



## - Solent Marine Planning Project (SoMaP-Data Group Meeting)

HCC, The Castle  
Winchester

Castle Avenue – Interview Room 3

7<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 10.30 am

### Meeting Notes

#### Project Group Invited/Attended

*Bold – Present at Meeting*

<b>Solent Forum</b>	<b>Karen McHugh</b>	<b>01962 846027</b>
<b>Environment Agency</b>	<b>Jamie Fielding (Suggests possible change in contact to Caroline Price or Tony Burch)</b>	<b>01903 703833</b>
Defra	Michelle Hanson	
<b>Natural England</b>	<b>Sarah Wiggins</b>	<b>02380 286434</b>
<b>Crown Estate</b>	<b>Jamie Moore</b>	<b>020 7851 5071</b>
<b>Geodata</b>	<b>Chris Hill</b>	<b>023 8059 2719</b>
<b>ABP Mer</b>	<b>Claire Brown</b>	<b>023 80711 840</b>
<b>Alison Smith</b>	<b>Seazone</b>	<b>0870 0130607</b>
<b>Channel Coastal Observatory</b>	<b>Travis Mason</b>	<b>02380598467</b>
<b>E Channel MCZ Project</b>	<b>Sue Wells</b>	<b>01622 221073</b>
Jolyon Chesworth	HWT	(01489) 774445

## **Introduction to SoMaP**

KM introduced the SoMaP project to the group.

In summary: -

The Solent Forum are managing this project on behalf a Steering Group that involves Defra, MMO, NE, EA, HCC, IOW Council, PCC, W Sussex CC, Crown Estate, PUSH, SEEDA, GOSE, E Channel MCZ project. The project which has now started will be conducted over 18 months and it is now in its planning phase. In August 2009 a Solent Forum Project Officer will be in place for 12 months to work two days per week.

The aim of the project is to achieve the first steps only in the process of setting up a Solent Planning System by starting to build a Solent-wide coastal and marine policy framework including a spatial database of plans, policies and activities by sector. Two strands to the project include 1/ Understanding what data is required at this initial stage to strategically assess different sectors plans and policies in the Solent 2/ Work closely with a range of stakeholders represented in all sectors and governance of the Solent to obtain this information and explore their views towards a Solent scale marine plan.

The project is working to a work programme agreed by the Steering Group and this includes the following 7 packages.

1. Establish an organisational structure and stakeholder engagement plan
2. Reiterate national progress on Marine Spatial Planning by the Defra implementation team back to stakeholders
3. Scope with stakeholders the case for a marine plan at a Solent scale.
4. Understand the information requirements for a Solent Marine Planning System
5. Agree pilot case study sectors, to represent pressing Solent issues and land and marine interactions, and use these to test the data and information
6. Obtain and map all sectoral policies within the Solent; obtain further data as agreed in work package 4
7. Evaluate project findings and make recommendations to stakeholders

The Project Steering Group agreed to set-up a separate Data Group to guide the data and mapping side of the project. It was envisaged that the group helped with work package 4, and that it guided how the data would be spatially. This approach has also been followed by other studies such as Dorset c-Scope and the EEDA coastal governance study (Margaret Read).

## **Data Group Terms of Reference**

The group agreed a terms of reference as:

***Advise on a methodology for data identification, collation and visualisation.***

The group are happy to meet again, and to correspond by e-mail in between.

## **What Data is required?**

The question of what data is needed and for what purpose was central to the discussions.

It was agreed that the project needed to take a Top-down approach rather than Bottom-up approach. In other words there is a need to frame the type of information to be collected first, rather than employ a scattergun approach of collecting all possible data. Despite this, the project still can list or collate any data on activity that it is provided/comes across. The Eastern Channel MCZ Project will be much more concerned with actually collection national, regional and local datasets and therefore the SoMaP Project can much more usefully target the information it requires to aide planning. The Solent Forum web-site is an obvious first source of information and it already has DISC a metadatabase of Solent coastal and marine studies. Solentpedia is also a good source of plans and strategies in the Solent, listed under the managing our coast section.

The information to be targeted is Statutory and non-statutory plans and policies for a whole range of sectors operating in the Solent. Each plan or policy will be assigned a geographic boundary/polygon. The outputs will be a Solent Map showing each of these sectors and policy constraints to development/usage – It will include textual information showing policy. Maps may show boundary information, textual policy, jurisdictions, orders and bye-laws, codes of conduct for less organised sectors. Policy information may include metadata on it such as: How policy agreed, how frequently reviewed. In the case of development policies, information may be sought on what plans are made by sectors and to what degree plans are assessed.

Links to available activity data can be made – Solent Forum will work closely with the EC MCZ Project to collate any links. For the three case study areas, more detailed information can be collated if necessary particularly to demonstrate land sea interactions

The approach of mapping policy information would be similar to that taken by two projects discussed:

1. North Wessex AONB Project – managed by Geodata
2. ABP Mer project with Local Authorities and Flood Fisk Management, to avert risk

***Action: Claire Brown and Chris Hill to send KM links to these projects so they can be demonstrated to the group. If not possible, KM to arrange demos.***

The information would need to be gained from each sector using some sort of audit. KM needs to spend time writing an outline of the questions required from this audit. Prior to conducting any research, information will be gleaned from desk research sources such as Solentpedia, DISC , and the Solent Forum(SF) Marine Consents Guide (MCG). KM needs to develop a Communications Strategy and detailed Stakeholder

Engagement Plan (SEP) to show how organisations in each sector and within different layers of Governance needs to be contacted. The project SG will need to be re-consulted to ensure that the project aspirations are manageable with the method of collecting policy and plan data outlined above, particularly when trying to identify smaller non-statutory policies.

*Action : KM to produce a Comms Strategy and SEP. To e-mail it to the group*

*Action: KM to start developing Audit Questionnaire needs. To e-mail it to the group*

The Group felt that the next stage it could guide would be a means of representing the data collected. At this stage the group would consider interactive web-based GIS, the need for bathymetry/topography, spatial representation in the water column, stitching land/sea datum's, resolutions etc. It was generally felt by the group that detailed data considerations of bathymetry/topography, water column and stitching of land to sea may be unnecessary as the focus should be on policy mapping.

It might be useful to think how a planner may want to interrogate the data, what questions may be asked. The SoMaP Steering Group should be asked how they would wish to use such a planning tool to help properly build it. One method of doing this would be set-up user groups for each of the 3 pilots, to test any database system.

This would be more usefully done once the data audit had commenced. It was suggested that the group could meet approx 3 months after the data collection begins in August.

*Action: KM to set-up another Data Group meeting October/November 2009.*

*Action: KM to prompt group by e-mail for a list of questions they feel that the SoMaP Steering group should answer to help prepare for the next meeting. These questions may relate to how they would wish the database to be searched.*

*Action: KM to ask SG on 7th July further questions*

**NEXT MEETING DATE – TBA for Oct/Nov 09.**

## Appendix A - GIS/Data Projects and Initiatives

HCC GIS	Access to HCC social, environmental and economic coastal data	Mike Proctor
Defra and its MMO teams	<p>Currently scoping the GIS requirements for Marine Spatial Planning and the MMO; they are considering how the Government's GIS SPIRE can be used.</p> <p>A spreadsheet has been provided to show the marine planning datasets that the Marine Planning Implementation team are working on.</p>	Chairman Givindsame
Defra project to support MMO – working with MFA and CEFAS	<p>CEFAS are currently aiding Defra by helping develop tools for the new MMO, as well as developing a sustainability appraisal system, This is particularly aimed at a regional scale, rather than sub-regional scale.</p> <p>Geodata – tools mean GIS. How make a decision for people that do not use GIS. This project is limited as the vision is limited. There will be a workshop. Solent is an attractive component for this project. So is Irish Sea. Important ot get right data resolution.</p>	Sharon Wort is the Defra contact
Seazone	An organisation funded by UKHO and OS. Charges for data. Can provide bathymetry and hydrographic vector GIS and, and link land and sea. Only organisation that can offer absolute positioning in water? Different standards and resolutions around country. Charges per licence	Mike Osborne
ABP Mer	Have just been contracted to assist in developing the maps for the new suite of Marine Protected Areas that are to be set-up.	Stephen Hull
Channel Coastal Observatory	Portal for all coastal monitoring data in Solent.	Andy Bradbury Travis Mason
GeoData	<p>Working with Defra and MMO implementation team on range of projects above.</p> <p>North Wessex AONB project – spatially mapping policies</p>	Chris Hill Jason Sadler
BMT Cordah	Developing modelling systems to help analyse future scenarios. Climate change and coastal risk data from the Environment Agency and other organisations will then also be built into scenarios, so that predictions can be made over future	Zohier Sabeur

	epochs.	
Dorset C-SCoPE project	Developing a web based Explorer GIS with DCC to enable relevant policies (and activities) to be displayed by clicking on a map to bring-up detail in a particular location. Using Seazone	Ken Buchan
Hampshire Coastal Access Project	CD available. This spatially maps access – huge project.	Jo Hale
Geodata/EMU/NOC	Biotope Mapping –	
IMARK ABP/BMT Cordah/Geodata	Water quality data	
EMU/Geodata	Regional Environmental Assessment - Marine aggregates	
MARS/COWRIE – Crown Estate	Allocating marine resources with a decision-support system. Where source routemap to data?	
E Channel MCZ Project GIS	May be similar to finding Sanctuary EXEGIS	
MEDIN	Marine Data Archive Centre – Defra data portal to UKHO and others	
HWT	Shoresearch. Polygons to show where certain habitats such as eel grass	Jolyon Chesworth
EA	Bathymetry data	
Solent Forum/Geodata	DISC data base of all Solent report data, with spatial coordinates	
Google Layers		