



Sefton Coast Partnership Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan 2006-2011

Consultation Responses to the final Draft:

Respondent: Mersey Travel

Summary of comments:

Supports the document and action plan and in particular wishes to continue collaboration on practical projects such as signage, publicity and promotional material in encouraging visits to the Sefton Coast through public transport. Expressed concern at any plans for additional car park provision.

Respondent: The Mersey Partnership

Summary of comments:

Supportive of the document and action plan and recognises importance of partnership activities to manage, maintain and preserve coastal assets. The document is also helpful in contributing to the work towards the MW Succession Programme – **support is welcomed and discussions are on going regarding joint promotional/publicity material.**

Respondent: History and Archaeology Task Group

Summary of comments:

Made specific suggestions on modifying the objectives of the Task group- **comments were welcomed and modifications made**

Respondent: North Western & North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee

Summary of comments:

Welcomes the document and have made specific requests that through the Beach Management Strategy versatile and sustainable fishery in both the commercial and leisure sectors should be encouraged. In particular opportunities for improved vehicle access to the shore at Formby, Altcar and Crosby, also designated storage and launching sites for fishermen's vehicles. – **comments welcomed and some changes to the text regarding access and storage made.**

Respondent: Individual interested in yachting and waterbased sports.

Summary of comments:

The consideration of the use and potential value of the coastal waters for yachting, sailing, canoeing and other water base sports and activities should be given greater prominence. Mention is made of fishing and golf, but nothing about yachting and yacht clubs.

In particular proposals were considered when the Crosby Marina was being planned and built for a tidal lock but this was shelved. This idea should be reconsidered as a half tide yacht basin could be constructed at the south end of the sea wall at Crosby with the existing dock wall and the sea wall forming 2 sides and a new outer wall to the River Mersey channel outside the deep river channel for large commercial vessels. With a lock gate at a suitable level access to the basin and then to the marina, by another lock gate, could be gained for yachts drawing up to 2 metres for about 3 hours either side of high water on all but the lowest tides, creating a yacht marina in part of the Crosby Marina lake with pontoons providing a much need yacht berths which would benefit the whole area. This would offer sailing opportunities, not only within the limits of the 60 acre lake but in the coastal waters also. The redundant "radar tower" could be used for the marina operational control of the locks and yachts arriving. – **a major infrastructure project**

such as this would likely need to be private sector led and in association with the MDHC i.e Peel Holdings. Would agree that in an amended version of the ICZM Plan in 2007, it should incorporate more context on water based sports to reflect the potential value of coastal waters. It is important that water based sports do not conflict with the underlying aim of the SCP which is the protection of the coast for nature conservation.

Respondent: Sustrans

Summary of comments:

Supportive of the document, particularly actions to encourage walking, cycling and use of public transport in the coastal corridor.

Respondent: Formby resident

Summary of comments:

Generally supportive of nature conservation and biodiversity action in the document

Respondent: Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service

Summary of comments:

Generally supportive of the document and that it incorporates most of the key issues. The Action plan will need to be reviewed in due course along with some of the goals. - **accepted**

Concern at inconsistency of editing and that there are several statements out of date. Need to ensure that links are provided to those documents identified in the plan. – **Draft has been reviewed for consistency.**

Concern that the ICZM Plan should include aspects of the Southport Action Plan with links to beach management and nature conservation. – **agree that wording should be modified to reflect this position**

Vision should identify that conservation of the coast is the basis upon which all other activities take place – **agree in part, vision modified but not to exclude access altogether**

Demonstrating added Value of a partnership approach, queried whether the lead partner making an assessment of their headline activity could be deemed quantitative, and that there were potentially other means to assess value. – the partnership needs to try and demonstrate added value in a way that is not only meaningful, but also achievable in terms of partners time and ability to collect and provide data. We have said that we will also monitor external funding and partner funding, either levered in to or allocated to benefit the SCP object, plus and in kind support towards support for the headline activities from salaried and volunteer staff.

The success of this will depend on each and every partner supplying information returns.

Nature Conservation Goal, a number of comments on particular aspects of conservation should be reflected in the text. – **agree textual changes have been made**

Red Squirrel Conservation – having a whole section on red squirrel conservation would appear to place undue emphasis on woodland habitats without the counterbalance of sand dunes and estuaries. – **agree in part however this is a key action which is being implemented currently under the umbrella of the SCP, therefore is worthy of mention. This chapter can be reviewed once the Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Strategy is further advanced.**

Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan – This section identifies progress with the implementation of the Forest Plan but does not set the woodlands in the context of the Sefton Coast or the role of the landowners in managing the woods e.g before the plan was approved – **agree, suggest that this is flagged up with land managers to comments further to allow amendments to the plan at the time when the annual report is produced.**

Beach Management para 8 – it is not clear that the development of beach infrastructure and facilities for visitors will help deliver favourable status. – **this could be addressed with land managers to comments further to allow amendments to the plan at the time when the annual report is produced.**

Shoreline management – appears unusually long, although useful structure – **agree have shortened**

Tourism – need for caution as the accommodating of visitors needs to be balanced so as not to conflict with nature conservation and biodiversity **aims – agree that there is an acceptance that encouraging access to the coast and improving nature conservation need to be treated wholistically, however suggest that this aspect can be developed when the next annual report is produced. Note Sustainable Tourism practice is being developed through copranet and Sefton have been asked to have an in put into this.**

Land-use planning and marine related activities, reference should be made to the habitats regulations or strategic environmental assessment and how this legislation can impact on the determination of land-use planning. – **agree that this can be expanded upon at the time of the annual report in 2007.**

Respondent: Sefton Coast Watch

Summary of Comments:

Concern that research is needed on the fragmentation of the Dune Habitat, due to an eroding coast meeting the trees

Expressed caution on the need to remove trees and would ask that EN work with coastal processes – **Comments can be taken on board through the emerging Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Strategy for the Coast, comments passed onto the project officer.**

