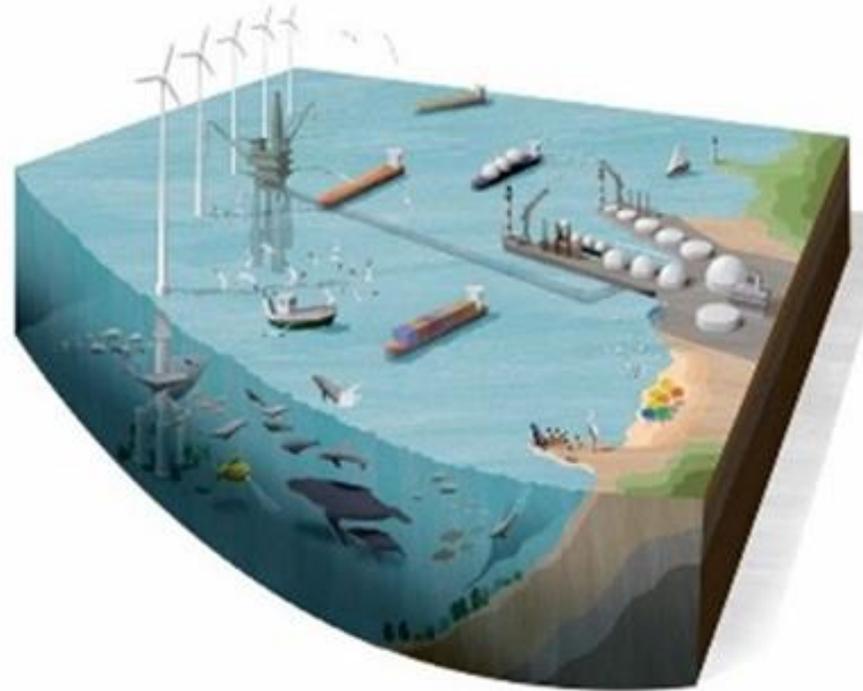
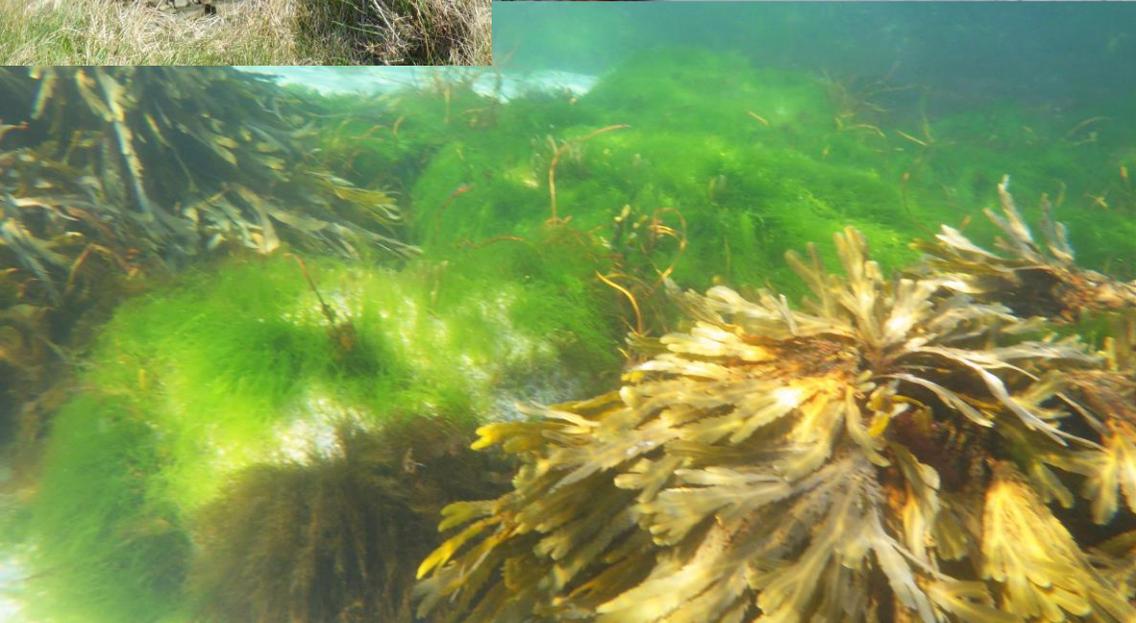


Orkney Islands Regional Marine Plan



marine.planning@orkney.gov.uk







What is marine planning?

- Understanding the distribution of human activities and natural assets in marine areas.
- Balancing priorities to achieve environmental, economic and social objectives.
- Adopting policies for marine sustainable development and the protection of the marine environment.
- A shift from the management of individual marine economic sectors to an approach that considers the management of all activities together e.g. fish farming, fisheries and the environment.



What is the Orkney Regional Marine Plan?

- It is a plan that contains **policies for decision making** on development, activities and environmental protection.
- For example, decision making on fish farm, harbour or renewable energy developments; **the decision-maker remains with the relevant authority** e.g. Marine Scotland, Planning Authority or Crown Estate Scotland.
- The Plan includes maps that identify important environmental features and the location of important infrastructure e.g. subsea cables or shipping routes.
- The Plan supports developers by providing key considerations e.g. other marine activities, priority habitats, in a single document, to inform their proposals.



Area of Orkney Marine Region

9,258km²

Number of islands

68+

Population of Orkney

22,190

Number of ports and harbours

30



Marine Region (12 nm)

Orkney

Adjoining Marine Regions

Moray Firth

North Coast

Shetland Isles

Total length of coastline at Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)

>1,024km

Area of marine waters within 3 nm

3,030km²

Area of marine waters within 6 nm

4,925km²

Area of marine waters within 12 nm

9,258km²

Area of Orkney Islands (land)

990km²

National Geographic, Esri, Garmin, HERE, UNEP-WGMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment F Corp.

The Plan covers the Orkney Islands Marine Region waters from Mean High Water Springs to 12 nautical miles.



Who is responsible for preparing Plan?

- Orkney Islands Council is responsible for preparing the Plan.
- The Council is supported by a local Advisory Group with that provide expertise input on environmental, economic, recreational and community issues.
- Local communities have the opportunity to provide input into the preparation of the Plan.





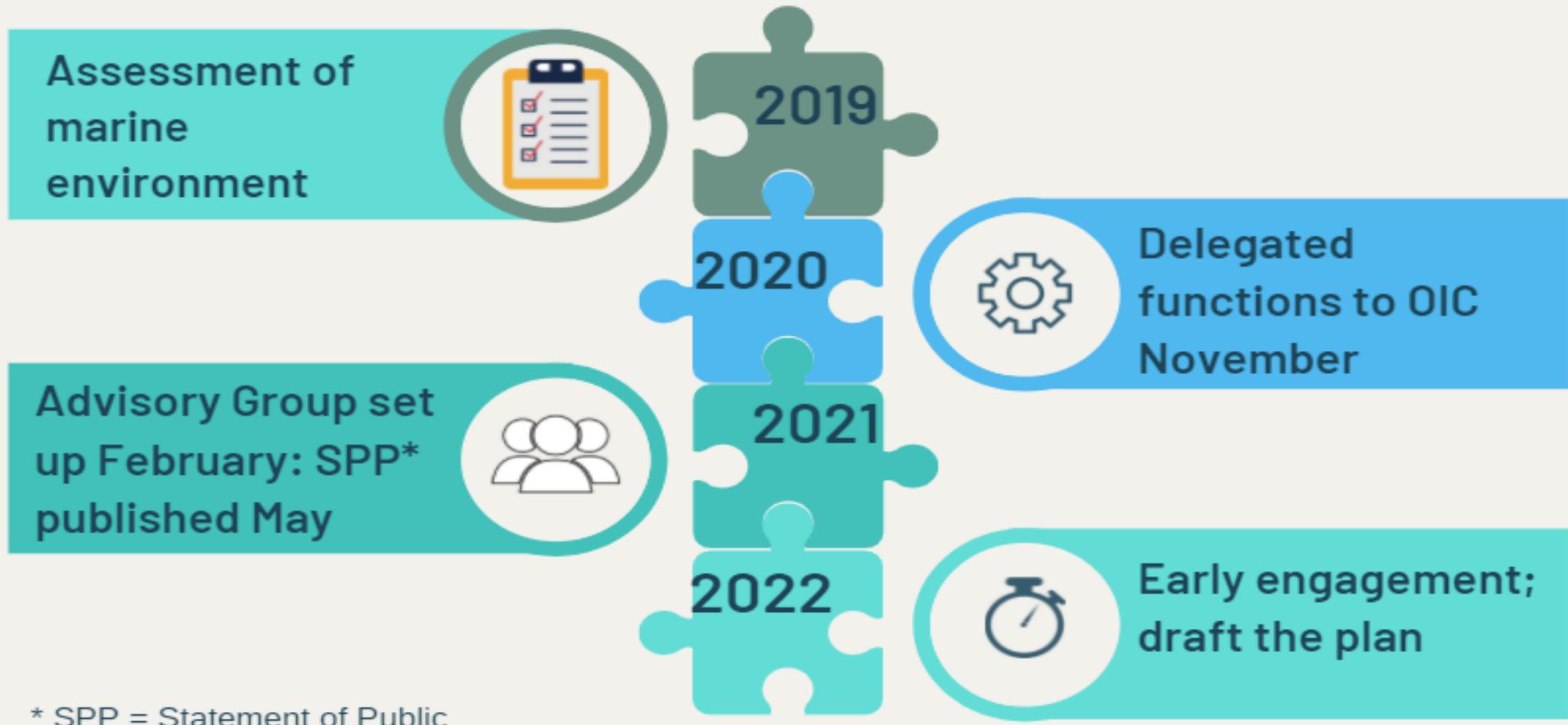
Orkney Marine
Services Association



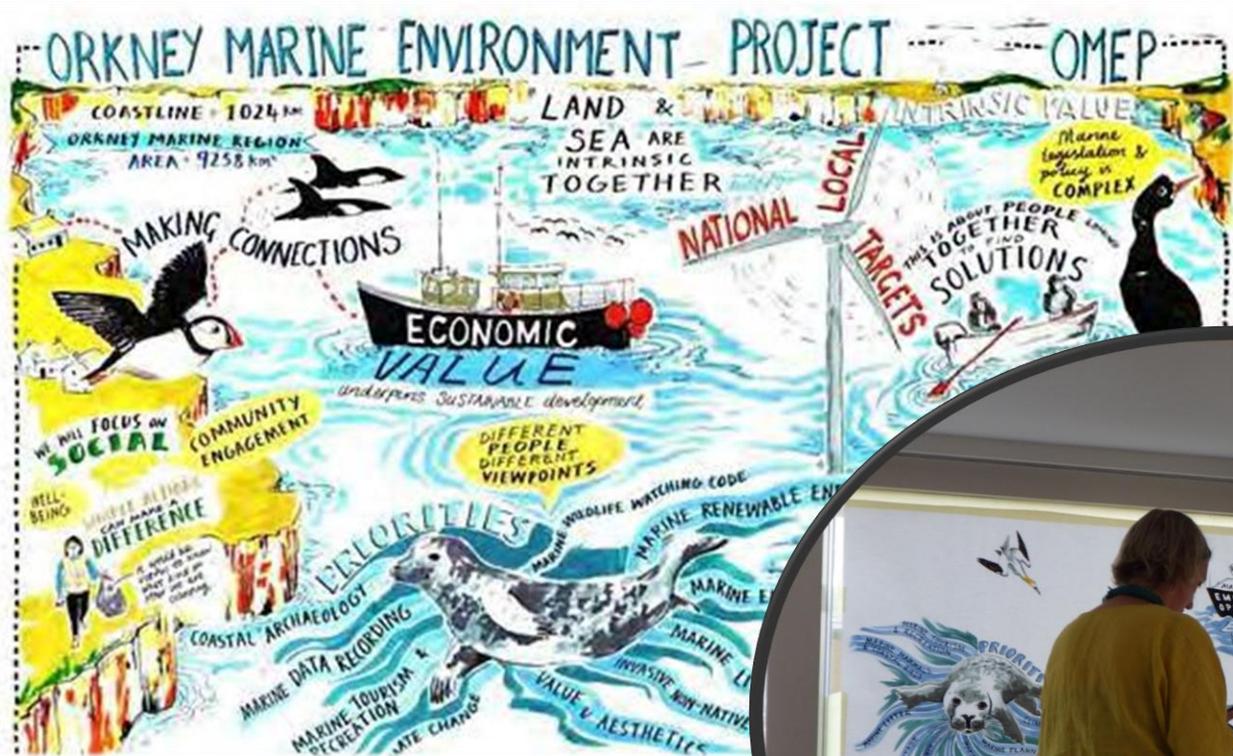
Orkney Marine Planning Advisory Group



Orkney Marine Plan Timeline: so far...

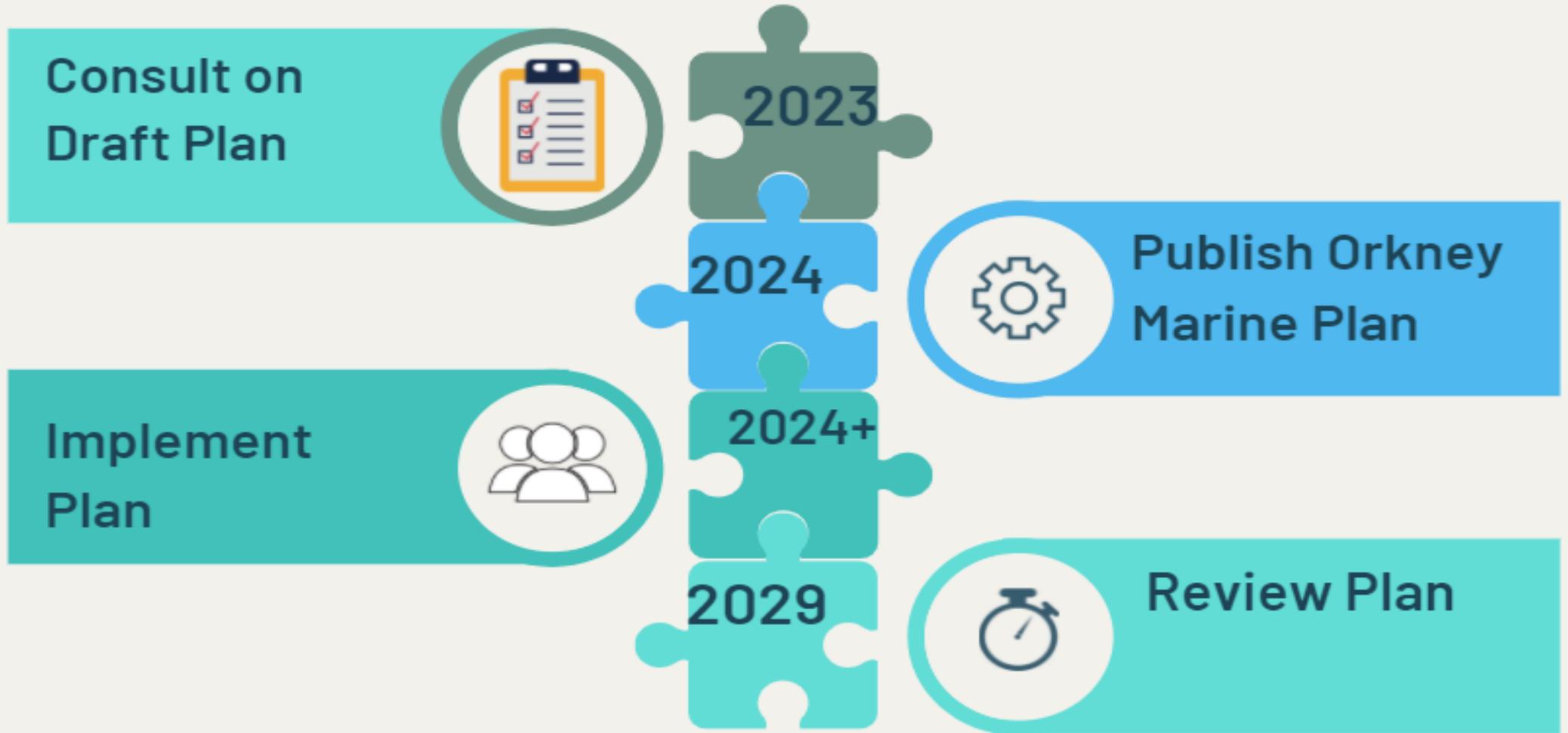


* SPP = Statement of Public Participation





... Orkney Marine Plan Timeline: future





What Plan requirements & limitations

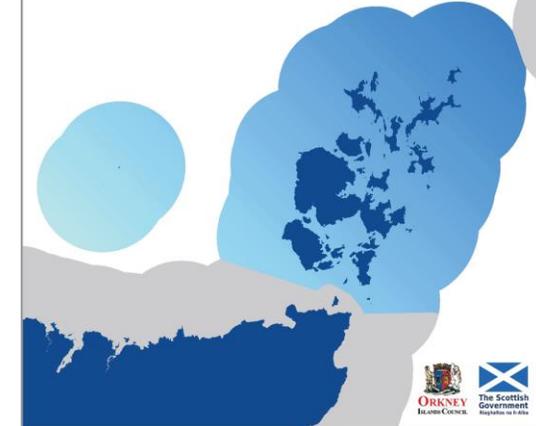
- Supported by various technical reports that have informed plan preparation, e.g. Strategic Environmental Assessment.
- The Plan must align with the National Marine Plan & NPF4.
- There will be a formal consultation in the Summer 2023.
- The Plan will not deliver projects e.g. beach litter clean ups.



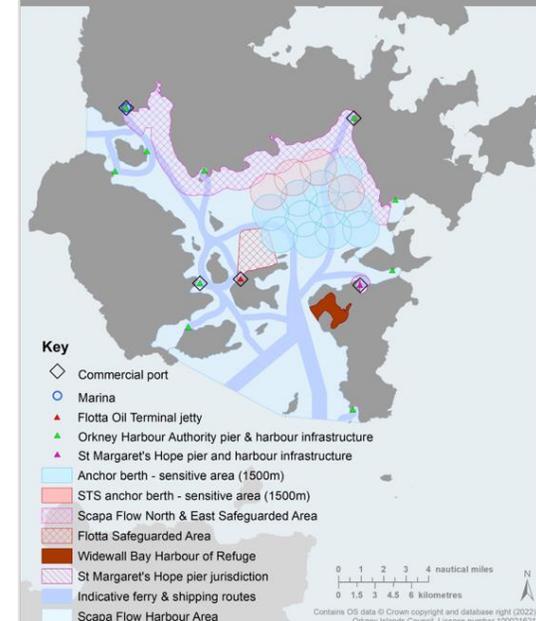


What Plan outline

- The Plan sets a vision, aims and objectives to support sustainable development and thriving local communities.
- The general policies address environmental, social and economic issues for all development and activities e.g. climate change, safety, nature conservation.
- The sector policies address specific types of development e.g. aquaculture, harbours, renewable energy.
- The policies are supported by spatial data, which will be available via interactive maps online.



Map 15: Scapa Flow harbour infrastructure and operations





What Consultation & engagement

Subject to approval by Scottish Ministers, there will be:

- 12 week public consultation, as per the Statement of Public Participation.
- Engagement events across Mainland and isles communities.
- Consultation publicised via 360+ stakeholder database (including community councils), on-line, local press, public buildings and social media.
- Throughout the whole process, we have promoted our open door policy, where anyone can engage at any time.
- Supporting information to assist with the understanding of the plan will be prepared.





Ambitions for the future

When the Plan has been adopted, there will be opportunities to enable and deliver projects to support:

- the Blue Economy
- Climate mitigation and adaptation
- Habitat restoration
- Improve local knowledge and data
- Monitor & evaluation of plan implementation





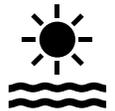
What? Key messages



The marine plan will provide a **statutory policy framework for public authorities**, including planners, decision-makers and regulators, to make decisions on sustainable development and activities in the marine environment.



There will be **formal consultation and community engagement** on the draft plan in Summer 2023.



Marine planning, including safeguarding biodiversity, is **just one part of the solution** to managing our marine environment for the benefit of our island communities.

