Costs awarded to the Authority were £850. A 12 month suspension of his byelaw 26 permit was imposed.

#### 4. Science and survey

26. The science remit is very wide. Science supports all fisheries management decisions. The science team work with many agencies, NGOs and individual stakeholders. The

work includes stock assessments, field surveys, HRA on fishing activities, responding to MMO Marine Licence consultations and work with developers over major infrastructure projects. Officers attend and contribute to workshops and training across the country, and liaise closely with the main Defra agencies.

27. Table 11 reports data on the science programme in 2015-6:
  - A. Consultation responses in the year mostly consisting of development applications for which the Authority is a consultee;
  - B. Meetings training and workshops attended
  - C. Surveys carries out
  - D. Projects active in the year.
  
28. The main priorities during 2015-16 were:
  - I. the induction and training of new officers
  - II. on-going work to achieve the December 2016 deadline for management of fisheries within European Marine Sites as part of the 'Defra Review'
  - 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 of 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) and NuGen's new nuclear power station at Moorside, Cumbria
  - V. NWIFCA byelaw review, stakeholder consultation and regulatory impact assessments
  - VI. partnership project with Cumbria Wildlife Trust Marine Trainees scheme
  - VII. national IFCA Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meetings and conference
  - VIII. development of recording, collation and analysis of inshore fisheries activities data for both shore and boat patrols
  - IX. engagement with Defra, Cefas and stakeholders over EU bass measures, and proposals for future research projects
  - X. participation in meetings of Solway Firth Partnership, Dee Estuary Conservation Group, Shellfish Liaison Group, Irish Seas Maritime Forum / Celtic Seas Partnership, North West Angling Trust Fisheries Consultative Council.
  
29. Defra policy on EMS Fisheries Management - Progress to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 is reported in the table below. Readers are invited to refer to the Senior Scientist for full explanation of the figures.
  
30. The following HRA which are not included in the table were completed for cockle and mussel fisheries 2015-16 to allow fisheries to take place:
  - I. Lytham seed mussel hand-gathering
  - II. Leven Sands cockle hand-gathering
  - III. New Brighton seed mussel dredging
  - IV. Heysham Flat seed mussel hand-gathering

	Expected total no. assessments required	Not yet started	Currently underway	Assessment complete awaiting NE clearance	signed off by NE	On website huddle
Non-occurring "Light" TLSE	11 + 4 to be combined <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	11	11
Non-occurring (recreation activity only)	8 <sup>2</sup>				8	7
TLSE	18	3	3	3	9	6
Joint assessments with MMO	1 <sup>3</sup>		1			
Appropriate Assessments	11 <sup>4</sup>	3	3	1	4	4
Totals	49	6	7	4	32	-

Table reporting delivery of the Defra policy on managing EMS in 2015-6

## 5. - Monitoring performance

31. **The Vision for IFCA** set by Defra in 2009 is: 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.
32. The template for Performance and monitoring of IFCA used from 2010-2015 was revised by Defra in 2015. The Minister declined to make template statutory in line with policy to reduce published Government guidance. Nevertheless, Defra officials requested that IFCA take account of the new template which is included in full at Table 3.
33. MACCA provides for a report to Parliament every four years on the conduct and operation of IFCA. The first report was published in January 2016. It was circulated to members and is on the Defra website.
34. NWIFCA priorities for the year were set out in the Annual Plan for 2015-6. Outcomes and delivery of those priorities in 2015-6 are summarised in table 1.
35. Performance against Defra criteria and performance indicators is at table 2.
36. Numbers of permits issued in 2015-6 are shown in Table 8. All permits were issued within response times set in the Service standards in the Constitution.

## 6. - Risk Management

37. The NWIFCA risk management strategy is available from the NWIFCA office. Risk registers were scrutinised by auditors for the year 2014-5 in July 2015 and annually reviewed by the Authority in December 2015. They were again examined by Auditors in June 2016 for the 2015-6 audit.
38. The NWIFCA Health and Safety Policy is available from the NWIFCA. Incidents recorded under the Health and safety policy were reviewed before each full Authority meeting in the year.

39. In 2015, an independent H&S consultant was appointed to review the Authority's policy. A systematic analysis of all areas of the H&S policy and risk assessments is being undertaken.

## 7. - Resources

40. **Finance Table 4:** The budget for 2015-16 was agreed by the Finance Sub-Committee at its meeting on 12 December 2014. There was again no increase in the levy for core costs compared with 2013-14 so the budget was effectively cut again by the annual rate of inflation. As last year (resolved by the Authority in 2013), the Levy is increased by 2% and will be similarly increased by 2% per year in future to provide funding for the replacement patrol vessel.
41. Budget Review for the year ended 31 March 2016
- a) The budget review for the year 2015-16 is in Table 4.
  - b) Income from shellfish sampling and byelaw 3 fees are down; low shellfish stocks in 2015-16 resulted in lower permit uptake and less environmental health monitoring.
  - c) Miscellaneous income of £40,835 was an unexpected grant from DEFRA to fund extra science work to help IFCA's meet environmental assessment targets, and a new post was created.
  - d) Working surplus is £133,406, plus £97,026 set aside from 2% levy increase to fund a new patrol vessel. A total of £230,432 goes into Reserves to be spent on the new patrol vessel; savings have been made wherever possible for this essential purpose.
42. Internal Audit Report, Internal Controls Review and Accounting Statement to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016
- a) A Corporate Manager and Accounts Assistant from independent accountants Moore and Smalley LLP of Preston spent a full day in the Carnforth office on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016 carrying out the internal audit of NWIFCA and thoroughly checking all accounting records.
  - b) The Audit Report, Internal Controls Review and Accounting Statement to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 is available on request. Summary findings are:
    - i. Internal Audit Report is the result of testing of NWIFCA financial systems which were all found to be in order. A recommendation to add a formal annual review of the Risk Management Strategy to that of the Risk Assessment (already approved annually by the Authority at the December quarterly) will be implemented in the year 2016-17.
    - ii. Internal Controls Review found that NWIFCA had fully complied with a series of relevant procedures and objectives, as in the annual return in previous years.
    - iii. Accounting Statement to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 gives a summary of NWIFCA finances at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 in the format of final checked Annual Return figures as previous years.
  - c) NWIFCA Bank Reconciliation for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 is also included at Annex B following this report. This has also been fully checked by Moore and Smalley LLP.

43. **Officers and equipment:** NWIFCA continued to have 20 full time equivalent staff. Offices, garages vessels and vehicles are listed in table 5.
44. The Chief Executive, Head of Enforcement, Head of Finance and HR, Clerk/Office Manager, Communications Officer, Science team (1 Senior Science Officer and 3 Science advisors).and 2 IFCOs were based in Carnforth. The Patrol Vessel Master, Deputy Master, Engineer, Operational Support/Office Manager and 2 IFCOS are based at the Whitehaven office. A further 3 IFCOs work in the south of the district.
45. In 2015, weekend working was introduced as a formal regular requirement for IFCOs. This was introduced at no cost as and no increase in total hours worked. Officers can take 'time off in lieu' (TOIL) to recover the time worked at their convenience with the agreement of the HOE. Two IFCOs are on duty working together each weekend. They are tasked to patrol parts of the District at greatest risk. This policy is enabling the collection of more data on recreational fishing and weekend activity.
46. In general science officers also become trained warranted IFCOs by attending the annual IFCO training course. This increases the capacity of the Authority to respond with enforcement when there is high demand.

## 8. Ways of Working

47. All the main fisheries management decisions in 2015-6 were taken by the Authority on evidence provided by officers in reports and presentations sent to members one week before each meeting. Reports were put on the website in order to make them publically available before the meetings. Meetings are open to the public to attend.
48. The NWIFCA aims to communicate effectively with members, partners and stakeholders. Implementation of the NWIFCA Communications and engagement programme continued in 2015-6 with press releases, text alerts in addition to the regular meetings and reports.
49. The NWIFCA continued to work with other IFCA in 2015-6 attending AIFCA, COG, TAG and NIMEG.
50. The NWIFCA continued to work with many other agencies and NGO to deliver its duties principally Defra NE, MMO, EA, GLA, Local Authorities, EHS, Food Standards Agency (FSA), and Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas).
51. The Defra monitoring template provides for MOU between IFCA and the main partner bodies: MMO, EA, NE and Cefas. National MOU were signed by all IFCA with these agencies by end 2012 and remain in place. NWIFCA decided in 2011 that the Annual Plan should include be able to include the objectives of partner bodies and by that means form local action plans to the MOUs. In accordance with that policy, Agencies were invited to contribute to development of the 2016-7 Annual plan.
52. MMO reviewed MMO appointees' terms and conditions of appointment in 2015 and announced the need for assessment of performance of members which is expected to take place in 2016. Some joint patrols were done with MMO officers using IFCA vessels.
53. EA is responsible for delivery of the EU WFD and MSFD. NWIFCA continued to stand ready to undertake duties arising from these directives in 2015-6. In 2010, EA set up a fishery order to manage the Dee Estuary cockle fishery and continues to have joint



responsibility for this fishery although management is now under the remit of Natural Resources Wales (NRW). NWIFCA assisted NRW and EA with management of the Dee cockle fishery and attended the Dee Estuary Fisheries Liaison group.

54. NE were consulted under the 2010 Habitats Regulations on all HRA assessments of new activities in EMS or MCZ in 2015-6. The NWIFCA will continue to work with NE to promote sustainable management of all MPA in the District. There were 2 meetings were NE Director of marine work. Regular meetings continued with the NE Marine team.
55. EHS: Some of the largest fisheries in the District are intertidal shellfisheries. Fisheries must comply with shellfish hygiene standards as laid down in the Shellfish Waters Directive and shellfish harvested from intertidal areas must carry valid registration documents to permit onward sale and transport from the shore and to food chain. The NWIFCA continued work with EHS throughout the District, collecting shellfish samples under contract and assisting with enforcing the requirement for registration documents.
56. Multi-agency committees are convened as required by the Authority with Council support to prepare operational plans to manage the diverse socio-economic and environmental impacts of cockle and mussel harvesting. A multi-agency Committee was set up and met to plan the cockle fishery at Levan Island in 2016.
57. GLA promote the use of gangmaster licences to bring more effective regulation into the shellfish industry and ensure labour is not exploited by the shellfish industry. The NWIFCA continued to support the GLA by sharing Byelaw 3 application data with GLA and HMRC in 2015-6.
58. 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.
59. NWIFCA continued to contribute to Council chaired shellfish liaison Committees in Lancashire and other parts of District. Also North West Coastal Forum, Solway Firth Forum, Duddon Estuary partnership, Irish Sea Forum, EA Standing environment group, Dee Estuary cockle management Committee.
60. The website at [www.nw-ifca.gov.uk](http://www.nw-ifca.gov.uk) holds all current and background information about the Authority. It gives details of meetings, reports, news and current activity. Press releases for urgent communications are on the website and sent to media throughout the District. A refresh of the website was commissioned this year with a plan for a new site to be launched in 2016.
61. An Authority newsletter series was started in 2012 and continues at approximately 6 month intervals. Stakeholder consultation and discussion meetings are held as required to seek views on emerging fisheries, marine protected areas or byelaws. A text alert system is used to inform stakeholders of urgent information

## 9. Training

62. The Authority training programme continued to train new and experienced officers as required to keep training fresh and up to date. The training objectives of each officer were identified in staff reviews. A review of training completed and required is done every year and was done in 2015.
63. IFCOS were trained to work to standards set out in NWIFCA policies including the Health and Safety Policy, the Risk Management strategy and the Enforcement Policy including the adopted Code of Conduct for inspections.

64. The officer training programme in 2015-6 included:
- I. Defined training programmes aimed at specified roles and responsibilities provided in house, by the IFCA as a group, by MMO, Defra and outside providers
  - II. Tailored training to meet organisation and personal objectives for each officer, which will assist the Authority deliver desirable outcomes;
  - III. Assessment of the Authority's existing and future skills and capabilities required;
  - IV. Consideration of 'off the shelf' training products available and the methods most suitable to provide training and bridge gaps in capability;
  - V. Monitoring and evaluation of training to achieve added value and effectiveness.
65. IFCOs require a suite of safety and other training courses including first aid, sea survival, health and safety, health and safety at sea, use of ribs ( power boats), use of quad bikes, towing, manual handling. These courses are mandatory and were kept in date.
66. New IFCOs attend the annual standard 5 day training course required to receive the IFCO warrant with refresher courses at 3-5 year intervals. Science officers are encouraged to undertake the full IFCO training programme
67. The size of the District and remote locations of some officers make communications between officers a challenge. Regular enforcement meetings for Whitehaven and Carnforth officers were held with science officers as required.
68. The proposed national accredited programme of training for IFCOS has not yet been put in place. Preparation and training the assessors continued in 2015-6.
69. New Authority members received an induction pack of information about the IFCA and the role of members.

## **10. Governance**

70. The NWIFCA has up to 30 members listed in Table 6 including 10 Councillors, 17 MMO appointees, 3 agency members from EA NE an MMO. In March 2015 there were 2 MMO vacancies.
71. The NWIFCA met quarterly. Dates of meetings in 2015-6 are in table 7. Meetings are open to the public but confidential matters may require all or parts of meetings to be closed. Standing Orders are in the Constitution and. Whenever possible, committee papers are posted on the website 7 days in advance of meetings.
72. A Technical Science and Byelaws Committee (TSB) oversees the policies and work of the Authority. The TSB comprises the 3 agency members, Chairman and vice Chairman and 5 members elected annually from MMO appointees. The TSB meets between Authority meetings to which decisions are reported. Dates and venues for meetings are posted on the website.

73. A Finance Committee is responsible for the budget and budget monitoring. As the NWIFCA funding providers, all Councillors are members.
74. A Chairman's Committee meets as required to consider sensitive or confidential matters.
75. A Vessel Committee led on the procurement of the new Patrol Vessel. Which was underway in 2015-6 and will continue in 2016

## **Section 11 - Performance Standards**

76. **Compliance:** The Authority aims to be an efficient and fair regulator, which manages the exploitation of sea fisheries resources as sustainably as possible in accordance with EU and UK law in addition to 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](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/300126/14-705-regulators-code.pdf)
77. HOE has daily responsibility for Enforcement action. HOE and CEO sign off decisions on Fixed Administrative penalties and prosecutions.
78. **Equality Act 2010:** As a public sector body and as an employer the Authority will comply with the Equality Act and standards.
79. **Administration:** The Authority is committed to being transparent and accountable. We want our partners and stakeholders to know what to expect from us and the level of service we will provide.
80. The Constitution available from the NWIFCA Office contains Standing Orders, Financial regulations, Customer service standards, a Freedom of Information Act publication scheme and a complaints procedure.

**Table 1: Delivery of local priorities in 2015-6**

	<b>Priorities</b>	<b>Delivery</b>
1	Fisheries management inspection programme	IFCOs tasked weekly by Head of Enforcement to patrol District. Priorities are set according to risk.
2	Defra revised approach to EMS management: Assessment of impacts of 'Amber' activities to meet 2016 deadline.	The Defra EMS policy and completion of an ecologically coherent MPA network to meet the end 2016 deadline are high priority Government objectives for IFCA and are monitored nationally. NWIFCA is on target to complete its share of the work on both programmes.
3	Administer the Authority and Committees	Agendas minutes and reports were sent out no time and are on the website.
4	Designation of MCZ tranche 2 sites and SPA extensions in the District.	Tranche 2 MCZ: Allonby Bay and West of Walney and extensions to Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Liverpool Bay SPA were designated in 2016.
5	Development of cross sectoral Bivalve Working Group (BWG) and a new Morecambe Bay mussel management plan.	The BWG met 4 times in 2015-16. Draft mussel and cockle management plans are in development. The group has achieved a high level of cross sectoral understanding and consensus and is considered a valuable forum for creating agreed management measures for cockle and mussel fisheries.
6	Continue survey and monitoring as required in support of mussel, cockle and other fisheries in the District	Survey and HRA assessment completed as required. North Morecambe Bay size mussel fisheries continued for most of the year. A seed mussel fishery at Heysham and a short dredge fishery in the South America skear area of Morecambe Bay operated in summer 2015. Other fisheries operated in other parts of the District as reported in quarterly reports. There were no cockle fisheries until April 2016 when a 1 month craam fishery was permitted in the Levan Island area of Morecambe Bay. Survey, analysis and multi-agency planning for this fishery was done within this reporting period.
7	Complete and make byelaw: Prohibition of foul hooking.	This byelaw was completed, made by the Authority and is ready to advertise.
8	Complete and consult on Vessel size restrictions byelaw.	Agreement was not reached on vessel size and engine power limits acceptable to all sectors and throughout the District. In January 2016 a Permit to dredge byelaw became higher priority. Vessel size restrictions has been delayed.
9	Continue byelaw review: Priorities were a hobby shellfish permit, shellfish conservation measures, shrimp regulations and a revision to the cockle and mussel byelaw.	Permit to dredge byelaw is now the highest priority byelaw. Shellfish byelaws: Defra plan a national SI to prohibit landing of berried hens. When that in place the Authority can progress local shellfish byelaws. A decision on measures for shrimp fisheries is yet to be made. Cockle and mussel byelaw review: New measures for cockle and mussel management are agreed. The byelaw is being drafted.
10	Procurement of new main patrol vessel	Vessel requirements were reassessed in 2015 in relation to available resources. It was agreed that a new vessel of the required size was not affordable. Members agreed to procure a used vessel. Lancashire Council commenced development of tender documents.
11	Development of an angling strategy	IFCOs are tasked to collect more data on non-commercial fishing activity. This will be reviewed with a view to more comprehensive recording of angling activity in future.
12	Enhance IFCO skills with further training in evidence gathering, interviewing and intelligence handling.	An intelligence management system was developed in collaboration with MMO and northern IFCA. IFCOs were given new enforcement training in interview and notebook procedures.

**Table 2: Performance in 2015-16 against Defra indicators.** The full template is at table 3 showing success criteria, outcomes and indicators.

Indicator	2015-6 report
<b>SC1A:</b> The IFCA will maintain a database of stakeholder contacts reviewed and updated by 31 March each year.	Central database was continually maintained, reviewed and updated by the Clerk. A new database has been commissioned to be in place in 2016
<b>SC1B:</b> The IFCA will review communication strategy and implementation plan by 31 March each year.	Communications were continually monitored. Methods included website text alerts, stakeholder meetings, press releases, Authority meetings with papers on website beforehand. A full time communications officer will replace the part time post in 2016. The planned new website will enhance communications.
<b>SC1C:</b> The IFCA will review website by the last working day of each month.	The website is continually reviewed and updated.
<b>SC1D:</b> The IFCA will ensure website meets the objectives of its communication strategy, by 31 March each year.	This was done. Website will be enhanced by new site in 2016.
<b>SC1E:</b> The IFCA will have review all Memoranda of Understanding by 31 March each year. There will be a clear plan in place to update MoUs where necessary, to an agreed timescale.	National MOU in place between IFCA and: Natural England, EA, MMO, Cefas. Working arrangements are agreed with all relevant partner agencies and NGO. No further written MOU are considered necessary.
<b>SC1F:</b> By 31 March each year, the IFCA will have participated appropriately, proportionately and at the right level of delegation, in regional and national fisheries and conservation activity identified in the annual plan.	Fully delivered
<b>SC2A:</b> The IFCA will ensure its enforcement risk register and strategy are published and available on its website from 1 April each year	Risk strategy and registers were reviewed and updated for December quarterly and further reviewed annually by independent auditors in June
<b>SC2B:</b> The IFCA will demonstrate in its Annual Report how it has worked with other regulators to achieve consistent quality, application and enforcement of management measures	See annual report
<b>SC2C:</b> The IFCA will compile records of enforcement activity in a standard format; provide them to the National Inshore Marine Enforcement Group (NIMEG) and publish them on its website.	This was done in quarterly reports
<b>SC2D:</b> The IFCA will adopt the national Code of Conduct for IFCOs, which will be reviewed annually and published on its website by 1 April.	This national code is adopted by NWIFCA and is part of the enforcement strategy. It is not regularly reviewed
<b>SC2E:</b> The Code of Conduct for IFCOs is reflected in work objectives and annual appraisals for <u>all</u> Warranted Officers.	All IFCOs were trained to follow this code in dealings with fishers, inspections and enforcement action.
<b>SC2F:</b> Warranted Officers attain accreditation. <u>All</u> undertake Continuing Professional Development	This accreditation is not yet available. NWIFCA Officers are contributing to its development
<b>SC3A:</b> IFCA will record site-specific management considerations for MPA and report progress to the Authority	All such management considerations were recorded and reported to the Authority in quarterly reports.
<b>SC3B:</b> IFCA will publish data analysis and evidence supporting new management measures, on its website	This data and evidence was presented in quarterly reports. Reports are put on the website 1 week before meetings.
<b>SC3C:</b> Management information (e.g. sampling and/or survey results) will be collected periodically	Surveys were done prior to the introduction of new management measures and following, to monitor the

after new management measures have been implemented, to demonstrate their effectiveness.	outcomes of the new management.
<b>SC3D:</b> IFCA will develop criteria-based management options, explained to stakeholders through the website, and reviewed annually by 31 March.	BWG is developing management plans for shellfisheries which contain criteria based management options
<b>SC3E:</b> New IFCA management measures selected for development and implementation are delivered within agreed timescales	Planning of new byelaws or other measures was done with the Authority and partners. There were requirements for shell fisheries to be opened with tight timescales and deadlines. All met in 2015-6.
<b>SC3F:</b> The IFCA will include shared agreed objectives and actions from Fisheries Management Plans in its own Annual Plan, which will be published by 31 March each year.	Actions for plans developed in the District were transferred to NWIFCA work programmes and were added to annual plans.
<b>SC3G:</b> Progress made in relevant Fisheries Management Plan areas, including Maximum Sustainable Yield commitments, will be noted in the IFCA's Annual Report	See annual report. NWIFCA is not in a position to make any MSY commitments.
<b>SC4A:</b> The IFCA will publish a Plan on its website by 31 March, setting out the main objectives and priorities for the next financial year. A copy will be sent to the Secretary of State.	This was done in 2015 for the year 2015-6 and in 2016 for the year 2016-7.
<b>SC4B:</b> After the end of each financial year, the IFCA will publish a Report on its website describing its activities, performance and a summary of audited financial information in that year, by 30 November. A copy will be sent to the Secretary of State.	This was done in 2015
<b>SC4C:</b> IFCA staff will have annual performance management plans in place. Annual appraisals for <u>all</u> staff will have been completed by 31 May each year.	NWIFCA officers jobs are continually under review. Annual appraisals for 15-16 are underway.
<b>SC4D:</b> An efficient secretariat of IFCA staff support IFCA Authority meetings which are held quarterly and are quorate. Meeting documentation will meet Standing Orders.	This was all fully delivered in 2015-6
<b>SC4E:</b> The IFCA will have demonstrated, in its Annual Report, how marine, land and water management mechanisms in the Inshore Fisheries & Conservation District have worked responsively and effectively together.	The Authority fully delivers commitments under Habitats regulations, Marine Act and other relevant legislation. The Authority is available to undertake tasks and duties for which it is responsible under the WFD and MSFD. See Annual report
<b>SC5A:</b> The IFCA will demonstrate progress that has made towards identifying its evidence needs by publishing a research plan each year.	A plan of known survey work needed and a science team plan was in the 2015-16 plan.
<b>SC5B:</b> The IFCA will publish a research report annually that demonstrates how evidence has supported decision making.	Science research reports were done for each quarterly meeting, the 2014-5 Annual report and this Annual report
<b>SC5C:</b> The IFCA's contribution to TAG and progress that has made towards a national evidence needs programme will be recorded in the IFCA's Annual Report.	NWIFCA attended and fully supported TAG contributing to its objectives as much as possible within available resources. Work was reported in quarterly reports.

**Table 3: Defra performance monitoring template for IFCA revised 2015.**

<p><b>Success Criterion 1:</b> IFCAs are recognised and heard, balancing the economic needs of the fishery whilst working in partnership and engaging with stakeholders</p>	
<p><b>Definition:</b> IFCAs will be a visible, respected and trusted regulator and will maintain and deliver a strategy to communicate their vision and duties effectively. IFCAs will engage with policy makers, industry, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), recreational and commercial users; and other regulators. They will work jointly and collaboratively with partner organisations across boundaries; will participate and contribute to the development and implementation of regional and national marine policy, including the marine planning regime; will take long-term strategic decisions and manage risks effectively. IFCAs may maintain the AIFCA to co-ordinate the activities of authorities party to arrangements.</p>	
<p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IFCA will maintain and implement an effective communication strategy.</li> <li>• IFCA will maintain its website, ensuring public access to current fisheries and conservation information for the District, including management requirements and byelaws. Non-reserved IFCA Committee papers will be published.</li> <li>• IFCA will contribute to co-ordinated activity at a national level</li> <li>• IFCA and its principal partners will have a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities. Memoranda of Understanding with MMO, Natural England, Environment Agency and Cefas will be maintained. Opportunities for greater efficiencies, effective joint working and collaboration will be explored and implemented when feasible.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p><b>SC1A:</b> The IFCA will maintain a database of stakeholder contacts reviewed and updated by 31 March each year.</p> <p><b>SC1B:</b> The IFCA will review communication strategy and implementation plan by 31 March each year.</p> <p><b>SC1C:</b> The IFCA will review website by the last working day of each month.</p> <p><b>SC1D:</b> The IFCA will ensure website meets the objectives of its communication strategy, by 31 March each year.</p> <p><b>SC1E:</b> The IFCA will have review all Memoranda of Understanding by 31 March each year. There will be a clear plan in place to update MoUs where necessary, to an agreed timescale.</p> <p><b>SC1F:</b> By 31 March each year, the IFCA will have participated appropriately, proportionately and at the right level of delegation, in regional and national fisheries and conservation activity identified in the annual plan.</p>
<p><b>Success Criterion 2:</b>IFCAs implement a fair, effective and proportionate enforcement regime</p>	
<p><b>Definition:</b> The IFCA enforcement regime is risk-based, makes appropriate use of intelligence, meets legislative standards and complies with the Regulators Code. It should make effective use of the resources available to regulators; complement and align, if possible, with the regimes in adjacent IFC Districts and management by other organisations including the MMO and Environment Agency. Consistency and fairness is important. Regulatory compliance is promoted. Enforcement action is carried out by trained, professional officers working to clear standards of conduct.</p>	
<p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IFCA will publish its enforcement risk register and strategy, clearly setting out its approach to achieving regulatory compliance and potential sanctions that may be applied for infringements and/or offences.</li> <li>• The IFCA will have developed consistency in regulations (byelaws) with other organisations</li> <li>• The IFCA will manage operational activity (e.g. through a Tasking &amp; Co-ordination Group) and capture, record, evaluate and disseminate intelligence that is compatible with partner organisations. It is engaged in joint working with partner organisations.</li> <li>• Warranted Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officers (IFCOs) will be trained and accredited to nationally agreed standards. They will maintain professionalism and make appropriate interventions to deliver efficient, effective</li> </ul>	<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p><b>SC2A:</b> The IFCA will ensure its enforcement risk register and strategy are published and available on its website from 1 April each year</p> <p><b>SC2B:</b> The IFCA will demonstrate in its Annual Report how it has worked with other regulators to achieve consistent quality, application and enforcement of management measures</p> <p><b>SC2C:</b> The IFCA will compile records of enforcement activity in a standard format; provide them to the National Inshore Marine Enforcement Group (NIMEG) and publish them on its website.</p> <p><b>SC2D:</b> The IFCA will adopt the national Code of Conduct for IFCOs, which will be reviewed annually and published on its website by 1 April.</p> <p><b>SC2E:</b> The Code of Conduct for IFCOs is reflected in work objectives and annual appraisals for <u>all</u> Warranted Officers.</p> <p><b>SC2F:</b> Warranted Officers attain accreditation. <u>All</u></p>

enforcement activity.	undertake Continuing Professional Development
<b>Success Criterion 3:</b> IFCA's use evidence based and appropriate measures to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources and deliver marine environmental protection.	
<b>Definition:</b> IFCA's were created as statutory inshore regulators by the 2009 Marine Act. They are relevant authorities for EU commitments including the Birds, Habitats, Water (WFD) and Marine Strategy Framework Directives (MSFD). IFCA's contribute to securing a network of well managed marine protected areas (MPA), including EMS & MCZ. Fisheries Management Plans identify local management measure. They must be based on evidence; timely; subject to appropriate consultation and in step with national initiatives and priorities. IFCA should balance the social and economic benefits of exploiting sea fisheries resources with the need to protect the environment. It should make a contribution to sustainable development.	
<p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IFCA will identify issues likely to affect sustainable management; undertake risk assessment, gap analysis; review existing measures; evaluate management options, develop and implement proportionate solutions</li> <li>• The IFCA will support implementation of a well-managed network of marine protected areas by: developing a range of criteria-based management options; implementing management measures to ensure that inshore fisheries activities comply with the Marine Act 2009 and the revised approach to managing commercial fisheries in EMS; and that local management contributes to delivery of targets for the MSFD, WFD and Marine Plans.</li> <li>• The IFCA will develop Fisheries Management Plans for priority species where appropriate. Shared objectives will be developed with identified partners; actions identified and best practice reflected so that management makes a contribution to sustainable development.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p><b>SC3A:</b> IFCA will record site-specific management considerations for MPA and report progress to the Authority</p> <p><b>SC3B:</b> IFCA will publish data analysis and evidence supporting new management measures, on its website</p> <p><b>SC3C:</b> Management information (e.g. sampling and/or survey results) will be collected periodically after new management measures have been implemented, to demonstrate their effectiveness.</p> <p><b>SC3D:</b> IFCA will develop criteria-based management options, explained to stakeholders through the website, and reviewed annually by 31 March.</p> <p><b>SC3E:</b> New IFCA management measures selected for development and implementation are delivered within agreed timescales</p> <p><b>SC3F:</b> The IFCA will include shared agreed objectives and actions from Fisheries Management Plans in its own Annual Plan, which will be published by 31 March each year.</p> <p><b>SC3G:</b> Progress made in relevant Fisheries Management Plan areas, including Maximum Sustainable Yield commitments, will be noted in the IFCA's Annual Report.</p>
<b>Success Criterion 4:</b> IFCA's have appropriate governance in place and staff are trained and professional	
<b>Definition:</b> IFCA's are statutory authorities within the local government. Authority members may be either general members or local councillors. They comply with Codes of Conduct and Standing Orders. General members are appointed by MMO on merit, through open competition for a fixed term and are subject to an annual performance appraisal. IFCA are funded by levy on member councils and are accountable for its use of public resources. IFCA should ensure that a proper auditing regime is in place. It should make effective use of its resources, including staff and assets. An IFCA has a statutory obligation to prepare and publish Annual Plans and Annual Reports.	



<p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IFCA will demonstrate a long-term strategic approach to sustainable management by having plan-making, review, update and amendment procedures in place. The IFCA will record its performance against corporate outcomes and indicators as soon as possible following the end of the financial year.</li> <li>• Staff performance management systems will be in place that link to the IFCA success criteria. There will be an induction procedure for new joiners. Staff training and development needs will be identified. Performance will be managed and, where necessary, improvement procedures will be followed.</li> <li>• The IFCA Committee will be supported by an organised, efficient and effective secretariat. New members will receive an induction pack and briefing from the Authority. There will be a rolling twelve month schedule of quarterly Authority meetings. Notices of meetings and documentation will be made available in line with Standing Orders.</li> <li>• IFCA Committee meetings will be held in public unless material is either confidential, or exempt within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1972.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p><b>SC4A:</b> The IFCA will publish a Plan on its website by 31 March, setting out the main objectives and priorities for the next financial year. A copy will be sent to the Secretary of State.</p> <p><b>SC4B:</b> After the end of each financial year, the IFCA will publish a Report on its website describing its activities, performance and a summary of audited financial information in that year, by 30 November. A copy will be sent to the Secretary of State.</p> <p><b>SC4C:</b> IFCA staff will have annual performance management plans in place. Annual appraisals for <u>all</u> staff will have been completed by 31 May each year.</p> <p><b>SC4D:</b> An efficient secretariat of IFCA staff support IFCA Authority meetings which are held quarterly and are quorate. Meeting documentation will meet Standing Orders.</p> <p><b>SC4E:</b> The IFCA will have demonstrated, in its Annual Report, how marine, land and water management mechanisms in the Inshore Fisheries &amp; Conservation District have worked responsively and effectively together.</p>
<p><b>Success Criterion 5:</b> IFCAs make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives</p>	
<p><b>Definition:</b> IFCAs are statutory regulators for their Inshore Fisheries and Conservation District. Decision-making should be based on evidence. All IFCAs are supported by officers who pool their expertise and share best practice as a Technical Advisory Group (TAG). A programme of research activity and monitoring is planned, developed and updated in consultation with partners. The programme informs management decisions and supports justification for additional research and evidence gathering.</p>	
<p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A strategic research plan that contributes to greater understanding of the marine environment and delivery of cost-effective management of sea fisheries resources.</li> <li>• Standard Operating Procedures describe how data is captured and shared with principal partners.</li> <li>• A list of research databases held by the IFCA and the frequency of their review.</li> <li>• Non-confidential meta-data collected through the IFCA research programme should be recorded in a database available to the marine research community.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p><b>SC5A:</b> The IFCA will demonstrate progress that has made towards identifying its evidence needs by publishing a research plan each year.</p> <p><b>SC5B:</b> The IFCA will publish a research report annually that demonstrates how evidence has supported decision making.</p> <p><b>SC5C:</b> The IFCA's contribution to TAG and progress that has made towards a national evidence needs programme will be recorded in the IFCA's Annual Report.</p>

**Table 4 BUDGET REVIEW FOR 2015-16**

<b>FROM 1 APR 2015 – 31 MAR 2016</b>	<b>ANNUAL BUDGET</b>	<b>BUDGET TO DATE</b>	<b>ACTUAL TO DATE</b>	<b>BETTER+/WORSE-THAN BUDGET</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Employees	876,237	876,237	814,508	61,729
Premises	52,850	52,850	49,901	2,949
Transport 3151-3651	212,320	212,320	160,693	51,627
Vessel Purchase 3652 ( <i>Transport</i> )	97,026	97,026	0	97,026
Supplies/Services	61,300	61,300	49,414	11,886
Corporate	30,300	30,300	25,725	4,575
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,330,033</b>	<b>1,330,033</b>	<b>1,100,241</b>	<b>229,792</b>
<b>INCOME</b>				
Levy	1,211,033	1,211,033	1,211,033	0
Shellfish sampling	15,000	15,000	7,029	-7,971
Miscellaneous Income	0	0	40,835	40,835
Byelaw 3 Permit Fees	100,000	100,000	64,000	-36,000
Interest	4,000	4,000	7,775	3,775
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,330,033</b>	<b>1,330,033</b>	<b>1,330,673</b>	<b>640</b>

Surplus	230,432
Less Vessel Purchase 3652	97,026
<b>WORKING SURPLUS</b>	<b>133,406</b>

*NOTE: Increase in 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*

**NWIFCA Bank Reconciliation for the year ended 31 March 2016**

	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Bank Account:</b> NatWest Current Account (Unadjusted Fig. see Note 1)	107,553	
<b>Less Unpresented Cheques:</b> None	0	
<b>Add Uncleared Payments:</b> None	0	
<b>Add Petty Cash:</b>	200	
<b>Add STIS:</b> Lancashire County Council Investment	<u>1,297,000</u>	
		<b>1,404,753</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH AND SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS</b>		<b>1,404,753</b>

**Note 1: Reconciliation of bank account figure with Profit & Loss**

Unadjusted Bank Account	107,553	
Less Unpresented Cheques	0	<b>107,553</b>
Profit & Loss 8255 Bank		<b>107,553</b>

(STIS is short term investments)

**Table 5 Assets: Premises, vessels vehicles**

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	2 Landrovers, 2 Nissan Navara 4WD, 1 Renault Traffic radar van, 3 Renault Kangoo vans	Carnforth & Liverpool Whitehaven Blackpool Carnforth
ATV 'quad' bikes	8Honda ATV	Whitehaven, Barrow, Carnforth, Blackpool, Liverpool

**Table 6: Membership April 2015 - March 2016**

<b>Council Members</b>	
Blackpool Borough Council (1)	Councillor J. Elmes
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
Lancashire County Council (2)	Councillor K. Brown Councillor L. Beavers
Liverpool City Council (1)	Councillor J. Noakes
Sefton Council (1)	Councillor J. J. Kelly
Wirral Metropolitan Council (1)	Councillor B. Mooney

<b>MMO Appointees and their Affiliations:</b>	
Marine Environment	Dr J. Andrews
Marine Environment	Dr E. Baxter
Marine Science/Environment	Mr C. Booth
Commercial Fishing	Mr D. Clarke
Anglers and Recreational Fishing	Mr B Crawford
Commercial Fishing	Mr R. Graham
Shellfish aquaculture	Mr D. Grunshaw
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
Marine Environment	Miss S. Salthouse
Marine Environment	Ms P. Taylor
Commercial fishing and aquaculture	Mr K. Thompson
<b>National Agency appointees</b>	
Natural England	Chris Lumb
Environment Agency	Stewart Mounsey
Marine Management Organisation	Daniel Ward

**NOTES:**

Blackpool – Councillor J. Elmes appointed July 2015

Liverpool - Councillor J. Noakes appointed July 2015

Halton – Councillor B. Woolfall appointed May 2015

Dr P. Williams resigned August 2015

Mr. R. Benson's appointment terminated October 2015

Dr J. Andrews and Mr. M. Oddy were appointed October 2015

Mr B. Crawford, Messrs D. Clark, Mr D. Grunshaw re-appointed November 2015.

Mr D. Ward (MMO) appointed August 2015 to replace Mr A. Newlands

There are 2 MMO appointee vacancies as at April 2016

**Table 7: Authority meetings and main meetings with partner bodies (see also science work (table 9) and communications work (Table 11))**

		Dates
NWIFCA	Authority	12 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2015 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2015 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
	Technical Science & Bylaws Committee	12 <sup>th</sup> May 2015 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2015 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2015 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2016
	Finance Committee	12 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2015
	Chairman's Committee	11 <sup>th</sup> May 2015 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2015 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
	Vessel Committee	21.1.16; 11.2.16
Joint IFCA	Association of IFCA (AIFCA)	9 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2015 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2015 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
	Chief officers group COG	15.4.15; 5.6.15; 15&16.7.15 14.10.15; 13.1.16; 13.4.16
	IFCA Technical Advisory Group (TAG_	Conference Jan 2015 28 July 2015
	National Information and marine enforcement group (NIMEG)	14 May 2015
Defra and agency	Defra. Bass Marine sites; Funding Landing obligation	11.5.15; 18.1.16. 15.5.15; 24-11-15 28.5.15; 4-8-15 13.7.15;
	Natural England Liaison Marine Director	29-7-15; 12-11-15
	MMO; CEO John Tuckett Liaison	2-7-15; 6-7-15 21.9.15; 20.10.15; 22.3.16;
Fisheries Liaison	Bivalve working group	30.4.15; 13 7 15; 4-9-15; 19.11.15;18.1.16
	Dee Estuary Liaison group	2 meetings
NGO; Conferences, Media	Irish Sea Forum	25.2.16
	North west coastal forum	2 Meetings
	Black Fish NGO	1 meeting
	Buckland Colloquium	2 June 2015
	Seawork Southampton	16&17 June 2015
	BBC interviews	2-8-15; 7.4.16
	MP David Morris Morecambe	6.11.15

**Table 8: Authorisations to fish issued under byelaws in 2015-6**

	Period of permit	Year	Number issued
NWSFC Byelaw 1 Scientific derogations	Various periods up to max 1 year	2015-6	12
Cockle and mussels Byelaw 3	1 Sept – 31 Aug 2015 1 Sept – 31 Aug 2016	2014-5 2015-6 to date	115 106
Netting Byelaws 26/27 Areas 8, 9,10 &11.	1 May to 30 Nov 2015	2015	62
Netting Byelaw 26 Areas 2 & 3	1 July –to 30 Nov 2015	2015	7
Netting Byelaw 26 Area 5	1 to 31 May & 1 Sept to 30 Nov 2015	2015	5
Hobby potting Byelaw 30 NWSFC area	1 Jan to 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan to date	2015 2016	21 33
Hobby potting Byelaw 26 Cumbria SFC area	1Jan to 31 Dec 2015	2015 2016 to date	59 51

**Table 9 Inspection and compliance data 2015-6**

At sea	number of vessel patrols	59
	number of boardings	76
	number of gear inspections	38
	number of fish & shellfish inspections	81
On land	number of shore patrols	1284
	number of port visits (some within shore patrols)	1376
	number of inspections of premises ( e.g. shops, wholesalers, stalls, markets, auctions)	15
	number of landing inspections	127
	number of other inspections includes checks in port, divers, shore anglers, beach inspections, vehicles, lorries etc	2205
Sanctions	number of verbal warnings	14
	number of written warnings and advisory letters	30
	number of FAPs	0
	number of individuals successfully prosecuted in court	1

**Table 10. Shellfish (crab and lobster) landings** Fleetwood – Whitehaven) April 2015-March 2016. Data from National shellfish licensing scheme

No pots set	No pots hauled	Edible crab kgs	Spider crab	Lobster kgs	Other species
39284	38354	4539	0	10940	4

**Table 11: Communications Officer: Talks and presentations**

27 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Whitehaven stakeholder meeting
27 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Talk to Lune Rivers Trust at Tebay
10 <sup>th</sup> June 2015	Talk to AB Ports and Lancashire Police
1 <sup>st</sup> July 2015	Members Training Day, Carnforth and Morecambe
12 <sup>th</sup> August 2015	Intel Management meeting, Newcastle
28 <sup>th</sup> September	Intelligence management training
9 <sup>th</sup> October 2015	Scottish Inshore Fisheries Conference, Inverness (poster)
19 <sup>th</sup> October 2015	CEFAS training day, Morecambe
11 <sup>th</sup> November 2015	Clevelys Beach group talk
13 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2015	Blackpool University Undergraduate Lecture
12 <sup>th</sup> February 2016	North Lancs Wildlife group, Torrisholme Talk
23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2016	Maryport stakeholder meeting, The Wave
2March 2016	Heversham Stakeholder meeting
9 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Morecambe Bay Partnership Conference
9 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	MCS Talk

**Table 12A Science: Consultation responses in 2015-6**

<b>Consultations</b>	<b>Type</b>
Runcorn Viaduct North Spans	MMO Licence
URS Authorisation for Mersey Gateway project	MMO Licence
Bangor University research	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
West Cumbria Coal Exploratory Boreholes	MMO Licence
EA WFD Fish Surveys	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
UU Outfall Maintenance	MMO Licence
West of Duddon Sands Fish Monitoring Surveys	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
Morecambe Waste Water Treatment Works Exploratory Drilling	MMO Licence
Cefas Nephrops Catch Sampling	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
Dong Energy - Burbo Bank windfarm extension - benthic surveys	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
Liverpool Docks - Maintenance Dredging	MMO Licence
Mersey Docks and Harbour Company - Capital Dredging	MMO Licence
Environment Agency - WFD surveys	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
Garston Approach Channel and Docks - Maintenance Dredging	MMO Licence
Dong Energy - West of Duddon Sands windfarm - post construction surveys	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
BAE Barrow – maintenance dredging	MMO Licence
Cefas Fish Surveys	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
Drigg Viaduct Repairs	MMO Licence
Greenodd Embankment renewal	MMO Licence
Maryport Aquarium - lobster enhancement project	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
Moorside Nuclear Power Station – surveys	Byelaw 1 Dispensation
West Cumbria Coal Mine – borehole surveys	MMO Licence
Parton to Harrington Sea Defences	MMO Licence
Seacombe Ferry Terminal Building- Soffit Repairs and Structural Strengthening	MMO Licence
Garston Approach Channel and Docks Maintenance Dredging	MMO Licence
Glasson Dock Dredging Nov 2015	MMO Licence
Heysham Harbour 1 and 2 Dredging Activities 2015	MMO Licence
Heysham Power Station Cleaning Reactors 2016	MMO Licence
Heysham Power Station Cooling Waters Dredging 2015	MMO Licence
Maryport Harbour Dredging	MMO Licence
Seacombe Ferry Terminal Building 2015 Soffit Repairs	MMO Licence
Network Rail - Ravenglass and River Mite estuary revetments	MMO Licence
Port of Workington Maintenance Dredging 2016-2018	MMO Licence
Network Rail - Brantsy to Parton Sea Defences	MMO Licence
EA consultation: Mossband flood Embankment (Carlisle)	MMO Licence



<b>Table 12 B Science Meetings, Training and Workshops</b>	
CFP Demersal Landings Obligations	Meeting
Natural England with Marine Director Jonathan Burney and colleagues	Meeting
Presentation at Blackpool and the Fylde College	Delivering training
RSPB Bird ID	Training
Oceanwise Marine GIS	Workshop
Celtic Seas Partnership	Workshop
Liverpool Bay SPA Joint Management	Meeting
Professional Practices and Responsibilities	Training
VHF	Training
RYA First Aid	Training
Personal Survival Techniques	Training
MapInfo Foundation	Training
National MPA Conference Calls – monthly	Meeting
North West Coast Connections – Stakeholder Reference Group	Meeting
National Grid – tunnelling option – marine topic	Meeting
North West Angling Trust Fisheries Consultative Council	Meeting
National cockle review – NOC	Meeting
United Utilities – Anchorsholme outfall	Meeting
Seal Survey at Walney with Cumbria Wildlife Trust Marine Trainees	Survey
National TAG	Conference
Coastal Futures - London	Workshop
IFCO Enforcement	Training
MMO Fisheries Non-Enforcement	Training
Solway Firth Partnership	Meeting
Lune Rivers Trust - Biosecurity Plan	Presentation
Dee Sea Fisheries Liaison Group	Meeting
Welsh Government - cockle management	Meeting
Revised Conservation Advice Package - Natural England	Training
Shellfish Liaison Group	Training & Meeting
Liverpool University - Sustainability Studentship	Meeting
Defra Bass Management	Meeting
Tidal Dee Catchment Steering Group	Meeting
Multibeam sonar use	Training
Tidal Lagoon West Cumbria - Evidence	Meeting
Moorside- Nuclear Power Station Quarterly EIA Technical Group	Meeting
Wyre Barrage	Meeting
Burbo Bank Windfarm Extension	Meeting
West Cumbria Tidal Lagoon	Meeting
Bangor Mussel Producers MSC Assessment	Site visit

**Table 12C. Science Surveys in 2015-6**

<u>Species</u>	<u>Bed</u>	<u>HRA - Y/N</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Fishery Opened Y/N</u>	<u>Partners / Consultees</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Mussels	Hardacre	N	Duddon Estuary	Y	National Trust	22.04.15, 27.10.15
Mussels	South America / Falklands		Morecambe Bay	N		20.05.15, 04.07.15
Mussels	Heysham Flat	Y	Morecambe Bay	Y	Cumbria Wildlife Trust. Lancaster City Council	19.05.15, 20.05.15, 03.07.15, 03.08.15
Mussels	Black Scar		Fleetwood	N		04.08.15, 29.09.15
Mussels	Perch Scar		Fleetwood	N		04.08.15, 29.09.15
Mussels	Kings Scar		Fleetwood	N		04.08.15, 29.09.15
Mussels	Neckings		Fleetwood	N		04.08.15, 29.09.15
Mussels	Rossall Scar		Fleetwood	N		04.08.15, 29.09.15
Mussels	Wyre End		Knott End	N		01.08.15
Mussels	Low Bottom		Morecambe Bay	N		04.07.15, 27.10.15
Mussels	Foulney	N	Morecambe Bay	Y		03.04.15, 21.04.15, 06.07.15, 03.08.15, 09.03.16
Mussels	Ellisons		Solway Firth	N		05.06.15, 01.10.15
Mussels	Seafield Road	Y	Ribble Estuary	Y	Industry	08.07.15, 17.08.15, 25.02.16
Mussels	Seacombe - New Brighton		Mersey Estuary	N		20.04.15
Mussels	New Brighton	Y	Wirral	Y	Industry. Natural England	Sep-15
Cockles	Beckfoot	Y	Cumbria	N	Industry	30.06.15
Cockles	Cardurnock	Y	Cumbria	N	Industry	30.06.15
Cockles	Middle Bank	Y	Solway Firth	N	Industry	25.06.15, 30.06.15
Cockles	Aldingham		Morecambe Bay	N		07.03.16
Cockles	Newbiggin		Morecambe Bay	N		08.03.16
Cockles	Leasowe		Wirral	N		30.09.15
Cockles	Marshside - Penfold		Ribble Estuary	N		23.04.15

Cockles	Leven Sands	Y	Morecambe Bay	Y	Industry	11.05.15, 14.05.15, 30.07.15, 11.02.16
bivalves	Leasowe		Wirral	Occasional hand-gathering unregulated		IFCOs regular inspections reporting back to Science team
bivalves	Duddon Estuary		Cumbria	Occasional hand-gathering unregulated		IFCOs regular inspections reporting back to Science team
Crab Tiling	Mersey Estuary		Mersey and North Wirral Foreshore	On-going		20.04.15
Crab Tiling	Walney Channel and Foulney		Mersey and North Wirral Foreshore	On-going		18.05.15
Sabellaria alveolata	Heysham Flat		Morecambe Bay	n/a	Cumbria Wildlife Trust	06.07.15
Sabellaria alveolata	Allonby Bay MCZ		Cumbria	n/a		22.04.15
	Mersey to Fleetwood			n/a		14.10.15
	Mersey to Dee Estuary			n/a		15.10.15
Use of a drone for surveying	Heysham Flat		Morecambe Bay	n/a	RSPB	30.09.15

**Table 12 D Science projects active in 2015-6**

<u>Projects</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Partners / Collaborators</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>
Bivalve Mollusc Working Group	Morecambe Bay	Industry, Natural England, Wildlife Trust, RSPB	Mussel & Cockle Management Plan drafts Management of fisheries agreed.
Defra Review of EMS Fisheries Management	All EMS	Natural England, MMO, Defra	32 HRAs signed off by Natural England - work on-going with December 2016 deadline
Liverpool Bay SPA	Liverpool Bay	Natural England	Input given to site extension consultation
MCZ Tranche Two designations	Allonby Bay, West of Walney, Cumbria	Defra, MMO, Natural England, fishing industry	On-going
Seal Deterrents	Ribble Estuary	Industry / MMO	Potential for on-going work
EU Bass measures	District-wide	Representation regarding NE Irish Sea inshore stock and fleet	EU measures implemented. On-going investigation of research potential with Cefas
NWIFCA Biosecurity Plan	District-wide	Solway Firth Partnership, NE, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, EIFCA	Published and on-going recording
Slipper limpets sold as bait	Liverpool	MMO	MMO notice regarding Wildlife and Countryside Act
American lobster ( <i>H. americanus</i> )	Cumbria	Industry / Cefas	Catch monitoring. Reporting to Cefas. Possible genetic studies with Manchester Met PhD student
National Grid Coast Connections Project	Morecambe Bay Cumbrian Coast	Developer planners	On-going aim to ensure fisheries and marine interests fully represented
NuGen Nuclear Power Station	Moorside, Cumbria	Developer planners	On-going aim to ensure fisheries and marine interests fully represented
Halite Gas Storage	Preesall, Wyre Estuary	Developer planners	On-going aim to ensure fisheries and marine interests fully represented
Project Inshore	National	IFCA TAG, MSC	Representation over final Stage 3 reports
Byelaw Review	District-wide	Defra, MMO, industry	On-going, consultation with stakeholders, Regulatory Impact Assessment
Wildlife Trust Marine Trainees Partnership	Morecambe Bay mainly	Cumbria Wildlife Trust	Assist training WLT trainees in cockle, mussel and <i>Sabellaria alveolata</i> surveying on-going.
Shale Gas Explorations	Mainly Lancashire		Effects on marine environment
Heysham Flat <i>Sabellaria</i>	Morecambe Bay	Cumbria Wildlife Trust	Annual report for EMS Management
Pilot Study on Interactions Between Wading Birds & Mussel Gatherers	Heysham Flat, Morecambe Bay	Cumbria Wildlife Trust. RSPB	Pilot study report
Side scan sonar and multi-beam use		Cefas, IFCA TAG, Natural England, AB Ports,	Officer training

IFCA TAG meetings	London and Poole	IFCA TAG, NE, Defra, EA, MMO,	On-going
MSFD workshop	Belfast	Irish Seas Maritime Forum	Officer training
Wader Bird Training	Morecambe Bay and Ribble Estuary	RSPB and Natural England	New science officers better informed of wading birds behaviour and ID
North West Angling Trust	River Lune	IFCA representation	On-going
National Marine Protected Area Management	District-wide	Defra, Natural England, MMO, other IFCAs, Cefas	Monthly tele-conference