

2021

Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan (SIRMP)

ISLAND IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This report has been prepared by Shetland UHI on behalf of the Shetland Islands Regional Marine Planning Partnership (Shetland UHI and Shetland Islands Council).

Funding for the Regional Marine Planning Partnership is provided by Marine Scotland and Shetland Islands Council.

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version	Date of Draft	Author	Checked
1	July 2021	R. Shucksmith	K. Allan
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STEP ONE – DEVELOP A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR OBJECTIVES:

What are the objectives of the policy, strategy or service?

The objectives of the Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan (SIRMP)¹ are:

SOCIAL

Ensure a high quality, fully functioning marine and coastal ecosystem for the health, benefit and prosperity of local communities.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Protect, enhance and restore the local marine waters and coastal environment particularly, where there are regionally, nationally or internationally important marine biodiversity and geodiversity features, whilst taking account of natural changes.

ECONOMIC

Promote sustainable marine development and identify, in consultation with marine stakeholders, the differing priorities for sustainable use (for example fishing, aquaculture, recreation & tourism, marine renewables and nature conservation).

The overarching goal of marine planning is to ensure the sustainable development, protection and enhancement of the marine area, whilst accommodating the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.

How are islands identified for the purpose of the policy, strategy or service?

The Shetland Island archipelago (Figure 1)

What are the intended impacts/outcomes and how do these potentially differ in the islands?

The vision of the marine plan is for Shetland to have clean, healthy, safe, productive and diverse seas, managed to meet the long-term needs of nature and the local people. The aim is to ensure that use of the marine and coastal environment of Shetland is sustainable. Sustainable is defined as: *use should not lead to loss of biodiversity or ecological balance, or reduce the availability of natural resources for future generations.* This means maintaining and enhancing marine wildlife, habitats and ecosystems to enable dynamic economic activity supporting a prosperous community.

It is not envisaged this will differ across the Shetland archipelago.

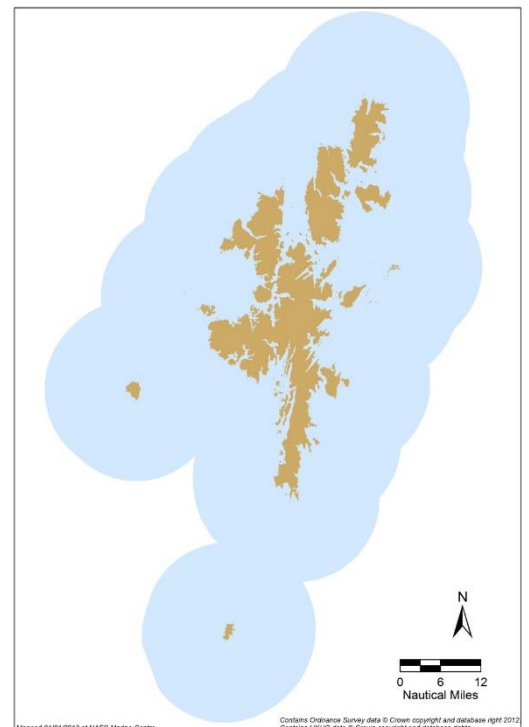


Figure 1: Map of Shetland Islands archipelago

Is the policy, strategy or service new?

No, the SIRMP builds upon the 4th Edition of the Shetland Islands Marine Spatial Plan published in 2014 which was adopted as Supplementary Guidance to the

¹ [Shetland Islands Marine Planning Partnership \(2021\) Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan. NAFC Marine Centre UHI pp 158.](#)

Shetland Islands Council Local Development Plan in 2015 and was a material consideration in for marine licence applications.

STEP TWO – GATHER YOUR DATA AND IDENTIFY YOUR STAKEHOLDERS:

What data is available about the current situation in the islands?

The Shetland Islands Marine Region State of the Environment Assessment (2017)² brings together baseline data relating to the economic activity and community use of the marine area. It also maps known environmental features. It provides information on trends, where available. Data has been gathered from national and local data sets, as well as interviews with key stakeholders e.g. fishers, businesses and community groups. All community councils were contacted to identify opportunities and challenges facing their marine areas.

Community members from across the archipelago have been asked to identify areas they use and value. These data are mapped and included within the Plan.

How does any existing data differ between islands?

Most data sets are only available at a Shetland level, in part reflecting the inter-connected nature of the isles. Different levels of marine dependence are seen across the isles, with the island of Whalsay particularly fisheries dependent, and the islands of Unst and Yell important for aquaculture. Fair Isle and Unst have significant tourism offerings.

Are there any existing design features or mitigations in place?

Policies exist within the SIRMP protect communities and existing users. In addition, critical infrastructure i.e. ferry routes and terminals, water and electricity cables are protected.

STEP THREE - CONSULTATION:

Who do you need to consult with?

Community councils and marine stakeholders. Consultation with these groups has taken place during each of the SIRMP development phases.

How will you carry out your consultation and in what timescales?

Consultation is laid out in the Statement of Public Participation (Appendices A) across the Plans development (2016-2020) and includes attending community council meetings, an online consultation, interviews with businesses and public events, Table 1.

Table 1 Community and stakeholder engagement events held during the SIRMP development

Community and Stakeholder Engagement Event	Type	Who and where	Timeframe
Community and club surveys	All known sports clubs (identified through community directory), public surveys	Across all islands	2006-2019
Community Council meetings	Attendance at Community Council	All contacted. Attended: Yell, Skerries, Lerwick,	2018

² [Shucksmith, RJ \(2017\) Shetland Islands Marine Region State of the Marine Environment Assessment. NAFC Marine Centre UHI. Report for the Shetland Islands Marine Planning Partnership. pp 172](#)

	meetings by MSP team	Scalloway, Sandsting and Aithsting, Gulberwick, Quarff and Cunningsburgh, Northmaven, Delting,	
Public Events	Public drop-in sessions held afternoon- evening	Lerwick, Scalloway, Aith, Yell, Brae	September-November 2019
Online Consultation	Online consultation with promotional material and information provided	N/A	September-December 2020
Interviews with businesses	One-to-one interviews with six representatives from businesses – formed part of BRIA requirements	In person and via telephone.	September-December 2020
Stakeholder workshops	Biodiversity, commercial and community stakeholder policy development workshops	In person	2016-2018
Advisory Group meetings	Policy development and Plan signoff	In person and Teams	2016-2020
SIC Development Committee	Agreement of plan Adoption		March 2021

What questions will you ask when considering how to address island realities?

Communities are asked to identify opportunities and challenges facing their marine environments, covering economic activities, social use and the environmental features, see Appendices 2. Communities have been asked to map existing economic, community and environmental use, these are included within the marine plan.

What information has already been gathered through consultations and what concerns have been raised previously by island communities?

Information on marine use has been gathered. In addition, at Community council meetings communities were asked to identify concerns regarding the marine environment. Concerns raised include marine litter (addressed within this Plan) and the changing nature of fisheries regulation (outside the scope of this Plan), and redundant aquaculture equipment (outside of the scope of this Plan). The creation of jobs was identified by some communities as important.

To address marine litter the marine plan includes updated policies to address marine litter, although it is acknowledged sources of marine litter include sources from outside Shetland and from activities that fall outside of the scope of the Plan.

No island specific concerns were raised by communities or by the Shetland Islands Council, who have formally agreed the Plan should be adopted.

Is your consultation robust and meaningful and sufficient to comply with the Section 7 duty?

Yes

STEP FOUR – ASSESSMENT:

Does your assessment identify any unique impacts on island communities?

No negative impacts identified. Positive impacts include enhanced long-term management of the marine environment, protecting economic and cultural uses of the marine environment.

Does your assessment identify any potential barriers or wider impacts?

No

How will you address these? You must now determine whether in your opinion your policy, strategy or service is likely to have an effect on an island community which is significantly different from its effect on other communities (including other island communities). If your answer is NO to the above question, a full ICIA will NOT be required and you can proceed to Step Six. If the answer is YES, an ICIA must be prepared and you should proceed to Step Five. To form your opinion, the following questions should be considered:

Does the evidence show different circumstances or different expectations or needs, or different experiences or outcomes (such as different levels of satisfaction, or different rates of participation)?

No

Are these different effects likely?

No

Are these effects significantly different?

No

Could the effect amount to a disadvantage for an island community compared to the mainland or between island groups?

No

STEP SIX – MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO YOUR WORK:

Should delivery mechanisms/mitigations vary in different communities?

Engagement opportunities (interviews, surveys, community council meetings, online consultation and public meetings) have been used to ensure a range of opportunities to engage and gather data.

Policies protection communities allow for area specific consideration.

Have island circumstances been factored into the evaluation process?

How the Plan is used will be monitored, and where possible will be split by island group.

Have any island-specific indicators/targets been identified that require monitoring?

The number of applications received for each island area will be monitored, the impacts or comments received on applications from specific groups of uses (fishers, communities etc) will be monitored.

How will outcomes be measured on the islands?

The number of applications received for each island area will be monitored, and the impacts or comments received on applications from specific groups of uses (fishers, communities etc) recorded.

How has the policy, strategy or service affected island communities?

The plan has not been approved or adopted by Ministers yet, however there is no envisaged impact to island communities. The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 allows for the monitoring and reporting of implementation of the plan every 5 years. Any effects of the plan being implemented will be captured within this reporting.

How will lessons learned in this ICIA inform future policy making and service delivery?

The lessons learnt from the ICIA will feed into the next edition of the Plan and the SIC local development plan.

STEP SEVEN – PUBLISHING YOUR ICIA:

Have you presented your ICIA in an Easy Read format?

Yes

Does it need to be presented in any other languages?

No, however can be requested if required.

Where will you publish your ICIA and will relevant stakeholders be able to easily access it?

It will be published on the SIC and NAFC Marine Centre websites.

Who will sign-off your final ICIA and why?

Scottish Ministers as they are responsible for SIRMP's approval.

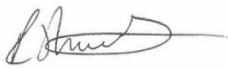
ICIA completed by:

Rachel Shucksmith

Position:

Marine Spatial Planning Manager

Signature:



Date completed: 15/09/2021

ICIA signed off by:

Position: Head of Planning

Signature:



Date completed: 15/09/2021

ICIA approved by:

Position:

Signature:

Date completed:

Appendices 1 – Statement of Public Participation

2021

**REGIONAL MARINE PLAN FOR THE SHETLAND ISLES
Statement of Public Participation (SPP) - May 2021**



marinescotland



NAFC Marine Centre
University of the
Highlands and Islands



Shetland Islands Council

May 2021

Executive Summary

Development and Participation Timetable

The process to produce a regional marine plan for the Scottish marine region for the Shetland Isles will go through a number of stages prior to publication. A timetable is set out below and this Statement of Public Participation (SPP) will be updated and revised as the plan progresses, to give details on future events and information on events as they have occurred. This SPP and its revisions will be available through the web sites of both the Shetland Islands Council (SIC) and the NAFC Marine Centre. Any comments on the proposed SPP are welcome, with contact details included at the end of this SPP. This is the second edition of the SPP and has been updated in January 2019.

Stage 1: Establishing governance arrangements for the Advisory Group which will support the Delegate in preparation of the Plan; preparation of the initial SPP; initial meeting(s) of the Advisory Group: April 2016 – March 2017

Stage 2: Preparation of the State of the Environment Assessment (SoEA): March 2016 – Feb 2017

Stage 3: Finalisation and publication of the SoEA: March 2017 – June 2017, publication 30 June 2017

Stage 4: Consultation on scope of draft regional marine plan for the Shetland Islands: June 2017 – June 2018

Stage 5: Preparation of supporting documents (e.g. Sustainability Appraisal (SA), which includes Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) scoping report): June 2017 – January 2019

Stage 6: Development of the draft Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan in response to comments received during scoping phase and submission to Scottish Ministers for approval to publish consultation draft: July 2018 – January 2019. Permission to publish received **26 March 2019**.

Stage 7: Publication of the draft Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan and 12 week consultation on the Plan and associated supporting documents including SA including SEA, partial Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment (BRIA), Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) and Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA): September 2019- December 2019

Stage 8: Review of the draft Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan and supporting information in response to comments made during consultation, and submission to Scottish Ministers for approval: January 2020 – December 2020

Stage 9: Consideration by Scottish Ministers followed by adoption and publication of the Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan with supporting information: post April 2021

Stage 10: Review, monitoring and reporting on plan implementation, and amendment of the Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan: anticipated June 2021

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Introduction

The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 provides for the preparation and adoption of both a national marine plan and regional marine plans. Together these plans introduce a statutory marine planning system that will enable a more strategic approach to managing the Scottish marine resource. The policy framework within the plans seeks to balance socio-economic and environmental needs and demands, inform the decision making process, manage potential conflict scenarios and support sustainable development in the seas around Scotland.

Development of Scotland's National Marine Plan commenced in June 2010 and a pre-consultation draft was circulated for consideration in March 2011. Following revision the Draft National Marine Plan was consulted on in July 2013 and a finalised draft was laid before the Scottish Parliament in December 2014. Scottish Ministers adopted the National Marine Plan on 25 March 2015 and published it on 27 March 2015.

Preparation for Regional Marine Planning began in late 2010 with a consultation on how to define the boundaries for marine regions and how many there should be across Scotland receiving strong support. Eleven regions were identified based on physical characteristics and these were provided for in the Scottish Marine Regions Order 2015 with Shetland being one of the eleven Scottish Marine Regions.

Through its involvement with the Scottish Sustainable Marine Environment Initiative since 2006, Shetland has been involved in leading the way in the fast evolving arena of marine spatial planning. A Marine Spatial Plan for the islands has been developed and the current fourth iteration was adopted as Supplementary Guidance to the Local Development Plan in February 2015. As the next step in the process of statutory regional marine planning, Shetland received a Direction from Scottish Ministers on 22 March 2016 delegating the functions in relation to producing a Regional Marine Plan for the Shetland Isles (<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00498128.pdf>). The Direction identifies the Delegate legally responsible for developing the Regional Marine Plan, the matters to be considered relevant to the Plan and the timescales within which certain actions have to be completed including submission to Scottish Ministers for their approval, a Regional Marine Plan, together with supporting information. The Shetland Delegate comprises Shetland Islands Council and the NAFC Marine Centre UHI.

Participation Commitment

In developing the Regional Marine Plan for the Shetland Isles, the Delegate is committed to:

- involving all relevant stakeholders and members of the public throughout the process;
- ensuring arrangements for participation are inclusive, clear and transparent;
- providing clear communication through a range of formats;
- giving full consideration to all representations

Engagement in and endorsement by all stakeholders in the development of the Regional Marine Plan at each stage is essential so that the Plan benefits not only those with a sectoral interest in Shetland's marine resources but also those who live in or visit the Islands because of its special qualities. As such the process will involve a wide range of stakeholders including members of the public, key agencies, fishing and aquaculture representatives, recreation and tourism interests, shipping, ports and harbours, renewable interests and the voluntary sector.

Stakeholder involvement and feedback as the Plan progresses is paramount to its success. All comments, views and representations made at the various stages have to be taken on board although the outcome might not result in any alterations. Given that the marine planning system

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has to integrate future needs and different views as well as operate with legal constraints and national policy some compromise is likely to be required.

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Stage 1: Establishing Governance arrangements, Advisory Group and draft initial SPP: April 2016 – March 2017

Following receipt of the Direction from Scottish Ministers on 22 March 2016, the Delegate met the following day with those stakeholders who had been previously involved as an Advisory Group in the development of the Shetland Islands' Marine Spatial Plan (SIMSP) to discuss the way forward in regard to a Regional Marine Plan (RMP) for Shetland. Given the success of the SIMSP it was agreed that a similar system would ensure the greatest benefit in developing the RMP. However given the legal status of the RMP, once published, the consensus was that formal Terms of Reference would be appropriate in establishing and defining a clear relationship between the Delegate and the Advisory Group.

A number of governance arrangement documents were considered in drafting the Terms of Reference for the Shetland RMP. Draft terms were presented at a meeting of the Advisory Group on 5 October 2016 where the main points of discussion concerned the balance between community, commercial and environmental interests and the quorum for the group. It was considered there was a need to increase the level of community representation and suggestions were made as to how this could be facilitated. Current and proposed members of the Advisory Group were formally contacted by the delegate and sent draft Terms of Reference. The finalised Terms of Reference were agreed in February 2017 at an Advisory Group meeting and can be viewed at:

<https://www.nafc.uhi.ac.uk/t4-media/one-web/nafc/research/document/marine-spatial-planning/sirmp/shetland-mpp-terms-of-reference-si-mpp-jan-2017.pdf>

A draft SPP was submitted to Marine Scotland on 2 March 2017. Further revisions were necessary and these were considered during 2017 and 2018.

As the adjacent planning authority, notification of the intention to prepare a regional marine plan for the Shetland Islands was sent to Orkney Islands Council on 09 June 2017.

Stage 2: Preparation of the State of the Environment Assessment (SoEA): March 2016 – Feb 2017

The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 requires that an assessment be made of the condition of the environment within any Scottish marine region where a RMP is being prepared. As well as describing the condition of the environment, the SoEA also has to summarise the significant pressures and impact of human activity on the area.

A draft SoEA for Shetland was presented to the Advisory Group at the meeting on 5 October 2016 and comments were invited up to the end of November 2016. The SoEA was revised in light of comments made and a finalised draft was completed in early February 2017.

Stage 3: Finalisation and publication of the SoEA: March 2017 – August 2017

The SoEA was "sense-checked" by the Marine Alliance for Science and Technology for Scotland (MASTS) at a workshop held on 31 March 2017. A report of the workshop was published and can be viewed at:

<http://www.masts.ac.uk/media/36214/2017-04-05-masts-regional-assessments-sense-check-workshop-report.pdf>

The SoEA was finalised and published on 30 June 2017 and can be viewed at:

<https://www.nafc.uhi.ac.uk/t4-media/one-web/nafc/research/document/marine-spatial-planning/sirmp/shetland-state-of-the-marine-environment-assessment-april-17.pdf>

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Stage 4: Consultation on the scope of the draft regional marine plan for the Shetland Islands: Feb 2017 – June 2018

The 4th edition of the non-statutory Shetland Isles Marine Spatial Plan (SIMSP) has been used to assist in the drafting the scope of a statutory regional marine plan (RMP). A policy review of the 4th edition of the SIMSP was undertaken from June 2017 to October 2017 to assess existing policy wording and compliance to the National Marine Plan.

At the Advisory Group meeting of 3 July 2017, it was agreed that three sub-policy groups (Environment, Industry and Community) would be established to concentrate focus in those policy areas. The three sub-policy groups were subsequently established with the following membership:

Environment sub-policy group:

NAFC Marine Centre, Shetland Islands Council, Shetland Amenity Trust, RSPB, SNH, SEPA.

Industry sub-policy group:

NAFC Marine Centre, Shetland Islands Council, Shetland Fisherman's Association, Shetland Shellfish Management Organisation, Seafood Shetland, Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation.

Community sub-policy group:

NAFC Marine Centre, Shetland Islands Council, Shetland Amenity Trust, Visit Scotland, Chair of Community Councils.

Possible policy changes and gaps were identified and this was considered by the three sub-policy groups when they met in October 2017. Feedback from the sub-group meetings will be used for further policy formulation. A full Advisory Group meetings to discuss the findings of the sub-groups and whether the Advisory Group is happy with the proposed scope of the draft RMP was undertaken. Views on draft policies have been sought twice in 2018 and final comments received by November 2018.

Meetings with community councils have been held in Lerwick, Scalloway, Cunningsburgh, Yell, West Mainland, Out Skerries, Northmaivine and Delting to gather views of communities. In addition the SMSP attended public events in Lerwick, Yell and Cunningsburgh to raise awareness of the Plan.

Stage 5: Preparation of supporting documents: June 2017 – January 2019

The development of the draft RMP is subject to an integrated Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This is because the Shetland Islands RMP falls under the scope of Section 5(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and therefore requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) scoping report, incorporating the SEA scoping report will be published by the NAFC Marine Centre after the scope of draft RMP has been agreed by the SIRMP Advisory Group and the six week period for public comment has been completed. The SA scoping report has been submitted to the SEA gateway for formal consultation and comments received. A Draft Habitat Regulations Appraisal (HRA) scoping report will also be published for consultation alongside the SA report and has been developed in consultation with SNH.

During the development of the draft RMP the process of developing a partial Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment (BRIA) has been undertaken to inform and assess the impact on those who may be affected by the proposals. This has included face-to-face meetings with businesses. The partial BRIA will be published for consultation at the same time as the SA.

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Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) and Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) have been undertaken with consultation with relevant stakeholders and the advisory group.

Stage 6: Development of the consultation draft Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan in response to comments received and submission to Scottish Ministers for approval to publish consultation draft: July 2018 – January 2019

At this stage the Plan will be revised in light of comments received, and a draft developed. Further dialogue will then be undertaken with stakeholders, and policy options will be refined in line with the SEA and other assessments. The SIRMP Advisory Group approved the draft RMP was submitted to Scottish Ministers for their agreement to its publication in January 2019. Permission to publish was granted on 26 March 2019. The draft RMP will be published on the NAFC Marine Centre UHI website and the Shetland Islands Council website and brought to the attention of interested parties via the communication strategy detailed in Stage 7.

Stage 7: Publication of the draft Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan and 12 week consultation on the Plan and associated supporting documents including SA, SEA, partial BRIA, EQIA and CRWIA: September 2019- December 2019

There will be a public consultation for the draft Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan in autumn/winter 2019. Consultation events will be held in multiple geographical locations and on a number of dates, in order to maximise participation opportunity. These events will be advertised online, via email and in the printed press. A feedback form and questionnaire will form the basis of the consultation; these will be available from the website and will be sent out in e-alerts to our e-newsletter subscribers.

In accordance with the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the consultation period for the Plan and SEA Environmental Report will be advertised in relevant newspapers.

The SIMPP will take such further steps as it considers appropriate to secure that the proposals contained in the draft RMP are brought to the attention of interested persons.

Event: Web Publication	Audience: All	Date: September 2019
Details:	The draft Shetland RMP and associated SA, SEA and BRIA and supporting documents will be published on the NAFC and SIC websites and the consultation will run for 16 weeks	
Publicity method	Social media, e-alerts, printed press	

Event: Public meetings	Audience: All	Date: September 2019- December 2019
Details:	During the 12 week consultation period, the Shetland Islands’ Marine Regional Planning Partnership is holding a series of public meetings/workshops to raise awareness and discuss the draft Shetland RMP	

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	and associated BRIA, HRA, SEA and SA. Drop-in sessions will be held from at least at least four venues on separate dates.
Publicity method	Social media, e-alerts, printed press, direct invite

Stage 8: Review of the draft Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan and supporting information in response to comments made during consultation, and submission to Scottish Ministers for approval: January 2020 – December 2020

The draft Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan and relevant supporting documents will be revised in response to comments made during consultation. As stated in the Marine (Scotland) Act and subsequent Ministerial Direction to the SIMPP, following the publication of the consultation draft Plan, the SIMPP, along with Scottish Ministers, must consider appointing an independent person to investigate and report on the proposals contained in the draft. Any independent review will take place at this stage, and prior to the Ministerial clearance process, and will be published.

At a meeting with the Marine Scotland team in April 2021 it was decided that an independent investigation was not needed for the Shetland Regional Marine Plan to proceed.

Stage 9: Consideration by Scottish Ministers followed by adoption and publication of the Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan with supporting information: post April 2021

The SIMPP must publish the Regional Marine Plan as soon as reasonably practicable after its adoption has been agreed by the Scottish Ministers, together with the following:

- any supporting assessments, documents and information agreed by Scottish Ministers;
- statement on any modifications that have been made to the proposals published in the consultation draft for the plan, and the reasons for those modifications;
- statement on recommendations from appointed independent person (if applicable);
- statement on recommendations from independent person that have not been implemented (if applicable).

Stage 10: Review, monitoring and reporting on plan implementation, and amendment of the Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan: anticipated June 2021

Review, monitoring and reporting on plan implementation, and amendment of the Shetland Regional Marine Plan. As the marine environment is constantly developing and evolving it is important that SIMPP members continue to review the Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan.

The Shetland Islands Marine Planning Partnership must keep the following under review:

- the designation of any area as a Scottish marine region;
- the preparation, adoption, amendment or withdrawal of a national or regional marine Plan;
- the effects of the policies in the plan;
- the effectiveness of the policies in securing that the objectives for which the plan was prepared and adopted are met;
- the progress being made towards securing the objectives;
- the progress being made towards securing that the objectives in the regional marine plan secure the objectives in the national marine plan.

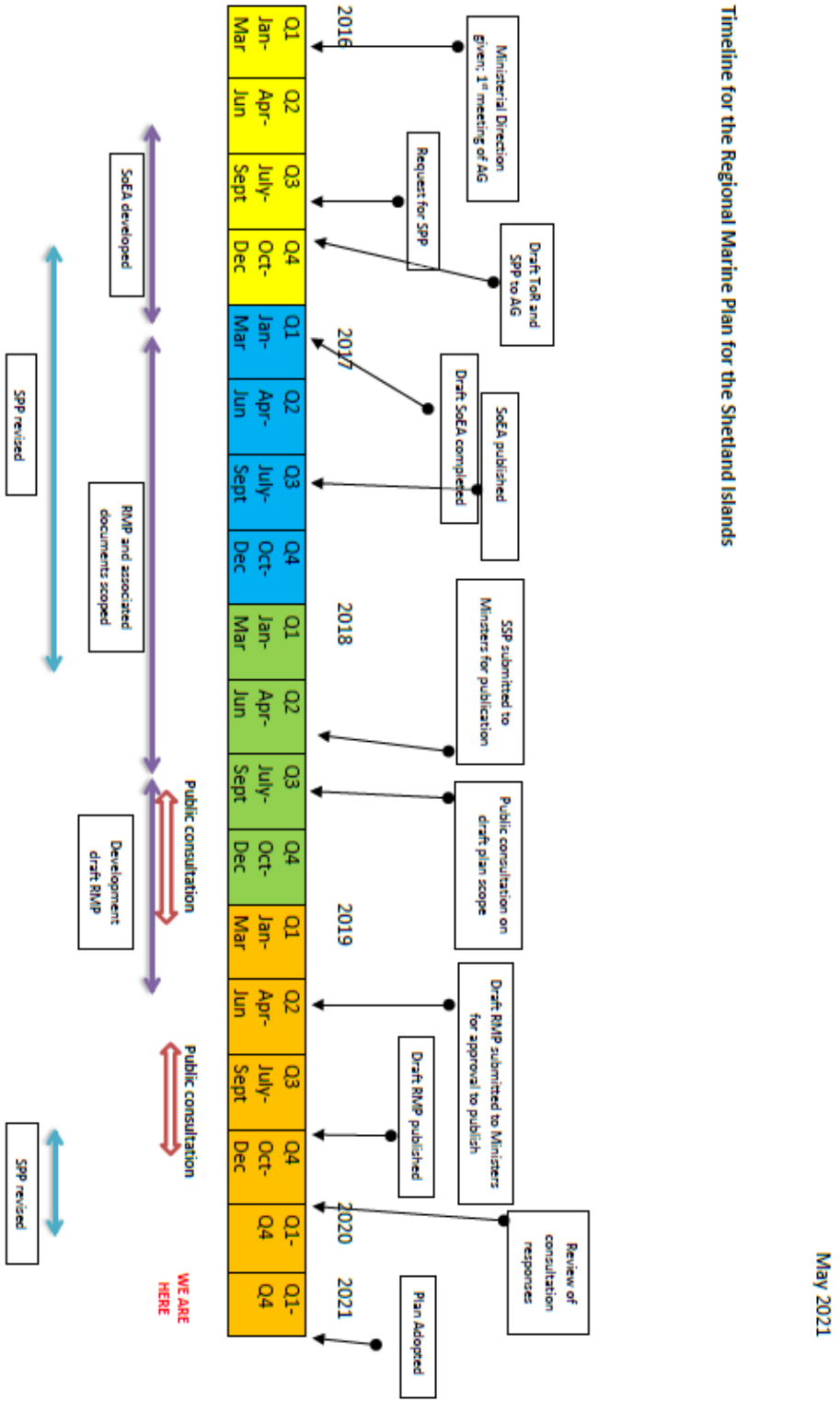
The SIMPP will also prepare a report on the matters kept under review and submit this to the Scottish Ministers. The first report must be published within 5 years from the date of adoption of the

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Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan. The SIMPP must then consider and decide if the Regional Marine Plan needs to be amended, or even replaced.

Comments, questions and queries relating to this SPP on the development of the regional marine plan can be directed to the marine spatial planning team at the NAFC Marine Centre UHI, by email: marineplan@uhi.ac.uk, telephone: 01595 772000 or in writing: NAFC Marine Centre, Port Arthur, Scalloway, Shetland ZE1 0UN.

Timeline for the Regional Marine Plan for the Shetland Islands



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Appendices 2 – Community Council survey

Marine Issues in your community council area

Please circle the answer you think most describes your community council

Water Quality is...	Poor	OK but could be improved	Mostly good
Marine Litter is....	A problem in many of my CC area	A problem in parts of my CC area	Not a problem in my CC area
Noise from marine industries....	An issue in my CC area	A localised or occasional problem	Not a problem in my CC area
Navigating is....	An issue in my CC area	A localised or occasional problem	Not a problem in my CC area
Climate change...	May cause major problems in my CC area	May cause some problems in my CC area	Will not cause problems in my CC area
Flooding defence is...	An issue in my CC area	A localised or occasional problem	Not a problem in my CC area

Wildlife in my area is....	Facing many challenges	Facing some challenges	Well protected and prospering
Archaeology and historic features in my area is...	Facing many challenges	Facing some challenges	Well protected
Landscape and scenery in my area is....	Affected by many negative developments	Affected by localised or occasional negative development	Unaffected by development
Recreational opportunities in my area...	Limited and face many local challenges	Moderately varied	Varied and easy to access
Fish stocks and fishing opportunities are...	Facing many challenges	Facing some challenges	Unrestricted and prospering

Any other comments e.g. views on other parts of Shetland or other issues

Marine Opportunities in your community council area

Please circle the answer you think most describes your community council area

In my community council area there are opportunities to improve or increase...

	Agree	Not sure	Disagree
Fisheries opportunity			
Tourism provision			
Recreation opportunity			
Aquaculture production			
Marine renewables			

Are there any actions you would like to see taken to tackle the issues you have identified for your area?

Any other comments e