

**Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Marine and Coastal
Partnership (CloS MCP)**

Terms of Reference

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by

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All reports available at:

<https://www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/what-we-do/our-conservation-work/at-sea/coastal-partnerships>

Introduction

Time is running out to address climate change and marine nature recovery in Cornwall's coastal and marine areas, with targets consistently being missed across the county. Reflecting findings from across the country, the **“Coordinating Cornwall’s Coastal Recovery”** project built on its previous work, a new collaborative framework that drives the delivery across the land-sea interface is required.

Informed by active stakeholder engagement, the emerging framework recognises that delivery of effective coastal collaboration requires not just a well-structured improvement plan, but also critically, requires a wrap-around service of enabling and facilitating services such as stakeholder engagement, coastal champions, capacity building, marine citizenship and shared data and information. This collaborative framework is at the heart of the **“Cornwall and Scilly Marine and Coastal Partnership (CloS MCP).”**

Purpose

The Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Marine and Coastal Partnership will bring together the key stakeholders to enable a collaborative and joined-up approach across the land-sea interface and out to 12 nautical miles and beyond. It will work to support the delivery of the strategies and plans to facilitate marine nature recovery, coastal resilience and sustainable development whilst working closely with all sectors, business and local communities.

During the first year of the partnership we will be developing our strategic objectives with input from our steering group and all partner organisations.

This document sets out the Terms of Reference and provides more detail on how the new CloS MCP will operate.

Our Vision

By working collaboratively, the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Marine and Coastal Partnership will support the delivery of resilient marine and coastal ecosystems and the growth they can deliver through collaboration, joint solutions and community-based capacity building.

Geographic area

The Partnership will take an interest in matters relating to the marine, coastal and estuarine waters within 12 nautical miles of the coast of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

Structure

The Cornwall and Scilly Marine and Coastal Partnership (MCP) will work to the following structure.

Figure 1 Management of the Cornwall and Scilly Marine and Coastal Partnership



Host and Chair

Initial coordination of the Partnership will be provided by Cornwall Wildlife Trust, who will employ the Partnership Co-ordinator Officer, provide administrative support, provide a web presence and act as the accountable body regarding any funds received or distributed. Future hosting arrangements will be reviewed and determined within the first year period.

The Partnership will appoint an independent chair and vice-chair for which tenure will be three years.

Key Relationships

The MCP will actively report to the Cornwall Local Nature Partnership and other strategic bodies and through its membership will support the delivery of several strategies, including but not limited to:

- Cornwall Catchment Management Plan
- Cornwall Environmental Growth Strategy
- Cornwall IFCA Management Plan
- Cornwall Local Nature Recovery Strategy

- Cornwall Flood Risk Management Strategy
- Cornwall Management Strategy
- Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Shoreline Management Plan
- South West Flood Risk Management Plan
- South West River Basin Management Plan
- South West Inshore and Offshore Marine Plans
- AONB Management Plans

Meetings

Meetings will take place as hybrid / online meetings. There will be one face-to-face meeting a year. The face-to-face meeting venue will not be fixed, and will be determined by the relevant agenda. To ensure inclusivity, meetings will be held in accessible locations.

The Partnership will meet 4 times a year. Meetings will include an element of professional networking, coordination of activities, raising awareness of the marine, coastal and estuarine issues across Cornwall and Isles of Scilly, input into consultations, development of joint proposals and action, and steering and monitoring the MCP work programme.

Notes will be taken and published on the MCP website ([linked here](#) or seen on page one).

Agenda items for future meetings are welcome at any time. Where possible the agenda and papers will be circulated at least one week before the meeting.

Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Marine and Coastal Partnership will seek to avoid duplication with existing structures and partnerships, working collaboratively with these to align activities related to the coastal and marine areas of Cornwall and Isles of Scilly.

Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Marine and Coastal Partnership Membership

Currently several member organisations have been identified, representing groups and bodies that have a direct relationship with Cornwall and Isles of Scilly's seas, coast and estuaries examples include:

- i. **Local authorities and NGOs**
- ii. **Private sector.**
- iii. **Conservation organisations**
- iv. **Partnerships and networks**
- v. **Tourism and marine recreation**
- vi. **Academic sector**
- vii. **Community groups**

The important characteristics of members are that they should be:

- representatives of key stakeholder organisations whose interests lie in the utilisation, maintenance or improvement of Cornwall's marine, coastal and estuarine environment;
- Knowledgeable in their field and able to offer advice, resources (such as data, information, access to other groups) and practical support;
- Willing to actively speak about the interests and issues of their sector in discussions;
- Able to exert influence on behalf and within their organisation and are in a position to facilitate project delivery and work agreed by the Partnership;

As members/individuals we are expected to:

- Recognise each other's worth and acknowledge each other's contributions both within the group and with our external clients and stakeholders;
- Actively embrace and value the input and collaboration of colleagues;
- Foster a culture of information, knowledge and skill-sharing between our respective organisations;
- Support each other to resolve difficulties;
- Communicate in an open and honest manner;
- Give feedback and ask questions in a constructive manner;
- Always demonstrate professional behaviours to our colleagues and stakeholders;
- Always demonstrate a genuine desire for the best collective outcomes;
- Commit time to attend meetings and be prepared by seeking information from within their organisation if necessary. If sending a deputy, they should be fully briefed before the meeting; and
- Represent the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Marine and Coastal Partnership at other meetings where relevant and appropriate.

The MCP can invite and receive interest from others to join the group or provide presentations at meetings. The Partnership will also co-ordinate the organisation or promotion of relevant events for a wider stakeholder group as and when it decides this is required.

For a full and up to date list of member organisations please visit our website ([linked here](#) or seen on page one).

Decision Making

Members of the Partnership will seek to build and work to consensus. In the event of formal decision being required by a vote, a show of hands, either physical or online, with a simple majority of full members voting will be sufficient. Each organisation represented at the meeting is restricted to a single vote.

MCP Steering Group (As of Feb 2024)

The MCP Steering Group consists of the following:

Cornwall Wildlife Trust	Environment Agency
Cornwall Catchment Partnership	Natural England
Cornwall Council	

The Steering Group will:

- Oversee business, and drive activity between meetings to support the decisions of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Marine and Coastal Partnership;
- Draw up programmes and agendas for partnership meetings;
- Consider options, develop ideas and proposals and make recommendations on the work of the partnership;
- Report back to the full partnership on its activities and on progress to meet the agreed objectives; and
- Use Strategic Relationships to ensure collaboration and information exchange occurs effectively.

The steering group welcomes interest and nominations from others to join.

Other Sub-Groups

Other sub-groups, working groups or task and finish groups may be set up at the discretion of the Partnership members.

Resourcing

The host authority will seek support from Partnership members and other sources whenever possible.

Legal Status

The Partnership is an un-constituted voluntary body. Its area of operation is the marine, coastal and estuarine waters of Cornwall. The Partnership has no legal status in itself, rather Cornwall Wildlife Trust, as the host authority, is acting as the financial accountable body.