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**From:**

**Sent:**

**To:**

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To Whom It May Concern

Thank you for including the MMO in your recent consultation submission. The MMO will review your document and respond to you directly should a bespoke response be required. If you do not receive a bespoke response from us within your deadline, please consider the following information as the MMO's formal response.

Kind regards

The Marine Management Organisation

### **Response to your consultation**

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) is a non-departmental public body responsible for the management of England's marine area on behalf of the UK government. The MMO's delivery functions are; marine planning, marine licensing, wildlife licensing and enforcement, marine protected area management, marine emergencies, fisheries management and issuing European grants.

### **Marine Licensing**

Activities taking place below the mean high water mark may require a [marine licence](#) in accordance with the [Marine and Coastal Access Act \(MCAA\) 2009](#). Such activities include the construction, alteration or improvement of any works, dredging, or a deposit or removal of a substance or object below the mean high water springs mark or in any tidal river to the extent of the tidal influence. Local authorities may wish to refer to our [marine licensing guide for local planning authorities](#) for more detailed information. You can also apply to the MMO for consent under the Electricity Act 1989 (as amended) for offshore generating stations between 1 and 100 megawatts in England and parts of Wales. The MMO is also the authority responsible for processing and determining harbour orders in England, and for some ports in Wales, and for granting consent under various local Acts and orders regarding harbours. A wildlife licence is also required for activities that that would affect a UK or European protected marine species.

### **Marine Planning**

As the marine planning authority for England the MMO is responsible for preparing marine plans for English inshore and offshore waters. At its landward extent, a marine plan will apply up to the mean high water springs mark, which includes the tidal extent of any rivers. As marine plan boundaries extend up to the level of the mean high water spring tides mark, there will be an overlap with terrestrial plans which generally extend to the mean low water springs mark. Marine plans will inform and guide decision makers on development in marine and coastal areas. Planning documents for areas with a coastal influence may wish to make reference to the MMO's licensing requirements and any relevant marine plans to ensure that necessary regulations are adhered to. For marine and coastal areas where a marine plan is not currently in place, we advise local authorities to refer to the [Marine Policy Statement](#) for guidance on any planning activity that includes a section of coastline or tidal river. All public authorities taking authorisation or enforcement decisions that affect or might affect the UK marine area must do so in accordance with the [Marine and Coastal Access Act](#) and the UK Marine Policy Statement unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise. Local authorities may also wish to refer to our [online guidance](#) and the [Planning Advisory Service soundness self-assessment checklist](#). If you wish to contact your local marine planning officer you can find their details on our [gov.uk page](#).

[The East Inshore and Offshore Marine Plans](#) were published on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014, becoming a material consideration for public authorities with decision making functions. The East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plans cover the coast and seas from Flamborough Head to Felixstowe. For

further information on how to apply the East and Inshore and Offshore Plans please visit our [Marine Information System](#).

[The South Marine Plan](#) was published on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018, becoming a material consideration for public authorities with decision making functions. The South Marine Plan covers the coast and seas from Folkestone to the River Dart in Devon. For further information on how to apply the South Marine Plan please visit our [Marine Information System](#).

The MMO is currently in the process of developing marine plans for the remaining 7 marine plan areas by 2021. These are the [North East](#) Marine Plans, the [North West](#) Marine Plans, the [South East](#) Marine Plan and the [South West](#) Marine Plans.

**Minerals and waste plans and local aggregate assessments**

If you are consulting on a mineral/waste plan or local aggregate assessment, the MMO recommend reference to marine aggregates is included and reference to be made to the documents below:

- The Marine Policy Statement (MPS), section 3.5 which highlights the importance of marine aggregates and its supply to England's (and the UK) construction industry.
- The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which sets out policies for national (England) construction minerals supply.
- The NPPF [Minerals Planning Practice guidance](#) which includes specific references to the role of marine aggregates in the wider portfolio of supply.
- [The National and regional guidelines for aggregates provision in England 2005-2020](#) predict likely aggregate demand over this period including marine supply.

The NPPF informed Minerals Planning Practice guidance requires local mineral planning authorities to prepare Local Aggregate Assessments, these assessments have to consider the opportunities and constraints of all mineral supplies into their planning regions – including marine. This means that even land-locked counties, may have to consider the role that marine sourced supplies (delivered by rail or river) play – particularly where land based resources are becoming increasingly constrained.

