



Historic England

Marine Strategy Team
4th Floor
Nobel House
17 Smith Square
Westminster
London SW1P 3JR

Our ref:
Your ref:
Telephone:

12th November 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

Consultation on the updated UK Marine Strategy Part Two

Further to your email, received 25th August 2020, we offer the following response to the document entitled *Marine Strategy Part Two: UK updated monitoring programmes* (dated 25 August 2020) and prepared by Defra and the UK Devolved Administrations.

We understand that the above document sets out the monitoring programmes which the UK Government and Devolved Administrations propose to use to gather data to assess the indicators used to measure progress towards Good Environmental Status across biodiversity, productivity and pressures in UK seas.

The role of Historic England

The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (HBMCE), known as Historic England, is the Government's adviser on all aspects of the historic environment in England including historic buildings and areas, archaeology and historic landscape with a duty to promote public understanding and enjoyment.

Historic England is an executive Non-Departmental Public body sponsored by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and we answer to Parliament through the Secretary of State for DCMS. The National Heritage Act (2002) gave us responsibility for maritime archaeology in the English area of the UK Territorial Sea and we provide licensing and planning advice in regard to the historic environment found within the English Inshore and Offshore Marine Planning Areas, as defined by the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.



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Please note that Historic England operates an access to information policy.
Correspondence or information which you send us may therefore become publicly available.

The purpose of this consultation

We appreciate that the UK Marine Strategy Regulations 2010 implement the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive, which requires the UK to take measures to achieve or maintain Good Environmental Status (GES) by 2020 which it does through implementation of the UK Marine Strategy. We therefore acknowledge that this consultation is focused on proposals for updating the UK Marine Strategy Part Two (published in 2014).

We also note that for the purposes of achieving GES the assessment and management of the marine environment covers all UK marine waters and beyond with a key aim for the UK Marine Strategy to coordinate actions with other countries, particularly for The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) Region II (the Greater North Sea) and OSPAR Region III (the Celtic Seas).

Consultation questions

In recognition of our specific responsibilities for the protection and management of our shared historic environment for England (as explained above), we have directed our attention to the following question in the consultation document:

4) Are you aware of any additional marine monitoring currently being carried out that we have not covered which could contribute to our assessments and make them more effective?

In response to this question we wish to highlight how we have worked to ensure that management of our shared maritime historic environment recognises how projections of climate change may impact heritage assets¹. For an explanation about our work in this area, please see: <https://historicengland.org.uk/research/current/threats/martime-marine/> and also the following paper which describes action taken across the UK published in *Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership Science Review 2020*: http://www.mccip.org.uk/media/2029/26_cultural_heritage_2020.pdf

We appreciate that the focus for attention here is to be able to devise and implement monitoring programmes that will assess progress towards achieving GES within the Marine Strategy area. We recognise that cultural heritage is not specified as a 'qualitative descriptor', but we consider it relevant that cultural heritage is recognised as a component of our shared marine environment, as described within the UK Marine Policy Statement (2011). We therefore take this opportunity to highlight the monitoring we direct towards designated heritage assets at risk as our contribution to this consultation exercise:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/heritage-at-risk/archaeology/>

Yours faithfully,



Dr Christopher Pater
Head of Marine Planning

¹ UK Marine Policy Statement 2.6.6.1 "Those elements of the historic environment – buildings, monuments, sites or landscapes – that have been positively identified as holding a degree of significance meriting consideration are called 'heritage assets'"

