

Orkney Marine Planning Update

September 2020

Development and Marine Planning

Introduction

Since the last Orkney Marine Planning Update we have been working with Marine Scotland and our stakeholders to establish the Orkney Marine Planning Partnership. We have been taking forward and supporting various exciting projects and initiatives; this update provides a quick summary and how you can find out more.

Orkney Marine Planning Partnership

The big news is that Orkney Islands Council has given consent to a Direction from Scottish Ministers, delegating regional marine planning functions to an Orkney Marine Planning Partnership. Scottish Ministers will now give formal notice of the Direction in The Orcadian over the coming weeks, providing stakeholders with the opportunity to make representations. Following completion of this process it is anticipated the Council will commence the first steps to establish the Orkney Marine Planning Partnership Advisory Group and start the process of preparing an Orkney Regional Marine Plan. We very much look forward to working with stakeholders across the economic, environmental, community and recreational interests to develop the partnership, and a plan for the sustainable management of Orkney waters.

If you would like any further information, please contact shona.turnbull@orkney.gov.uk

Orkney Marine State of the Environment Assessment Consultation

As part of the Orkney Marine Environment Project, Orkney Islands Council has prepared the Orkney Marine State of the Environment Assessment. This assessment provides a detailed appraisal of the current condition of our marine environment to help inform the preparation of the future regional marine plan for Orkney. The assessment considers the key economic activities and pressures affecting the marine environment, including physical, economic and environmental factors, and where information permits, likely trends, such as sea level rise or the economic growth of key marine sectors.

The Orkney Marine State of the Environment Assessment is available on the OIC website from Monday 31 August and feedback can be provided during a consultation period running until 4 October. We look forward to receiving your comments and feedback which should be sent to marine.planning@orkney.gov.uk by 4 October 2020.

If you would like any further information, please contact Rebecca.kavanagh@orkney.gov.uk

Orkney Harbours Masterplan – Phase 1

The Orkney Harbours Masterplan -Phase 1 was adopted by Orkney Islands Council in April 2020 to provide a structured framework for the physical development and transformation of Orkney's harbours over the next 20-year period. The Masterplan identifies harbour infrastructure projects that aim to continue the sustainable development of Orkney Harbours, delivering significant economic benefits, innovation and supporting the transition to zero carbon.

For further information visit www.orkneyharboursmasterplan.com