



# Marine Management Organisation

## Regulators' Code Action Plan

**September 2014**





Marine  
Management  
Organisation

## Regulators' Code Action Plan

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## 1. Background

[The Regulators' Code](#) came into statutory effect on 6 April 2014 under the [Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006](#) to replace the Regulators' Compliance Code. [The Regulators' Code](#) provides a framework for regulators like the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) to design their delivery and enforcement policies in a way that suits the requirements of those that are being regulated. By engaging with those they regulate in a transparent and effective way, regulators can help reduce regulatory burden and support compliant business growth.

## 2. The Regulators' Code and the MMO

The MMO licenses and regulates a variety of activities that go on in the marine environment, ensuring they are undertaken in a sustainable way. Different marine activities are regulated by the MMO in a variety of ways, for example through the issuing of marine licences, the development of byelaws and the enforcement of fish quotas. Sitting over these regulatory activities, the MMO develops marine plans which (together with the [Marine and Coastal Access Act](#) and the [Marine Policy Statement](#)) provide the framework within which regulation takes place, guiding the MMO's decision making. The MMO is listed as a regulator whose functions are covered by the code.

Listed below are actions required across all MMO functions to ensure full compliance with the code, followed by actions for specific MMO functions. A table showing delivery timelines is located at the end of the document in section 8. The MMO will review these actions quarterly, holding progress meetings with heads of function.

***ACTION 2.1a - Carry out a training session to ensure all staff understand the requirements of the Regulator's Code.***

***ACTION 2.1b - Integrate the outcomes of customer journey mapping and customer survey reports into business as usual.***

***ACTION 2.1c - Clarify the MMO's role as a consultee to the FCO for foreign cruise applications by contributing to public facing guidance.***

### 3. Marine planning

#### 3.1. Regulators should carry out their activities in a way that supports those they regulate to comply and grow

It is the role of marine plans to provide certainty and clarity for industry, by indicating areas to consider or avoid when undertaking their activities, and therefore saving them time and money. Marine planning is committed to adding value whether this is through plan policies directly, or through signposting to existing mechanisms and measures. The MMO's [Marine Information System](#) has been developed to assist those we regulate to easily navigate the content of marine plans. It is a requirement of plan monitoring to undertake continual horizon scanning to ensure marine plans are compliant with overall government objectives/priorities.

***No additional action required.***

#### 3.2. Regulators should provide simple and straightforward ways to engage with those they regulate and hear their views

Before plan development begins, a Statement of Public Participation (SPP) must be signed off by the Secretary of State. The SPP is developed in collaboration with a wide reaching stakeholder base and sets out the MMO's commitment to engagement throughout the planning process through mechanisms such as email communication and newsletters, drop in events across the marine plan areas and workshops or seminars to support the development, implementation and monitoring of the marine plans. The planning team use a variety of engagement tools to support the delivery of marine planning including three dimensional models frequently deployed at stakeholder events, [a marine planning and land based planning narrative document](#) (developed in conjunction with DCLG and the RTPI to support integration between marine and terrestrial planning) and a [marine planning blog](#).

Extensive cross-sectoral engagement is undertaken throughout plan development with industry, other regulators and managers of the marine area and those with an interest in the marine plans to ensure effective and efficient engagement with the full spectrum of stakeholders. Stakeholders have significant opportunity to challenge the content of plans before adoption, including by requesting an Independent Investigation.

***No additional action required.***

#### 3.3. Regulators should base their regulatory activities on risk

A key stage in the development of marine plans involves liaising with stakeholders to understand an area's key issues and carrying out an assessment of how these issues might be addressed through a marine plan.

Whilst some of these issues might be addressed via existing measures, others require new policy and guidance. These new policies are developed with the help of

stakeholders prioritising those issues that (in the absence of plan policy) would create the greatest risk to the wider environment, society or economy. By ensuring risk is considered in this way throughout plan development, the MMO can be confident that the plans provide a robust framework for undertaking a risk-based assessment in wider MMO decision-making. The development of the marine plans, their vision, objectives and policies are all aligned to national planning policy and statute at UK, EU and international level, which also conform to a risk based assessment.

***No additional action required.***

### **3.4. Regulators should share information about compliance and risk**

Section 61 of the [Marine and Coastal Access Act](#) requires the MMO to monitor the effect of any marine plans and an important element of this involves monitoring whether plans have been implemented successfully (a statutory requirement under section 58(1) of [the Act](#)). Findings from this exercise must be made public through a 3-yearly report to the Secretary of State and will highlight the level of compliance with marine plans.

Detailed information on the development of plans is shared with stakeholders throughout the planning process. How key issues are identified through social, environmental and economic risk is shared gov.uk (for the East this was through the [East Evidence and Issues Report](#) and in the South through the [South Plans Analytical Report](#)).

***No additional action required.***

### **3.5. Regulators should ensure clear information, guidance and advice is available to help those they regulate meet their responsibilities to comply**

[The East Inshore and Offshore Marine Plans](#) were published in April 2014 and considerable effort has been taken to ensure that any material provided, be that as hard copy or electronic media is clear, concise as possible, informative, useable and applicable to the area of activity to which it relates. Consideration of guiding principles such as the government's style guide for publications and internal procedural protocols such as for communications have been applied for all information and guidance where appropriate.

The [MMO's Marine Information System](#) tool provides a gateway to access marine plans as they are developed and offers functions including GIS mapping tools and policy considerations. In addition to this the MMO published the [East Inshore and Offshore Implementation and Monitoring Plan](#) in June 2014 which clarifies the way in which decision makers use marine plans, therefore providing applicants with insight as to how they can ensure their applications are in accordance with them. A recently published [Guide for Local Authority Planners](#) helps to set marine planning in the

context of land based plans, therefore assisting any applicants unfamiliar with marine plans.

***ACTION 3.5 - Develop additional functionality for the Marine Information System which will allow the user to select an area of interest and quickly see at a glance which plan policies apply.***

### **3.6. Regulators should ensure that their approach to their regulatory activities is transparent**

The MMO shared the development of the East marine plans with stakeholders at key stages in the plan-making process and will continue this approach into future plan development. The sharing of information where appropriate is aligned to the full range of stakeholder engagement opportunities across the plan development, implementation and monitoring life cycles. This approach will also follow on into the review and revision of any of the marine plans where required in accordance with any statutory obligations.

***No additional action required.***

## 4. Marine licensing

### 4.1. Regulators should carry out their activities in a way that supports those they regulate to comply and grow

As the MMO moves towards an outcome focussed regulatory regime, licensing systems and processes will be developed in a way which assists compliance (see section 7 for further information). The MMO has [developed fast-track and accelerated licensing processes](#) for low-risk activities and dredging operations to avoid unnecessary regulatory burden. A new [fee regime](#) has also been developed in consultation with industry which reduces cost for small scale activities. An industry interchange programme has been set up with various industry sectors to better understand the pressures on them and for them to better understand regulatory requirements. This will enable the MMO to support and enable growth for compliant businesses.

***No additional action required.***

### 4.2. Regulators should provide simple and straightforward ways to engage with those they regulate and hear their views

The MMO has regular discussions with various industry sectors and maintains good relations with developers and trade bodies; this allows us to engage with those we regulate and consider impacts of policy and practice changes on business. We deliver regular talks and workshops at industry events and routinely consult industry on projects such as fast-track licensing. The MMO advises people of their [rights to appeal](#) in all decision letters and ensure that reviews of decisions are undertaken by officers not involved in the original decision.

***No additional action required.***

### 4.3. Regulators should base their regulatory activities on risk

The MMO has developed fast-track and accelerated licensing processes (designed to lower regulatory burden on low-risk activities), by agreeing up front with statutory bodies the mitigation that is needed for various activities and the conditions that need to be applied to licenses. This information is then published so that prospective applicants can see what they will need to demonstrate in order to receive consent. This allows cheaper and quicker decisions for applicants and allows us to focus resource on higher-risk activities.

A priority assessment is carried out for every case which returns either a high, medium or low risk rating based on various factors including environmental risk, public interest etc. This priority assessment is re-run at various points throughout a case's lifespan and determines decision sign-off and number of license inspections.

***ACTION 4.3 – Ensure training on environmental risk assessment in licensing decisions is up to date across the marine licensing team.***

#### **4.4. Regulators should share information about compliance and risk**

The MMO holds quarterly bilateral meetings with regulatory partners and other key stakeholders to talk about cases and better understand risks. To avoid duplication, the MMO adopted the Coastal Concordat and work to its principles to streamline consenting with other regulators wherever possible. For developments which fall outside the Coastal Concordat (for example, nuclear new build) we have developed principles of working within the Defra family to minimise any duplication in effort between the different regulators involved.

***No additional action required.***

#### **4.5. Regulators should ensure clear information, guidance and advice is available to help those they regulate meet their responsibilities to comply**

The MMO provide focused advice, producing our online guidance in accordance with Defra's 'Smarter Environmental Regulation Review'. Such guidance includes advice to stakeholders (such as the Royal Yachting Association and British Sub-Aqua Club), specifically targeted to their members' interests and regular advisory notes issued to the aggregates sector on best practice ways of making applications.

It is important to the MMO to seek feedback on guidance we produce and we routinely share our desk notes with other regulators and industry, welcoming feedback on how to improve them. We work collaboratively with other regulators to resolve disputes before providing clear advice and direction to industry operators, in line with the principles of the Coastal Concordat.

***No additional action required.***

#### **4.6. Regulators should ensure that their approach to their regulatory activities is transparent**

The MMO publishes clear guidance on gov.uk and has written a range of internal desk notes for staff to follow which are publically available on request. Key performance indicators are publically available to assess performance against targets, as are fees and charges. Estimates are provided to applicants before work is carried out and before cost is incurred.

***ACTION 4.6 - Upgrade our public register to make it easier to search and to increase transparency.***

## 5. Marine conservation and enforcement

### 5.1. Regulators should carry out their activities in a way that supports those they regulate to comply and grow

The MMO is actively reviewing and working on innovative techniques and solutions to mitigate the impacts of certain anthropogenic activities on the marine environment. These include developing a type-approved low cost, high frequency inshore vessel monitoring system (iVMS), and reviewing the potential of eco-friendly moorings as an alternative to traditional mooring/anchoring which pose a greater risk of physical abrasion on the seabed. Conservation and enforcement decisions (including the development of byelaws) are subject to full stakeholder consultation and impact assessment in order to understand and potentially refine options based on socio-economic implications. As the MMO moves towards an outcome focussed regulatory regime, decisions will be taken in a way which assists compliance (see section 7 for further information).

***No additional action required.***

### 5.2. Regulators should provide simple and straightforward ways to engage with those they regulate and hear their views

Decisions on conservation and enforcement are made in consultation with stakeholders with the MMO regularly meeting representatives of the fishing industry and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) through Defra chaired meetings. For larger projects (such as the [Fisheries in Marine Protected Areas \(MPAs\) project](#)), the MMO has developed a communications plan in conjunction with Defra, the Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs) and Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies (SNCBs) to ensure that stakeholder engagement is co-ordinated. When the development of bylaws and voluntary measures are being discussed, stakeholder sessions are held in locations of most convenience to interested parties (before formal or informal consultation and impact assessments are carried out).

The MMO met with industry regarding the introduction of an [EU regulation, to reduce cetacean bycatch](#). The regulation required some vessels to acoustic devices ('pingers') to their nets to deter cetaceans. Quayside visits were undertaken by the MMO to meet with affected fishing vessels to ensure their understanding of the regulation.

***No additional action required.***

### 5.3. Regulators should base their regulatory activities on risk

The MMO adopt a strategic risk-based, prioritised approach to managing activities in MPAs. This approach is published via a [strategic MPA management table](#) which records currently perceived risk, MMO priority, and actions being undertaken.

Evidence is commissioned (directly or indirectly) to support the assessment of risk, such as a [fishery activity matrix](#) used to inform management of commercial fisheries in MPAs and a review of potential risks to seahorses from exposure to flash photography (to inform wildlife licensing considerations). Processes are in place to ensure that we consider carefully any advice we receive (from stakeholders or statutory nature conservation bodies) and assess the relative risk/priority before progressing with management steps.

Individuals or organisations applying for wildlife licences are encouraged to develop methodologies which will prevent disturbance or harm to protected species and therefore negate the need for a licence. Wildlife licences are issued only as a last resort where applicants, in carrying out educational or scientific work, have no alternative other than to disturb or harm a protected species.

The MMOs responsibilities under wildlife legislation are being incorporated into the MMOs intelligence system and control plans, increasing our knowledge of potential wildlife offences. As the MMO increase their knowledge of these issues it will allow us to react proportionally and effectively to any wildlife offences.

***ACTION 5.3 - Update the MMO strategic MPA management table to incorporate our view of risks to the recently designated Marine Conservation Zones***

#### **5.4. Regulators should share information about compliance and risk**

The MMO regularly share information via gov.uk including the [strategic MPA management table](#) (which is regularly reviewed and updated), detailed information on how habitats and species are protected, and what would constitute an offence under the various legislation and information on recent cases.

The MMO are members of PAW (Partners against Wildlife Crime) and lead the Marine working group which is held twice a year. This group is made up of the police, NGOs and other government organisations and gives organisations the opportunity to share information and escalate marine wildlife issues. Any intelligence gathered from this group is fed into a national wildlife crime unit.

The MMO are working closely with the IFCAs to develop an inshore monitoring device to manage inshore fisheries and MPAs. This device will provide positional information on under 12m vessels which has not been available before.

***ACTION 5.4 - Work with all IFCAs to consider a management approach for monitoring and managing vessels visible on I-VMS including process to identify non-compliance, share intelligence and work jointly on compliance and enforcement actions***

### **5.5. Regulators should ensure clear information, guidance and advice is available to help those they regulate meet their responsibilities to comply**

Gov.uk includes detailed information on [how habitats and species are protected](#), and what would constitute an offence under various pieces of legislation. Guidance is updated where precedents have been set, or to reflect changes in approaches brought about by new evidence.

Gov .uk also provides guidance on wildlife legislation and regulations this includes [dangers to](#) and [protection of](#) certain marine species, [understanding wildlife licences](#) and information to the fishing industry on [reducing dolphin and porpoise by-catch](#).

***No additional action required.***

### **5.6. Regulators should ensure that their approach to their regulatory activities is transparent**

Gov.uk includes detailed information on how its regulatory duties are carried out, for example, guidance is published on how MMO will develop byelaws to protect habitats and species within marine conservation zones.

In the development of the I-VMS device the MMO has met with the fishing industry and technology suppliers to present and explain the purpose and objective of the project. This includes a workshop held for device suppliers to explain the device requirements and a [regularly updated website](#) on Gov.uk

***No additional action required.***

## 6. Fisheries management

### 6.1. Regulators should carry out their activities in a way that supports those they regulate to comply and grow

The MMO manages periodic catch and days at sea limits in a way that maximises the economic return that fishermen can achieve within the available quota and effort limits. Flexibility is offered to producer organisations that manage quota on behalf of fishing vessel owners, allowing them to facilitate quota or effort swaps including with other EU member states. Regulatory measures (e.g. to close a fishery) are only used as a last resort after other possibilities have been explored with the industry group concerned. The MMO has a number of stakeholder groups who manage specific fisheries for maximum social and economic benefit within environmental limits e.g. the scallop industry consultation group.

***ACTION 6.1a- Implement the UK approach to the reformed CFP, managing the impact of the new regulation in partnership with the industry. This will include the identification of new economic opportunities.***

***ACTION 6.1b- Implement upcoming Defra policy proposals to reduce burden on fishermen in fishing vessel licence transactions e.g. by eliminating penalties when licences are assigned to a new vessel.***

### 6.2. Regulators should provide simple and straightforward ways to engage with those they regulate and hear their views

The MMO has a system of local coastal offices based at key fishing ports around the coast of England. Fishermen visit these offices as well as taking advantage of occasions when MMO staff are visiting ports to engage with us in our role as managers. As a regulator we take an inclusive approach to management, inviting the views of all stakeholders via gov.uk, phone, mail and face to face engagement. We run inshore quota workshops every year that engage around 300 fishermen face to face in their local port. Specific management groups also exist for particularly important fisheries to ensure that industry views on management regimes are sought and acted upon where possible. We co-ordinate quarterly meetings with trade bodies (UKAFPO & NUTFA) to discuss key issues and invite their input through specific short term targeted consultations on key decisions to ensure the maximum input of views. We organise quarterly stakeholder meetings with interest groups from specific fisheries to evaluate effort management schemes and facilitate an industry-led management approach to fishing effort.

Feedback from members of the fishing industry is sought through the MMO's annual customer satisfaction survey as well as through regular meetings with key stakeholders held throughout the year. An exercise to map the customer journey when contacting the MMO in this area was carried out to improve customer service.

Open relationships with industry are crucial to us. They ensure issues of shared risk are identified and resolved. They also ensure we can manage quota stocks for the

2500 under ten metre fishermen collaboratively by understanding inshore fishing activity. Regular collaboration takes place with IFCA's, Natural England and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) via its Register of Shipping and Seamen.

***No additional action required.***

### **6.3. Regulators should base their regulatory activities on risk**

The MMO records data on quota and effort uptake which is regularly reviewed within the principle of maximising the level of uptake of fishing opportunities by the UK fleet as well as highlighting risks e.g. quota being exceeded by a fishing group. These systems are regularly reviewed for effectiveness in allowing industry led and regulator assessment of risk e.g. landing statistics are now recording at an earlier stage in the fish sales process. Key groups receive detailed reports on the activity of their members as part of a quality assurance process to ensure the accuracy of information used for decision making and to allow industry a chance to intervene if justified before restrictions are introduced.

The fishing industry are regularly consulted to identify and agree mitigating actions pro-actively during the year (in a way that minimises the impact on industry) e.g. we may agree that fishery closures take place at periods of lower economic value, re-opening when value rises to maximise the economic benefit of fishing opportunities.

***ACTION 6.3a - Develop 'principles of earned recognition' via a new approach to managing the operations of Producer Organisations over the coming years (to allow more proportionate regulation and assist in implementing CFP reform).***

***Action 6.3b – Review fishing vessel licence conditions to ensure they are as concise and proportionate as possible.***

### **6.4. Regulators should share information about compliance and risk**

As the UK competent authority, the MMO drives the sharing of landings data and vessel licence details by the UK Devolved Fisheries Administrations to ensure effective management and that access to fisheries data is flexible within the UK. This is done by the operation of shared UK-wide IT systems that record information both on fishing activity itself and also enforcement activity. Data (e.g. landings and fishing activity) is shared via evidence programs, policy development and industry support schemes with other regulatory authorities such as IFCA's, Natural England, EA, JNCC, Defra & MCA). Real-time, fleet-level effort data is made publicly available on a weekly basis to ensure stakeholder oversight of risk levels, in addition to sharing vessel-level data with other Fisheries Administrations and individual vessel owners.

Enhancements to current data sharing programmes are planned as new management responsibilities are introduced - for example the requirement to manage activity within Marine Protected Areas and Marine Conservation Zones. These are being introduced alongside new technologies to gather information on

fishing activity (for example low cost inshore satellite tracking systems). As these are developed they will be incorporated to existing data sharing agreements to ensure maximum use is made of available data.

***No additional action required.***

#### **6.5. Regulators should ensure clear information, guidance and advice is available to help those they regulate meet their responsibilities to comply**

The MMO have drafted a range of statutory and non-statutory guidance (such as the guidance on banking of quota which was written at the request of the fishing industry) which is regularly maintained, streamlined and reviewed to ensure it is supporting compliance and self-regulation. Feedback on the value of the guidance is sought from the fishing industry.

For specific management regimes for sensitive fisheries, dedicated monitoring systems are in place which involve direct liaison with vessel owners to ensure that accurate data on their activity is recorded - this has helped improve both trust in the information we as a regulator use to make decisions and also to help improve levels of compliance with management regimes limits in these areas and so avoid the need for enforcement activity.

***No additional action required.***

#### **6.6. Regulators should ensure that their approach to their regulatory activities is transparent**

MMO key performance indicator targets are captured in guidance and performance information is regularly shared with industry groups to allow them to plan their activities and for accountability e.g. time taken to process quota swaps. Details such as the number of queries handled are published online via the MMO communications team.

***No additional action required.***

## 7. Compliance and enforcement

### 7.1. Regulators should carry out their activities in a way that supports those they regulate to comply and grow

The MMO has a wide network of local marine enforcement officers based in major ports around the English coast which offer support and information to fishermen, development licensing and grant aid applicants, including guidance promoting compliance to domestic and EU regulation. The MMO has invested significant time in helping fishing vessels to comply with EU requirements for electronic reporting of vessel movements and catch and landing information. We have done so by assisting fishermen to install and operate the required equipment effectively, despite the fact that the equipment is subject to a private commercial contract between the vessel and a supplier. The MMO has also acted as a conduit of information between suppliers and vessels to address technical and commercial issues. The MMO's stepped approach to enforcement means that minor regulatory breaches are dealt with proportionately, for example through a verbal re-brief of how compliance should be demonstrated.

***ACTION 7.1 - Pilot and review an outcome focussed regulatory regime using innovative regulatory interventions to create conditions favourable to compliance.***

### 7.2. Regulators should provide simple and straightforward ways to engage with those they regulate and hear their views

The MMO's marine enforcement officers are located near to major centres of coastal activity and cover the entire English coastline. They are constantly engaging with stakeholders and hearing views, both formally and informally.

The MMO is represented on Inshore Fishery and Conservation Authorities which bring together key stakeholder groups, which is another way of engaging with those who we regulate. Senior managers meet with stakeholder representatives such as the National Federation of Fisherman's Organisations in a structured way to hear industry views. A series of jointly organised workshops (with NFFO) have recently been held across England to enable views to be heard about current regulatory challenges. These have improved communication in both directions.

We intend to Create a reference group to guide the introduction of outcome focussed compliance. This group will consist of academics with knowledge of regulatory or technical issues and representatives of those who the MMO regulates. This will provide a further formal way for the MMO to engage and hear views on its approach to regulation. Existing channels of communication will be retained and enhanced as a result of feedback on how those we regulate prefer to be engaged with.

***ACTION 7.2 - Create a reference group to guide the introduction of outcome focussed compliance.***

### **7.3. Regulators should base their regulatory activities on risk**

The MMO operates a sophisticated risk analysis process that enables key risks to be identified and for operational staff to prioritise addressing them on a continuous basis. Risks are reviewed on a monthly basis across each of the regulatory areas we cover.

***ACTION 7.3 - Further develop the current risk based intelligence led approach, by making better use of data and other information obtained from external sources.***

### **7.4. Regulators should share information about compliance and risk**

Risk and compliance information is shared with appropriate partner agencies to promote joined up regulation. The principles behind the MMO's risk evaluation process have been shared in particular with IFCA's in order to promote consistency of approach. Details of serious enforcement action taken are publicised on gov.uk to provide reassurance to those who are compliant and to the wider public that non-compliance is dealt with effectively.

***ACTION 7.4 - Publish high level details of the key risks identified so that regulated entities and the wider public can understand our priorities. As part of our Outcome Focussed Compliance project we will develop a wide range of indicators to help us to understand how far there is compliance in our regulated activities.***

### **7.5. Regulators should ensure clear information, guidance and advice is available to help those they regulate meet their responsibilities to comply**

A wide variety of written guidance and information is available via gov.uk to support fishermen, development licensing and grant aid applicants. Guidance is provided to the fishing industry to promote compliance on domestic and EU regulations such as the requirements for electronic reporting of vessel movements and catch and landing information.

***No additional action required.***

### **7.6. Regulators should ensure that their approach to their regulatory activities is transparent**

The MMO publishes its approach to compliance and enforcement on gov.uk along with details of successful serious enforcement actions. The criteria for prosecuting non-compliance (the two stage test from the Code for Crown Prosecutors) are also publically available.

***ACTION 7.6 - Consult with stakeholders during the development of the 'Outcome Focussed Compliance' project to promote transparency and to gather feedback. Once developed, details of the new approach will be published on gov.uk and discussed with other regulatory bodies.***

## 8. Delivery timescales

Action	Team	Theme	Detail	Indicative delivery timelines
2.1a	All	n/a	Carry out a training session to ensure all staff understand the requirements of the Regulator's Code.	December 2014
2.1b	All	n/a	Integrate the outcomes of customer journey mapping and customer survey reports into business as usual.	March 2015
2.1c	All	n/a	Clarify the MMO's role as a consultee to the FCO for foreign cruise applications by contributing to public facing guidance.	November 2014
3.5	Planning	Clear information and guidance	Develop additional functionality for the Marine Information System which will allow the user to select an area of interest and quickly see at a glance which plan policies apply.	Autumn 2017
4.3	Licensing	Basing activities on risk	Run an internal course on environmental risk assessment in licensing decisions.	March 2015
4.6	Licensing	Transparency	Upgrade our public register to make it easier to search and to increase transparency.	September 2015
5.3	Marine Conservation	Basing activities on risk	Update the MMO strategic MPA management table to incorporate our view of risks to the recently designated Marine Conservation Zones	October 2014
5.4	Marine Conservation	Sharing information on compliance and risk	Work with all IFCA's to consider a management approach for monitoring and managing vessels visible on I-VMS including process to identify non-compliance, share intelligence and work jointly on compliance and enforcement actions	Spring 2015
6.1a	Fisheries management and control	Supporting compliance and growth	Implement the UK approach to the reformed CFP, managing the impact of the new regulation in partnership with the industry. This will include the identification of new economic opportunities.	Ongoing to 2018.
6.1b	Fisheries management and control	Supporting compliance and growth	Implement recent Defra policy to reduce burden on fishermen in fishing vessel licence transactions e.g. by eliminating penalties when licences are assigned to a new vessel.	End 2015 but subject to Defra policy consultation timeline.

6.3a	Fisheries management and control	Basing activities on risk	Develop 'principles of earned recognition' via a new approach to managing the operations of Producer Organisations over the coming years (to allow more proportionate regulation and assist in implementing CFP reform).	December 2017 (subject to review)
6.3b	Fisheries management and control	Basing activities on risk	Review fishing vessel licence conditions to ensure they are as concise and proportionate as possible.	End 2014
7.1	Compliance and enforcement	Supporting compliance and growth	Pilot and review an outcome focussed regulatory regime using innovative regulatory interventions to create conditions favourable to compliance.	March 2016
7.2	Compliance and enforcement	Engagement	Create a reference group to guide the introduction of outcome focussed compliance.	March 2015
7.3	Compliance and enforcement	Basing activities on risk	Further develop the current risk based intelligence led approach, by making better use of data and other information obtained from external sources.	December 2015
7.4	Compliance and enforcement	Sharing information on compliance and risk	Publish high level details of the key risks identified so that regulated entities and the wider public can understand our priorities. As part of our Outcome Focussed Compliance project we will develop a wide range of indicators to help us to understand how far there is compliance in our regulated activities.	March 2016
7.6	Compliance and enforcement	Transparency	Consult with stakeholders during the development of the 'Outcome Focussed Compliance' project to promote transparency and to gather feedback. Once developed, details of the new approach will be published on gov.uk and discussed with other regulatory bodies.	March 2016