



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

# Integrated Forward Planning for Ireland's Marine Area – Developing the National Marine Planning Framework (NMPPF)

Association of Irish Local Government – March 2019

# National Marine Planning Framework



## What is MSP?

A process that brings together multiple users of the ocean to make informed and coordinated decisions about how to use marine resources sustainably.



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government

National Marine  
Planning Framework  
Baseline Report



Tool for rectifying spatial conflicts in maritime space



# National Marine Planning Framework



- Driven by Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth (HOOOW 2012) and EU Directive 2014/89/EU
- Minister for HP&LG Competent Authority – in line with terrestrial planning responsibilities
- Plan will apply to Ireland's maritime area – internal waters (sea area) + territorial seas + exclusive economic zone (EEZ) + agreed continental shelf – 490,000 km<sup>2</sup> – mean high water mark at the coast seaward to 200+ nautical miles in parts
- Marine Plan for Ireland by March 2021 – a parallel to NPF



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government

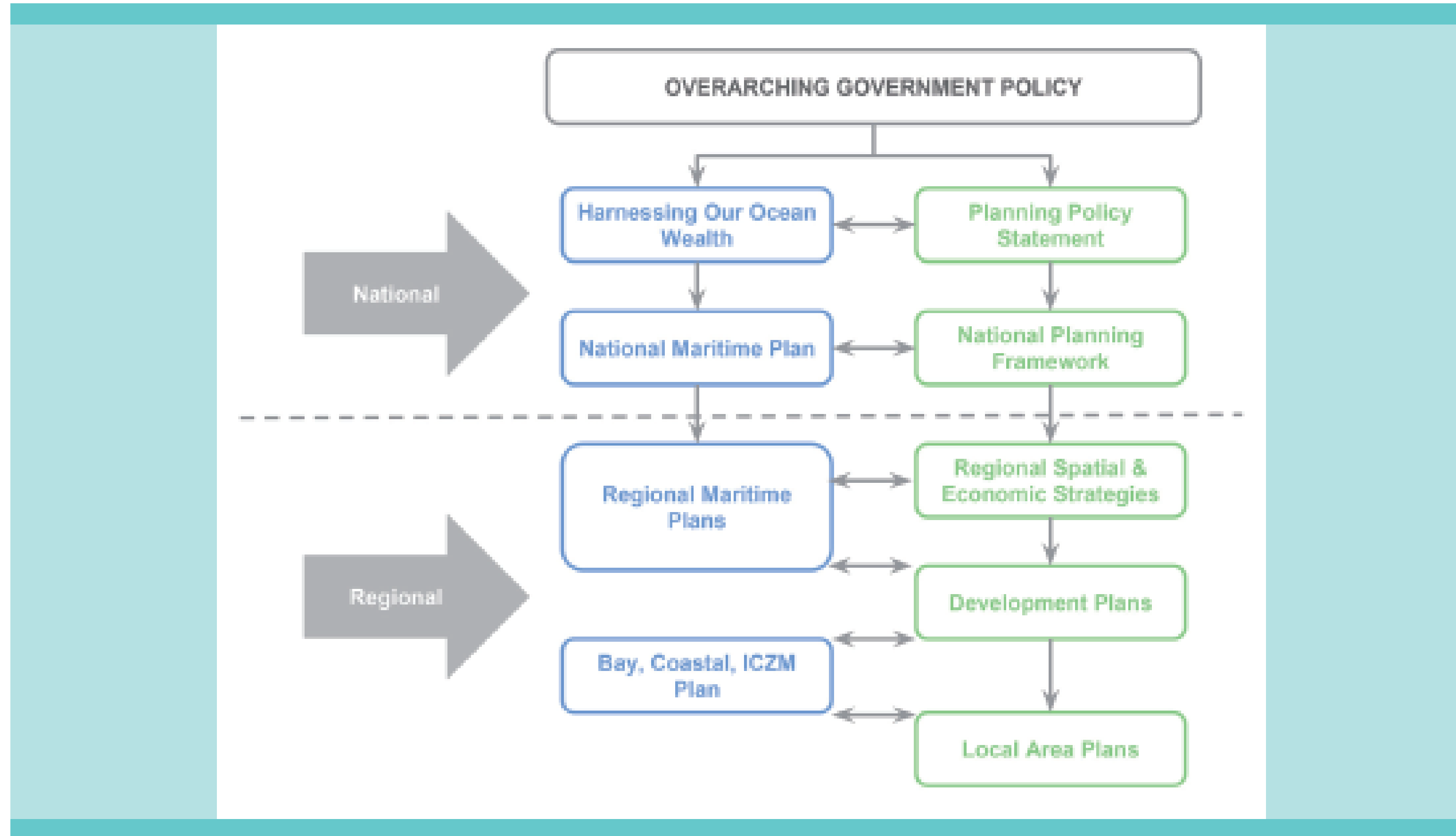
National Marine  
Planning Framework  
Baseline Report



# National Marine Planning Framework



## What will Ireland's plan look like?

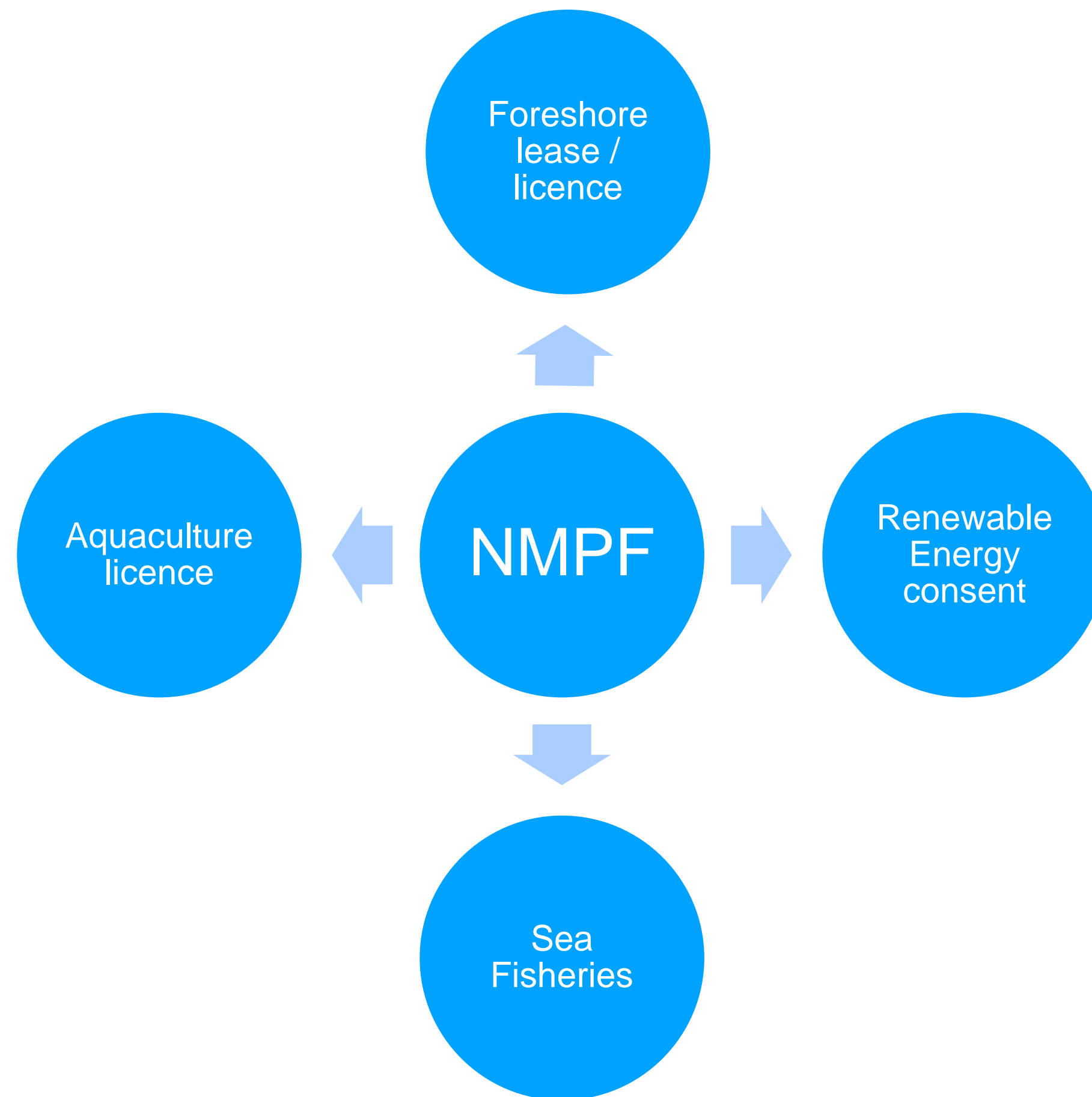


An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government

National Marine  
Planning Framework  
Baseline Report



# NMPF in practice – basis for all decision-making in marine regulation



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government

National Marine  
Planning Framework  
Baseline Report



# National Marine Planning Framework – where are we now?



Stage	Milestone	Timeframe
<b>Activation Stage</b>	Establish and resource MSP function in Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government	Immediate – complete
	Identify and initiate contact with key stakeholders	Now – end 2017
<b>Development Stage</b>	Establish MSP Inter Agency Group	End November 2017
	Develop road map – <i>Towards a Marine Spatial Plan</i>	Publish before end 2017
	Initiate contact with broader external stakeholder group (e.g. energy industry reps, fisheries, coastal communities etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In writing before end 2017</li> <li>• Regional workshop/stakeholder fora Q1 2018</li> </ul>
	Prepare issues paper (this phase includes collection, mapping and analysis of data on current conditions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish September 2018</li> <li>• 2 month consultation</li> </ul>
	Prepare draft MSP (including Environmental Assessments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To Minister/Government Q2 2019</li> <li>• 3 month consultation</li> </ul>
<b>Finalisation Stage</b>	Prepare final MSP (including Environmental Assessments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To Minister/Government Q2 2020</li> <li>• Publish and notify European Commission – Q3 2020</li> </ul>
<b>Implementation and Review Stage</b>	Implementation and review	2020 onwards



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government

## National Marine Planning Framework Baseline Report



# NMPPF – Baseline Report – what?



Flagged as ‘issues’ paper in MSP Roadmap – December 2017

It sets out:

- the policy, legislative and regulatory context for Marine Spatial Planning;
- a description of the “as is” situation in terms of existing sectoral development and activities in Ireland’s maritime area;
- an initial elaboration of potential high level objectives; and
- A number of consultation questions or issues intended to prompt discussion and consideration amongst stakeholders.
- Big questions include: To zone or not to zone (for ORE and others)?



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government

National Marine  
Planning Framework  
Baseline Report



# NMPF – Baseline Report – some key questions



- (draft) High Level Objectives – appropriate balance of environmental, social, economic?
- Have we identified all uses / activities that need to be planned for? What have we missed?
- Climate change – how can we ensure that the NMPF supports ambitious adaptation / mitigation measures?
- Transboundary issues in post-Brexit world.
- Spatial designation – zoning or not?



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government

National Marine  
Planning Framework  
Baseline Report





# NMPF – Baseline Report – spatial designation



One of a broad range of management actions that may be utilised in marine planning and management. It may be used for a range of purposes:

- To provide protection for biologically and ecologically important habitats, ecosystems, and ecological processes;
- To spatially separate conflicting human activities or to co-locate compatible human activities;
- To protect the natural values of the marine management area while allowing reasonable human uses of the area;
- To allocate areas for reasonable human uses while minimizing the effects of these human uses on each other and nature; and
- To preserve some areas of the marine managed area in their natural state undisturbed by humans except for scientific or educational purposes.

Zoning is one of a range of ways to achieve objectives in marine planning. Varying views – pros and cons...many examples already exist.

The final spatial designation product in a large multiple use maritime area will be the result of compromise, accommodating a range of needs, interests, and political requirements.

Spatial designation is an integral part of all forward planning but it is not simple!



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government

National Marine  
Planning Framework  
Baseline Report



# NMPF – Baseline Report Consultation



- September – December 2018.
- 173 submissions received from broad range of interests – public, eNGOs, sectoral activities, public bodies, academic sector etc.

Marine environment (e.g. ban micro-plastics)	53%
Ports / shipping	44%
Climate action	42%
Nature conservation (e.g. designate marine protected areas)	41%
Consents / licensing (mainly foreshore / aquaculture)	34%
Renewable energy	34%
Aquaculture	31%
Fisheries	28%
Seaweed harvesting	23%
Cultural heritage	23%

- Zoning: 57 respondents. 44% favoured a policy-led plan, 40% elected for a hybrid model. 16% indicated a preference for zoning.



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government

## National Marine Planning Framework Baseline Report



# NMPF – Local Government



- Land sea interaction
- Integration between terrestrial and marine planning
- Interdepartmental Group – rep from CCMA LUTS
- Stakeholder Advisory Group – reps from CCMA LUTS and AILG
- Regular Updates to CEOs/DoS Planning
- NPF – Recognition of Strategic Importance of Marine Sector
- Submissions to 3 RSES
- Baseline Report Launch Events – Oct 2018



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government

National Marine  
Planning Framework  
Baseline Report



# NMPF – next steps

- Detailed analysis of submissions received (underway).
- Discussion with relevant Departments – bilaterally, through IDG etc. (immediate).
- Agree broad approach(es) – commence drafting (Q1).
- Present to Advisory Group / Government (end Q2).
- Publish draft NMPF – public consultation (Q3).
- SEA / AA commencing in parallel.

Get in touch – [misp@housing.gov.ie](mailto:misp@housing.gov.ie) /  @MSP\_Ireland



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government

National Marine  
Planning Framework  
Baseline Report

