



Inshore Fisheries and  
Conservation Authority

# Annual Report 2016 to 2017

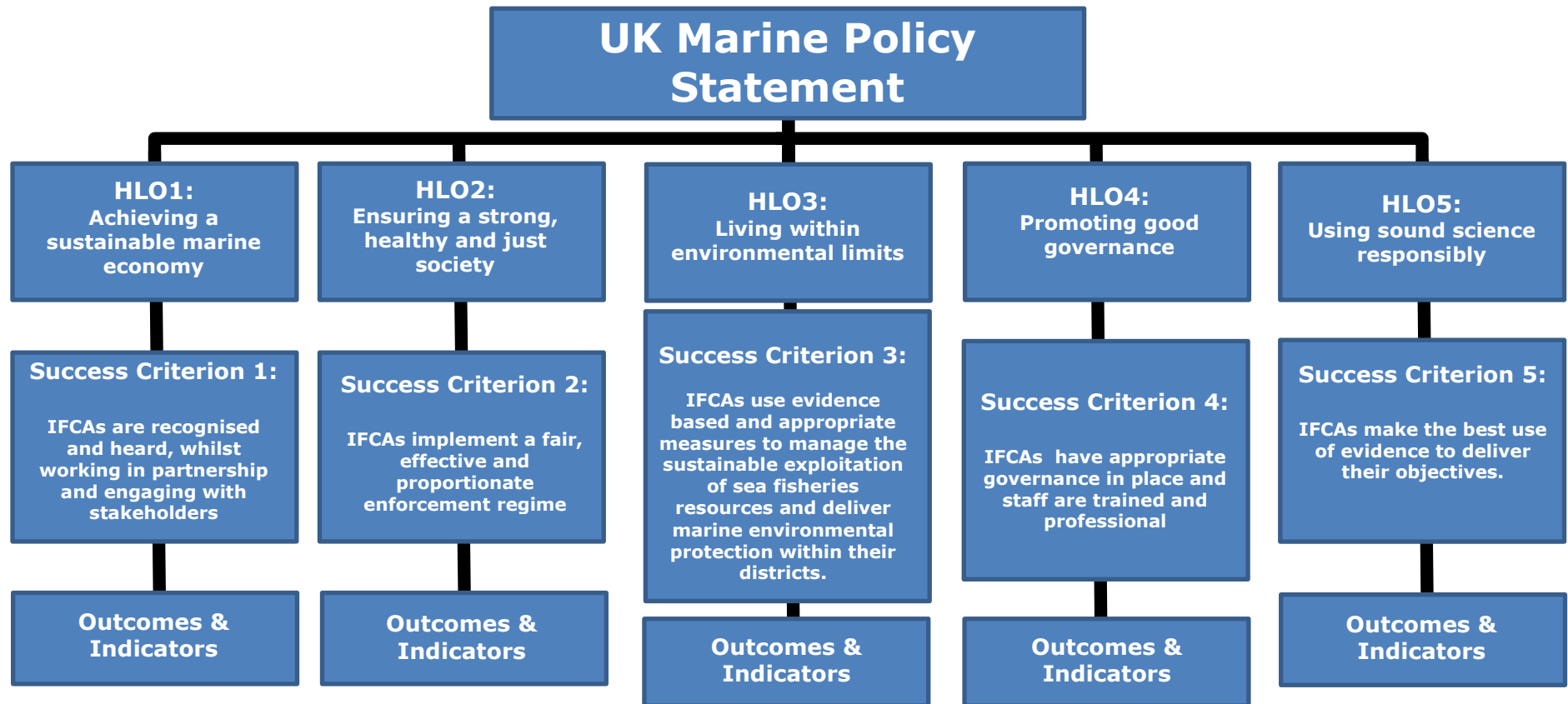




# The IFCA Vision

*"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."*

## IFCA Success Criteria





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# Foreword

When the 2016/17 Annual Plan was being written in early 2016, the build-up had begun for the June referendum on whether or not the UK should leave the European Union. The outcome of the referendum on 23 June, with a vote to leave the EU (Brexit), signalled the start of a process which will result in a complete renegotiation of our relationship with the other EU member states and with the rest of the world. The support for Brexit from the UK fishing industry and the prominence of this issue within the campaign to leave the EU meant that there was an immediate focus on the potential scope for a new UK fisheries management regime. As a result, as the rest of this year progressed, our involvement in both local and national meetings about the impact of Brexit on fisheries around Cornwall and the UK in general, began and quickly increased as new proposals and concerns over the long term implications of change started to emerge.

Work continued on modernising some of our existing legacy byelaws, particularly the management of netting within our rivers and estuaries. This culminated in a public consultation on a new River and Estuarine Fishing Nets Byelaw which caused some controversy, reflecting the interest in these areas for fishing activities. Two other consultations were held on new byelaws for the management of Marine Conservations Zones. All of these consultations saw unprecedented involvement from stakeholders, requiring new ways of managing the consultation processes. This involvement, whilst increasing the already high time and financial costs is a vital part of the byelaw making process.

The development of the live wrasse fishery as cleaner fish for Scottish salmon farms quickly rose from a local issue to one of national interest. In response to the potential for growth in this fishery and questions about its management, our research team became increasingly involved in working directly with fishermen, scientists, other south west IFCA's and the salmon production companies to quickly improve our understanding of this fishery.

Samantha Davis, Chief Officer

# Overview

This year saw the move of Cornwall IFCA from its offices in Penzance to the Marine Renewables Business Park in Hayle. The enforcement team also relocated the storage of the Rib Avalon from Chacewater to an industrial unit on the same site as the offices. The new offices also house the Marine Management Organisation providing the vital one stop shop for stakeholders.

The staff and Membership remained relatively stable in this financial year allowing for the development of expertise and a full operating structure.

## **Cornwall IFCA Authority**

The full Authority met on four occasions in the 2016/17 year:

- Authority Meeting: 17 June 2016
- Authority Meeting: 16 September 2016
- Authority Meeting: 16 December 2016
- Authority Meeting: 17 March 2017

All minutes and meeting papers can be downloaded from the Cornwall Council website<sup>1</sup>. A brief summary of each meeting is contained in the Authority report section of this document.

In the 2016/17 year there were a number of changes to the Authority:

- Councillor Cornelius Olivier was replaced on the Authority by Councillor Richard Buscomb before the September 2016 Authority meeting.
- Nathan de Rozarieaux left the Authority before the March 2017 Authority meeting leaving a vacancy.

## **Staff Recruitment, Turnover and Training**

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<sup>1</sup> Other formats are available on request.

The 2016/17 financial year saw the following changes to Cornwall IFCA staff;

- Holly Latham left her role as a Scientific Officer.
- Ryan Mathews left his role as a Scientific Officer at the end of the fixed term contract.
- Annie Jenkin joined the service as a Scientific Officer.

### **Training**

In addition to statutory training required for seagoing officers and revalidation training, the following training was undertaken by staff.

- Media training for senior officers
- Royal Navy enforcement course for 2 enforcement officers
- MMO online accredited training for all enforcement officers
- Developmental engineering training for 2<sup>nd</sup> engineer
- MEDIN (Marine Environmental Data and Information Network) training for two scientific officers; and
- Training in the use of lifts, hoists and slings aboard research vessel Tiger Lilly for research team



# Feedback on focus and priorities

The 2016/17 financial year saw considerable progress being made in the commitment of Cornwall IFCA to manage its network of Marine Protected Areas (MPA). This has resulted from the investment of a large amount of officer time to practical surveys and analysis and to the development of management options. Since 2011, Cornwall IFCA has reviewed all of its legacy bylaws, meeting the Defra deadline of April 2015. Plans to make new IFCA byelaws and revoke the legacy byelaws have been delayed by the necessity of producing numerous byelaws to protect the network of MPAs around the district. As you can see in the byelaw review section, two byelaws were created within the financial year relating to MPA management. Each new byelaw takes considerable officer time in terms of research and in drafting, consulting, and publicising of the byelaw.

In addition to the planned workloads in this financial year, the development of an unexpected new fishery for live wrasse has emerged. Live wrasse are taken from the district to be used as cleaner fish in Scottish salmon farms. This fishery has no track record and there have been concerns raised on a national stage. Cornwall IFCA has responded by starting a largescale research programme of data gathering on this fishery. In addition, Cornwall IFCA has worked with other IFCAs, as well as with stakeholders involved in the fishery, merchants and fish farms, to agree interim guidance which was subsequently published in September 2017.

## **Bass Management**

At the start of the 2016/17 year, the EU regulations managing bass stocks, which were brought in during January 2016, were still in effect. These restrictions limited the monthly catch limits for various commercial fishing methods. There were also restrictions on recreational fishing, including a closed season from January to July and a bag limit for the rest of the year of one fish per person per day. During the December 2016 Council Meeting, further restrictions were recommended which came into effect in January 2017. The most significant change was to only allow those vessels with a proven track record to retain bass.

Cornwall IFCA is a highly visible enforcement authority in Cornwall. As such, officers invested time and effort in publicising these restrictions within the recreational sector, producing materials for tackle shops, as well as for boat and shore anglers.

The enforcement team also spent considerable time working with commercial fishermen to publicise the new regulations. The team also provided information to fishermen who required it, to demonstrate a track record of bass fishing to the MMO. There was considerable confusion within the sector regarding the process for providing a track record as well as appealing decisions, which, despite it being a national MMO process, took a lot of engagement work from Cornwall IFCA at the local level.

Because of the lack of appropriate EU enforcement powers, Cornwall IFCA officers worked closely with MMO enforcement officers, who retained their EU powers, enabling them to enforce the new bass regulations. This was a continuation of the close working relationship which the IFCA and the local MMO office already had in place.

### **Recreational Sea Angling**

At the June 2016 Authority meeting, members formally resolved to adopt the Cornwall IFCA Recreational Sea Angling Strategy. The Strategy describes how Cornwall IFCA will include the views and aspirations of the recreational sea angling sector within the management of its fisheries in a transparent and fair manner.

Recreational sea angling is a high-value leisure activity in Europe, with more than 8 million anglers spending over €8 billion on the pursuit each year. During 2012, in England, this expenditure amounted to £1.23 billion on sea fishing, and this was estimated to support over 10,000 full-time equivalent jobs. Recreational sea angling also provides significant social benefits, including accessible relaxation and exercise. Recreational sea angling is a traditional, valuable and important part of the inshore fisheries in Cornwall.

The aims of the recreational sea angling strategy are:

- To engage and work effectively with the recreational sea angling sector;
- To acknowledge and celebrate the economic and social benefits of recreational sea angling;
- To bring together existing information and data relating to the recreational sea angling sector in Cornwall, as well as nationally; and
- To establish a structure defining how Cornwall IFCA will work with the recreational sea angling sector over the current four year reporting period.

To deliver the last bullet point, the Authority recommended that a Recreational Sea Angling Action Plan be created to sit under the Strategy. The action plan will be developed in the 2017/18 financial year.

### **Byelaw Review**

Within the 2016/17 year, we undertook work on the following byelaws:

#### **Lobster, Crawfish and Crab Fishing Permit Byelaw 2016:**

Consultation ran in March/April 2016;

Byelaw recommended to Defra for confirmation at the June 2016 Authority meeting; and

Byelaw confirmed by Defra in December 2016.

This byelaw replaced (and revoked) the Lobster, Crawfish and Crab Fishing for Profit Permit Byelaw made by the previous Cornwall Sea Fisheries Committee on 26 June 2009. This new byelaw helps Cornwall IFCA to monitor the inshore lobster, crawfish and crab fisheries in its district and will provide important data to inform the making of future crustacean byelaws.

#### **Manacles Marine Conservation Zone Byelaw 2017:**

Byelaw made at the September 2016 Authority meeting;

Consultation ran in September/October 2016; and

Byelaw recommended to Defra for confirmation at the December 2016 Authority meeting.

This byelaw, which was later confirmed by Defra in April 2017, was brought in to conserve the protected features of the Manacles MCZ by prohibiting the use of bottom towed gear throughout the zone. This takes into account the conservation objectives for this site. This byelaw did not revoke any prior byelaws.

#### **River and Estuarine Nets Fishing Nets Byelaw 2017:**

Byelaw made at the September 2016 Authority meeting;

Consultation ran in September/October 2016; and

Byelaw recommended to Defra for confirmation at the December 2016 Authority meeting.

This byelaw, which is still awaiting confirmation by Defra at time of writing this Annual Report, was brought about to balance the different needs of persons exploiting sea fisheries resources in the tidal parts of rivers and estuaries, by prohibiting most

net fishing methods. It also provides additional protection from netting for sea fish, salmon and sea trout, including juvenile and spawning stocks in some estuaries. This byelaw recommends the revocation of the following byelaws:

- The byelaw with the title "Byelaw 6 – Restriction of Trawling in Estuaries" made by the Devon Sea Fisheries Committee as confirmed by the Minister of Agriculture Fisheries and Food on 26 February 1998 insofar as it applied in the Cornwall IFCA district;
- The byelaw with the title "Byelaw Prohibiting Netting in Tamar, Plym and Yealm" made by the Devon Sea Fisheries Committee, as confirmed by the Minister of Agriculture Fisheries and Food on 15 March 1990, insofar as it applied in the Cornwall IFCA district;
- The byelaw with the title "Byelaw 17 – Fixed Engines" made by the Devon Sea Fisheries Committee, with the consent of the Environment Agency, as confirmed by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on 22 December 2010, insofar as it applied in the Cornwall IFCA district;
- The byelaws with the titles "Byelaw 1 - Application", "Byelaw 2 - Interpretation", "Byelaw 8 – Sea fishing in areas inland of Devon Sea Fisheries Committee district" and "Byelaw 9 - Sea fishing in areas inland of Cornwall Sea Fisheries Committee district" of the "Sea Fisheries Fixed Engine Prohibition Byelaws" made by the Environment Agency, as confirmed by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on 22 December 2010, insofar as they applied in the Cornwall IFCA district;
- All the byelaws made by the Board of Conservators of the Camel Fishery District in exercise of its powers under the Sea Fisheries Regulation Act 1888 (c.54), that were in force immediately before the making of this byelaw;
- All the byelaws made by the Board of Conservators of the Fowey Fishery District in exercise of its powers under the Sea Fisheries Regulation Act 1888, that were in force immediately before the making of this byelaw; and
- The byelaw with the title "Number SW.1 Prohibition of Nets" made by the National Rivers Authority, as confirmed by the Minister of Agriculture Fisheries and Food on 2 April 1992.

Please note that the above byelaws will remain in place until such time as the River and Estuarine Nets Fishing Nets Byelaw 2017 is confirmed by Defra.

### **Whitsand and Looe Bay Marine Conservation Zone (Fishing Restriction) byelaw 2017**

Byelaw made at the December 2016 Authority meeting;

Consultation ran in Jan/Feb 2017;

Byelaw recommended to Defra for confirmation at the March 2017 Authority meeting.

This Byelaw (which is still awaiting confirmation at time of writing this Annual Report) was brought in to meet the conservation objectives of the Whitsand and Looe Bay MCZ, by prohibiting the use of bottom towed gear throughout the zone.

### **Fal Oyster and Mussel Fisheries**

The Fal Fishery Order was enacted by Defra on the 31 July 2016 under Statutory Instrument 2016 No.716. This made the 2016/17 season the first to be managed under the Order as, previously, Cornwall IFCA had been managing this fishery under an amended byelaw.

During this season, fishermen identified a potential new fishery within the Fal Fishery Area, that of "Queenie" scallops, which they were interested in exploiting. However, this required changes to the regulations made under the Order. Work commenced on drafting new regulations under the Order which would allow them to develop this potential new revenue stream.

During this financial year, the enforcement team undertook 146 hours of shore patrols and 60 hours operating from vessels within the Fal. In addition, the research team undertook 39 days of research and reporting work. The large investment in research work is for stock management and is of particular importance as the fishery falls within the boundaries of two Marine Protected Areas:

- Falmouth Bay to St Austell Bay potential Special Protection Area; and
- Fal and Helford Special Area of Conservation.

### **Marine Protected Areas**

As well as the development of the byelaws mentioned above, good progress was made with producing a suite of Habitats Regulations Assessments for the European Marine Sites within the Cornwall IFCA district, with all, except the Tamar Estuaries SPA, being completed within the financial year. Work also started on the parallel system of creating Marine Conservation Zone assessments for each of the sites within the district. In addition to the assessment work, the research

team dedicated 14 days to practical survey work aboard Tiger Lilly (not including planning, analysis and reporting) looking at various Marine Protected Areas around the District.

### **Inshore Vessel Monitoring Systems**

Cornwall IFCA continued to work with the national groups on the development of inshore Vessel Monitoring Systems (iVMS). Three suppliers, AST, Succorfish and Marine Instruments, have received type approval for their units which are intended to be fitted to the under 12m fishing fleet. There are currently 2,764 under 12m vessels operating in England, 23% of which are based in Cornwall. European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) has been approved by Defra for the purchase and fitting of iVMS units, and Cornwall IFCA is keen to assist with the roll out in Cornwall.

### **Fisheries Management Plans**

At the March 2017 Authority meeting, it was resolved that Cornwall IFCA's Byelaw Working Group should focus on developing Fisheries Management plans, looking initially at the crustacean fisheries (crab, lobster and crawfish) within the District. Work on this will begin within the next financial year.

### **Office Move**

In September 2016, Cornwall IFCA moved to its new location at Chi Gallos, an office on North Quay in Hayle Marine Renewables Business Park. As well as office space, Cornwall IFCA also holds the lease for an industrial unit on the site, which is used as an equipment store, workshop and interview/meeting space.

Considerable effort went into finding and agreeing new accommodation over the last two years. The move resulted from Cornwall Council's sale of our previous office in the former Penwith District Council buildings in Penzance.

The Marine Renewables Business Park in Hayle, which is owned by Cornwall Council, has excellent accommodation and new industrial units built to a very high specification. It has good links to the A30 for shore and RIB patrols and the offices house Cornwall IFCA, the MMO and CEFAS on the same site.

The industrial unit is used to store the RIB Avalon, officer's personal protective equipment, a large secure evidence area, as well as all of Cornwall IFCA's research equipment. An area of the unit has been set aside for the use by the Marine Management Organisation who are also provided with a discrete part of the secure evidence area. This is part of the continuing development of joint working and sharing of assets between Cornwall IFCA and the local MMO branch.

The new office address is:

Chi Gallos

Hayle Marine Renewables Business Park

North Quay

Hayle

Cornwall TR27 4DD

### **Enforcement Activities**

Below is a breakdown of the outputs from the enforcement team.

- 76 Offshore patrols with Saint Piran;
- 15 Standalone RIB patrols;
- 14 Joint patrols with EA, MMO, Police etc;
- 11 Serious offences detected;
- 5 Financial Administrative Penalties (FAPs) offered and accepted; and
- 3 Court prosecutions.

# Report on Cornwall IFCA marine assets

## Saint Piran



- 27m patrol vessel (built, 2000, Damen Shipyard, The Netherlands).
- Two 1350hp V12 twin turbo Cummins diesel engines.
- Max speed: 22 knots; cruising speed: 17 knots.
- Accommodation for 8 persons.
- Acts as mother ship to the RIB Lyonesse.

Saint Piran's main role is to provide an enforcement platform from which to monitor activity and facilitate the boarding of vessels at sea by launching her Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB). She is equipped with electronic charting and recording equipment which is used to monitor protected areas and observe high risk fishing activities to ensure compliance with any spatial management restrictions. Routine patrols take place throughout the 1450 square nautical miles of the Cornwall IFCA district and more targeted patrols focus on known enforcement risks. Patrols are subject to seasonal fishing patterns, weather conditions and tides.

Saint Piran is available for charter by other agencies for patrol work within and beyond the Cornwall IFCA district, although no charters were requested in this period. Her electronic navigation systems enable accurate plotting of fishing vessels which may be used in evidence in a court, if required. A stern ramp provides quick and safe launching of the RIB which can carry a team of three boarding officers and transfer them to fishing vessels at sea. Whilst the RIB is deployed, Saint Piran provides important safety backup for the team of enforcement officers and increases the safe working range of the RIB especially at night and in marginal weather conditions.



During the 2016/17 year, Saint Piran completed a biannual refit at Portland. The main radar was replaced as part of a planned renewal of navigation electronics. She conducted 77 patrols, covering 6758 nautical miles in 576 hours at sea. 267 vessels were inspected at sea during this period. Six overnight sea patrols and three weekend sea patrols were conducted, focused on high risk fishing activities.

## **Lyonesse**

- 6.4m Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) (Mulder & Rijke, the Netherlands).
- Inboard 225hp Volvo Penta diesel engine coupled to an Alamarin jet drive.
- Max speed:32 knots.
- Effective range: 150 nautical miles.
- Launched from Saint Piran or trailer.



Lyonesse is a 6.4m Rigid Inflatable boat (RIB) built in the Netherlands in 2000. She is propelled by a 225hp inboard diesel engine coupled to an Alamarin water jet unit. This combination makes her fast, manoeuvrable and economical. Lyonesse is stowed aboard Saint Piran in her stern ramp but can be transported by road trailer and used as an independent patrol vessel, if required. She is very strongly built and is an excellent sea boat with a carrying capacity of four persons. Her large inflatable tubes provide huge reserve buoyancy and effective protection when working alongside fishing vessels at sea. The waterjet propulsion unit makes her extremely manoeuvrable and reduces risk of damage when entering or leaving the stern ramp, or when operating close to boats with fishing gear in the water. Lyonesse covered nearly 686 nautical miles during this period in 92 hours at sea.

## **Avalon**

- 6.8m RIB (Ribcraft, UK).
- Inboard 230hp Yanmar diesel engine coupled to a Hamilton jet drive.
- Effective range: 150 nautical miles.



- Max speed: 32 knots.
- Launched from trailer or stand-in boarding craft on Saint Piran if Lyonesse is out of service.

Avalon is a 6.8m Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) built in the UK in 2000. She was purchased second hand in 2007 to provide cover for Lyonesse during repair or breakdown periods. She is kept ashore on a double-axle road trailer which enables her to be towed and launched throughout the district at short notice. She is a large, heavy boat to tow and launch, and requires the use of our service Landrover which is fitted with a bumper winch to aid recovery on beaches, if required. Avalon is mainly used for estuary and inshore coastal patrols but is able to cover the whole district if weather conditions allow. Neither RIB offers any protection from the elements, so officers must wear protective clothing and safety equipment. Avalon covered over 692 nautical miles during this period in 101 hours at sea.

## **Tiger Lily VI**

- 11m South Boats Island MkII catamaran.
- 2 x 450bhp Iveco NEF main engines.
- Max speed: 25 knots; cruising speed: 16 knots.
- Range at cruising speed: c.400 nautical miles.
- Primarily used for survey and research work.
- Continuous, regulated 240v power via 1200w Inverter or 6kVa generator.



Tiger Lily VI was purchased in September 2014. She arrived in Penzance and underwent a short refit to enable her to carry out the tasks that were planned for her. In 2016, she had a hydraulic "A" frame with a half-tonne winch mounted at the transom. Part of the transom bulwark was also removed to ease deploying and recovering equipment when using the frame.

# Report on HLO and work plan

## Success Criteria 1:

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

### Definition:

IFCAs will be 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 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.

### Indicators

**SC1A:** The IFCA will maintain a database of stakeholder contacts that will have been reviewed and updated by 31 March each year.



**SC1B:** The IFCA will have completed a review of its communication strategy and implementation plan by 31 March each year.

**SC1C:** The IFCA will have reviewed its website by the last working day of each month.

**SC1D:** The IFCA will have reviewed its website and ensured it meets the objectives of its communication strategy, by 31 March each year.

**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.

**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.

Cornwall IFCA work streams	Status	Narrative Report
<p>Cornwall IFCA will review its current Communication Strategy with the intention of publishing a new four year strategy to cover the next quadrennial period. The Communication Strategy will be created through consultation amongst staff and key stakeholder groups. This new strategy will be annually reviewed inline with the new Success Criteria.</p>		<p>At the time of writing the Annual Plan, it was anticipated that Cornwall IFCA would produce a 4 year Communication Strategy. However, upon review it was decided that incorporating the Communication Strategy into the future Annual Planning process would give a more detailed and useful document. As a result future Annual Plans will contain a detailed communication plan. The first of these appeared in the 2017/18 Annual Plan.</p>
<p>The Cornwall IFCA website will be overhauled in the 2016/17 financial year. The intention is to make the site more user friendly and to improve the appearance on mobile devices. As a part of this redesign, the intention is to make more of</p>		<p>Unfortunately due to budgetary constraints the development of the new website was not able to go ahead in the 2016/17 financial year. However, the design brief was drawn up and quotes were sought from a number of companies. This resulted in the</p>

<p>the fishing returns forms available to be completed online.</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 monthly 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. In the 2016/17 year, this will be a more involved process as the website redesign is underway.</p> <p>Cornwall IFCA will review its joint working practices and all MOUs over the following year. Cornwall IFCA will contribute to the MMO-IFCA collaboration project, which is intended to identify and implement closer working opportunities between all IFCAs, and with the MMO to increase effectiveness and reduce costs. Cornwall IFCA will look to implement appropriate changes in light of the Defra maritime review which is underway.</p> <p>There will be considerable involvement by Cornwall IFCA in national reviews and conservation programs in the 2016/17 financial year. These will include evidence gathering for the Defra review of Bass Nursery Areas, the</p>	<p>●</p> <p>●</p> <p>●</p>	<p>production of an options paper and the decision on who would be commissioned to undertake the work. This will now happen in the 17/18 financial year.</p> <p>The website was discussed at a number of staff meetings and the web review meeting was used to review the Options paper to commission the redevelopment work, which will take place in the following year.</p> <p>Cornwall IFCA, continued to engage with the Marine Management Organisation as well as with the Association of IFCAs to investigate future ways of working.</p> <p>On a local level, Cornwall IFCA continued to work closely with the local MMO office on information sharing and joint patrols.</p> <p>During the 2016/17 year Cornwall IFCA worked closely with a variety of agencies to further the areas identified in the Annual Plan. Cornwall IFCA worked with Defra on gathering information on the network of Bass Nursery Areas and the proposed</p>
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management and designation of MPAs as well as continued work with the Association of IFCAs, the IFCA Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and the management of the joint owned research equipment which Cornwall IFCA hold.

development of the Statutory Instrument. In addition Cornwall IFCA officers met on a number of occasions with Natural England regarding the network of MPAs. As well as attending TAG meetings, Cornwall IFCA hosted the TAG conference this year (see HLO 5 for more details).



Still taken from 2012 Manacles survey

## **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.

### **Indicators**

**SC2A:** The IFCA will ensure its enforcement risk register and strategy are published and available on its website from 1 April each year.



**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.

**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.

**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.

**SC2E:** The Code of Conduct for IFCOs is reflected in work objectives and annual appraisals for all Warranted Officers.

**SC2F:** Warranted Officers attain accreditation. All undertake Continuing Professional Development.

Cornwall IFCA work streams	Status	Narrative Report
<p>Enforcement risks will be assessed and scored, taking into account known historic contraventions of legislation. The enforcement team hold monthly enforcement meetings where recent intelligence will be reviewed. Cornwall IFCA operates and maintains an Intelligence database which is reviewed as part of the risk profiling for the district.</p>		<p>In April 2016 Cornwall IFCA published its Risk Based Enforcement Plan to assess fishing issues and prioritise enforcement effort. The monthly enforcement meetings as well as the database maintain a live profile of the various risks within 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</p>		<p>During the year, Cornwall IFCA worked closely with other regulatory and enforcement authorities. This included, sharing information, developing policies and practices and also in direct enforcement work. The enforcement team undertook 11 joint patrols with other agencies and officers met on 11</p>



<p>evidenced in the report.</p> <p>Enforcement records will be kept up to date, enabling them to be collated for reports made to the National Inshore Marine Enforcement Group (NIMEG) and for public information purposes. Cornwall IFCA has committed to increase the publicity and visibility of its enforcement record. This will be available via the Cornwall IFCA website.</p> <p>Officers will contribute to the annual review of the Code of Conduct and ensure it is publically available.</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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> <li>●</li> <li>●</li> </ul>	<p>occasions as part of legislative reform and enforcement planning and information sharing.</p> <p>The enforcement team maintain a variety of recording systems to ensure that their work is transparent, risk based, accountable and is able to analyse and learn from patterns. As well as the in-house intelligence database, the team supplies information to the national Monitoring Control and Surveillance System (MCSS) database, which it is also able to interrogate and the Principle Enforcement Officer makes regular reports NIMEG. In this financial year, Cornwall IFCA also started to keep a live table of enforcement activities which can be viewed on our website. This area will develop in the next financial year with the development of the website.</p> <p>The Code of Conduct for enforcement officers is available on the website and is reviewed throughout the year.</p> <p>Cornwall IFCA has a well-established performance management system. In the 2016/17 financial year Cornwall IFCA retained its Investors In People accreditation, a kite mark of good practice in staff management.</p>
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conduct.

Accreditation training will be continued for two enforcement officers and made available to a further three enforcement officers.



During the 2016/17 year all of the enforcement team were engaged with the accredited enforcement training.



Lobster carrying eggs (berried)

### **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.

## Indicators

**SC3A:** The IFCA will record site-specific management considerations for Marine Protected Areas and report progress to the Authority

**SC3B:** The IFCA will publish data analysis and evidence supporting new management measures, on its website.

**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 effectiveness of the intervention.

**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.

**SC3E:** New IFCA management measures selected for development and implementation are delivered within agreed timescales.

**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.

**SC3G:** Progress made in relevant Fisheries Management Plan areas, including Maximum Sustainable Yield commitments, will be noted in the IFCA's Annual Report.

Cornwall IFCA work streams	Status	Narrative Report
Cornwall IFCA will identify fishery activities within the district's Marine Protected Areas and assess the sustainability of each activity against the conservation objectives for those MPAs. To achieve this, all relevant available data will be reviewed including enforcement records and the experience and understanding of enforcement	●	During the 2016/17 year, Cornwall IFCA completed Habitats Regulations Assessments for all the European Marine Sites within the Cornwall IFCA district, except the Tamar Estuaries SPA. In addition, work commenced on the parallel system of creating Marine Conservation Zone assessments for each of our sites.



assist Cornwall IFCA to assess Fishery Management Plans for locally important species. 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 not anticipated that there will be any management plans created in the next financial year, but work will start in this area.



These surveys fed into the work Cornwall IFCA undertakes in assessing risks, developing and monitoring management options and for the development of fishery management plans.



Mackerel for sale in Cornwall

## **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<sup>2</sup>, 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.

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<sup>2</sup> In addition IFCA receive New Burdens funding direct from Defra in Cornwall IFCA's case this is approximately one third of our annual budget.

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

## Indicators


**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.

**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.




**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.

**SC4D:** An efficient secretariat of IFCA staff support IFCA Authority meetings which are held quarterly and are quorate. Meeting documentation will meet Standing Orders.

**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.

Cornwall IFCA work streams	Status	Narrative Report
Cornwall IFCA will undertake to involve all staff and to take on board guidance from Members, stakeholders and external partners over the next year in the creation of the 2017/18 Annual Plan. The key sections of this will be put to the March Committee Meeting in 2017 to allow publication by 31 March 2017.		Cornwall IFCA published its annual plan before the 1 April 2017. This document was drafted with input from all staff and drafts of the key sections were taken to the Authority members for discussion at the March 2017 Meeting.



<p>The Cornwall IFCA Annual Report will be created as a collaborative piece with input from all staff and will be published in November 2016. 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>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.</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 appropriately through the 2016/17 year with appropriate and easy public access to all public documents.</p>	    	<p>Cornwall IFCA published its Annual Report within the 2016/17 financial year. Unfortunately, due to work pressures this was not published to the November 2016 deadline, rather it was published in early 2017.</p> <p>Cornwall IFCA continued to develop and implement its performance management systems throughout the year. In February 2017, Cornwall IFCA retained its Investors In People (IIP) accreditation; not only meeting the new, more challenging standard, but also making significant progress in a number of areas. The performance management system has been revised and refreshed as a result of the findings of the IIP accreditation process.</p> <p>Cornwall IFCA continued to work closely with the Democratic Services department of Cornwall Council. It provided excellent support, advice and assistance for the IFCA. All the Authority papers and public documents packs were produced in a timely fashion and made publicly available throughout the year.</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.

### **Indicators**

**SC5A:** The IFCA will demonstrate progress that has been made towards identifying its evidence needs by publishing a research plan each year.

**SC5B:** The IFCA will publish a research report annually that demonstrates how evidence has supported decision making.

**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.

Cornwall IFCA work streams	Status	Narrative Report
<p>The 2016/17 financial year will see a considerable number of different research streams to evidence, suggest and monitor management options. These are in response to some clearly identified areas of concern and will be clearly detailed in the Research Annual Plan.</p> <p>To allow a review of the previous year's monitoring and evidence gathering, the Scientific Team will produce an annual document that will primarily consist of a compilation of all field reports for survey works carried out during the previous year and the analysis and reporting of any ongoing monitoring programmes. Additionally, all the fishery activity assessment documents produced in response to the revised approach to management of commercial fisheries within European Marine Sites will be made available as a single report.</p> <p>The Principal Scientific Officer will attend TAG meetings as the designated representative for Cornwall IFCA and will report all outcomes to the Chief Officer. The involvement with TAG will be reported in the following year's Annual Report.</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p>	<p>The continued work on the revised approach assessments to the Marine Protected areas consumed the bulk of the research time available in the 16/17 financial year and was a necessary part of the development of the MCZ byelaws that were made and developed in the year.</p> <p>Due to the requirement to stream officer time into the emerging wrasse fishery as well as the requirements of assessing all of the marine protected areas, this work stream was considered a low priority. Work was undertaken to begin to bring all reports into a unified format and to begin to upload details to the MEDIN (Marine Environmental Data and Information Network) system. It is hoped the backlog of this work stream will be picked up in the 2017/18 year.</p> <p>As well as attending the TAG meetings, in February 2017 Cornwall IFCA hosted the TAG workshop. This looked at;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey planning;</li> <li>• Collecting sediment samples and classification;</li> <li>• Demonstration and training on the practical</li> </ul>

		<p>use of the IFCA acoustic sounding equipment, as well as on data acquisition and processing;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• European Nature Information System (EUNIS) classification from video and still images;</li><li>• Production of habitat maps from acoustic survey data; and</li><li>• A round table discussion on the research requirements of the network of European Marine Sites around England.</li></ul>
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Lumpsucker found during survey activities

# Success Stories

## **IIP**

On 19/03/2014 Cornwall IFCA originally attained Investors In People accreditation. This is a nationally recognised kite mark of good practice in staff management. The IIP accreditation required periodic re-assessment to ensure that organisations are still maintaining good practice, and to help organisations develop and grow. Over the intervening period the, IIP frame work has itself changed to become more robust and rigorous. Due to the date of Cornwall IFCA's first assessment, we had the opportunity to be re-assessed against the older frame work or the new tougher one. The latter was chosen as it reflected the progress we felt we had made in the intervening period. In February 2017, Cornwall IFCA was formally re-accredited with IIP status. The report showed that significant progress had been made in the period, but also showed where work could be furthered to improve the organisation. These work streams have been fed into the 2017/18 work plan.

## **New accommodation**

In September 2016, Cornwall IFCA moved into its new office at the Hayle Marine Renewables Business Park. Cornwall Council's sale of the previous office building in Penzance resulted in a significant problem of finding suitable accommodation where both Cornwall IFCA and the local MMO office could be housed. The co-location of the MMO and IFCA has had significant advantages for both local stakeholders as well as for synergies between the organisations in communication and the sharing of information and assets. The addition of a large industrial unit on the same site has provided both the research and enforcement teams with a well-equipped secure storage and workshop area.

## **Staff Training and Development.**

In the 2016-17 financial year, Cornwall IFCA was working with a full complement of staff and there was relative stability within the staffing of Cornwall IFCA. This allowed further development and training for officers, increasing the resilience and capabilities of Cornwall IFCA.

# Incidents, issues and lessons learned

## **Incident – Unprecedented public involvement in Byelaw process**

**Issues** – The unprecedented quantity of public responses to the public consultation as part of the Byelaw making process led to a significant increase in officer time in managing the consultation.

**Lessons learned** – A number of byelaws were developed in the 2016/17 financial year. Part of the byelaw making process involves both informal consultation as well as a formal period of public consultation. The three byelaws made in the 2016/17 financial year attracted a vastly increased number of responses. Previous byelaw consultations have seen objections and public comments in the single figures, in the case of the River and Estuaries Fishing Nets byelaw Cornwall IFCA received 275 responses of which 71 were wholly supportive, 201 were supportive with conditions and three in direct opposition. The responses totalled over 80000 words and many were of a standard format in response to several slightly different online campaigns. This level of response required the development of new processes to handle and present the volume of correspondence to the Authority. With the increased public interest, partially a response to the engagement work undertaken by Cornwall IFCA, and the greater use of online campaigns, Cornwall IFCA anticipates that public consultations will increase in the following years. As a result new procedures have been developed and implemented to ensure effective budgeting and management of the processes.

## **Incident –Mass stranding of sardines**

**Issues** – In December 2016, there were several incidents of large strandings of dead fish, mainly sardines, largely located on Long Rock beach between Penzance and Marazion. This stranding was later acknowledged by the Cornish Sardine Management Association (CSMA) as resulting from the activities of ring netters in the area.

**Lessons learned** – The scale of the stranding caused considerable local concern, and attracted national press interest to this fishery, which has been accredited by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC). Cornwall IFCA worked closely with the

CSMA to develop its own management guidelines and code of good practice, to minimise the risk of strandings from happening again. Guidance to IFCA from Defra makes it clear that the first management option to be considered should be through voluntary agreements rather than legislation. It is hoped that self-regulation will prevent future occurrences of this nature, whilst maintaining this fishery. Cornwall IFCA will monitor compliance with this code of practice. If voluntary measures are evidenced as failing, Cornwall IFCA may look at statutory intervention.



View across the River Hayle to St Ives

# Authority report

The Cornwall IFCA Authority met on four occasions during the 2016/17 year. A brief summary follows of each meeting with subjects covered and decisions agreed.

## **Authority Meeting 17 June 2016**

### Public questions

Dr N. Warren raised the following public question. "No adopted measures appear to be in the RSA Strategy derived from prior public consultations (1) and the flagged review date (2019) implies scant management commitment to expedite any. Could the Chair go on record to refute this and make any undertakings for which he is willing to be held accountable?"

### Issues discussed

- Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman;
- Annual Constitution Review;
- CIFCA Appointment to Outside Body - Hayle Harbour Advisory Group;
- 2014 15 Outturn Budget Monitor Report;
- Regulations made under the Fal Fishery Order;
- Fal Regulatory order management plan;
- Byelaw Working Group update;
- Netting Byelaws- Legal advice – Verbal update;
- Lobster, crawfish and crab fishing permit byelaw- outcome of consultation process; and
- Draft Cornwall IFCA Recreational Sea Angling Strategy.

### Resolutions, Member representation on outside bodies and attendance at events and conferences

- Resolved that: Mr Tomlinson is elected as Chairman and Cllr Fitter be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Cornwall IFCA Authority;



- Resolved that:
  1. The 2015-16 outturn and reserves position for the year to 31st March 2016 and shown at Appendix 1 & 2 be agreed; and,
  2. The Small Bodies Audit for the year ended 31 March 2016 be approved by the Committee and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk as required (Appendix 3).
- Resolved that: the Regulations, as approved by Defra, in accordance with the powers expected to be conferred by the Fal Fishery Order 2016 and the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967, be signed and made by the Chief Officer on behalf of Cornwall IFCA, at a time which is advised by Defra.
- Resolved that: that the Management Plan, in respect of the Fal Fishery Order, be made.
- Resolved that:
  1. That Members note the consultation responses to the Lobster, Crawfish and Crab Fishing Permit Byelaw; and
  2. Officers are instructed to send the byelaw to the MMO and Defra for due process and confirmation.
- Resolved that:
  1. The [Recreational Sea Angling] Strategy be adopted as set out at Appendix 1.
  2. An Action Plan be developed to sit under the Strategy and public consultation on its content be undertaken.

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### **Authority Meeting 16 September 2016**

#### Public questions

None.

#### Issues discussed

- Review of the constitution;
- Exemption to the Cornwall IFCA European Marine Sites (Closed Areas) No.2 Byelaw;
- River and Estuarine Fishing Nets Byelaw; and
- Manacles Marine Conservation Zone (Fishing Restrictions) Byelaw 2017.

#### Resolutions, Member representation on outside bodies and attendance at events and conferences

- Resolved that: version 15 of the Constitution for the Cornwall Inshore Fisheries and Conversation Authority, as appended to this report, be adopted;
- Resolved that: the outcomes of the accompanying Habitats Regulations Assessment and the exemption to the Duchy Oyster Farm be approved;
- Resolved that: the River and Estuarine Fishing Nets Byelaw be made at the Authority's meeting on 16 September 2016; and
- Resolved that: the Manacles Marine Conversation Zone (Fishing Restrictions) Byelaw 2017 be made at the Authority's meeting on 16 September 2016.

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#### **Authority Meeting 16 December 2016**

##### Public questions

Dr. N. Warren raised the following public question. "Could CIFCA please reassure meeting attendees that the consultation [River and Estuarine Fishing Nets Byelaw] was now completed in line with due process and that democratic principles dictate further representation of any kind will be ruled inadmissible by the Chair should any attempt be made to provide it?"

##### Issues discussed

- 2017-18 Budget Setting;
- River and Estuarine Fishing Nets Byelaw – Outcome of Public Consultation Process;
- Manacles MCZ (Fishing Restrictions) Byelaw - Outcome Of Public Consultation Process; and
- Whitsand to Looe Bay MCZ Byelaw;

#### Resolutions, Member representation on outside bodies and attendance at events and conferences

- Resolved that:

1. The revenue outturn and reserves be noted and agreed; and
  2. The completed Annual Return for 2015/16 be noted.
- Resolved that:
    1. the Revenue Estimates and Forecast Reserves are approved; and
    2. the Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority levy on Cornwall Council be set at £1,108,623 for 2017/18.
  - Resolved that: the formal consultation responses and revised Impact Assessment of the River and Estuarine Fishing Nets Byelaw be noted and the Byelaw proceed toward Defra confirmation as made at the Authority's meeting on 16 September 2016.
  - Resolved that: the formal consultation responses and revised Impact Assessment of the Manacles Marine Conservation Zone (Fishing Restrictions) Byelaw be noted and the Byelaw proceed toward Defra confirmation as made at the Authority's meeting on 16 September 2016.
  - Resolved that: the Whitsand and Looe Bay Marine Conservation Zone (Fishing Restrictions) byelaw 2017 be made.

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### **Authority Meeting 17 March 2017**

#### Public questions

Mr Ranger asked a question relating to 2016 Minimum Landing Size (MLS) and undersized oysters on lays. Mr Ranger asked if an emergency change of MLS from 67mm to a new 70mm or 80mm MLS to save the fishery from overfishing of brood stock especially as FOL [Fal Oyster Licence] work (post CIFCA survey) predicts a critical time to do so or at least revert to the original MLS description where oysters must not pass through a diameter of 67mm.

#### Issues discussed

- Budget Monitor Report;
- Responses To Public Consultation On Whitsand To Looe Bay MCZ Byelaw
- Cornwall IFCA Annual Plan
- Regulations under the Fal Fishery Order 2016;
- Fisheries Management Plan And Byelaw Review -Proposed Way Forward
- Presentation on the Landing Obligation - Marine Management Organisation;
- CIFCA Annual Plan including Annual Training Plan;

- Defra Amending Order for Closed Areas (European Marine Sites) No.2 Byelaw;
- Proposed new Special Area of Conservation for Harbour Porpoise;
- Cornwall IFCA Chief Officer's Quarterly Update Report; and
- Activity Update Reports from IFCA.

#### Resolutions, Member representation on outside bodies and attendance at events and conferences

- Resolved that: the revenue outturn and reserves be noted and agreed.
- Resolved that:
  1. That the report on the responses to the formal consultation on the Whitsand and Looe Bay Marine Conservation Zone (Fishing Restrictions) Byelaw be noted; and,
  2. the revised Impact Assessment for Whitsand and Looe Bay Marine Conservation Zone (Fishing Restrictions) Byelaw be noted; and
  3. the byelaw be progressed towards Defra for confirmation, as made at the Authority's meeting on 16 December 2016.
- Resolved that: the Committee approves the draft Annual Plan excerpts as the basis for the 2017/18 Annual Plan.
- Resolved that: the Authority amends its Regulations under The Fal Fishery Order 2016, as follows:
  1. Regulation 1 (Interpretation): Insert ""Shellfish" means any bivalve or gastropod mollusc";
  2. Regulation 3: Delete "Mytilus edulis" and replace with "Mytilus spp.".
  3. Regulation 4: Delete "dredge for oysters (Ostrea edulis) or mussels (Mytilus edulis)" and replace with "or take oysters or mussels (Mytilus spp.) or use an oyster and mussel dredge for any shellfish";
  4. Regulation 6: Revoke.
  5. Make new Regulation 6: "A person who retains Pacific oysters (Crassostrea gigas) on board a vessel or in any container must not return them alive to the fishery area";
  6. Regulation 7: Delete "A person must not use a dredge to fish for or take mussels (Mytilus edulis)" and replace with "Notwithstanding regulation 5, a person must not use a dredge to fish for or take shellfish";
  7. Regulation 8: Delete "taking oysters (Ostrea edulis) or mussels (Mytilus edulis)" and replace with "to fish for or take shellfish";
  8. Regulation 9: Delete "oysters (Ostrea edulis) or mussels (Mytilus edulis)" and replace with "shellfish";
  9. Regulation 11(1)(b)(ii): Delete "Mytilus edulis" and replace with "Mytilus spp.";

10. Make new Regulation 12: "Regulations under the Fal Fishery Order 2016 do not apply to any person performing fisheries and management development activities in the fishery area, which would otherwise constitute an offence against a regulation, if that act was carried out in accordance with a written permission issued by the Authority permitting that act for fisheries management and development activities."; subject to a revised Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the Fal and Helford Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which takes account of the changes to the regulations and is submitted to Natural England.
- Resolved that: Members support the development of a pilot Crustacean Fisheries Management Plan for the Cornwall IFCA District.



RIB Lyonesse at sea

# Budget outturn and financial position

The 'full year' statement in Table 1 shows the final position to the 31 March 2017.

The revenue position shows net expenditure (before levy, interest and reserve movements) of £1,074,275 compared to the original budget of £1,133,896 for the year – an underspend of £59,621. This has resulted in an increased contribution to reserves. The total reserve position at 31st March 2017, shown below, is £599,610.

Due to the diligence of the officers of the Authority, and dedicated finance and accountancy support from Cornwall Council, the tight budgetary control has been achieved despite the additional financial pressures of moving the organisation to Hayle following the sale of the Penzance office.

## **Administration**

The revised budget for Admin expenditure was £367,721 and the year-end outturn was £359,137. There was therefore a favourable variance compared to the revised budget of £8,584.

Employees, premises, travel and supplies and services budgets were all largely in line with the budget with minor variances, the largest being a greater than anticipated Business Rates spend on the new premises.

The budget for Support Services of £20,400 provided a £11,921 favourable variance where one area charged £11,000 less than had been quoted.

## **Patrol Vessel**

The patrol vessel shows a favourable expenditure variance of £16,003 at outturn. The revised budget was £602,340, compared to an actual spend of £586,337. Due to factors such as time in dock for refit, low cost of fuel and some inclement weather there was a total underspend of £22,972 on Fuel Oil in year.

The other significant variance in this area was in Repair and Maintenance where there was an overspend of £5,999. This was largely due to the supply and fitting of radar equipment.

## **Research**

There was a revised budget of £206,610 for Research, the total spend at year- end spend was £207,215, an adverse variance of just £605.

At year end the team was at full strength and there was a favourable variance of £6,529 for Employee Related Costs.

Supplies and Services provide an adverse variance of £8,351, which is largely attributable to spend on Tiger Lily's A-Frame and cooling system.

## **Regulating Orders**

Within the budget set up for regulating orders there is spend of £166 and income from oyster licences of £9,900 (see table 1). The costs associated with managing the regulating order are currently absorbed within the separate budget heading for enforcement and research.

## **Income**

CIFCA income totalled £76,388 which was £29,613 above the revised budget.

Project money totalling £53,220 had been received from DEFRA and Natural England.

£6,600 came from Tiger Lily being chartered and £9,900 from the Oyster Licence fees.

## **Reserves**

Cornwall IFCA's net expenditure was £1,074,275 to the end of March against a budget of £1,129,896. After interest received from the bank, there was a contribution to reserves of £14,672, which is a variation to forecast of £54,672 as it was initially intended that there would need to be a £40,000 contribution from reserves.

The Table 2 at the end of this section shows the current position of the Authority's reserves as at the end of March 2017. The total reserves (specific and general) are £599,610 at the end of the financial year, well above the minimum recommended balance of £200,600.

**Table 1. Budget outturn**

Revenue Summary Budget Monitoring to 31 March 2017	Full Year				
	2016-17 Outturn £	Previous forecast £	Variance from previous forecast £	Original estimate 2016/2017 £	Variance from original estimate £
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<b>Administration</b>					
Employee related expenses	164,212	160,311	3,901	160,311	3,901
Premises related expenses	39,732	37,900	1,832	35,900	3,832
Travel related expenses	8,684	9,400	(716)	7,400	1,284
Supplies and services	65,953	67,687	(1,734)	67,687	(1,734)
Support services	8,479	20,400	(11,921)	20,400	(11,921)
Loan interest	22,675	22,621	54	22,621	54
Loan repayment	49,402	49,402	0	49,402	0
	<b>359,137</b>	<b>367,721</b>	<b>(8,584)</b>	<b>363,721</b>	<b>(4,584)</b>
<b>Patrol Vessel</b>					
Employee related expenses	359,107	356,912	2,195	339,412	19,695
Premises related expenses	4,520	4,500	20	8,200	(3,680)
Supplies and services	28,843	27,470	1,373	27,470	1,373
Fuel oil	42,028	65,000	(22,972)	90,800	(48,772)
Refit	83,163	84,000	(837)	80,000	3,163
Repair and maintenance	31,099	25,100	5,999	20,100	10,999
Insurance	21,145	22,050	(905)	22,050	(905)
Other transport expenses	16,432	17,308	(876)	17,308	(876)
	<b>586,337</b>	<b>602,340</b>	<b>(16,003)</b>	<b>605,340</b>	<b>(19,003)</b>
<b>Research</b>					
Employee related expenses	120,261	126,790	(6,529)	131,790	(11,529)
Transport	44,490	45,720	(1,230)	30,720	13,770
Supplies and services	42,464	33,800	8,664	29,800	12,664



Support services	0	300	(300)	300	(300)
<b>Regulating Order</b>	<b>207,215</b>	<b>206,610</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>192,610</b>	<b>14,605</b>
Supplies and services	166	0	166	0	166
Accumulated Absence Movement	(2,192)	0	(2,192)	0	(2,192)
<b>Total Revenue Expenditure</b>	<b>1,150,663</b>	<b>1,176,671</b>	<b>(26,008)</b>	<b>1,161,671</b>	<b>(11,008)</b>
<b>Income</b>					
Prosecution costs	(3,705)	(2,000)	(1,705)	(2,000)	(1,705)
Other income	(9,563)	(4,300)	(5,263)	(300)	(9,263)
Project income	(53,220)	(40,475)	(12,745)	(25,475)	(27,745)
Regulating Order income	(9,900)	0	(9,900)	0	(9,900)
<b>Total Revenue Income</b>	<b>(76,388)</b>	<b>(46,775)</b>	<b>(29,613)</b>	<b>(27,775)</b>	<b>(48,613)</b>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>1,074,275</b>	<b>1,129,896</b>	<b>(55,621)</b>	<b>1,133,896</b>	<b>(59,621)</b>
<b>Other</b>					
Interest on balances	(1,051)	(2,000)	949	(6,000)	4,949
Contribution to Refit Reserve	0	0	0	0	0
Contribution from Refit Reserve	0	0	0	0	0
Contribution from Other Reserves	0	0	0	0	0
Contribution to Other Reserves	14,672	(40,000)	54,672	(40,000)	54,672
<b>Total Other</b>	<b>13,621</b>	<b>(42,000)</b>	<b>55,621</b>	<b>(46,000)</b>	<b>59,621</b>
<b>CIFCA Levy</b>	<b>(1,087,896)</b>	<b>(1,087,896)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,087,896)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Authority Expenditure</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Table 2. Reserves**

	Balance as at 1st April, 2016 £	Actual Movement		Projected Balance as at 31st March 2017 £	Comments
		To Reserve £	From Reserve £		
<b><u>Reserve</u></b>					
<b><u>Specific Reserves</u></b>					
Survey & Refit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
<b><u>General Reserve</u></b>					
Sea Fisheries BER	580,644.23	14,671.80	0.00	595,316.03	
Research & Project	3,793.60	0.00	0.00	3,793.60	
Reserve Grant	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	
<b>Sub Total General Reserves</b>	584,937.83	14,671.80	0.00	599,609.63	
<b>Total</b>	<b>584,937.83</b>	<b>14,671.80</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>599,609.63</b>	





Produced and published November 2017 by:

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

Phone: ++ 44 (0)1736 336842

Fax: ++ 44 (0)1736 336661

website: [www.cornwall-ifca.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall-ifca.gov.uk)

email: [enquiries@cornwall-ifca.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@cornwall-ifca.gov.uk)

