

Meeting No 4: 30th May 2007High Level Aims of the LMSP

1. Introduction

This paper follows on from the work carried out during the workshop held at the 3rd Steering group Meeting. During the workshop a number of important issues were highlighted and some draft aims produced. These have been expanded upon and developed into five aims set out below.

2. SSMEI Principles

The LMSP Aims must be developed in accordance with the two principles of the SSMEI and the Pilot Project, such that, the LMSP must embrace the ecosystem based approach to sustainable development and be voluntary.

Ecosystem based approach

The ecosystem based approach is a holistic method for management of human activities. It looks at all the links among living and nonliving resources, rather than considering single issues in isolation. Ecosystem based plans focus on the multiple activities occurring within specific areas that are defined by ecosystem, rather than artificial boundaries.

Voluntary

The plan must utilise existing instruments, tools and mechanisms or voluntary agreements in the delivery of its targets.

3. High level Aims

The high level aims set out the purpose of the plan. They describe how the LMSP can contribute to the creation of a Firth as set out in the Vision. These aims have been developed from the Visions set out in Discussion Paper No 1. They have been broken down into the three tenants of sustainable development, social, environmental and economic. Two additional overarching goals have been identified one relating to recreation and tourism, with another focusing on transport.

Social

To enhance the quality of life for communities through improving facilities, landscapes, seascapes, the marine environment and enabling ease of access to these, for local communities.

Environmental

To promote and develop a healthy marine and coastal environment.

Economic

To encourage development that will add value and provide resources, infrastructure and opportunities that will support local industries and attract investment to the area.

Recreation & Tourism

To encourage recreation and tourism through the development of existing and new facilities and costal infrastructure.

Transport

To encourage marine based transportation of goods and people, with improved linkages between marine and terrestrial transport infrastructure.