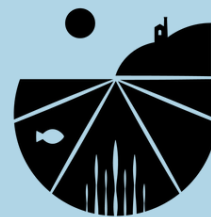




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Cornwall & Isles of Scilly

Marine & Coastal
Partnership



Fal & Helford

Charter

of the

Sea

Creating a Cornwall
where nature thrives

cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/charter-of-the-sea



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Partnership

June 2025



Vision

To protect and celebrate the rich marine heritage of the Fal and Helford estuaries by fostering stewardship, enhancing water quality, reducing pollution, and restoring our coastal and marine environments. Ensuring a thriving sea for generations to come.

Purpose



This Charter is a shared commitment by the community, stakeholders, and organisations to work collaboratively for a cleaner, healthier, and more resilient marine environment. It sets out the core priorities and actions identified through workshops, surveys, and public engagement in 2024–2025.



Core Principles

- **Community-Led:** Local people are at the heart of decision-making.
- **Evidence-Based:** We build on local knowledge, scientific data, and lived experience.
- **Inclusive and Fair:** Everyone has a voice and a role to play.
- **Positive Action:** We focus on what we can do together.



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Priority Areas



Education & Engagement

- Empower communities through marine education, youth engagement, and public awareness initiatives.
- Develop educational resources for schools, local businesses, and the tourism sector to promote marine conservation.
- Support inclusive and accessible events that foster a deeper connection between people and the sea.
- Use social media and public events to share local marine stories, highlight ongoing conservation efforts, and celebrate successes.
- Promote best practices and codes of conduct for marine users, including boaters, jet ski users, and dog walkers to minimize disturbances to wildlife.
- Increase engagement with tourists on responsible marine activities and safe water use.
- Collaborate with universities and research institutions to enhance local knowledge and monitoring efforts.





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Priority Areas



Water Quality

- Advocate for improved sewage infrastructure to reduce pollution, including year-round spill notifications and increased transparency from water companies.
- Increase water quality testing at key sites, such as sewage overflows and beaches, with transparent public reporting.
- Work with farmers and landowners to reduce agricultural runoff through nature-based solutions, like tree planting and wetland restoration.
- Push for stricter regulations, fines, and independent testing of water companies to ensure cleaner waters.
- Support research into microplastic pollution, particularly through collaborations with initiatives like Plastic Free Falmouth and Exeter University.
- Expand live water quality monitoring in key locations, such as Falmouth Harbour.





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Priority Areas

Plastic Pollution & Marine Litter

- Partner with local businesses to reduce single-use plastics and promote sustainable alternatives.
- Increase the number of public water refill stations and recycling bins at popular coastal spots.
- Support initiatives to ban disposable fly rings, helium balloons, and other harmful plastic items.
- Create community-led clean-up events and educational campaigns to raise awareness and encourage action.
- Establish litter picker stations on beaches and work with businesses to maintain and replenish equipment.
- Develop a framework to address serious plastic pollution incidents and enhance response capabilities.
- Promote responsible disposal and recycling of fishing gear, including ghost gear recovery efforts in partnership with local organisations and groups.





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Priority Areas

Wrecks & Abandoned Boats

- Collaborate with local authorities, harbours, and stakeholders to identify and remove abandoned boats and marine debris.
- Support the Wreck Free Fal and Helford project to tackle existing wrecks and prevent future boat abandonments.
- Establish preventative measures to reduce future boat abandonment, such as raising awareness of responsible boat ownership and providing access to disposal options.
- Restore marine habitats affected by wrecks, using removal as an opportunity to promote ecological recovery.
- Engage with boat owners, angling clubs, and harbours to improve mooring practices and reduce environmental impacts.
- Support the development of sustainable anchoring and mooring solutions to protect seagrass beds and sensitive habitats.





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Commitments & Responsibilities

EXAMPLE:

GOAL	LEAD PARTNER(S)	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
Deliver marine education events	TBC	Number of events, feedback collated
Improve water quality testing	TBC	Test frequency and ite coverage
Remove Wrecks	TBC	Number removed, area restored
Reduce plastics	TBC	Number of local businesses using/selling single use plastics

Note: This table is an example and both can and should be edited and expanded as needed for each added objective.



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Supporters

[illegible]