



**Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation  
Authority**

**Annual Report 2017 to 2018**

## Further Copies

This document 'The Southern IFCA Annual Report 2017-2018' is available in electronic form from Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority, here [www.Southern-ifca.gov.uk](http://www.Southern-ifca.gov.uk)

Alternatively, a hard copy can be viewed here:

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## Introduction.

For those of our stakeholders not directly involved with our day to day work, it is easy to underestimate the range of duties we must deliver. I hope this Annual Report, packed as it is with accessible information, conveys the sheer range of our activities and responsibilities.

The clue is in our title which includes both fisheries and conservation. Underpinning our work is applied research. This enables us to understand the status of fish stocks and the condition of our inshore marine environment more generally. We also work closely with other groups and organisations such as fishers and anglers, universities and other statutory bodies such as Natural England and the Environment Agency, to achieve the evidence we need to make informed decisions.

On the basis of this evidence we must then create the best guidance and legislative framework we can, so that voluntary agreements and byelaws ensure that the inshore area sustainably provides for the needs of our diverse stakeholders. We look after everything from bass and seahorses to seagrass beds and rocky reefs. Our aim is to enable and encourage our local communities in Hampshire, Dorset and the Isle of Wight to get the maximum benefit in such a way that the next generation can do the same. In this work we fully recognise the importance of our partner local authorities all along the coast.

We are not just regulators. We are committed advocates of a healthy and thriving marine environment. We actively facilitate, encourage and promote the industries and activities we support, such as fishing aquaculture and angling. We are involved in stock recovery projects, enhancing the value of our fisheries, winning international recognition and awards for innovation along the way. We also promote the marine realm to all our local communities, not least through partnerships such as with our local wildlife trusts: You may have seen the new mobile interpretation unit.

But to achieve such goals we also have responsibilities for enforcing our own, and the Governments, environmental and fishery laws. Illegal activity robs legitimate fishermen and recreational anglers of their catch and damages the environment. We are proud that our Annual Report can provide details of patrol, enforcement and prosecution activities that are second to none. However, this activity in particular is challenging work for our officers as the small minority of people inclined to illegal activities don't much like being caught out!

Relative to the scope of its duties Southern IFCA is a small organisation. We recognise that, like all public sector organisations, we must be extremely prudent with our expenditure. Patrol boats for example are very expensive, but we have been careful over many years to recognise the depreciation of our assets in our budgets. Consequently, in the year ahead we will be able to complete some large and necessary capital projects to ensure an alignment between our capabilities and duties for many years to come, and of course, enable us to cope with whatever Brexit may bring.

While our range of responsibilities is challenging, it is above all rewarding. When I asked a candidate why she wanted to work at Southern IFCA she said it was because we can "make a difference" It made me appreciate more that, although no IFCA can keep everybody happy all of the time, our range of statutory duties, from research to advocacy, from legislation to enforcement, really does give us what we need to "make a difference" in our estuaries, harbours and inshore areas. That is our ongoing aspiration.

John Humphreys

Chairman

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## Report Purpose

Under section 178 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act, 2009, every IFCA is required to produce an Annual Report on its activities in that year and that Annual Report must be sent to the Secretary of State.

## Overview

The Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (Southern IFCA) was created under Section 150 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (MaCAA)<sup>1</sup> and was fully vested on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011. The IFCA District was created under Section 149 of the Act. The Act also contains the principle duties of the IFCA, these are:

Under Section 153, management of inshore fisheries.

- (1) The authority for an IFC district must manage the exploitation of sea fisheries resources in that district.
- (2) In performing its duty under subsection (1), the authority for an IFC district must—
  - (a) seek to ensure that the exploitation of sea fisheries resources is carried out in a sustainable way,
  - (b) seek to balance the social and economic benefits of exploiting the sea fisheries resources of the district with the need to protect the marine environment from, or promote its recovery from, the effects of such exploitation,
  - (c) take any other steps which in the authority's opinion are necessary or expedient for the purpose of making a contribution to the achievement of sustainable development, and
  - (d) seek to balance the different needs of persons engaged in the exploitation of sea fisheries resources in the district.

Under Section 154, Protection of Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs).

- (1) The authority for an IFC district must seek to ensure that the conservation objectives of any MCZ in the district are furthered.

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<sup>1</sup> Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009), HMSO, London, p.104, <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/23/contents>

## 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.”

The IFCA vision is translated into success criteria, high level objectives and staff objectives. The process of how the IFCA vision is linked to success criteria and, at the most detailed level, staff work objectives is demonstrated in figure 1<sup>2</sup>.



*Figure 1: Process by which IFCA success criteria feed into work objectives*

From the nationally agreed Vision, seven Success Criteria have been developed by a number of national working groups prior to IFCAs being vested on the 1st April 2011, which if followed, will help with delivering the vision.

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<sup>2</sup> DEFRA (2010) Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities: vision, success criteria and high-level objectives.

## Achievements 2017/18



### Adding value and protecting the environment

The management developed by Southern IFCA is delivering environmental benefits, by protecting sensitive habitats in Poole, alongside economic development. A report commissioned by Southern IFCA shows that the fishery now contributes £838,911 of direct gross value added (gva) value and the combined gva is £1,436,216

### The award-winning Poole Harbour clam and cockle fishery

Following the development of management for the Poole Harbour clam and cockle fishery by Southern IFCA the fishery has been certified against the globally recognised Marine Stewardship Council standard and in a world first, simultaneously fishers in the fishery were also certified according to Seafish's responsible fishing scheme. Southern IFCA worked in partnership with the Poole and District Fishermen's Association and Dorset Wildlife Trust in this project. For our work Southern IFCA was awarded 'best innovator', by the Marine Stewardship Council.



## Management of Marine Protected Areas

We have completed our assessment of all commercial fishing activities against the conservation objectives of the 14 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) within the Southern IFCA District. Where necessary we have introduced management. All existing commercial fisheries within Southern IFCA's District are demonstrably compatible with the conservation objectives of the MPAs. We have published on our website all of the scientific assessments detailing the compatibility of management of fisheries within MPAs; including all the European Marine Site Habitats Regulations Assessments and Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Assessments. We will build on this success and in the reporting period we were awarded funding from the Dorset and East Devon Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG) to develop community led fisheries management plans for the Dorset Area to celebrate the diversity of the marine area and to communicate how fishing is managed. To show the way we led a partnership pilot to communicate the benefit and value of MCZs <http://poolerocksmcz.uk/>. We will build on the success of this project and continue to work in partnership to celebrate coastal fishing and MPA management.



## Poole Rocks Marine Conservation Zone

Life on the rocks, under the waves. [Http://poolerocksmcz.uk/](http://poolerocksmcz.uk/) The Poole Rocks MCZ website is a showcase for the diversity of life within Poole Bay. The pilot project aims to inspire people about the role of MCZs in conserving the various life on the rocks and surrounding seabed. The website was developed in a in partnership with the following organisations



## Engaging with communities

We continued to develop our communications and outreach. With partners we commissioned a mobile interpretation unit under the banner #yourbluebackyard. With partners we extended our communications outreach attending many coastal shows and interpretation events.



#yourbluebackyard

A new mobile exhibition showing #yourbluebackyard and the underwater life of the Dorset, Hampshire and Isle of Wight seas will be visiting events across the area this summer.

A joint venture between Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority, Natural England, and the local Wildlife Trusts (Dorset and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust), has created a showcase of the amazing beauty and diversity of our local coastline and seas.

The exhibition is attending events across Dorset, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight throughout the summer of 2018, the New Forest Show, Portsmouth Seafood Festival, Dorset Show and Marine Wonders at Lepe Country Park. Follow the project online via the tag #yourbluebackyard on facebook and twitter



## Implementing a fair, effective and proportionate enforcement

In 2017/18 we patrolled at sea and on land securing compliance with fisheries legislation and supporting coastal communities. We undertook a total of 325 compliance patrols both at sea and on land and this resulted in 617 inspections.

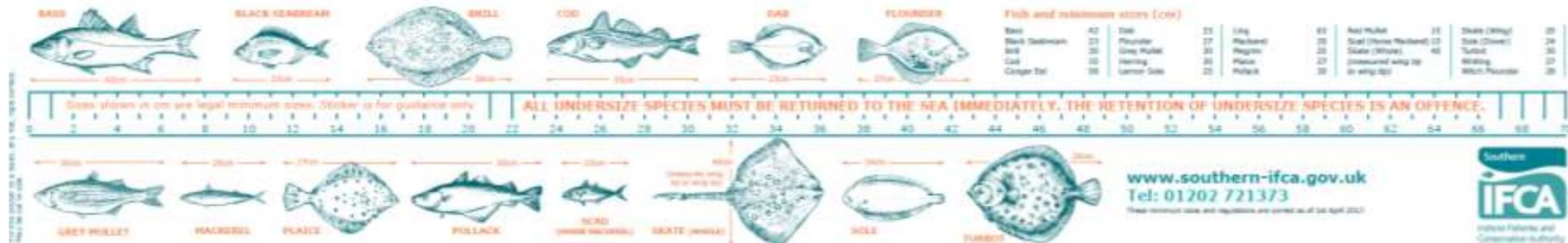
We were at sea on 113 patrols, where we undertook 258 inspections, we also patrolled the closed areas associated with Marine Protected Areas, ensured compliance with netting regulations and other byelaws.

We undertook 213 land patrols which resulted in 359 inspections. We inspected markets, merchants refrigerated units, retailers, food producers/outlets etc. We inspected vessels fishing and gear. We also inspected diver and shore angler catches, vehicle contents, shellfish on lay areas etc.

In a little over 10% of inspections we detected non-compliance but in half of these instances this was minor and discharged by way of written advice. We took 6 prosecutions in the year; all of which resulted in guilty pleas or verdicts.

## Bass Management

There is an international decline in numbers of seabass; management of bass has been addressed at EU level with new measures being agreed at the December meeting of the Fisheries Council. We supported national regulators responsible for implementing the management introduced to rebuild these stocks. Because of the restrictions placed on sea anglers, and the importance of this sector in the Southern IFCA District we placed particular emphasis on education and engagement with the sea angling sector and communicated widely. At key angling stops throughout the IFCA District we have installed information boards and through our angling liaison group discuss management and built trust with the angling community.



## Recreational Sea Angling Group

- We held regular meeting with the Southern IFCA recreational sea angling group which
- provides a forum to discuss fisheries management topics relevant to the local sea angling sector.
  - develops more effective communication between the sea angling sector and the bodies responsible for management.
  - assists in the development of local sea angling strategies.
  - comments and provides input into proposed local fisheries management.
  - Promotes sea angling to the local community
  - Promotes data sharing between the local anglers and the relevant management bodies.



## Closer working with the MMO

We worked closely with our partners in the MMO to deliver our agreed '6-point plan'. We have fully implemented a shared 'intelligence' and 'joint working and operations' programme. We were granted access to the national system to record all inspection and prosecution data and we have shared that information.



## Joint working and intelligence sharing

The tactical coordination group (TCG) is pivotal to the delivery of the MMO's and IFCA's risk-based approach and ensures the agencies comply with the national intelligence model. The procedure maintains an auditable trail of patrol and operational planning, objectives and outcomes. Tasking and coordination is a crucial part of law enforcement's governance and planning. The tactical co-ordination group process enables senior managers, through a TCG to consider and agree strategic direction and align resources to priorities. The TCG process provides managers with a decision-making mechanism with which to manage their business both strategically and tactically. Decisions based on a full understanding of the problems faced enables managers to prioritise the deployment of resources at their disposal. It will also make decisions as to when appropriate tactical action will be taken and by whom. The TCG sits every two weeks and is informed by the tactical assessment (the document which supports the meeting).

## The Southern IFCA District

The Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority District stretches from the Devon/Dorset border in the West to the Hampshire/Sussex border in the East and covers the combined areas of the relevant councils as well as the entire Dorset, Hampshire and Isle of Wight coastline out to 6 nautical miles from baselines. The extent of the District and its neighboring IFCAs are shown in figure 2.

**“The fisheries within the Southern District are very important contributors to the local economy. The commercial and recreational fishery is vital to the coastal communities within the District”**

### Map of the District

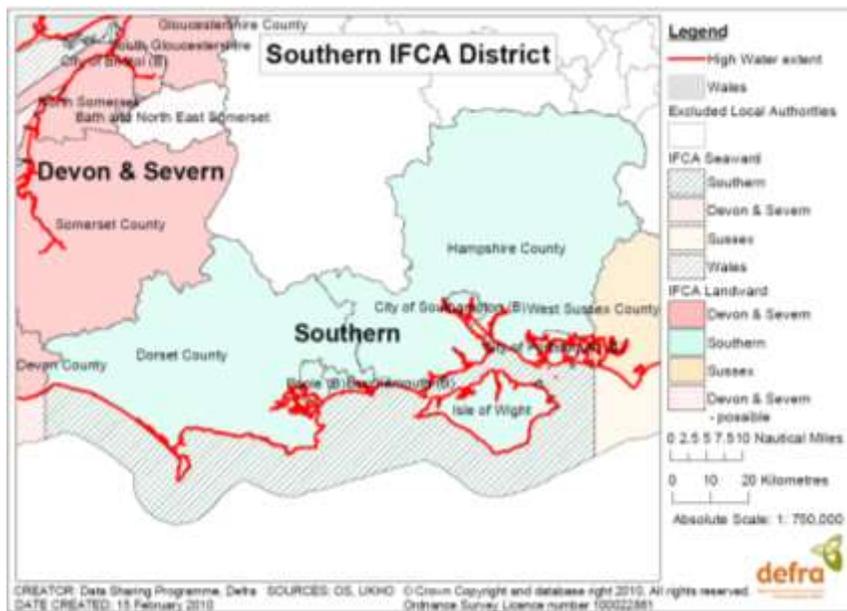


Figure 2: Extent of Southern IFCA District



Figure 3: Southern IFCA District with Bottom Towed Fishing Gear restriction to protect sensitive marine habitats and species (Bottom Towed Fishing Gear Byelaw 2016)

## Membership of the Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

The Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority is funded by its seven constituent councils. The Authority consists of a Statutory Committee which meets at least quarterly in order to receive reports from the Authority's officers and to direct officers to conduct work on its behalf to discharge its duties. The Authority's 21 Members comprise 9 elected Members, 3 government agency representatives and 11 individuals appointed by the MMO for their expertise and knowledge of different sectors. **The Authority is committed to operating in a transparent manner and as such all Authority and Sub-Committee meetings are open to the public and the minutes of the Authority meetings are published on the Authority's website.**

### Appointed by the constituent Authorities

Cllr Mr J Savage	Southampton City Council
Cllr Mr S Hastings/R New	Portsmouth City Council
Cllr Mrs A E McEvoy BSc (Hons.)	Hampshire County Council
Cllr Mr M White	Hampshire County Council
Cllr Mr B Trite	Dorset County Council
Cllr Mr K Brookes	Dorset County Council
Cllr Mr G Perks/J Hobart	Isle of Wight Council
Cllr Mr J Rampton	Poole Borough Council
Cllr Ms L Price	Bournemouth Borough Council

### General members

Prof. J Humphreys  
Dr. A Jensen  
Mr G Wordsworth  
Mr R Stride  
Ms L MacCallum  
Dr S Cripps  
Mr S Kershaw  
Mr T Legg  
Mr N Horsman

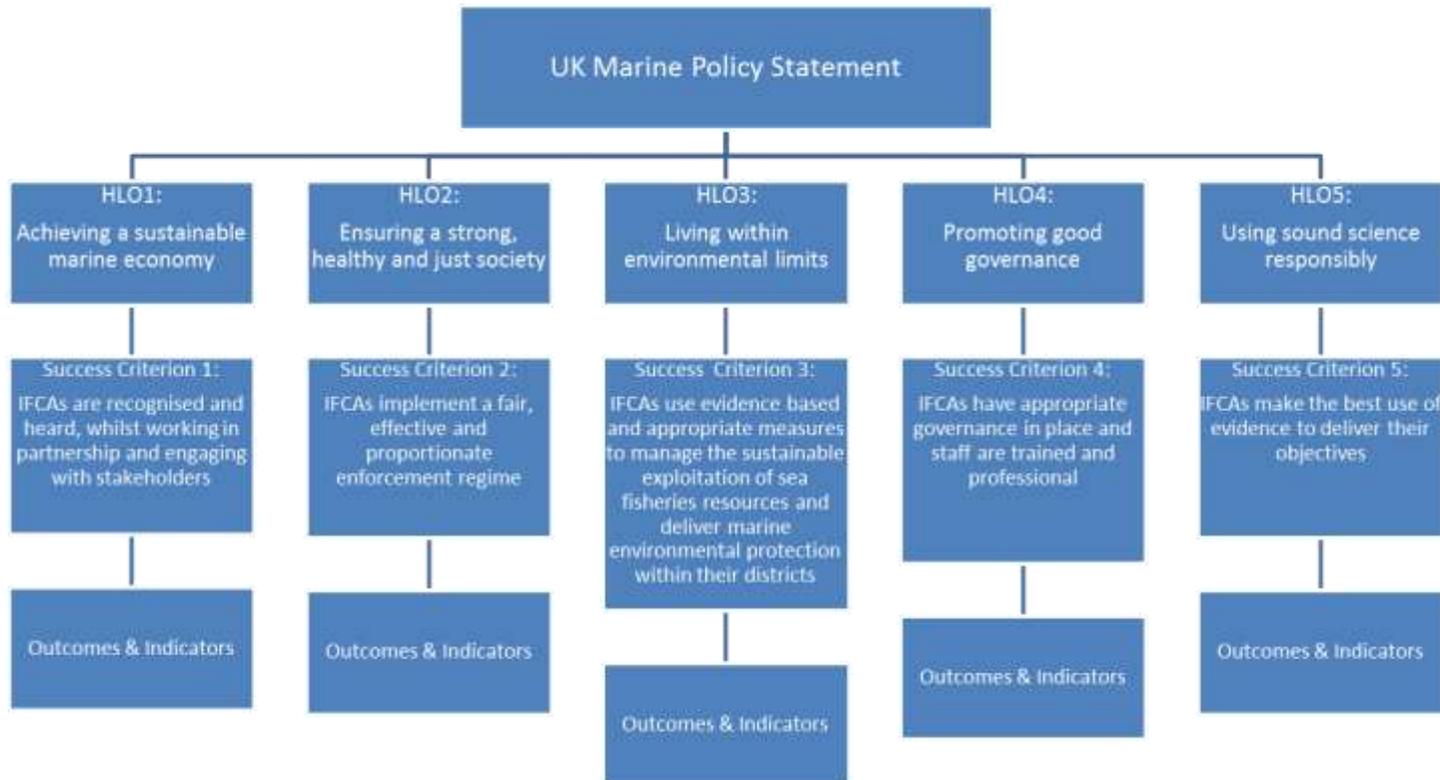
### Representatives of partner Authorities

Dr K Sims	Environment Agency
Mr P Johnson	Marine Management Organisation
Dr R Morgan	Natural England

## Success Criteria and Performance Indicators

The next section shows the high-level objectives, the expected outcomes and agreed performance indicators for each of the IFCA Success Criteria as well as an indication of how these performance indicators will be delivered in 2017/18. The following table illustrates how the work of the IFCA contributes to the UK Marine Policy Statement <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-marine-policy-statement> and through the governance of the IFCA local communities are empowered to direct actions and activities.

HLO = High Level Objective



## Success Criterion 1:

**IFCAs are recognised and heard, balancing the economic needs of the fishery whilst working in partnership and engaging with stakeholders**

IFCAs will be visible, respected and trusted regulators 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.

### Actions

We maintain a list of registered commercial fishing vessels operating within the District and continued to develop, through the Sea Angling Strategic Liaison Group, a network for contacts with angling clubs & etc.

We agreed and published a communication plan and incorporate objectives established in the communication plan.

We reviewed the Southern IFCA website [www.southern-ifca.gov.uk](http://www.southern-ifca.gov.uk) and the @SouthernIFCA twitter feed was used in an interactive and engaging way.

We actively participated to achieve agreed objectives with: The Association of IFCAs, the South West Byelaw Working Group, the Chief Officers Group, the Technical Advisory Group and the National Inshore Marine Enforcement Group. The record of meeting of the Association of IFCAs and the Technical Advisory Group was published in Committee Papers.

### The South Coast Fisherman's Council

"The South Coast Fishermen's Council was formed nearly 40 years ago as a voice for the fishing community. Since the 1980s The Council has had a very important role in supporting the local fishing community and enabling the views of the representatives of the south coasts fishermen's associations to be heard. Southern IFCA is very fortunate to work with the council and very much welcomes their engagement and dialogue. Through effective communication better decisions about the way our fisheries managed can be achieved"

## Success Criterion 2:

### IFCAs implement a fair, effective and proportionate enforcement regime

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.

#### Joined up working

In the calendar year 2017 we produced over 250 intelligence reports which were shared with our partner agencies. We undertook 325 patrols raising awareness, engaging with the community and ensuring compliance to protect and enhance local fisheries and the marine environment.

We patrolled jointly with the Environment Agency, Border Force, the MMO, the Police, harbour authorities and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and Cefas to deliver joined up compliance and added value alongside efficiencies. We directly supported partners in enforcing anti-immigration and modern slavery, marine crime and health regulations. We aided in search and rescue. We provided briefings and taskings through the new joint marine operations control centre (JMOC) established to coordinate agencies operating in the marine area.

#### Actions

The Southern IFCA risk register was updated every six months and along with the strategy and published on the website. This includes details of joint working in our quarterly reports and includes relevant specific examples of this through case studies. Progress against the MMO/IFCA joint working '6-point plan' is included in this report.

We maintained an intelligence led, risk-based approach to enforcement and enhanced our intelligence system.

We will publish our enforcement and compliance activity in a national standardised format.

We worked closely with the MMO and other relevant partners to coordinate sharing of assets and resources through a joint Tactical Coordination Group (TCG). The TCG, informed by our intelligence systems and risk assessments, coordinated the deployment of our assets with partners.

The Code of Conduct was adhered to and reviewed internally and outcomes fed into the National Inshore Marine Enforcement Group.

We ensured that the Code will be incorporated into the IFCOs 6 monthly appraisals.

We retained a leading role in the delivery of national training and CPD will form part of the IFCOs 6 monthly appraisals.

## Case Study: Enforcement and compliance activity

The following performance indicators have been developed and agreed through COG: Enforcement activity data is compiled in a standard format and provided to the National Inshore Marine Enforcement Group (NIMEG) and published on each IFCA website and nationally in the AIFCA website. The annual reports will be developed from statistical data from April to March each year. The following table demonstrates annual enforcement figures for 2017/18 (financial year).

Category	Metric	Details	Total 2016/17	Total 2017/18
<b>Inspections of sea</b>	Vessel patrols	Any patrol vessel or survey (mother /daughter boat combination as one patrol)	106	113
	Fishing vessel boarding	Any fishing vessel (including unregistered / unlicensed) inspected at sea, where boarding was in pursuit of any relevant duty	320	258
	Fishing gear inspections	Store pots, tiers / strings etc. of fishing gear found deployed in sea, where inspection was in pursuit of any relevant duty. Do not count gear inspected onboard a vessel	36	37
<b>Inspections ashore or in port</b>	Shore patrol	Excursion/visit of any length to any part of the coast for an inspection observation of fishing related activity	224	213
	Port visits	Individual port/cove/beach visits within the shoreline	512	449
	Premises inspections	Markets, merchants refrigerated units, retailers, food producers/outlets etc	65	97
	Fish/shellfish landing inspections	Observations of fish/shellfish as landed ashore from a vessel. Does not include inspections of fish in market or in storage unless landing observed	269	239
	Other inspections	Vessel gear/fish checks in port/ashore, diver and shore angler catches, vehicle contents, shellfish on lay areas etc.	24	23
<b>Investigation outcomes</b>	Verbal Warnings/advisory letters	Warnings, re-briefs or letters to minor breaches of legislation (no further action taken). Where both were issued to one person/company, count as one action	40	34
	Case files generated	For a serious breach of legislation which was thought would or did lead to a formal warning letter or the application of legal sanctions	15	23
	Formal written warnings	For a serious breach of legislation where evidence was gathered was sufficient to take legal proceedings, but where a letter was instead deemed the most appropriate action	7	26
	Formal cautions	All cautions relevant to any one case	0	0
	FAPs offered	All FAPs relevant to any one case	2	4
	Individual/companies prosecuted	All persons and company's relevant to any one case	13	6

## 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**

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 contribute to sustainable development.

### Actions

We developed and published impact assessments for each of the designated Marine Protected Areas within the Southern IFCA District. We developed management for the tranche 2 Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) and assisted partners in the consultation of the tranche 3 MCZ process.

All byelaws were accompanied by an 'Impact Assessment' which demonstrated use of best available evidence in accordance with guidance.

We improved our monitoring of the effectiveness of IFCA management; specifically, in 2017/18 we continued to monitor, in partnership; Solent Oysters, Solent Bass, Poole Clams and Cockles, Portland Mussels, Small fish in MPAs, Seagrass, the Solent European Marine Site Single Scheme, and The Poole Aquatic Management Plan.

We have identified options and priorities for management. Our monitoring of the oyster beds in the Solent and clam beds in Poole informed our management of the fishery. We conducted stock assessments on the clam fishery in the Solent. We published a Solent Oyster Management Plan and a Solent Clam Management Plan

### Delivering blue green growth

Southern IFCA manages aquaculture in Poole Harbour through the Poole Harbour Fishery Order 2015. Fisheries include the largest pacific oyster farm in England.

The total direct and indirect value of the fishery, managed under the Order is estimated to be £2,615,250.

But the fishery does not just deliver economic value, it also provides ecosystem services. On a neap tide 80% of the water in Poole Harbour is potentially filtered through shellfish laid in aquaculture. The shellfish filter nutrients and reduce the harmful effects of nitrification.

## Success Criterion 4:

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

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.

#### Training

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and England's ten Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs) have teamed up to develop a bespoke vocational qualification aimed at recognising the vast array of knowledge and skills held by their enforcement officers. The qualification, a QCF Level 3 Certificate in Fisheries and Marine Enforcement, has been developed in conjunction with Skills for Justice (SfJ) and their awarding body SfJ Awards, and has now been approved by the qualification regulator Ofqual.

The qualification will be applicable to both Marine Enforcement Officers (MEOs) in the MMO and Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officers (IFCOs) working across all IFCAs. In working towards the qualification and becoming accredited, officers will have the opportunity to demonstrate their specialist technical knowledge and skills through various forms of assessment.

#### Actions

We published an annual plan in accordance with agreed priorities.

We conducted 6 monthly officer appraisals which are linked to the organisation's objectives.

We hosted an annual internship programme to enable transfer of skills in the organisation.

We held 8 public meetings of the Authority, and introduced a 'light touch' system of performance monitoring for General Members of the Authority and we will roll out the General Members pack to support Members in their role.

We continued to engage with partnerships in integrated catchment management and in the establishment of management systems in transitional and coastal waters.

## Member attendance at Authority Meetings and Sub-Committee Meetings 2017-2018

Member	Attendance at 4 full Authority	Attendance at Technical 4 Advisory Committee	Attendance at 4 Appeals and Scrutiny Committee	Attendance at 6 Executive Committee
Cllr Mr A W Rice TD/Cllr Mr M White	4	N/A	N/A	5
Cllr Mrs A McEvoy BSc (Hons)	1	N/A	N/A	2
Cllr Mr M Lovell/Cllr Mr K Brookes	2	N/A	N/A	2
Cllr Mr R Coatsworth/Cllr Mr B Trite	1	N/A	N/A	0
Cllr Mr G Perks/Cllr Mr J Hobart	2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cllr Mr J Rampton	0	N/A	0	N/A
Cllr Ms L Price	0	N/A	0	1
Cllr Mr L Whitbread/Cllr J Savage	2	N/A	0	N/A
Cllr Mr S Hastings/Cllr Mr R New	1	N/A	0	N/A
Mr P Johnson	3	0	N/A	N/A
Dr K Sims	0	4	N/A	N/A
Dr R Morgan	3	4	N/A	N/A
Mr N Horsman	3	2	N/A	N/A
Ms E Davies/Mr G Wordsworth	2	2	N/A	2
Ms L MacCallum	3	3	N/A	N/A
Prof J Humphreys	4	4	N/A	6
Dr A C Jensen	3	4	N/A	3
Mr S Kershaw	4	4	N/A	N/A
Mr T Legg	4	3	N/A	N/A
Dr S Cripps	3	3	N/A	N/A
Mr R Stride	4	3	N/A	3

N/A = not applicable i.e. the member is not required to attend these meetings

Attendance at Appeals and Scrutiny Committee = individual Members have attended planned meetings, but where the meeting was no quorate their attendance is not recorded. A plan has been put in place to address this.

## Success Criterion 5:

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

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.

#### Actions

We published a research plan.

We published a research report.

We actively participated and assisted in the IFCA Technical Advisory Committee and facilitated a TAG conference to bring together national researchers.

#### Impacts of a novel shellfishing gear on macrobenthos in a marine protected area

Understanding the impact of bottom-fishing gears at various scales and intensities on habitats and species is necessary to inform management. In Poole Harbour, a multiple use marine protected area, fishermen utilise a unique “pump-scoop” dredge to harvest the introduced Manila clam *Ruditapes philippinarum*. Southern IFCA need to balance the socio-economic benefits of the fishery with ecological concerns across the region.

Within an operational fishery, researchers from Bournemouth University used a Before-After-Control-Impact sampling design to assess the impacts of pump-scoop dredging on benthic physical characteristics and community structure in an area where there was no dredging, an area newly opened to dredging and an area subject to high levels of historic dredging.

<https://doi.org/10.1051/alr/2017044>

#### Evidence Based Management and the Wrasse fishery

Over the past two years a new fishery for live wrasse has developed on the South coast of England. Fish are transported to Scottish salmon farms to be used as cleaner fish for the removal of sea-lice as a biological alternative to the use of anti-parasitic chemical treatments.

A range of species-specific maximum and minimum sizes have been developed in order to maintain recruitment into the fishery through aligning minimum sizes above the size of sexual maturity. A series of no take zones and no potting zones have been introduced, in many cases overlapping with the boundaries of Marine Protected Areas. In addition, popular sites for recreational sea fishing have been included as no take zones in order to reduce conflict between users and to ease the pressure on wrasse populations in these areas.

A fishing closed season from April to June (inclusive) has also been introduced to protect wrasse populations during their peak spawning period. Additional measures include a restriction on the placing of wrasse pots to waters less than 10m deep to protect the survivability of catches together with a restriction of 80 pots per vessel in order to restrict fishing effort.

In collaboration with a range of partners including Natural England and industry operators, Southern IFCA has commenced a programme of study to improve our understanding of the fishery and its effects on the marine environment. Research techniques include the collection of fisheries catch data, catch sampling and the development of a PhD.

<http://www.southern-ifca.gov.uk/news>

## Risk Management Report

Southern IFCA is responsible for the inshore fisheries and marine environment, and to provide a service to both residents and visitors. It is essential that the Authority protects and preserves its ability to continue to provide that service by ensuring that its assets, both tangible and intangible, are protected against loss and damage. The service provided is subject to a number of risks, which if not controlled, will greatly affect the Authority's ability to discharge its responsibilities to the environment, the community and its employees.

Risk management is the process of measuring, or assessing, risk and developing strategies to manage it. Strategies include reducing the negative effect of the risk, avoiding the risk, transferring the risk to another party and accepting some, or all, of the consequences of a particular risk if it is low. Traditional risk management focuses on risks stemming from physical or legal causes and the impact they may have on the Service e.g. natural disasters or fires, accidents, death, and legal challenges.

### Business Continuity

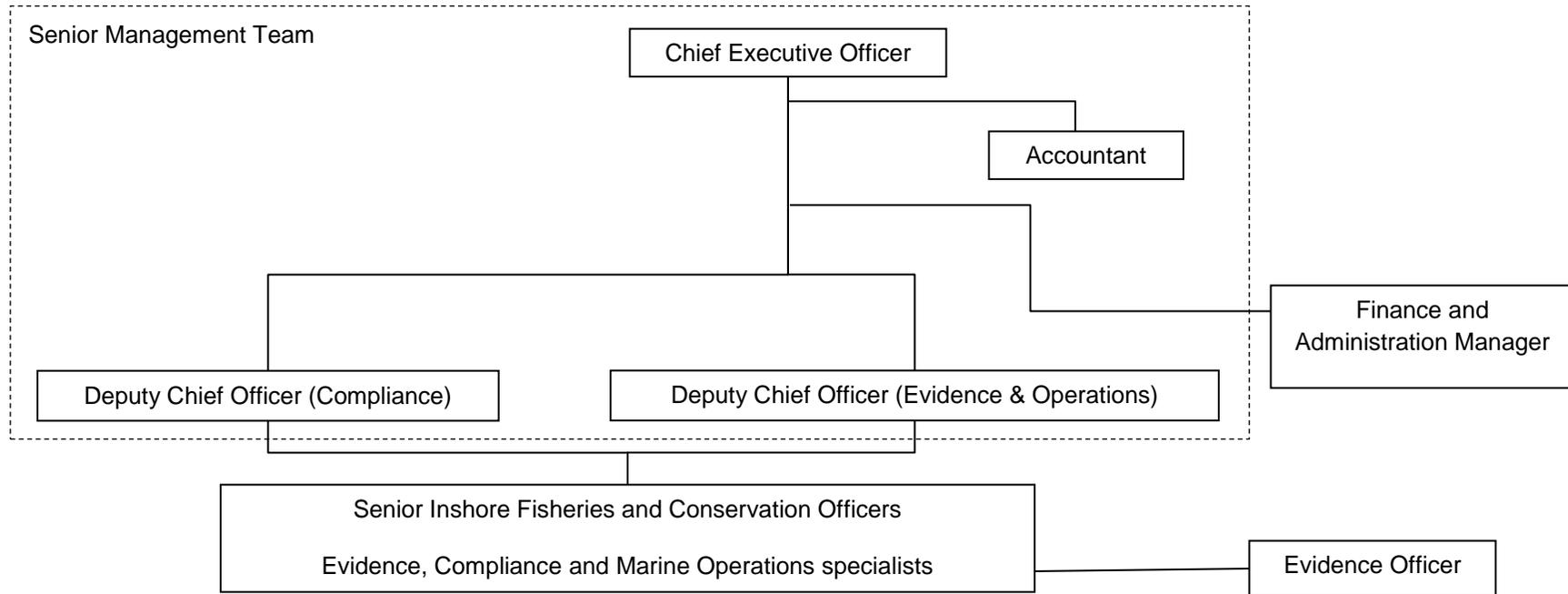
Where risks are identified that could have a significant or catastrophic impact on a business or service, it makes sense to consider how the business will continue if an event does occur. It also helps to identify possible actions that could inherently reduce the risk of the event occurring.

In conjunction with all staff, senior officers have set aside time to assess the risks to the Service and where possible to put in place management strategies to eliminate, or reduce the risks. The sort of risks identified were loss of the vessel, loss of records by fire in the office, large scale staff illness, legal challenge and so on. No incidents or loss of business continuity was reported in 2017/18.

### Review of measures

In accordance with the Annual Plan the Risk management process of the IFCA was reviewed externally and the assessment concluded that the procedures were adequate. A series of recommendations were made and these were implemented in 2017/18.

## Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority Members



## Patrol Vessels

The following resources belonged to Southern IFCA on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015. A vessel working group, comprising Authority personnel and Members, established a process by which to review the IFCA assets afloat. As a consequence of this review a vessel procurement plan was produced.

Vessel details	HP	MCA Work Boat Code	Length	Crew	Commissioned	Life remaining	Replacement cost
FPV Stella Barbara	240	Cat. 3 (20 nm offshore)	8m	2-3	2015	10	£115,000
FPV Tenacity	240	Cat. 3 (20 nm offshore)	10m	2-3	2000	2	£200,000
FPV Endeavour	115	Cat. 3 (20 nm offshore)	6m	2-3	2012	14	£42,000
FPV Protector	280	Cat. 3 (20 nm offshore)	8m	2-3	2013	9	£80,000



## Finance & Accounts

The main source of funding of the Southern IFCA is through a levy of £743,878 on constituent local Authorities in accordance with The Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010. To defray additional costs incurred by local authorities funding Southern IFCA, Defra allocated £329,425 'New Burdens Funding' each year since being created in 2011. The New Burdens Funding was paid to local authorities through the Department for Communities and Local Government's (DCLG) Local Services Support Grant. Following a Spending Review by Government, and relevant to this reporting period, Defra extended the original New Burdens Funding allocation by making an additional £329,425 available to Southern IFCA's member local authorities, during 2017 – 2018.

<b>PROFIT AND LOSS</b>	ACTUAL	BUDGET
	Yr to	Yr to
	31Mar18	31Mar18
	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>		
Bank interest receivable	353	1,500
Levies	743,878	743,878
Court costs awarded	2,828	3,500
Poole clam licences/permits	21,650	21,500
Rents - Poole leases	27,796	28,081
Training	72	0
Transfers from reserves	19,872	18,000
Other income	61,053	71,468
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>877,502</b>	<b>887,927</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Administration	701,470	763,985
Patrol Vessels	33,960	38,200
Vehicles & Travel	44,183	49,412
New Equipment	49,181	54,089
Appropriations	0	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>828,794</b>	<b>905,686</b>
<b>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPEND</b>	<b>48,708</b>	<b>(17,759)</b>

## Accounting Statement for Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>	<b>31 Mar 2018</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
Office and Equipment	187,455
Patrol Vessels	77,442
Vehicles	<u>67,828</u>
	<b>332,725</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Sundry Debtors	20,502
Cash at Bank and In Hand	<u>1,674,699</u>
	<b>1,695,201</b>
<b>Sundry Creditors</b>	<u>(676,272)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>1,351,654</b>
<b>Represented by</b>	
Capital Finance Account	332,726
Patrol Vessel Renewal Reserve	711,369
Marine Act Reserve	48,300
General Reserve	<u>259,259</u>
<b>Total Financing</b>	<b><u>1,351,654</u></b>

The Audit Commission Act 1998 (section 2 and Schedule 2) required joint committees to prepare accounts and undergo an audit separate from their constituent bodies. From 1 April 2015, implementation of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 means that joint committees will no longer be required to have their accounts separately prepared and audited. Southern IFCA has however elected, in the interest of public assurance and accountability, to maintain an external examination of the accounts and for the reporting period Francis Clark LLP have undertaken an Independent limited assurance report on Southern IFCA Accounts.

