

Annual Plan 2020-21



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Coronavirus statement

This Annual Plan is being prepared at the time of the UK's exposure to the Coronavirus pandemic. As such a number of sections have been removed due to the changing nature of the situation.

The impact of the restrictions put in place to reduce the effect of the Coronavirus outbreak will cause significant delays in a number of core processes for Cornwall IFCA. At the time of writing it is anticipated that this may delay areas such as the Audit process and impact on the timing of the June meeting. In addition it is certain that a number of the workstreams will be delayed or maybe unachievable. These areas will be reported on in the 2020/21 Annual Report.

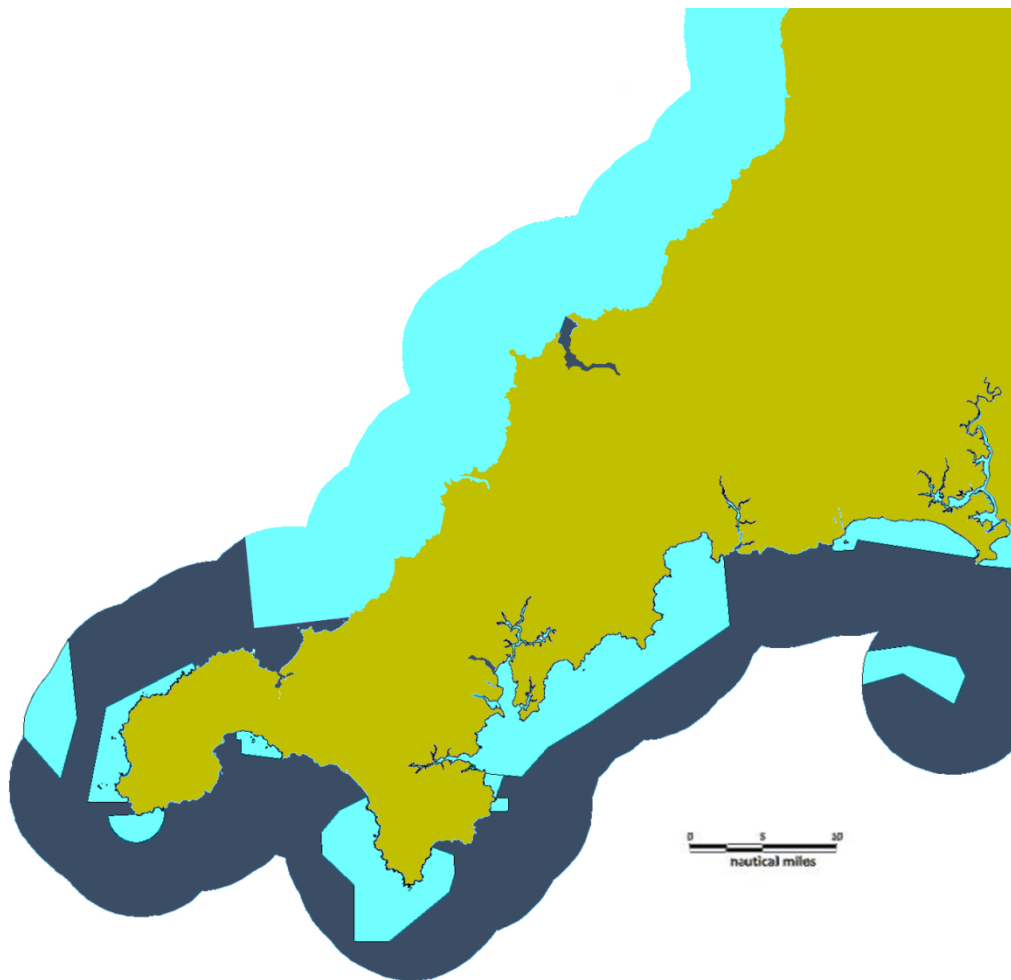
Cornwall IFCA usually produces a communication plan as part of this Annual Plan. This will be produced later in this financial year as more information is known regarding the length of time that the UK is advised to socially isolate. The Cornwall IFCA website and social media pages will be kept up to date during the lockdown period to keep stakeholders informed of the changing situation.

This document also contains a Risk Management section. This has been reviewed in light of the coronavirus situation. However, the direct implications of the Coronavirus pandemic will be managed through a live Coronavirus Business Continuity Plan, separate to this document.

Overview

The Cornwall Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (Cornwall IFCA) was created under Section 150 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (MaCAA) and was fully vested on 1 April 2011, replacing the foregoing Cornwall Sea Fisheries Committee. The IFCA district is created under Section 149 of the Act.

The Cornwall IFCA district extends from Marsland Mouth on the north coast of Cornwall, around Land's End to the western end of the Plymouth Breakwater in Plymouth Sound on the south coast, for all the waters out to the six mile limit and includes the rivers and estuaries up to tidal limits. The district is measured from the 1983 baselines as they existed on 25th January 1983, which may be from exposed rocks, including the Eddystone Rock, and other low tide elevations. The baselines are in accordance with the Territorial Waters Order in Council 1964 (1965 III p.6452A) as amended by the Territorial Waters (Amendment) Order in Council 1979 (1979 II p.2866).

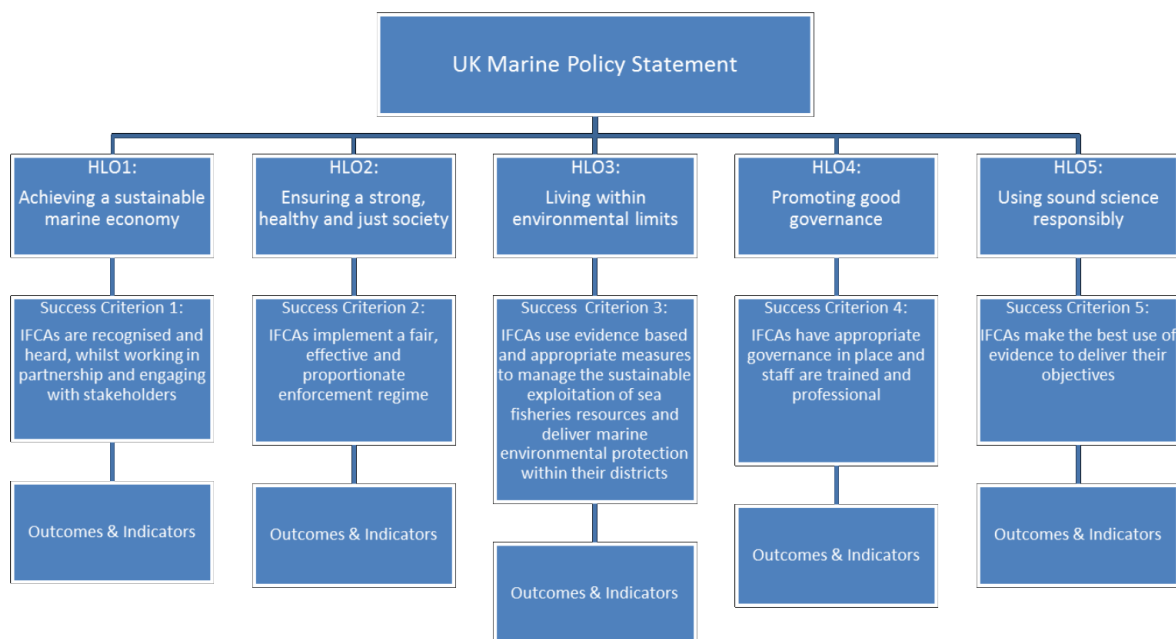


Our Vision, Success Criteria and High Level Objectives

The national IFCA Vision is:

"Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities will lead, champion and manage a sustainable marine environment and inshore fisheries, by successfully securing the right balance between social, environmental and economic benefits to ensure healthy seas, sustainable fisheries and a viable industry."

The following Success Criteria and High Level Objectives which Cornwall IFCA adopted in 2016 were due to be reviewed at the end of the 2019-20 financial year. The Success Criteria and High Level Objectives will be carried forward for this financial year in the absence of any new nationally agreed objectives.



Focus and Priorities for 2020-21

This financial year will see an ambitious work programme to progress and develop Fisheries Management Plans as well as individual management options for various fisheries within the district. It will require considerable officer time to develop legislation, compile and conduct research activities, alongside managing and running consultations. This must be fitted into an already challenging and full portfolio of existing work and duties, bearing in mind that, in recent years, there has already been a considerable increase in the volume of business-as-usual work for both the enforcement and research teams. With enforcement work often relying upon remote monitoring of fishing activities and the acquisition of data from other authorities, investigations into serious breaches of legislation are often complex and time consuming. The ever-increasing demands on the research team include ongoing monitoring activities as well as the requirement to monitor the efficacy of new management options, meaning that with each new byelaw we create, the workload increases. Demands on officers and members of the Authority will include the consideration and making of new byelaws, as well as a review of the Closed Areas (European Marine Sites) No.2 Byelaw which is expected to be amended, following consultation.

An outline of the key priority work areas anticipated for the 2020-21 financial year is set out below.

Byelaw development and review:

Salmonid Protection Byelaw

This byelaw has been in development for a number of years and is intended to protect salmonid species by restricting netting in areas where their presence and behaviour places them at particular risk from some inshore netting activities. The byelaw is intended to replace the ex-Cornwall Sea Fisheries Committee Fixed Engines Byelaw and it is expected that this new byelaw will be made within the financial year.

Crawfish Protection Byelaw

As part of the wider work that Cornwall IFCA will be doing on the management of fisheries within the network of MPA within its district, it is anticipated that 2020-21 will see consideration of management options for crawfish (*Palinurus elephas*) exploitation. This has been prioritised for this year as part of the risk-based approach the IFCA are taking for the management of the MPA network. The development of management options for the exploitation of crawfish will be particularly focused on MPAs where crawfish are a site feature, specifically in the Padstow Bay and Surrounds MCZ and The Manacles MCZ. This work stream will also feed into the development of the Crustacean Fisheries Management Plan.

Fal Fishery Oysters Review

Recent years has seen changes in target species and fishing effort by licensed sail and oar powered vessels operating in the Fal with an increased effort being directed at the queen scallop (*Aequipecten opercularis*) and variegated or "queenie" scallops (*Mimachlamys varia*). Consequently, there is a need to review the overall catch and effort data for this financial year, to assess whether the changes have impacted on the sustainability of the Fal fisheries and the conservation objectives of the Fal and Helford SAC.

Closed Areas (European Marine Sites) No.2 Byelaw review

This byelaw came into force in April 2015 and prohibits the use of bottom towed gear within a number of European Marine Sites within the district. Defra guidance states that IFCA byelaws should be reviewed within five years. This byelaw will be extensively reviewed by the Authority, as it has been tested over the previous five years with a number of infractions identified and successfully prosecuted by Cornwall IFCA.

Fisheries Management Plans:

Net Fisheries Management Plan

The net fisheries management plan is a large and complex project which will require a considerable lead-in time to allow for research and data gathering projects to be initiated. The work of the IFCA in implementing the River and Estuarine Fishing Nets byelaw and the informal consultation conducted as part of the development of a byelaw for the protection of salmonid species from nets has greatly increased the data sets and information held by Cornwall IFCA. However, there are still considerable data gaps remaining in relation to the netting activities. In order to progress this management plan and to plan and initiate appropriate work streams, officers will produce a technical paper for the Byelaw Working Group this year that will outline datasets held and analyses undertaken. It will also identify data gaps that need to be filled to inform the management plan. It is also expected to highlight any key issues identified within net fisheries, as well as outline potential research programmes to identify suitable management options and support their development.

Crustacean Fisheries Management Plan

The 2020-21 year will see considerable progress on the development of the Crustacean Fisheries Management Plan, building on the previous year's analyses of the shellfish returns data collected by Cornwall IFCA. The longstanding permit byelaws which manage crustacean fisheries within the Cornwall IFCA district have provided, not only more than three decades of returns data, but an excellent contact list of relevant stakeholders. It is anticipated that within the financial year, Cornwall IFCA will have produced a draft management plan, which will make provision for informal consultation on any management options put in place for the exploitation of crawfish (*Palinurus elephas*) within the district. The management plan may recommend new legislation as well as potentially recommending the review and amendment of existing legislation.

Scallop Fisheries Management Plan

The scallop fishery is a significant and high value fishery both across the UK as well as in Cornwall, and inshore scallop dredging effort and regulation in the district has significantly altered over the last few decades. Changes to the management of the fishery in other areas around the UK have had an impact on the amount of fishing effort and patterns of fishing within the Cornwall IFCA district. Whilst scallop dredging remains a key fishery in the district, it is also the highest enforcement priority for Cornwall IFCA. Preparatory development of the Scallop Fisheries Management Plan will continue in 2020-21, and will include;

- Scallop stock baseline survey work; following on from a trial survey conducted in 2019, this financial year will see a number of surveys conducted that will build on previous surveys conducted by CEFAS;

- Assessment of the outcome of the review of the Closed Areas (European Marine Sites) No.2 Byelaw review; and
- Building two-way communications with relevant owners and skippers as part of the informal consultation process.

Additional Workstreams:

The Fisheries Bill and its implications

With the UK having left the European Union with a deal, the UK has entered into the transition period during which the UK will remain within both the EU customs union and single market until 31 December 2020. During this period, the UK will remain under the Common Fisheries Policy. At the time of writing, the Fisheries Bill is proceeding through Parliament. This act will place a legal guarantee that the UK will leave the Common Fisheries Policy at the end of the transition period, will provide the powers for the UK government to implement new fishing management arrangements, and set fish quotas and effort controls with the EU and other coastal states. The Bill will also include new measures for Devolved Administrations to set a single set of UK wide fisheries objectives. It is currently unknown what the implications of any trade or fisheries negotiations with the European Union will be and, as such, Cornwall IFCA will need to respond to these changes as they unfold through 2020.

Work plan 2020 - 2021

Success Criteria 1:





IFCAs are recognised and heard, whilst working in partnership and engaging with stakeholders.

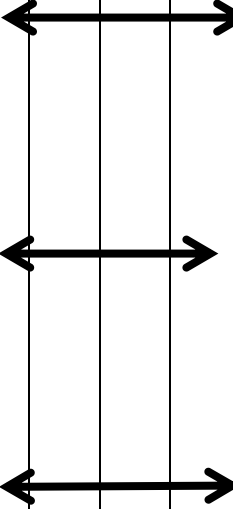
Definition:

IFCAs will be a visible, respected and trusted regulator within coastal communities and will maintain and deliver a strategy to communicate their vision and duties effectively. IFCAs will engage with policy makers, industry, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), recreational and commercial users; and other regulators. They will work jointly and collaboratively with partner organisations across boundaries; will participate and contribute to the development and implementation of regional and national marine policy, including the marine planning regime; will take long-term strategic decisions and manage risks effectively. IFCAs may maintain a national body to co-ordinate the activities of authorities that are party to arrangements.

Outcomes:

- The IFCA will maintain and implement an effective communication strategy.
- The IFCA will maintain its website, ensuring public access to current fisheries and conservation information for the district, including management requirements and byelaws. Non-reserved IFCA Committee papers will be published.
- The IFCA will contribute to co-ordinated activity at a national level.
- The IFCA and its principal partners will have a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities. Memoranda of Understanding with the MMO, Natural England, Environment Agency and Cefas will be maintained. Opportunities for greater efficiencies, effective joint working and collaboration will be explored and implemented when feasible.

HLO Indicators	Cornwall IFCA work streams	Timescale			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<p>SC1A: The IFCA will maintain a database of stakeholder contacts that will have been reviewed and updated by 31 March each year.</p> <p>SC1B: The IFCA will have completed a review of its communication strategy and implementation plan by 31 March each year.</p> <p>SC1C: The IFCA will have reviewed its website by the last working day of each month.</p> <p>SC1D: The IFCA will have reviewed its website and ensured it meets the objectives of its communication strategy, by 31 March each year.</p>	<p>Cornwall IFCA manages a number of different databases of stakeholder contacts which are managed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation. In the 2020-21 financial year, Cornwall IFCA will build on previous years’ work developing the way it manages its stakeholder contacts.</p>				
	<p>Cornwall IFCA will review its previous communication strategy with the intention of publishing an annual strategy which will be printed in the Annual Plan.</p>				
	<p>Cornwall IFCA will continue to develop and review its website. The following year will see changes in the way the website hosts and presents information on the work of the research team and the reports produced. In the 2020-21 financial year, Cornwall IFCA will continue to develop its use of social media to better inform its stakeholders of our activities.</p>				
	<p>Cornwall IFCA has a website management plan which states that the website is reviewed on a monthly basis. In the forthcoming year, web content will be discussed at the staff meetings where all staff are encouraged to make suggestions for change in content at any time. Once a year, a web review meeting is held by the senior management team.</p>				

<p>SC1E: The IFCA will have reviewed all of its Memoranda of Understanding by 31 March each year. There will be a clear plan in place to update MOUs where necessary, to an agreed timescale.</p> <p>SC1F: By 31 March each year, the IFCA will have participated appropriately, proportionately and at the right level of delegation, in regional and national fisheries and conservation activity identified in the annual plan.</p>	<p>Cornwall IFCA will review its joint working practices and all MOU over the following year. It will continue to work closely with both the MMO and the EA to identify and implement closer working opportunities to increase effectiveness and reduce costs. This may include joint training as well as enforcement work.</p> <p>Cornwall IFCA will continue to work on a local and national level to represent the interests of the inshore fisheries in Cornwall as part of any future fisheries management framework as the full implications of the Fisheries Bill and subsequent negotiations becomes apparent.</p> <p>In addition, Cornwall IFCA anticipates working collaboratively on the management and designation of MPAs as well as continued work with the Association of IFCAs, the IFCA Technical Advisory Group (TAG), the National Inshore Marine Enforcement Group (NIMEG) and the management of the joint owned research equipment which Cornwall IFCA holds.</p>	
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Success Criterion 2:





IFCAs implement a fair, effective and proportionate enforcement regime.

Definition:

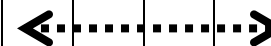
The IFCA enforcement regime is risk-based, makes appropriate use of intelligence, meets legislative standards and complies with the Regulators Code. It should make effective use of the resources available to regulators; complement and align, if possible, with the regimes in adjacent IFC Districts and management by other organisations including the MMO and Environment Agency. Consistency and fairness is important. Regulatory compliance is promoted. Enforcement action is carried out by trained, professional officers working to clear standards of conduct.

Outcomes

- The IFCA will publish its enforcement risk register and strategy, clearly setting out its approach to achieving regulatory compliance and potential sanctions that may be applied for infringements and/or offences.
- The IFCA will have developed consistency in regulations (byelaws) with other organisations.
- The IFCA will manage operational activity (e.g. through a Tasking & Co-ordination Group) and capture, record, evaluate and disseminate intelligence that is compatible with partner organisations. It is engaged in joint working with partner organisations.
- Warranted Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officers (IFCOs) will be trained and accredited to nationally agreed standards. They will maintain professionalism and make appropriate interventions to deliver efficient, effective enforcement activity.

HLO Indicators	Cornwall IFCA work streams	Timescale			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<p>SC2A: The IFCA will ensure its enforcement risk register and strategy are published and available on its website from 1 April each year.</p> <p>SC2B: The IFCA will demonstrate in its Annual Report how it has worked with other regulators to achieve consistent quality, application and enforcement of management measures.</p> <p>SC2C: The IFCA will compile records of enforcement activity in a standard format; provide them to the National Inshore Marine Enforcement Group (NIMEG) and publish them on its website.</p> <p>SC2D: The IFCA will adopt the national Code of Conduct for IFCOs, which will be reviewed annually and published on its website by 1 April.</p>	<p>Enforcement risks will be assessed and scored, taking into account known historic contraventions of legislation. This will be used to create the annual Risk Based Enforcement Plan. The enforcement team hold bi-monthly enforcement meetings where recent intelligence is reviewed. Cornwall IFCA operates and maintains an intelligence database which is reviewed as part of the risk profiling for the district.</p>				
	<p>Close liaison, including joint enforcement operations, with regulators such as the MMO, EA, MCA and Police will be described within the report. Officers' attendance at local and national meetings where enforcement matters are discussed, and protocols established will be evidenced in the report.</p>				
	<p>Enforcement records will be kept up to date, enabling them to be collated for reports made to NIMEG and for public information purposes. Cornwall IFCA will continue to publicise its enforcement activities through its website and press releases.</p>				
	<p>Officers will contribute to the annual review of the Code of Conduct and ensure it is publicly available.</p>				

<p>SC2E: The Code of Conduct for IFCOs is reflected in work objectives and annual appraisals for all warranted officers.</p> <p>SC2F: Warranted officers attain accreditation. All undertake Continuing Professional Development.</p>	<p>The Cornwall IFCA performance management system manages performance and behaviours against agreed expectations. The clear understanding of expected behaviours and the effective line management of staff will ensure compliance with the appropriate codes of conduct.</p> <p>A programme of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) will be continued for all officers. The national programme of accredited training, which all officers have started, is currently on hold. Officers will continue and complete this training as it becomes available. In addition, supplementary courses will be offered to staff, identified through organisational skills analyses, as well as through personal development plans.</p>				
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Success Criterion 3:

IFCAs use evidence based and appropriate measures to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources and deliver marine environmental protection within their districts.

Definition:

The IFCAs were created as statutory inshore regulators by the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. They are relevant authorities for implementing international environmental commitments including the Birds, Habitats, Water and Marine Strategy Framework Directives and make an important contribution to securing a network of well managed marine protected areas, including European Marine Sites and Marine Conservation Zones. Fisheries Management Plans identify local management measures which should be based on evidence; be timely; subject to appropriate consultation and in step with national initiatives and priorities. An IFCA should balance the social and economic benefits of exploiting sea fisheries resources with the need to protect the environment. It should make a contribution to sustainable development.

Outcomes

- The IFCA will identify issues likely to affect sustainable management of the marine environment in the IFC District; undertake risk assessment and gap analysis; review appropriateness of existing measures; evaluate management options and develop and implement proportionate marine management solutions.
- The IFCA will support implementation of a well-managed network of marine protected areas by: developing a range of criteria based management options; implementing management measures to ensure that inshore fisheries activities comply with the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and the revised approach to managing commercial fisheries in European Marine Sites; and that local management contributes to delivery of targets for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Water Framework Directive and Marine Plans.
- The IFCA will develop Fisheries Management Plans for priority species where appropriate. Shared objectives will be developed with identified partners; actions identified and best practice reflected so that management makes a contribution to sustainable development.

HLO Indicators	Cornwall IFCA work streams	Timescale			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
SC3A: The IFCA will record site-specific management considerations for Marine Protected Areas and report progress to the Authority.	<p>Within the 2020-2021 financial year, Cornwall IFCA will have completed the first versions of Habitat Regulations Assessments (HRA) for all European Marine Sites within the Cornwall IFCA District, and Marine Conservation Zone Assessments for all tranche one and tranche two Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) and will begin the assessment review process. These assess the impact of fishing activities on the designated features within Marine Protected Areas to ascertain whether management measures are required to achieve the conservation objectives of each feature within each site. To complete the assessments, all available evidence will be reviewed, including Cornwall IFCA's shellfish permit returns, research surveys, activity sightings from enforcement officers and informal consultation with fishermen. It is anticipated that first drafts all Tranche three MCZs assessments will be completed in the forthcoming financial year.</p>				
	<p>Within the 2020-2021 financial year, the research team has surveys planned to support the management of fisheries within MPAs. These are proposed to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dropdown video survey in the Eddystone area of the Start Point to Plymouth Sound and Eddystone SAC; • Catch sampling of crawfish stocks; • Carry out the first scallop population monitoring surveys; • Continue the long-term annual Fal Fishery oyster, queen scallop and slipper limpet assessment survey; and • Extensive other direct research activities that will be undertaken within the MPA network. 				

<p>SC3B: The IFCA will publish data analysis and evidence supporting new management measures on its website.</p>	<p>Throughout the year, there will be a continuation of a number of planned work streams looking to support the development of Fisheries Management Plans and associated byelaws as well as looking at the proposed standalone pieces of legislation. In addition, work will continue on reviewing the byelaws made by Cornwall IFCA. During 2020-2021, this will be the European Marine Site No. 2 byelaw following prioritisation of other work in 2019 - 2020. All research studies will have an associated report which will be made available on, or details of where they can be accessed, the Cornwall IFCA website.</p>				
<p>SC3C: Management information (e.g. sampling and/or survey results) will be collected periodically after new management measures have been implemented, to demonstrate the extent of the effectiveness of the intervention.</p>	<p>During the process of reviewing fishery activities, existing and newly collected data will be analysed and used to produce reports that will outline potential management measures and the likely outcome of each option. These reports will be made available either in a downloadable format or details of how they can be accessed via the Authority's website.</p>				
<p>SC3D: The IFCA will have developed a range of criteria-based management options that are explained to stakeholders through the IFCA website and reviewed by 31 March each year.</p>	<p>Cornwall IFCA's research program consists of activities undertaken to ensure that the management options it puts in place are having the effect they were designed to have. This may be through dedicated research activities, or it may be through the ongoing data collection programmes already in place.</p>				
<p>SC3E: New IFCA management measures selected for development and implementation are delivered within agreed timescales.</p>	<p>Cornwall IFCA will seek formal consultations for its Fishery Management Plans for locally important species from relevant bodies and groups. The plans will be based on collaboratively developed objectives for each fishery that will be achieved by clearly defined actions for all involved agencies. It is expected that in 2020-21, a first draft of a Crustacean Fisheries Management plan will be available for peer review.</p>				

<p>SC3F: The IFCA will include shared agreed objectives and actions from Fisheries Management Plans in its own Annual Plan, which will be published by 31 March each year.</p>	<p>Cornwall IFCA has a planned programme of management options to be considered in the 2020-21 financial year. Management options are drafted and developed under the mandate of the full Authority by the Byelaw Working Group (BWG) who report progress and recommendations to the full Authority according to a timescale decided by that Authority. The BWG does not have the delegated power to make legislation, which remains with the full Authority with management options being publicly discussed and made at the quarterly meetings.</p>				
<p>SC3G: Progress made in relevant Fisheries Management Plan areas, including Maximum Sustainable Yield commitments, will be noted in the IFCA’s Annual Report.</p>	<p>The first draft of the initial Fisheries Management Plan is anticipated to be completed within the 2020-21 financial year and will look at the crustacean fisheries within the district. Any objectives and actions will be published in the 2020-21 Annual Plan. Each year’s Annual Report will cover outputs from any Fisheries Management plans that are in place.</p>				

Success Criterion 4:

IFCAs have appropriate governance in place and staff are trained and professional.

Definition:




IFCAs are statutory authorities and sit within the local government family. Authority members may be either general members or local Councillors. They comply with Codes of Conduct and the Standing Orders that apply to meetings of local government committees. General members are appointed on merit, through open competition and for a term. They are subject to an annual performance appraisal.

An IFCA is funded by levy, charged to its member councils. Funding originates in local taxation. An IFCA is accountable for its use of public resources and should ensure that a proper auditing regime provides confidence in its commitment and spend of public money. It should make effective use of its resources, including staff and assets. An IFCA has a statutory obligation to prepare and publish Annual Plans and Annual Reports.

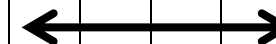
Outcomes

- The IFCA will demonstrate its long-term strategic approach to sustainable marine management by having appropriate plan making, review, update and amendment procedures in place. The IFCA will record its performance against corporate outcomes and indicators as soon as practically possible following the end of the financial year.
- Staff performance management systems will be in place that link to the IFCA success criteria. There will be an induction procedure for new joiners. Staff training and development needs will be identified. Performance will be managed and, where necessary, improvement procedures will be followed.
- The IFCA Committee will be supported by an organised, efficient and effective secretariat. New members will receive an induction pack and briefing from the Authority. There will be a rolling twelve month schedule of quarterly Authority meetings. Notices of meetings and documentation will be made available in line with Standing Orders.

IFCA Committee meetings will be held in public unless material is either confidential, or exempt within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1972.

HLO Indicators	Cornwall IFCA work streams	Timescale			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<p>SC4A: The IFCA will publish a plan on its website by 31 March, setting out the main objectives and priorities for the next financial year. A copy will be sent to the Secretary of State.</p>	<p>Cornwall IFCA will develop its Annual Plan by considering national and local programmes and priorities the later often identified through the many and varied engagements with different stakeholder groups, representative bodies and statutory agencies. It will also look at the day to day contact our officers have with individuals as well as the research work undertaken by Cornwall IFCA. The key direction-setting sections which outline the focus and priority areas for Cornwall IFCA for the following year, as well as the work level objectives which will be undertaken to meet the IFCA's Success Criteria, will be put to the March Committee Meeting in 2020 for review and approval by the full Authority to allow publication by 31 March 2020.</p>				
<p>SC4B: After the end of each financial year, the IFCA will publish a report on its website describing its activities, performance and a summary of audited financial information in that year, by 30 November. A copy will be sent to the Secretary of State.</p>	<p>The 2019-20 Cornwall IFCA Annual Report will be created as a collaborative piece with input from all staff and will be published in November 2020. This will demonstrate how the IFCA has performed over the previous financial year and will look at how integrated management of marine, land and water based management has worked together.</p>				
<p>SC4C: IFCA staff will have annual performance management plans in place. Annual appraisals for all staff will have been completed by 31 May each year.</p>	<p>Cornwall IFCA will continue to implement and use the Performance Management and Development Programme with all officers receiving at least two appraisal meetings per year. This year will see the renewal of the Investors In People accreditation.</p>				

<p>SC4D: An efficient secretariat of IFCA staff support IFCA Authority meetings which are held quarterly and are quorate. Meeting documentation will meet Standing Orders.</p> <p>SC4E: The IFCA will have demonstrated, in its Annual Report, how marine, land and water management mechanisms in the Inshore Fisheries & Conservation District have worked responsively and effectively together.</p>	<p>The Cornwall IFCA district maps to a unitary local authority, Cornwall Council. As such, the Cornwall IFCA Committee is a committee of Cornwall Council. This gives us access to the support of Cornwall Council’s democratic services team. Cornwall IFCA will continue to work closely with Cornwall Council to ensure that the statutory meetings are held quarterly through the 2020-21 year with appropriate and easy access to all public documents.</p> <p>The Annual Report will report on the management and monitoring of fisheries within the district as well as on any development work throughout the year. This will include any cross linking between marine, land and water management mechanisms where they have occurred.</p>				
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Success Criterion 5:




IFCAs make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives.

Definition:

IFCAs are statutory regulators for their Inshore Fisheries and Conservation District. Decision making should be based on evidence. All IFCAs are supported by officers who pool their expertise and share best practice as a Technical Advisory Group (TAG). A programme of research activity and monitoring is planned, developed and updated in consultation with partners. The programme informs management decisions and supports justification for additional research and evidence gathering.

Outcomes

- A strategic research plan that contributes to greater understanding of the marine environment and delivery of cost-effective management of sea fisheries resources.
- Standard Operating Procedures describe how data is captured and shared with principal partners.
- A list of research databases held by the IFCA and the frequency of their review.
- Non-confidential meta-data collected through the IFCA research programme should be recorded in a database available to the marine research community.

HLO Indicators	Cornwall IFCA work streams	Timescale			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
SC5A: The IFCA will demonstrate progress that has been made towards identifying its evidence needs by publishing a research plan each year.	The 2020-21 financial year will see a considerable number of different research streams to evidence, suggest and monitor management options. These will be annually planned but are subject to significant change due to changing priorities and weather patterns.				
SC5B: The IFCA will publish a research report annually that demonstrates how evidence has supported decision making.	To allow a review of the previous year's monitoring and evidence gathering, the Scientific team will ensure that all research programmes are appropriately reported with metadata made publicly available. In addition, Marine Protected Area fishery activity assessment documents will be available on request with a full, up to date list being publicly available.				
SC5C: The IFCA's contribution to TAG and progress that has been made towards a national evidence needs programme will be recorded in the IFCA's Annual Report.	The Principal Scientific Officer is the current Chair of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and as the designated representative for Cornwall IFCA, will report all outcomes to the Chief Officer. The involvement with TAG will be reported in the following year's Annual Report.				

Risk Management Strategy

As a statutory body, Cornwall IFCA must take all reasonable steps to ensure that it fulfils all duties as defined by the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

Health and Safety Risk Assessments

Health and Safety risks are managed separately from this document. All regular activities, both at sea and on land, are subject to a thorough process of risk management, with all risk assessments reviewed at least of an annual basis. All Cornwall IFCA staff have received training in risk management and are made aware of their responsibilities for their own, and others safety.

Risk Register

Where a risk has the potential to prevent or delay Cornwall IFCA from achieving its success criteria, performance indicator or other agreed action/activity, this has been noted within the risk register below. A 5x5 risk matrix sets out the magnitude of the risk from an organisational perspective for reputational, environmental, political, operational and financial risks as well as identifying implications for the health and safety of the staff and others. The potential risks for each issue are plotted and averaged on the matrix against the likelihood of them occurring.

The descriptions of potential risks in the following table are not in any particular order. The risks rating stated represent the risk after the application of the stated mitigation measures and management strategies.

Risk Register Matrix

Impact ↑	5 Very High					
	4 High					
	3 Medium					
	2 Low					
	1 Negligible					
		1 Rare	2 Unlikely	3 Moderate	4 Likely	5 Probable
		Likelihood →				

At the time of producing this Annual Plan, the UK was exposed to the Covid-19 pandemic. The management of the IFCA's response to this fast-changing situation has been managed through a standalone Coronavirus Business Continuity Plan. This plan will manage the day to day response to the emerging situation.

Risk Register

Risk	Risk I x L	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Cornwall IFCA failing to meet stakeholder expectations.	4 x 2	Increased non-compliance with fisheries and environmental legislation.	Operational, Reputational, Financial, Environmental, Political.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptive co-management approach; Regular contact with stakeholders; Transparent planning and reporting of Cornwall IFCA work plans; Communication and engagement strategy followed to help Cornwall IFCA fully engage with all stakeholders; Regular liaison with partner bodies; Accessible Cornwall IFCA contact points for stakeholders; and Good staff management and training to ensure high standards of officer behaviour. 	Managing expectations of Cornwall IFCA is a key part of the Communication Strategy.	It is vital to ensure that stakeholders have a clear understanding of the roles, responsibilities and duties of Cornwall IFCA. As well as a realistic understanding of the many competing priorities and timescales.
		Conflict with stakeholder groups. Reducing effectiveness of Cornwall IFCA and possibly impacting on safety of staff.	Political, Reputational, Health and Safety.		Transparent communication of successful prosecutions.	Effective publicity of enforcement effort as well as sanctions issued will have both a deterrent effect as well as improving the public's understanding of the work of Cornwall IFCA.
		Lack of trust in Cornwall IFCA's management processes.	Operational, Reputational, Financial, Political.		Sector analysis of communication needs and proactive engagement.	Effective communication and engagement must be tailored to the audience. This will necessarily mean that different levels of resources will need to be targeted at different stakeholder groups.
		Stakeholders not coming forward or reluctant to supply intelligence or information.	Operational, Reputational, Environmental.		<p>Ensure close performance management and effective recruitment programmes.</p> <p>Officers fully consider every source of intelligence and act if appropriate.</p>	<p>The interaction between staff, particularly the enforcement team, and stakeholders is one of the key areas which can affect, both positively and negatively, the public's view of our work. Effective staff recruitment and management is essential to maintaining good stakeholder relations.</p> <p>Every intelligence source is potentially a very useful insight to unexpected scenarios and will be recorded and analysed. It is also very important that stakeholders feel that their actions in bringing information to our attention will be taken seriously.</p>

Risk		Risk I x L	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Legal and procedural challenges	Byelaw not confirmed by Defra; or Judicial Review of Policy/ byelaw.	4 x 2	Policy decision/byelaw overturned or declined, leaving no management option for fishery/stock/marine environment identified as being under threat. Waste of resource applied to production of policy and requirement to urgently divert resources to create new policy/management options.	Operational, Reputational, Financial, Environmental, Political.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where there is uncertainty, seek independent legal advice; Careful consideration of legal advice; Regular engagement and involvement with partner bodies and external organisations; Early engagement and transparent consultation on policy formation; Timely briefing and involvement of the Authority; Rigorous application of public interest tests for prosecution cases; Good staff management in preparing legal cases. 	Managing expectations of Cornwall IFCA is a key part of the Communication Strategy.	It is vital to ensure that stakeholders have a clear understanding of the roles, responsibilities and duties of Cornwall IFCA, as well as a realistic understanding of the many competing priorities and timescales.
	Legal challenges on failure to fulfil duties.	4 x 1	If Cornwall IFCA was found to be failing to fulfil one or some aspects of its role to manage the marine environment and fisheries, this could have significant impacts on public engagement, funding streams and the management of Cornwall IFCA.	Reputational, Financial, Political.		Transparent communication of successful prosecutions.	Effective publicity of enforcement effort as well as sanctions issued will have both a deterrent effect as well as improving the public's understanding of the work of Cornwall IFCA.

	Unexpected outcome in prosecution case(s).	3 x 2	<p>Where unlawful fishing activities are identified, it is essential that Cornwall IFCA applies fair and appropriate penalties. If Cornwall IFCA is unsuccessful in a number of prosecution cases, this will have a reputational impact. This may lead to an increase in illegal activities as stakeholders do not believe they are fishing under an effective or fair system, and do not fear any reprisals for non-compliance.</p>	Operational, Reputational, Financial, Environmental, Political.		<p>Adequately resource and prioritise the production of casefiles. Appropriate involvement of legal advice.</p>	<p>Cornwall IFCA has a good record of successful prosecutions where offences are detected. Where there is a failure of a case, a thorough review is undertaken and lessons learned. Cornwall IFCA also works with other IFCAs and prosecution bodies to share best practice.</p> <p>Cornwall IFCA has invested heavily in staff training to ensure best practice in evidence gathering and in managing and running cases. It is also important to build resilience into the staffing structure to ensure ongoing caseloads can be appropriately managed.</p> <p>It is vital to build the highest quality case files to ensure that prosecutions result in the expected outcome. Cornwall IFCA will not take a prosecution forward unless it has a high degree of confidence that it will be successful, and will only take prosecutions forward when they are in the public interest. However, it is acknowledged that, once in court, there remains a risk of an unexpected outcome or, where successful, a sanction which is unexpected. Cornwall IFCA will always review and learn from such cases.</p>
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Risk	Risk I x L	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Sudden and unexpected changes in fisheries due to stock collapse, natural disaster, emerging fisheries, sudden increase in non-compliant fishing or legislative changes.	3 x 4	Requirement to create emergency or fast-tracked legislation and associated research programmes.	Operational, Reputational, Financial, Environmental, Political.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptive co-management approach; Regular contact with stakeholders to maintain an early understanding of changes in fishing patterns; Regular liaison with partner bodies; Swift reprofiling of enforcement activities to emerging changes in noncompliant activities; Ongoing research activities to measure health of key fishing stocks. 	This risk is likely to be an external factor and, whilst it is unlikely that there will be a sudden unforeseen collapse in a fish stock, it is likely that there will be legislative changes that will dramatically affect the inshore fisheries. Active involvement with other IFCA's and the Association of IFCA's, as well as with Defra, is key to managing this threat.	Cornwall IFCA has already seen a number of different external issues which have dramatically impacted on inshore fisheries. These include actions by other areas to reduce scalloping, new European regulations for the protection of bass stocks as well as the implementation of the Landing Obligation. Cornwall IFCA will continue to monitor these changes and their impact on local fisheries.
		Dramatic shift in effort of inshore fishing fleet requiring overhaul of policy and management options.	Political, Operational, Financial.			
		Legislative changes could require significant time to understand and communicate to stakeholders	Operational, Reputational, Financial.			
		Unexpected refocusing in enforcement resources, possible unanticipated increase in legal fees pending prosecution	Operational, Reputational, Financial.			

Risk	Risk I x L	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Failure to manage the network of Marine Protected Areas (MCZ and EMS).	3 x 3	The Cornwall IFCA district has an extensive network of EMS and MCZ which require assessment and appropriate management options. New EMS as well as additional MCZ site features are being added alongside the phased approach to MCZ designation. This may lead to a situation where additional resource requirements create an exponentially growing burden on the service. This will expose Cornwall IFCA to legal challenges which may put at risk stakeholder confidence and could impact on the viability of the MPA network.	Operational, Reputational, Financial, Environmental, Political.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPA assessment work is the highest priority for the research team; • Effective project management of the programmes to undertake assessments and research activities; • Collaboration with Defra, JNCC, Natural England, the MMO, other IFCAs and the Welsh government. 	<p>Expansion of the research team with specific project roles to look at the MPA programme.</p> <p>If necessary, reprioritise other work streams.</p>	<p>Management of the MPA network will be a priority area of work for several years to come. This will have knock on effects as to capacity for other work programmes.</p> <p>Managing this risk will require good programme management on behalf of Cornwall IFCA. However, it is worth noting that much of this work requires timely input from external partners; something that is out of the control of Cornwall IFCA.</p>

Risk	Risk Score (I x L)	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Ineffective staff management.	5 x 2	<p>Loss of productivity and low moral.</p> <p>High staff turnover.</p> <p>Failure to meet key requirements as a service.</p> <p>Failure to maintain trust and reputation with stakeholders.</p>	Operational, Reputational, Financial, Environmental, Political.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cornwall IFCA has instigated a performance management and development programme. This is core to the good line management of all staff; • Clear understanding of expectations of officers; • Officers are given autonomy and are involved in the decision making of the service. 	Cornwall IFCA has entered into a Service Level Agreement with Cornwall Council for them to act as HR business partner. This provides a solid legal backing for management as well as clear and fairly applied policies for all staff.	Cornwall IFCA has recently been re-awarded Investors In People status and the ongoing assessment and improvement cycle will help to maintain and develop existing good practices in staff management.

Risk	Risk Score (I x L)	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Absence or loss of key members of staff.	4 x 3	Reduced productivity.	Operational, Reputational, Financial, Environmental.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of workforce planning and succession planning programmes and policies;• Build redundancy through staff capability mechanisms;• Greater sharing of knowledge and skills for key roles.	Clear targets for staff performance.	Loss of key members of staff may have a considerable financial burden if there is extensive and expensive training required for replacement officers.
		Increased pressure on remaining staff.	Operational, Reputational, Environmental.		Regular mentoring of welfare and performance.	
		Lack of capacity due to loss of skills and knowledge.	Operational, Reputational, Environmental.		Effective processes for knowledge capture and transfer.	
					Recruitment procedures and staff documentation regularly reviewed to enable quick recruitment activities.	

Risk	Risk Score (I x L)	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Severe damage to or total loss of key asset or vessel(s)	5 x 2	Loss of life or injury to crew.	Operational, Reputational, Financial, Environmental, Health and Safety.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vessels well maintained to Work Boat Code. Ongoing comprehensive programme of refits, services and regular checks by appropriately trained individuals; All seagoing staff trained in essential sea survival, firefighting and first aid; Emergency procedures and emergency drills regularly undertaken and up to date; Patrols organised to minimise risks; All skippers and RIB coxswains trained and experienced, with performance regularly reviewed. 	Lifesaving equipment present, maintained and staff trained in its use.	Cornwall IFCA has a number of marine assets which are essential to provide the seagoing platform required for both research and enforcement functions. Staff are well trained and experienced with a long period of monitoring and induction for seagoing staff. All staff are regularly assessed through a system of performance management and review to ensure high levels of competence as well as appropriate behaviour.
		Inability to undertake enforcement patrols or research activities.	Operational, Reputational, Financial.		Deck and boarding officers issued PLB and lifejackets.	
		Replacement costs and time implications.	Operational, Financial.		The marine assets have been purchased in such a way as to provide considerable overlap in functionality. For example, the RIBS can both be launched from the trailer and from Saint Piran. This would allow the continued provision of service (albeit at reduced capacity) in the event that any of the vessels were out of action.	

Risk	Risk Score (I x L)	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Reduction of core funding/ greatly increased duties	4 x 3	Reduced capacity to fulfil duty under relevant legislation.	Operational, Reputational, Financial, Political.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close involvement with Defra and the Association of IFCA's to manage expectations and monitor funding streams; Regular contact and negotiations with Cornwall Council finance department. 	Look for external sources of funding.	<p>Cornwall IFCA is operating in a time of austerity and must be aware that there is a high likelihood that funding will, at best, be standstill and will possibly be reduced. It is also highly likely that there will be additional expectations made of the IFCA in coming years.</p> <p>New Burdens funding has been agreed until 2020 when there will be the next national Comprehensive Spending Review. New Burdens funding represents a third of Cornwall IFCA's total budget. However, Cornwall Council has emphasised that it is facing severe cuts and the funding for Cornwall IFCA will be an area that may need further review.</p>
		Possible redundancies to staff.	Operational, Financial, Reputational.		Improved efficiencies.	
		Reduction in enforcement presence to ensure compliant fishing	Operational Environmental Reputational		Reprioritisation of work streams and a management of expectations. Reprofiling of enforcement activities to only high-risk areas	

Risk	Risk Score (I x L)	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Loss or unauthorised access to data including personal data.	4 x 2	Breach of Data Protection Act and possible prosecution.	Reputational, Financial, Political.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff trained in information management principles and aware of their responsibilities; Secure off-site server storage through SLA with Cornwall Council; Onsite fireproof lockable storage for physical documents. 	Cornwall IFCA transfers some of the risk for managing its digital information through a SLA with Cornwall Council for IT services.	Loss of, or unauthorised access to, data has the potential to severely damage the relationship with stakeholders, as well as, in the case of research data, represent the loss of a considerable financial asset.
		Loss of business critical information.	Operational, Reputational, Financial.			

Risk	Risk Score (I x L)	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Incident causing severe injury or death of staff member	5 x 2	<p>Loss of key member of staff.</p> <p>Low morale.</p> <p>Lengthy investigation (potentially including seized assets).</p> <p>Down time due to overhaul and review of operations.</p> <p>Legal action and potential sanctions, including imprisonment for senior staff.</p>	Operational, Reputational, Financial, Environmental, Health and Safety.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk management process including annual review of all risk assessments; • Staff training in risk management. • Installing a culture of safety; • Cover for key roles; • Identification of training needs; • Review and feedback process following incidents and near misses; • Maintenance of all vehicles and vessels; • Creation and regular review of disaster planning and incident response plans. 	<p>Counselling services are available.</p> <p>Effective management of staff health safety and management.</p> <p>Legal advice.</p>	Cornwall IFCA operates in a hazardous environment where the risk of an incident occurring is higher than other organisations, and where the hazards are greater than for many other occupations. Fishing remains one of the more dangerous occupations and our officers are exposed to some of that risk. As such, safety is of the highest priority to Cornwall IFCA.

Risk	Risk Score (I x L)	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Failure to maintain effective financial management and control.	4 x 1	Financial loss leading to reduction in capacity.	Reputational, Political, Financial.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual internal and external audit. Cornwall Council financial services operate as a partner through a SLA. 	Part of the risk has been transferred to Cornwall Council through a SLA covering financial services.	Cornwall IFCA is a Committee of Cornwall Council. This is because the Cornwall IFCA district maps onto the Unitary Authority of Cornwall Council. This allows for a close working relationship between the two authorities giving Cornwall IFCA the support of a much larger organisation.
		Loss of staff morale.	Operational, Reputational.			
		Police investigation of fraudulent activities.	Operational, Reputational.			

Risk	Risk Score (I x L)	Possible Implications	Risk Category	Management of the Risk	Potential Mitigation	Comments
Damage to, limited access to, or loss of, office and storage spaces	4 x 1	Loss of physical records.	Reputational, Political, Financial.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure appropriate Health and Safety procedures are in place and followed; Ensure adequate off site backup of electronic data; Electronic copies of key records kept; 	Part of the risk has been transferred to Cornwall Council through a SLA covering HR, payroll and financial services.	Cornwall IFCA has two separate rented spaces at the Hayle Marine Renewables Business Park, both of which are new constructions built to a high standard. Cornwall IFCA also has a full suite of H&S risk assessments and systems of work in place to reduce the risk of fire, theft or other incidents.
		Loss of IT infrastructure.	Operational, Reputational.			
		Loss of ancillary equipment.	Operational, Reputational.			

		Loss of physical work spaces	Operational, Reputational.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Cornwall Council for payroll and HR functions. 	<p>The office and unit are of modern design with good fire prevention systems in place.</p> <p>The use of IS for IT support gives access to offsite secure backup of all electronic data as well as capacity to quickly allow staff access to remote/hot desk working.</p>	
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Governance and Committee Membership

Cornwall IFCA is led and directed by a Committee made up of 21 Members. Membership is drawn from Cornwall Council councillors (7 Members), appointments from stakeholders by the MMO (12 Members (including one appointed MMO officer)) and officers from Natural England and the Environment Agency (2 Members). Cornwall IFCA is a committee of Cornwall Council as, unusually, the IFCA district matches to a Unitary Authority.

Appointees to IFCA's are legally required to represent all local commercial and recreational fishing and marine environmental interests in the waters of the IFCA District in a balanced way, taking full account of all the economic, social and environmental needs of that District. Members should recognise that they are part of a committee and must not regard themselves as representing solely one particular interest within the IFCA District. The Members are collectively and individually responsible for providing governance and direction for the Authority and for promoting the efficient use of resources within Cornwall IFCA.

All Members of the Authority are bound, when acting as a Member of the Authority, by Cornwall Council's Code of Conduct for Members and co-opted Members of the Council. As a result, all Members should register their disclosable pecuniary interests with the Monitoring Officer and, when a matter is considered by the Authority or any of its sub-Committees in which a Member of Cornwall IFCA may have a disclosable pecuniary interest or a non-registerable interest, they should declare their interest and act in accordance with the Code at all times.

Members must not undermine the credibility of Cornwall IFCA. Any Member found to have been convicted of an offence under fisheries or environmental legislation, or any other matter relevant to their appointment to an IFCA, will have their appointment terminated, and they will not be eligible for re-appointment (sections 11 & 12 of the Cornwall Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010 SI 2188/2010). Members must not, in their official capacity or under any other circumstances, conduct themselves in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing their office, the Cornwall IFCA Committee or IFCA's in general into disrepute.

The Chief Officer and senior officers are responsible for the day to day management and operational leadership of the Authority. As the officer accountable for Cornwall IFCA's budget and reserves, the Chief Officer is guided by Cornwall Council's Head of Finance to ensure all financial regulations and internal procedures are followed. The Chief Officer has general responsibility for taking reasonable actions to provide for the security of Cornwall IFCA's assets and for ensuring that the use of these resources is legal, is properly authorised, provides value for money and achieves best value.

Cornwall IFCA is audited annually both internally by the Cornwall Council Audit Team, and also externally when the Annual Statement of Accounts are examined and signed off by the Audit Commission.

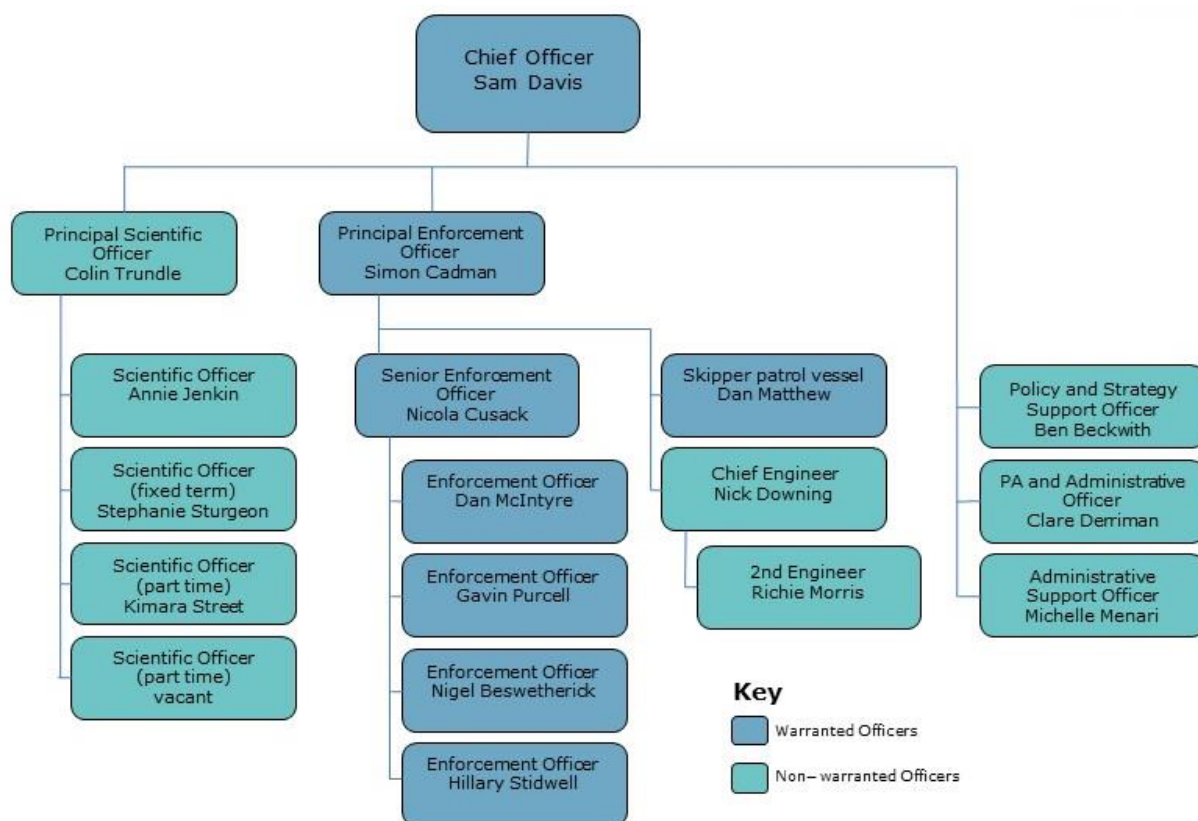
Service Organisation and Staff

Cornwall IFCA mirrors the employment policies and practices of Cornwall Council, except where otherwise specified. Cornwall Council operates through a Service Level Agreement (SLA) as Cornwall IFCA's Human Resources (HR) Business Partner and hosts a bespoke Employment Handbook on the staff intranet. The handbook specifies where Cornwall IFCA has policies which are different and supersede those of Cornwall Council, which otherwise apply. The HR contract between Cornwall IFCA and Cornwall Council specifies that Cornwall Council will ensure that legislative implications of changes to employment law are transferred to Cornwall IFCA through the production of Council policies, or specified Cornwall IFCA policies. This will continue in the 2020/21 financial year.

In areas outside of specific employment policies, Cornwall IFCA will adopt Cornwall Council policies unless otherwise specified (e.g., IT policies, safeguarding).

Service Description

The Authority is an employer under section 165 of MaCAA 2009, having an establishment comprising 18 members of staff. The 2020/21 financial year will see some disruption caused by some staff having long periods of leave as well as training requirements of several new officers and internal transfers appointed in late 2019/20.



Service Standards and Delivery Priorities

Service Standards

As part of its commitment to customer care, Cornwall IFCA has published a Stakeholder Promise which defines the standards which stakeholders can expect. This document is available from the website, or by request from the office.

Delivery Priorities

The following list provides the core delivery priorities Cornwall IFCA needs to undertake to meet the requirements of the Marine and Coastal Access Act in the Cornwall District.

Communication

This is at the heart of all the work Cornwall IFCA undertakes. It is essential that officers listen and try to understand people's views and any concerns, and express themselves in a clear, understandable and appropriate manner. It is also essential that all advice, guidance or information given out is accurate, consistent and officers check that they are being understood.

Stakeholder Interaction

Cornwall IFCA is most effective when it has the support of its stakeholders. It is vital that when dealing with stakeholders and partner organisations, officers treat all people:

- Courteously
- With respect
- With dignity
- Honestly
- Fairly
- With positivity; and
- With understanding

Enforcement

Cornwall IFCA has a good track record of providing an effective enforcement regime. The risk-based approach to enforcement activities ensures that assets are deployed in an effective and appropriate manner. Warranted officers all work closely together and receive extensive and ongoing training and continuing professional development to provide a thorough and consistent approach to inspections and investigations work.

Research and Information Management

Cornwall IFCA bases all of its management decisions on sound scientific evidence. It is vital that data used is open, accurate and well managed. It is also essential to proactively undertake research activities to assess issues in the district.

Appropriate Management Options

Cornwall IFCA has inherited a complex set of byelaws and codes of practice which, combined with nationally applicable legislation, are used to manage the inshore fisheries around Cornwall. Work continues to rationalise the legacy byelaws as well as developing new management options to meet identified issues within the district.

Working in Partnership

Cornwall IFCA officers must work effectively with national and local organisations, regulators and its stakeholders.

Facilities and Major Assets

Accommodation

Cornwall IFCA is based in Chi Gallos at the Hayle Marine Renewables Business Park. As well as the office, Cornwall IFCA leases one of the industrial units on the site to use as a boat store and workshop. The accommodation is co-located with the MMO and CEFAS, providing the one stop shop for stakeholders.

The industrial unit houses the RIB Avalon, as well as all of Cornwall IFCA's research equipment and all the associated kit and PPE. The unit also holds our container, which is used as a secure evidence locker. The MMO have access to the unit to store PPE and to share (subject to appropriate continuity of evidence safeguards) the secure evidence locker. The unit has a small office which is suitable for meetings and formal recorded interviews.

The full office address is:

Chi Gallos
Hayle Marine Renewables Business Park
North Quay
Hayle
Cornwall TR27 4DD

Vessels

Saint Piran

Saint Piran is the main patrol vessel operated by Cornwall IFCA. Purpose built and launched in 2000, she is 27m in length and powered by twin 1300hp engines. The vessel is capable of operating around the Cornish coast, subject to weather conditions. Saint Piran requires a minimum crew of four for enforcement work but frequently has five or six aboard for some patrols. The stern launched 6.4m RIB Lyonesse facilitates rapid transfer of enforcement officers to and from fishing vessels. Saint Piran provides a safe working platform enabling officers to remain at sea for extended periods when required. She is equipped with a suite of electronics which enables the monitoring of vessel movements. This can be especially important when patrolling protected areas, and information gathered electronically can be presented in court as evidence. Saint Piran was due to go into Penzance Dry Dock on 6 April for her refit but, due to the coronavirus pandemic, this has been delayed.

Lyonesse

Supplied new in 2000 with Saint Piran, Lyonesse is a 6.4m Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB). Housed aboard Saint Piran in a stern ramp, she can be launched with up to four officers aboard within a few minutes. Powered by an inboard diesel engine driving a water jet, she is very manoeuvrable and capable of over 30 knots. A very good sea boat in all conditions, she is very strong and has an operating range of 100 miles. Lyonesse is used for boarding vessels at sea and other patrol work, and can be used as a patrol craft without the support of Saint Piran if necessary. During 2016, Lyonesse was fitted with an upgraded jet unit and electronic plotter which have improved her capabilities. Lyonesse was also due for refit on 6 April which has also been delayed.

Avalon

Built in 2000 and purchased second hand in 2005, Avalon is a 6.8m RIB. She is kept in our industrial unit at Hayle on her road trailer ready for immediate use. Avalon is fully equipped to undertake stand-alone patrol work but can also be

accommodated in the stern ramp on Saint Piran should Lyonesse be off service. Powered by an inboard diesel engine driving a water jet, she is capable of over 30 knots and is very manoeuvrable having an operating range of over 100 miles. Avalon is used for most estuary patrol work including the Fal oyster fishery. At over three tonnes, Avalon is towed with our service Land Rover Defender and can be launched anywhere from slips or beaches in the district at short notice. She can carry a crew of between two and four officers and has taken part in many joint patrols with the EA, Police and MMO.

Tiger Lily VI

In October 2014, Cornwall IFCA purchased an 11m ex-charter angling catamaran. After undergoing a brief refit to enable her to carry out all survey tasks, she entered service in December 2014. She is a versatile and flexible research platform and has recently been upgraded with the addition of an A frame for the deployment of survey equipment.

Service Vehicles

Land Rover Discovery 110

The Land Rover 110 defender is leased on a four year fully maintained deal. Capable of towing our 3500kg rated RIB trailer, transporting 5 persons and fitted with electric recovery winch, this vehicle is an ideal choice for the requirements of the enforcement team. The lease for this vehicle ceased on 25 March. At this time, the replacement Land Rover has not yet been delivered.

Volkswagen Caddy Kombi

Mainly allocated to the Enforcement team, this vehicle has a capability of carrying 5 persons and a substantial load area for equipment and transport. The vehicle is diesel with zero road tax and stop/start technology. The lease is on a four year fully, maintained, contract hire.

Ford Transit Connect

A long wheelbase Ford Transit Connect was procured on a four-year lease commencing of April 2016. This is primarily used by the research team. The lease for this vehicle has been extended for 6 months.

Volkswagen Caddy Kombi

Mainly allocated to the Research team, this vehicle has a capability of carrying 5 persons and a substantial load area for equipment and transport. The vehicle is diesel with zero road tax and stop/start technology. The lease is on a four year fully, maintained, contract hire.

Ford Focus

A medium size car for all staff to use on official business. This vehicle is leased on a four year fully, maintained, contract hire. The lease is due to expire on 4 May 2020 at which time it will not be replaced.

Financial Statement

From 2011 to 2016, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) provided additional New Burdens funding to all ten IFCA's across England in recognition of both their expanded duties and extended geographical remits. This funding was reviewed in 2016 and agreed nationally for a further four years. In 2019/20, Defra's contribution through this mechanism to Cornwall IFCA (paid to Cornwall Council) was £324,838. In light of the current political situation, the existing national government spending review period has been extended for a further year, to 2021.

In setting the 2020/21 budget, Cornwall IFCA recognises, as in previous years, that Cornwall Council continues to face challenging budgetary pressures across all its services. In recognition of this, Cornwall IFCA has limited the increase to the levy only to cover unavoidable additional expenditure, mainly relating to direct employment costs.

As would be expected, Cornwall IFCA's officers and accountants have worked hard to identify savings and efficiencies so that it can meet the pressures it faces with only increasing the levy by the £49,716. Cornwall IFCA had considered the option of not increasing the levy, but this is not feasible without impacting on the work that the IFCA will have to do in 2020/21.

Cornwall IFCA continues to be based in the Marine Renewables Business Park in Hayle, where we are tenants of Cornwall Council for both an office and an industrial unit. As this is a commercial tenancy, in addition to our rent, we pay business rates, service charges and other premises costs which are also subject to inflationary uplifts. We are also responsible for compliance testing and servicing of the systems and equipment within the industrial unit.

As an organisation, just under 64% of our total expenditure relates to the employment of staff so any small changes in pay, national insurance and superannuation have an impact. Overall, one of the main increases from the 2019/20 budget has been from additional employment costs of £16,408.

Continuing demands on the work of our research team has meant that monies have been approved to be taken again from reserves, as agreed at the Committee meeting on 20 September 2019, in order to continue to fund a scientific officer post. During the discussion on that matter, members also directed officers to permanently incorporate the funding of this post into the revenue budget for 2020/21. In order to reduce the impact this would have on the overall levy, a proportion of the post has been funded through drawing down £19,439 of the allocated reserves agreed by members, delaying the uplift required to fully incorporate the post into the overall budget from October 2020. By introducing the post in this way, it will reduce the impact on the 2020-21 levy by spreading the increase over two financial years. Additionally, it represents a £8,000 reduction in the total agreed drawing from reserves.

The majority of cost centres have been maintained at 2019/20 levels wherever possible and small savings have been made in a number of areas. There is a reduction in transport costs in Administration, where we will not be renewing a pool car lease and instead, diverting that saving into contributing towards a

replacement four wheeled drive vehicle for towing the RIBs, as the existing lease ends in March 2020. The RIB trailer also needs replacing at a cost of £8,000 as part of a five-year renewal plan. The loan interest repayment costs have fallen by £6,808 and we have been able to minimise recruitment costs through the use of online advertising and social media. The biennial refit costs also fall into this coming financial year, under transport costs within the Enforcement cost centre, but these are offset by the annual contributions of £45,000 made into reserves for this purpose.

It is possible that there will be further requests for us to deliver additional functions on behalf of Defra after EU-Exit, but these have not yet been fully defined. Formal agreements are already in place with the MMO for chartering our patrol vessel, should that be required.

The proposed IFCA budget for 2020/21 is maintained at a level where the Service can continue to fulfil its statutory remit as currently agreed with Defra but it is likely that additional expenses may have to be absorbed if they arise. Therefore, the budget has been reworked to fund pressures where needed and make savings where possible. Cornwall IFCA have managed the overall budget pressure so that the only substantial increase to Cornwall Council is for Employee Costs, including the incorporation of a new permanent scientific officer post.

In 2019/20 it was felt prudent to hold a minimum reserve of £200,600 which is within the IFCA's current forecast reserves balance. The budget contains a contribution to the reserves of £45,000 in 2020/21 to plan for future vessel refits and replacement. It is estimated that the reserve figure at the end of 2020/21 will stand at £605,357.

Cornwall Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority Annual Budget 2020/2021

Expenditure	Administration	Research	Enforcement	Regulating Orders	Wrasse	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Employees	205,813	176,156	386,339	0	0	768,308
Premises	52,800	0	1,100	0	0	53,900
Transport	3,650	34,800	180,200	0	0	218,650
Supplies and Services,	61,925	49,300	56,870	9,900	675	178,670
Support Services	9,300	1,300	0	0	0	10,600
Minimum Revenue Provision & Loan interest	63,402	0	0	0		63,402
Total	396,890	261,556	624,509	9,900	675	1,293,530
Income	(8,300)	(3,500)	(4,000)	(9,900)	(675)	(26,375)
Reserves						
Contributions to	0	0	45,000	0	0	45,000
Contributions from	0	(19,439)	(90,000)	0	0	(109,439)
Net 2020/21 Budget financed by Levy on Cornwall Council	388,590	238,617	575,509	0	0	1,202,716
Reserves	Opening Balance	Contribution to	Contribution from	Closing Balance		
	£	£	£	£		
Survey & Refit	-	-	(90,000)	(90,000)		
General Reserve	667,502	45,000	(19,439)	691,063		
Research & Projects	3,794	-	-	3,794		
Grant Reserve	500	-	-	500		
Totals	669,796	45,000	(109,439)	605,357		



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Cornwall Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
Chi Gallos
Hayle Marine Renewables Business Park
North Quay
Hayle
Cornwall TR27 4DD

Phone: ++ 44 (0)1736 336842

website: www.cornwall-ifca.gov.uk

email: enquiries@cornwall-ifca.gov.uk

