

Sussex
Inshore Fisheries
and Conservation
Authority



Annual Report 2022-2023



A photograph of two men in dark uniforms sitting on a gravel path. The man in the foreground is bald with sunglasses on his head, looking up at the sky. The man behind him is wearing a cap and holding a radio. They are overlooking a coastal wetland with green marshes and a body of water in the distance under a sunset sky with wispy clouds and contrails.

Further Copies

This document 'The Sussex IFCA Annual Report 2022-2023' is available in electronic form from Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority.

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Brighton Road,
Shoreham-by-Sea,
West Sussex, BN43 6RE**

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Foreword

This annual report details the suite of work programmes, projects and achievements made by the Sussex IFCA team in the 12-month period from the 1st April 2022, to the 31st March 2023. This represents the first annual reporting period in which activities were no longer significantly affected by impacts of working under Coronavirus restrictions since the 2018-2019 financial year, allowing a welcome return to conventional working and a full service delivery. This was also reflected in the commercial fishing industry, with data on landings across the Sussex district showing a significant increase on the previous two years. Things haven't all been positive for the industry through, for example increased costs in fuel associated to the outbreak of the war in Ukraine at the start of 2022 have placed a significant economic burden on fishers, amongst other pressures.

Since the introduction of the Marine and Coastal Access Act in 2009, leading to the formation of the IFCA's in 2010, marine management has seen a period of rapid evolution, with a relatively complex legal framework for managing inshore and offshore fisheries and Marine Protected Areas. To remain an effective management authority, we must bring our stakeholders and partners along with us as legislation or regulation develops. This is why stakeholder engagement and partnership working remain core to our ways of working and subsequent achievements at Sussex IFCA. As evidenced in this report, we have worked with a broad range of partners and stakeholder agencies to

ensure we deliver more for less, and we focus on representation of the marine environment and sustainable fisheries at many levels.

An example of this has been the Authority's response and engagement with Defra's Fishery Management Plans (FMP), a key milestone in UK fisheries legislation since leaving the Common Fisheries Policy and the introduction of the Fisheries Act 2020. These FMP's represent a huge opportunity for realisation and wider adoption of the co-management approach, ensuring stakeholders and industry are involved in generating a 'bottom up' management system, as well as informing sustainable management measures. Sussex IFCA contributed with early engagement and consultation on these plans, and worked to promote the value of engagement to industry, stakeholders and partners. Looking forward, we will consider how our objectives and success criteria will need to be adapted to recognise these new plans.

On a personal note, assisting with the compilation of this report has been a fantastic opportunity to review and appreciate the depth and diversity of work Sussex IFCA undertook in the year prior to my appointment. Since joining the IFCA in May 2023, it has been a privilege to get to know the passionate, hard-working team based here at Shoreham, and a pleasure to join a settled team of dedicated people that share the IFCA vision. I would also like to thank the outgoing Chief Officer, Chairman and Committee Members for their welcome and support so far.



Robert Pearson B.Sc. M.Sc. MIFM
Chief Fisheries and
Conservation Officer



Professor Peter Jones
Chair

Contents

i	Foreword	18	Risk management strategy	36	Partnership & Memoranda of Understanding
ii	Contents	21	Organisational Structure 2022 to 2023	37	Service Plan and Performance Standards
1	Executive Summary	22	Resources: Employees and Organisational Structure	38	Compliance and Enforcement
2	Introduction	24	Authority Fisheries Patrol Vessels (FPVs)	40	Publicity and Communication
4	Vision	26	Financial Summary 2022/2023	42	Access to Information
5	Duties	28	Our Conservation and Research Work	43	Glossary of Terms
6	List of Members			44	Contact
7	The Sussex IFCA District				
8	Sussex IFCA key priorities for delivery of duties in 2022 to 2023				



Chichester Harbour Conservancy vessels on their way to a Small Fish Survey for the Solent Seascape Restoration Project

Executive Summary

The Sussex IFCA Annual Report for 2022 to 2023

This report presents a summary of the activities of Sussex IFCA over the period from April 2022 to March 2023. The activities and achievements are considered against the objectives set out in our Annual Plan, developed in recognition of our duties under the Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009. We assess these activities against our five key success criteria on page 8.

In regard to regulatory development, as this report goes to press, Sussex IFCA have three proposed Byelaws entrain and awaiting completion of quality assurance by the MMO and Defra; the Netting Permit Byelaw 2019, Minimum Size (Fish, Crustacea and Mollusc) Byelaw 2021 and Hand Gathering Byelaw 2022. The Hand Gathering Byelaw was the last to be submitted, with the Authority approving submission of the final Byelaw at the July 2022 committee meeting. Focus then turned to the Marine Protected Areas Byelaw 2023, which considers management for Beachy Head East Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ). Beachy Head East was the last MCZ in the district to be designated in Defra's third tranche of designations in 2019. It is the final Marine Protected Area in the district to be considered for appropriate fisheries management, to meet Defra's deadline of 2024. The informal consultation phase was conducted in February 2023 and we were pleased to report good engagement from stakeholders.

Throughout the reporting period, Sussex IFCA continued to maximise resource and efficiency by using an intelligence and risk-based enforcement approach, with enforcement and compliance activities scheduled according to intelligence reports and in regard to our marine conservation duties and objectives. Pleasingly, compliance within the district was generally good, and in particular the spatial restrictions introduced with the Nearshore Trawling Byelaw 2019 continue to be respected. We continued to embrace new ways of working, including extensive use of monitoring by drone, and prioritised working with partner organisations to deliver on enforcement activities.

Our Sussex IFCA team delivered on a wide range of conservation and research work through the reporting period, ensuring we meet our higher-level objective of operating with evidence-based decision making. The research programme ensures we gather the required information to make these evidence-based decisions, for example on the introduction of appropriate based fisheries management regulations, as well as allowing us to assess the effectiveness of such measures once introduced. A key example of this would be the monitoring plan associated to the introduction of the Nearshore Trawling Byelaw, which is also a great example of our partnership working approach; with a number of partner organisations and stakeholder groups involved in and promoting research

looking at the ecological and socio-economic impacts associated to the Byelaw introduction.

Sussex IFCA has contributed to the development of Defra's first six national Fisheries Management Plans, through provision of knowledge and experience of managing these stocks, sitting on specialist sub-groups and inputting into their initial drafting. Recognising the value of the FMP's and the co-management approach to fisheries management they hope to provide, Sussex IFCA continues to engage with Defra and its delivery partners, and promote the plans and consultations at a local level.

The 2022 – 2023 reporting period saw an unusually high turnover of staff at Sussex IFCA, with successful recruitment conducted to back fill roles as appropriate. In no particular order we welcomed a new committee manager, finance manager, two new compliance and enforcement officers, and three conservation & research officers. It is testament to the resilience and dedication of the team, alongside effective training and a welcoming and mentoring-focussed approach provided by existing staff, that progress towards our stated objectives has continued unchecked, with our new team members integrating productively into the team. Training of existing officers was also completed as required to support the delivery of their roles.

Introduction

The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, from which the Sussex IFCA District and Authority was created in 2010, was a landmark step by government to establish a holistic marine legislation framework capable of delivering modern management of United Kingdom seas. As well as enabling the establishment of new marine management bodies including the Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities and the Marine Management Organisation, it provided legislation to create a network of Marine Conservation Zones, the first sites

being designated in 2013. With provisions for the development of marine planning, the legislation is central to the commitment to the Government's vision of clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas as defined the UK Marine Policy Statement.

The Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) has clearly defined duties to manage sustainable fisheries and protect the marine environment within the coastal waters off Sussex.

This annual report for the Authority provides a detailed account of the year's work against the published work plan for April 2022 to March 2023. The Authority continues to make significant strides toward the Government's Marine Policy Statement and defined High Level Marine Objectives.

High Level Marine Objectives:

- Achieving a sustainable marine economy: IFCAs are recognised and heard, whilst working in partnership and engaging with stakeholders
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society: IFCAs implement a fair, effective and proportionate enforcement regime
- Living within environmental limits: IFCAs use evidence based and appropriate measures to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources and deliver marine environmental protection within their Districts

- Promoting good governance: IFCAs have appropriate governance in place and staff are trained and professional
- Using sound science, responsibly: IFCAs make the best use of evidence to deliver their objectives

Achieving good management

By its very nature, the management of marine fisheries and the marine environment is a complex process. Legislative drivers occur at a European, National and local level and involve a significant number of public bodies with both management and science functions.

Wherever possible the Sussex IFCA endeavours to work in partnership with others, particularly with all IFCAs and national marine and conservation advisors to find best practice for the delivery of ever improving management.

Vision

The vision for Sussex IFCA is:

“Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority 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 Vision is a shared statement between all of the ten Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities in England.

Duties

Domestic Legislation

The duties for Sussex IFCA set out within the Marine and Coastal Access Act, 2009 sections 153 and 154 are:

- 1) Sussex IFCA must manage the exploitation of sea fisheries resources in its district, in doing so it 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.
- 2) Sussex IFCA must also seek to ensure that the conservation objectives of any MCZ in the district are furthered.
 - 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.
 - d) seek to balance the different needs of persons engaged in the exploitation of sea fisheries resources in the district.

European Legislation

As defined as a 'Competent and Relevant Authority' the Sussex IFCA is required to perform its duties in regard to:

- **The 'Habitats Directive'**
Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora
- **The 'Water Framework Directive'**
Council Directive 2000/60/EC of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for community action in the field of water policy
- **The 'Marine Strategy Framework Directive'**
Council Directive 2008/56/EC of 17 June 2008 establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy.

List of Members (April 2022)

Cllr Sam Adeniji

East Sussex County Council

Cllr Julia Hilton

East Sussex County Council

Cllr Tom Liddiard

East Sussex County Council

Cllr Pieter Montyn

West Sussex County Council

Cllr Noel Atkins

West Sussex County Council

Cllr Emma Evans

West Sussex County Council

Cllr Leo Littman**

Brighton & Hove City Council

Prof. Peter Jones*

MMO Appointee

Professor of Environmental Governance

Prof. Paul Leonard

MMO Appointee

Environmental Consultant

Dr. Paul Driver

MMO Appointee

Fisheries Research & International Environmental Conservation

Ms Sally Ashby

MMO Appointee

Expert in Marine Ecosystems & Documentary Film Production

Mr Andy Read

MMO Appointee

Editor of the Fishing News

Mr Garry Walker

MMO Appointee

Commercial Fisher

Mr James Partridge

MMO Appointee

Commercial Wholesaler (Shoreham-by-Sea)

Dr Corina Ciocan

MMO Appointee

Principal Lecturer, University of Brighton

Mr Gary Edwards

MMO Appointee

Commercial Fisher

Mr Graham Furness

MMO Appointee

Recreational Sea Angling

Mr Mark Bennett

EA Representative

Ms Paula Daglish

Natural England Representative

Mr Paul Johnson

MMO Representative

* Chair

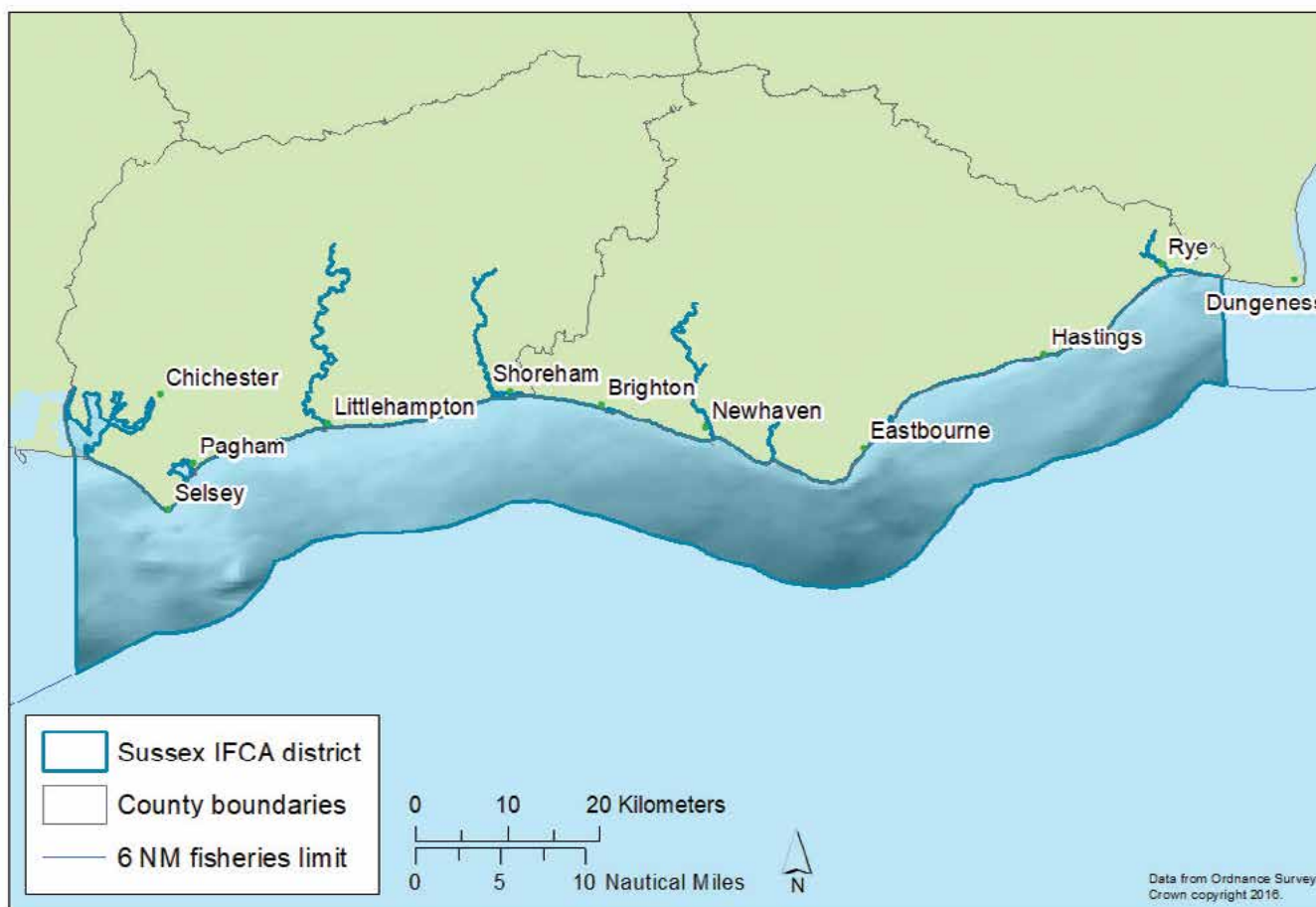
** Deputy Chair



The Sussex IFCA District

The Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010, section 3 defines the extent of both the landward and seaward elements of the Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation District as summarised.

- the combined areas of the relevant councils (the “basic area” of the district); and
- the sea adjacent to the basic area of the district within the boundaries specified to a distance of 6 nautical miles from the 1983 baselines.



The western boundary of the district

Points	Latitude	Longitude
1	50° 46.62N	0° 55.92W
2	50° 33.93N	0° 55.92W

The eastern boundary of the district

Points	Latitude	Longitude
1	50° 55.32N	0° 51.16E
2	50° 49.06N	0° 51.16E

Sussex IFCA key priorities for delivery of duties in 2022 to 2023

Focus and priorities for the year, schedule of activities commencing April 2022

The 2020 to 2024 Four Year Plan contained the Authority's intended programme of work. The activities were framed within the IFCA's five nationally agreed success criteria for which there were a range of high-level objectives. During this year the Sussex IFCA has either completed or made progress toward all these objectives.

The following tables and their contents, one for each success criteria, both describe and illustrate the extent to which targets were met.

The final column of each table indicates the status of achievement using a RAG (Red, Amber, Green) colour coding.

- **Insignificant or no progress**
- **Significant progress but not completed**
- **Objective completed**

Success Criterion 1: IFCAs are recognised and heard, balancing the economic needs of the fishery 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	Indicator	Actions	RAG status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 nationally. Opportunities for greater efficiencies, effective joint working and collaboration will be explored and implemented when feasible. 	<p>SC1A: The IFCA will maintain a database of stakeholder contacts that will have been reviewed and updated by 31 March each year.</p>	<p>Create a database of stakeholders in the commercial fisheries, recreational sea angling, NGO and public sectors.</p> <p>Maintain a database of permit holders.</p> <p>Maintain list up to date and review data quality annually before 31 March.</p>	Ongoing
	<p>SC1B: The IFCA will have completed a review of its communication strategy and implementation plan by 31 March each year.</p>	<p>Continuously develop mechanisms and opportunities for educating communities about sustainable management of the marine environment.</p> <p>Development and displaying communication material.</p> <p>Ensure enquiry responses meet the code of conduct and Service Plan.</p> <p>Log enquires and responses.</p> <p>Maintain use of brand in uniform and communication materials.</p> <p>Engage with community stakeholders in media and meetings to inform and consult with interested parties.</p> <p>Ensure accessibility of communications materials.</p> <p>Review plan by 31 March.</p>	Ongoing

Success Criterion 1 continued: IFCA's are recognised and heard, balancing the economic needs of the fishery whilst working in partnership and engaging with stakeholders

Outcomes	Indicator	Actions	RAG status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 nationally. Opportunities for greater efficiencies, effective joint working and collaboration will be explored and implemented when feasible. 	SC1C: The IFCA will have reviewed its website by the last working day of each month.	Review website by the end of each month and update as required. Ensure all information is up to date, with particular reference to regulations and changes in regulations.	Ongoing
	SC1D: The IFCA will have reviewed its website and ensured it meets the objectives of its communication strategy, by 31 March each year.	Review website in the context of the communication strategy by the end of the year.	Ongoing
	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.	Review MoU and partnership agreements by 31 March. Implement agreements with actions and meetings.	Ongoing
	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.	Actively participate in external meeting group partnerships such as the Sussex Marine and Coastal Forum, Marine Protected Area Implementation Group, catchment partnerships and Biosphere meetings. This participation will influence decision makers with regard to prioritising sustainable fisheries and protection of the marine environment. Provide evidence-based advice to decision makers on blue growth agenda, marine recreation, sustainable tourism and aquaculture. Actively support the Chief Officers Group and the association of IFCA's. Provided timely responses to consultations on significant plans and licences. Implement the Authority Service Plan in respect to defined objectives and targets.	Ongoing

Success Criterion 2: IFCA's 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 IFCA 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	Indicator	Actions	RAG status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	SC2A: The IFCA will ensure its enforcement risk register and strategy are published and available on its website from 1 April each year.	Analyse enforcement information, producing and disseminating reports through committees and the annual report. Review and update the risk register as required. Include enforcement risk based approach information in the annual plan.	Ongoing
	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.	Work with and report on involvement with Regional Fisheries Enforcement Group, Tactical Agency meetings (with MMO, EA and Police), NIMEG, links to National Enforcement Agencies (Gangmasters Licencing Authority and Food Crime Unit). Participate in Government Agency Intelligence Network (GAIN). Build agreed regulations (i.e. byelaws) that enable fair and effective management of fisheries activities. Use voluntary codes where appropriate. Promote education and awareness of regulations and voluntary agreements. Collaborate with partners and report on intelligence sharing agreements.	Ongoing
	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.	Develop a standard format. Report record of enforcement to NIMEG. Utilisation of MCSS to share compliance information with MMO and IFCA partners. Collate and publish a record of enforcement on website.	Ongoing

Success Criterion 2 continued: IFCA's implement a fair, effective and proportionate enforcement regime

Outcomes	Indicator	Actions	RAG status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	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.	Work with NIMEG to produce a code of conduct and review. Publish the code on the website.	Ongoing
	SC2E: The Code of Conduct for IFCOs is reflected in work objectives and annual appraisals for all Warranted Officers.	Officer performance plans incorporate code of conduct objectives. Appraisals carried out accordingly.	Ongoing
	SC2F: Warranted Officers attain accreditation. All undertake Continuing Professional Development.	Officer performance plans incorporate accreditation objectives. Officer performance plans incorporate development targets.	Ongoing



Success Criterion 3: IFCA's 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 IFCA's 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	Indicator	Actions	RAG status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IFCA will identify issues likely to affect sustainable management of the marine environment in the IFCA 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. 	<p>SC3A: The IFCA will record site-specific management considerations for Marine Protected Areas and report progress to the Authority.</p>	<p>Work with partners to promote sustainable management and further the objectives of MPAs and MCZs.</p> <p>Utilise community engagement strategies to involve stakeholders.</p> <p>Work with Natural England to understand and meet conservation objectives and site conditions.</p> <p>Gather evidence to support engagement and management decisions. To include fishing activity and impacts, habitat information, species information and climate change information.</p> <p>Develop fair and effective management measures. Implement regulation.</p> <p>Adhere to reporting mechanisms for MPAs and MCZs, and report back to the Authority meetings.</p> <p>Support partnership initiatives to work towards a good marine environment and ecology for i.e., Water Framework Directive, Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Habitats Directive and MACCA.</p>	Ongoing
	<p>SC3B: The IFCA will publish data analysis and evidence supporting new management measures, on its website.</p>	<p>Maintain a records system that demonstrates the best available, quality assured evidence is used in engagement and decision making.</p> <p>Publish consultation materials and Impact Assessments on the website.</p>	Ongoing

Success Criterion 3 continued: IFCA's use evidence based and appropriate measures to manage the sustainable exploitation of sea fisheries resources and deliver marine environmental protection within their districts

Outcomes	Indicator	Actions	RAG status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	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.	Maintain in-house capability to collect, analyse and interpret evidence to inform management decisions and meet minimum standards set out in government guidance. Target evidence collection at extant management measures, and report on their effectiveness.	Ongoing
	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.	Existing 'Review of Management' process translated into 4 year and annual planning and Byelaw development needs • New Hand Gathering Byelaw 2022 made.	Ongoing
	SC3E: New IFCA management measures selected for development and implementation are delivered within agreed timescales.	Set appropriate timescales for management measures. Meet management measure timelines and targets. Development of byelaws and non-regulatory management measures in accordance with the Authority's 'Review of Management Measures' public consultation to inform management priorities.	Ongoing
	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.	Incorporate management objectives and actions in annual plans.	March 2023
	SC3G: Progress made in relevant Fisheries Management Plan areas, including Maximum Sustainable Yield commitments, will be noted in the IFCA's Annual Report.	Annual Report will contain information on district fisheries management plans including reference to MSY for key species, and ecosystem metrics. IFCA will inform significant developments and marine licences with regard to sustainable fisheries management and the protection of the marine environment.	Ongoing

Success Criterion 4: IFCA's have appropriate governance in place and staff are trained and professional

Definition: IFCA's are statutory authorities and sit within the local government family. Authority members may be either general members or local councillors. They comply with Codes of Conduct and the Standing Orders that apply to meetings of local government committees. General members

are appointed on merit, through open competition and for a term. They are subject to an annual performance appraisal.

An IFCA is funded by levy, charged to its member councils. Funding originates in local taxation. An IFCA is accountable for its use

of public resources and should ensure that a proper auditing regime provides confidence in its commitment and spend of public money. It should make effective use of its resources, including staff and assets. An IFCA has a statutory obligation to prepare and publish Annual Plans and Annual Reports.

Outcomes	Indicator	Actions	RAG status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IFCA will demonstrate its long-term strategic approach to sustainable marine management by having appropriate plan-making, review, update and amendment procedures in place. The IFCA will record its performance against corporate outcomes and indicators as soon as practically possible following the end of the financial year. Staff performance management systems will be in place that link to the IFCA success criteria. There will be an induction procedure for new joiners. Staff training and development needs will be identified. Performance will be managed and, where necessary, improvement procedures will be followed. The IFCA Committee will be supported by an organised, efficient and effective secretariat. New members will receive an induction pack and briefing from the Authority. There will be a rolling twelve-month schedule of quarterly Authority meetings. Notices of meetings and documentation will be made available in line with Standing Orders. IFCA Committee meetings will be held in public unless material is either confidential, or exempt within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1972. 	<p>SC4A: The IFCA will publish a Plan on its website by 31 March, setting out the main objectives and priorities for the next financial year. A copy will be sent to the Secretary of State.</p>	<p>Priorities and objectives are discussed and agreed by staff and the Authority.</p> <p>Priorities for the plan will use evidence and be risk based.</p> <p>Priorities will include provision for the operational assets that underpin IFCA activities.</p> <p>Actions will be value for money.</p> <p>Create and publish a plan for each financial year. This will be a four year plan with an annual review cycle.</p> <p>A copy of the plan will be sent to the Secretary of State.</p>	March 2023
	<p>SC4B: After the end of each financial year, the IFCA will publish a Report on its website describing its activities, performance and a summary of audited financial information in that year, by 30 November. A copy will be sent to the Secretary of State.</p>	<p>Create and Publish an annual report on the website by November.</p> <p>Report to include performance metrics.</p> <p>Report to include annual finance summary.</p> <p>Appropriate financial management controls and audits to be maintained.</p> <p>Administrative processes are in place to ensure control over expenses, procurement and time recording.</p>	November 2023
	<p>SC4C: IFCA staff will have annual performance management plans in place. Annual appraisals for all staff will have been completed by 31 May each year.</p>	<p>Individuals have performance plans that link to the IFCA annual plans.</p> <p>Objectives are discussed and set for individuals.</p> <p>Manager's objectives will include good internal communication to all staff.</p> <p>Personal development requirements for individuals are planned and completed.</p> <p>One-to-one meetings are held regularly and appraisals are carried out in the fourth quarter of the year.</p>	Ongoing

Success Criterion 4 continued: IFCA's have appropriate governance in place and staff are trained and professional

Outcomes	Indicator	Actions	RAG status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IFCA will demonstrate its long-term strategic approach to sustainable marine management by having appropriate plan-making, review, update and amendment procedures in place. The IFCA will record its performance against corporate outcomes and indicators as soon as practically possible following the end of the financial year. Staff performance management systems will be in place that link to the IFCA success criteria. There will be an induction procedure for new joiners. Staff training and development needs will be identified. Performance will be managed and, where necessary, improvement procedures will be followed. The IFCA Committee will be supported by an organised, efficient and effective secretariat. New members will receive an induction pack and briefing from the Authority. There will be a rolling twelve month schedule of quarterly Authority meetings. Notices of meetings and documentation will be made available in line with Standing Orders. IFCA Committee meetings will be held in public unless material is either confidential, or exempt within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1972. 	SC4D: An efficient secretariat of IFCA staff support IFCA Authority meetings which are held quarterly and are quorate. Meeting documentation will meet Standing Orders.	<p>Authority meetings are supported with timely and appropriate agendas and paperwork.</p> <p>Minutes are recorded and issued.</p> <p>Standing orders and terms and conditions for members will be adhered to.</p>	Ongoing
	SC4E: The IFCA will have demonstrated, in its Annual Report, how marine, land and water management mechanisms in the Inshore Fisheries & Conservation District have worked responsively and effectively together.	<p>Authority decision making will be informed and reflect marine management mechanisms including the MACCA obligations, the South Marine Plan, Water Framework Directive, Marine Strategic Framework Directive, the Habitats Directive, enforcement risks and the blue growth agenda.</p> <p>Authority decision making will be informed and reflect other IFCA's, MMO, EA, NE, Cefas and local council priorities.</p> <p>Transparency will be ensured by publication of Committee meeting minutes and agendas.</p>	Ongoing

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	Indicator	Actions	RAG status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	SC5A: The IFCA will demonstrate progress that has made towards identifying its evidence needs by publishing a research plan each year.	Create and publish a strategic 4 year and Annual Research Plan. IFCA evidence collection capability will be maintained. Ecosystem services evidence will be part of the evidence portfolio. Climate change trends and impacts will be part of the evidence portfolio. Fisheries activity, landing, economic values and impact will be part of the evidence portfolio. Species distribution, seasonality, life-cycle patterns and habitat information will be part of the evidence portfolio.	Ongoing
	SC5B: The IFCA will publish a research report annually that demonstrates how evidence has supported decision making.	Create and publish an annual Research Report. Communicate research findings through accessible education and awareness strategies. Use evidence to inform IFCA decision making and influence others decision making.	Ongoing
	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.	Support the IFCA Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and its work streams. Describe in the Annual Report the contribution towards building a national evidence needs programme.	Ongoing

Risk management strategy

In accordance with good management practice and government guidance, the Authority produces an annual risk strategy. The strategy is published within the Authority's Annual Plan and its contents are under constant review by the Senior Management Team who report on risks to the Authority through the governance structure. The strategy takes the form of a risk matrix which is a 'live' document that develops as the Authority increasingly understands future work, this may in turn lead to deployment of organisational resources, the reallocation of resources and the development of capabilities.

Government reporting guidance requires that new risks identified for intervention should be highlighted in the Authority's Annual Report. A fully reviewed risk matrix is incorporated into the Annual Plan.

In reviewing the risk assessment, the Authority identified the Covid-19 pandemic as a continued and significant risk during 2022-23. A tabulated summary all risks and interventions are provided for information.

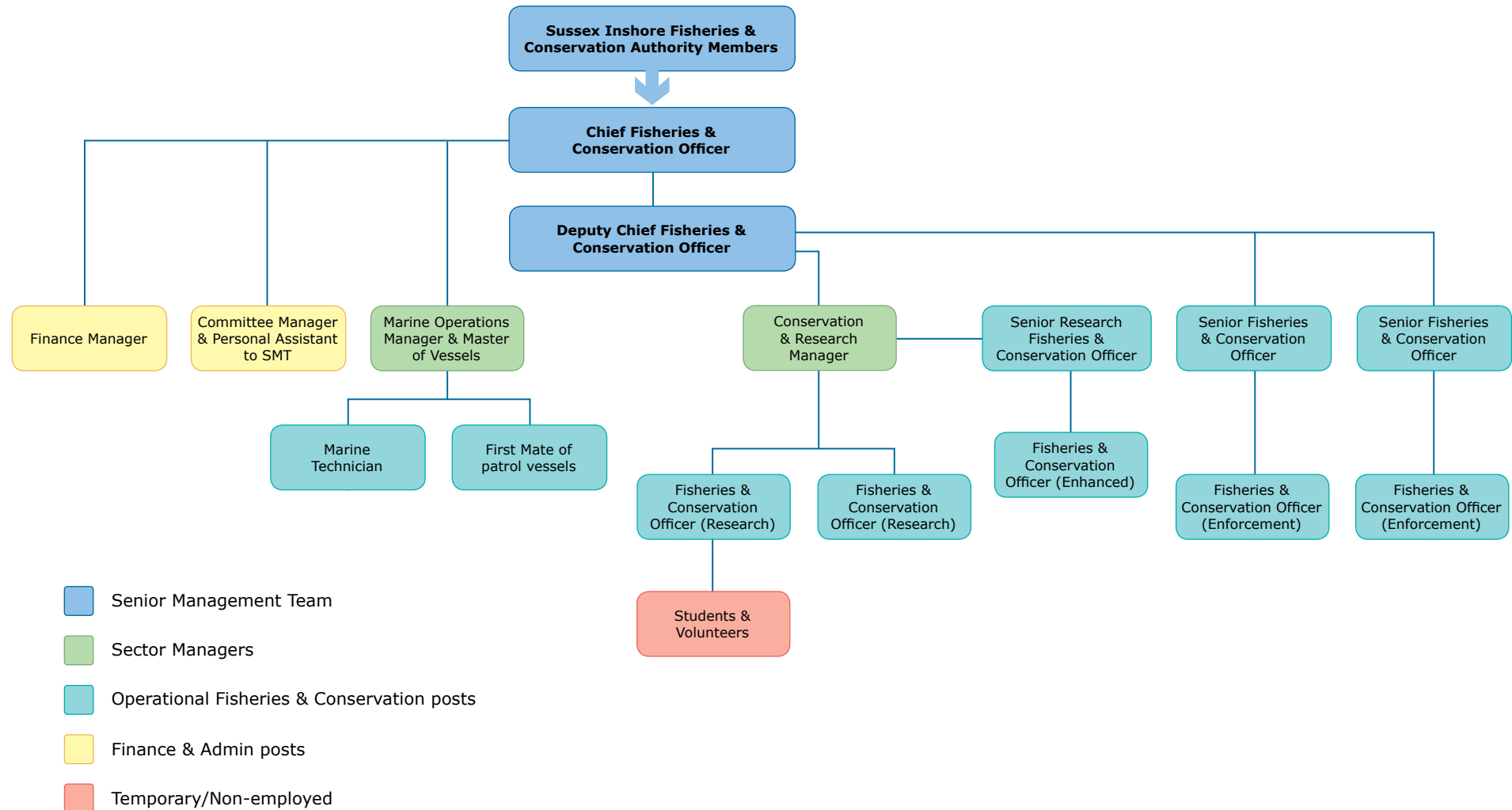


New or Priority Risk Description	Intended Intervention 2022 to 2023	Residual Risk
Unable to perform duties due to Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Written Risk Assessments developed, introduced, updated, and utilised such that operations can continue where possible. These include RAs for shore patrol and sea patrol operations, research activities and hybrid office/home work. 	Objectives are impacted by restrictions and the ability to perform functions and, as such, effective delivery is hampered.
Unable to meet new Sussex IFCA Duties and high level objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Continue to provide best available evidence to Defra and local government to secure future funding. Support the AIFCA in efforts to communicate needs to Defra and other relevant departments. ▶ Maintain and develop IFCA/Defra standard MPA reporting processes that highlight level of risk and actions required for delivery of MPA network e.g., provision of evidence and conservation advice to enable development of effective management. ▶ Seek to develop MPA related research initiatives in partnership with relevant statutory bodies, marine industry sector and wider community. Support Sussex Natural Capital Strategy. ▶ Ensure continual development of all staff and engage with national training initiatives. ▶ Seek to develop joint working with the Marine Management Organisation and other relevant organisations. ▶ Support IFCA Chief Officer Group and National Enforcement Group to develop strategic shared approaches to training, intelligence, MCSS development and fisheries data acquisition to support local management needs. ▶ Continually evaluate and accommodate administrative implications of managing paid permit schemes for shellfish management. 	<p>Possibility that although progress will have been made Sussex IFCA could fail to fully meet all its new objectives.</p> <p>That defined objectives are impacted upon by external factors beyond management control.</p>
Failure to maintain effective financial management and control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Continue to develop financial management systems and opportunities for administration efficiencies. ▶ Increase role of financial support in the development and support of project work. ▶ Robust processes and separate bank account for the management of paid permit schemes for shellfish and oyster management. ▶ Following changes to Audit Commission oversight maintain external independent auditing processes that report to Chief Financial Officer & Authority. ▶ Annual independent financial examination and internal audit and reporting process conducted by independent accountants. ▶ Maintain detailed reporting and required approval with Finance subcommittee on budgetary and key financial matters. ▶ Adoption of management accounts that include depreciation, prepayments, accruals to ensure effective annual and quarterly budget management of income and expenditure. ▶ Maintain financial planning on a four year cycle to inform constituent authorities of planned annual levies. ▶ In event of future Finance Manager change utilise agency recruitment process to minimise period and ensure adequate handover. 	<p>Negligible scope for large scale fraud or corruption.</p> <p>Small scale misuse of resources is still possible.</p>

New or Priority Risk Description	Intended Intervention 2022 to 2023	Residual Risk
Failure of vessel assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Implementation of ten year operating and service plan for Watchful. ▶ Develop opportunities for Watchful and Merlin to undertake income related activities that support a sustainable Sussex marine environment. Look at strengthening further relationships with MMO, Environment Agency and Brighton University. ▶ Seek appropriate funding and procurement strategy for scheduled Delta 1 vessel replacement as asset reaches 'end of life'. ▶ Vessel capital expenditure and depreciation to be fully accounted through balance sheet deductions. ▶ Appropriate valuation of marine assets to ensure adequate depreciation figure. ▶ Keep insurance under review and maintain mechanical insurance for significant unanticipated maintenance. 	<p>Unforeseen events may still cause disruption to activities.</p> <p>Multiple simultaneous failures of available vessels.</p>
Failure to effectively monitor and enforce legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Maintain risk-based compliance register and associated policies and procedures. ▶ As far as possible seek MCSS access and shared intelligence tools and processes with national partner MMO and fully engage with National Intelligence model. ▶ Continue to maintain and develop collaborative MMO/EA/NE/IFCA approaches toward compliance. ▶ Engage in national training initiative 'Skills for Justice' accredited compliance training scheme and appoint relevant training leads as required. ▶ Assign specific officer to RSA related liaison/communications to minimise compliance risks in sector. ▶ Production of detailed guidance on all new Byelaw regulations. 	<p>Full time District coverage is not possible to achieve.</p> <p>Small minority of fishermen will continue to breach legislation due to short term gain.</p> <p>Lack of financial deterrent.</p> <p>Some legislation difficult to enforce effectively.</p>
Failure to maintain survey/sampling programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Maintain ability to run surveys/programmes through further partnership projects and the use of volunteers and student placements. ▶ If available secure capital grants for research equipment. ▶ Optimise use of IFCA shared research equipment assets. ▶ Seek to develop opportunities for studentships and placements with Brighton & Sussex University. ▶ Prioritise key research and ensure new projects are achievable in the context of existing research plans. ▶ Maintain an adequate research budget. 	<p>Planned surveys lost due to poor weather or vessel breakdown.</p> <p>Research programme continues to expand year on year.</p> <p>Additional unanticipated requirements for surveys.</p>
Failure to fully engage with stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ As appropriate continue public engagement with MCZ and fisheries regulation introduction. Where necessary, support with additional stakeholder meetings to refine management measures. ▶ Develop communications for both informal and formal consultations in respect to the making of reviewed management byelaws. ▶ Maintain a communication plan that is regularly reviewed. Produce communications materials such as newsletters and social media. 	<p>Engagement affected by factors outside of IFCA control such as 'consultation fatigue'.</p> <p>Some stakeholders unable or unwilling to engage with some forms of media or communications.</p>

Sussex Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority

Organisational Structure 2022 to 2023



Resources

Employees & Organisational Structure

The Authority employs a specialist team of multi-disciplined professionals to undertake its work. Individually they have extensive skills, knowledge and experience in their respective roles. The organisation comprises: compliance, marine operations, conservation and research, finance and administration functions. Staff are overseen by a senior management team (SMT); the Chief and Deputy Chief Officers, which in turn reports to Authority members.

The current organisational structure is shown in the adjoining figure. All staff are based at 'Riverside', a centrally located coastal office base in Shoreham-by-Sea.

All Officers carry the status of 'Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officer' and enforcement officers are issued with an Inshore Fisheries & Conservation warrant card. Officers may also be joint warranted with relevant authorities that manage the marine environment.

Chief Fisheries and Conservation Officer

Mr. Robert Pearson B.Sc. M.Sc. MIFM

- Head of Service for Authority and lead within the Senior Management Team
- Management of the IFCA and Reporting Officer to Committee
- National policy liaison role and media contact
- Chief Officer in respect to financial management
- Strategic development of policies and plans.

Deputy Chief Fisheries and Conservation Officer

Ms. Angharad Purcell B.Sc. MIFM

- Member of the Senior Management Team
- Development of policies, plans and research and implementation of review of management measures
- Oversees sector/operational managers
- Strategic lead on fisheries compliance and training.

Finance Manager

Mrs. Lucy Francis FCA LLB

- Manage, monitor and maintain budgetary and financial information
- Plan and monitor the financial position of the Authority as directed by the Senior Management Team
- Responsible for implementation of Annual Audit and implementation of financial regulations
- Payroll and pension payments.

Committee Manager & Personal Assistant to SMT

Ms. Rebecca Belleni B.A.(Hons)

- Provide full secretarial and administrative service to SMT and administration support to Sector Managers
- Service the Principal Committee and other meetings by preparing, collating, and distributing agenda papers and minutes
- Support Members through the distribution of Authority guidance and direct liaison
- Responsible for establishing and maintaining office systems, records and processes
- Management of office space and its maintenance including office H&S
- Maintain social media communications, acting as central support.

Marine Operations Manager & Master of Vessels

Mr. Charlie Hubbard

- Manage all aspects of the Authority's vessels' operations
- Marine operations budget management
- Master on the Authority's vessels
- Manage crew during marine operations.

Conservation & Research Manager

Ms. Erin Pettifer M.Sc. B.Sc.

- Team lead into SMT on conservation and research activities
- Support and assist the SMT/Authority in the development of MPA policy and management.
- Participate and facilitate community meetings in respect to Marine Protected Area management.
- Participate in the research & environmental activities in support of MPAs and other marine management functions.

Senior Research Officer

Dr. Jen Lewis PhD. MRes. BSc.

- To support development of the Authority's Annual Research Plan
- Design and inform the methodology of research projects undertaken by the Authority
- Implement the practical aspects of the Authority's research projects as identified in the annual Research Plan
- Support the development of research partnerships with other organisations
- Operational support for vessel and research activities.

Senior Fisheries and Conservation Officer (Operations, Intelligence and Investigation)

Dr. Alberto Kavadellas PhD. B.Sc.

- Lead on operational compliance activities & risk-based enforcement
- Operational support for vessel and research activities.
- Lead on compliance activities in the field.

Senior Fisheries and Conservation Officer (Research, Intelligence and Investigation)

Mr. Nick Rogers B.Sc.

- Support on evidence (research) collection, reporting and assessment
- Support and lead on small fish survey work throughout the district
- Support on operational compliance activities & risk-based enforcement
- Operational support for vessel and research activities
- Lead on compliance activities in the field.

First Mate of Patrol Vessels

Mr. Matt Wiseman B.Sc.

- To act as Deputy Marine Operations Manager & Vessels Master.

Marine Technician

Mr. Andrew McCallum

- Manage the Authority's workshop facilities
- Maintain the Authority's patrol vessels, vehicles and ancillary equipment.

Fisheries and Conservation Research Officer (Enhanced)

Dr. George Balchin PhD. M.Sc B.Sc

- To conduct fisheries and conservation research activities in accordance with the conservation and research plan
- Coordinate research activities liaising with senior officers and managers
- To carry out fisheries compliance activities in support of the enforcement team
- To facilitate consultation and dialogue with relevant stakeholders.
- Operational support for vessel and research activities.

Fisheries and Conservation Officers (Research) (x2)

Mr. Jake Wilson B.Sc.

and **Ms. Vanessa Simons** M.Sc. MRes. B.Sc

- To conduct fisheries and conservation research activities in accordance with the conservation and research plan
- To carry out fisheries compliance activities in support of the compliance and enforcement team
- To facilitate consultation and dialogue with relevant stakeholders
- Operational support for vessel and research activities.

Fisheries and Conservation Officers (x2)

Mr. James Tapley B.Sc. and **Ms. Laura Wallace** M.Sc.

- To conduct fisheries and conservation compliance and enforcement activities in accordance with risk-based enforcement process
- To carry out fisheries research activities in support of the conservation and research team
- To facilitate consultation and dialogue with relevant stakeholders
- Operational support for vessel and research activities.

Authority Fisheries Patrol Vessels (FPVs)

The 2022-23 reporting period saw the uptake of normal marine operations after the easing of Covid-19 restrictions. Patrol vessel 'Delta One' was unfortunately out of action for a reasonable amount of time from October onwards due to maintenance and part

procurement issues, however, it was returned to service by the end of the reporting period. Patrol vessels 'Watchful' and 'Merlin' were both operational as usual and compliance work involving both boarding inspections and gear hauling operations continued throughout the year. Alongside the compliance work, the marine assets were successfully utilised to conduct towed video surveys, ROV deployments and the maintenance of the FISH INTEL Sussex, Kingmere MCZ and French Banks acoustic array which was deployed in the previous reporting period.

Delta One aboard Watchful returning to the mooring in Shoreham Harbour



FPV Watchful

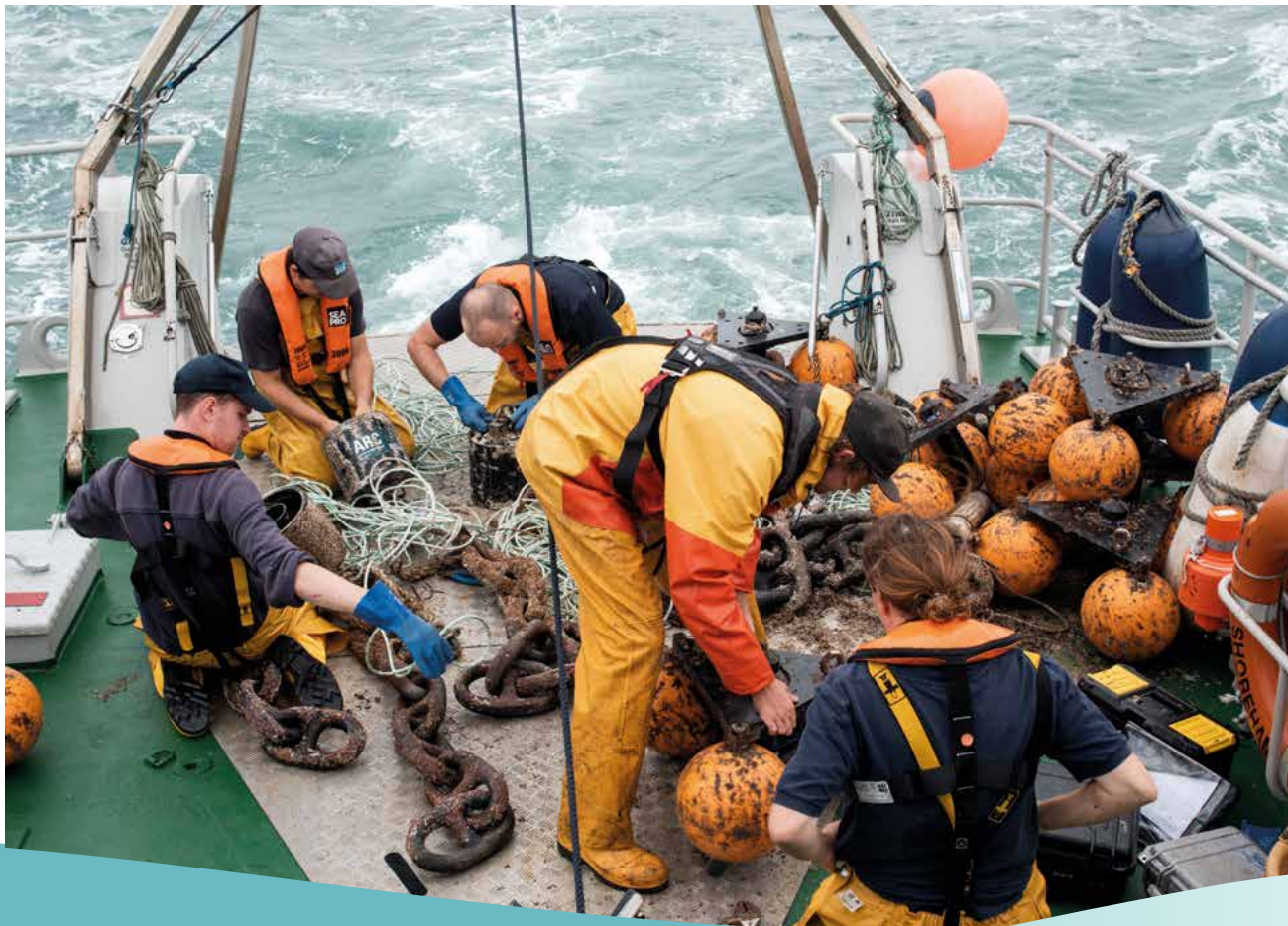
The FPV *Watchful* is the primary marine asset of Sussex IFCA – a bespoke design 18-metre vessel which was built to operate effectively within the Sussex district. The vessel is capable of facilitating both inshore and offshore compliance work, including hauling fishing gear and boarding operations utilising the daughter vessel *Delta One*; carried on the stern of *Watchful*. The daughter vessel *Delta One* can be removed from *Watchful* to enable the placement of decking plates. This

then provides a large clear deck space which is extremely beneficial in facilitating research operations such as deploying video sleds and maintaining heavy acoustic array equipment.

FPV Merlin

The FPV *Merlin* was built with support from the Environment Agency and is owned, operated, and maintained by Sussex IFCA. The vessel was designed with a shallow draught and a waterjet propulsion unit to facilitate operations extremely near to shore and in the district's

estuaries. The vessel is used for both Sussex IFCA boarding and gear inspections, alongside joint operations with the Environment Agency to conduct compliance, survey, and maintenance operations within the Sussex District rivers.



A series of Acoustic Array receivers ready for redeployment from Watchful after a clean-up and data retrieval

Merlin under tow by Watchful to the eastern extent of the district to conduct boarding operations

Financial Summary 2022/2023

Levy income

The Authority is predominantly publicly funded, by means of annual statutory levies on its constituent Authorities (West Sussex County Council, East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council) to undertake its Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009 (MaCAA 2009) duties. The Authority's levy funding is essential for the implementation of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) defined High Level Objectives and the associated work programme described in the Authority's Annual Plan. The Authority sets the levies ahead of the financial year to ensure that budgeted expenditure is fully funded. The total amount of Levy income for the financial year 2022/23 was £1,043,200.

The constituent Authorities fund the levies from the financial resources which are available to them, predominantly council tax receivable from local taxpayers; non-domestic rates payable by businesses in the area; and Government grant. The MaCAA 2009 had introduced new fisheries and conservation management duties including the management of fishing activities within Marine Conservation Zones that lie within the Sussex IFCA's District. In recognition of the additional costs that would be incurred by Sussex IFCA in responding to these new duties, the Government has provided additional annual grants to its constituent Authorities each year through to 2022/23 in order to mitigate the impact on levies.

Charter, Project, Permit and Other income

9.1% of income, £105,130, was derived from grant receipts for projects that are cost neutral or negative against associated expenditure, as well as income from permits issued in accordance with the local 'Shellfish Byelaw'. This year, additional grants were received from Defra to support the delivery of the Fisheries and Management Plan programme. The income derived from each commercial shellfish permit is accounted for evenly over its two-year validity period, rather than as a single amount at the date that it is received. The total income from all permits in 2022/23 was £10,678.

£5,486, 0.5% of income, was generated from a range of activities including the charter of the Authority's vessels.

Expenditure

Expenditure on employees in 2022/23, including employer statutory and contractual contributions, training and development, represented 65.2% (£742,005) of total expenditure. The increase year on year results from the national pay award that was a significantly larger percentage than previous years, and increased training costs due to a high level of staff turnover seen during the year. Other notable categories of expenditure were the operation and maintenance of vessels, £129,653, and compliance, research and project costs, £35,449. In addition to support and administrative costs, an

annual depreciation charge is made in order to account for the reduction in value of vessels and other equipment as they age.

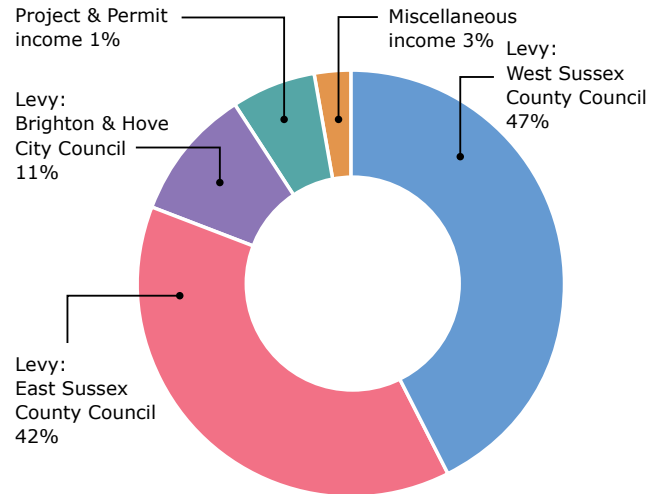
Savings in premises and administrative costs are still being experienced due to changes in the post-pandemic ways of hybrid working. At the end of the year a surplus of £15,715 was added to reserves to balance increased costs expected in the short-term future years due to the economic environment.

Examination of accounts: in the interest of public assurance and accountability, the Authority has chosen to put in place an independent assurance review of its annual accounts. In 2022/23, this review was undertaken by Plummer Parsons Accountants Ltd, who concluded that they had no cause to believe that in any material respect:

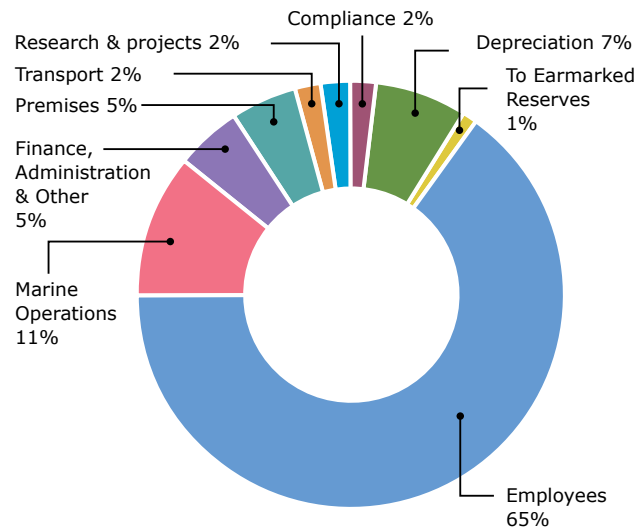
1. accounting records were not kept as required by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records.

Statement of Income and Expenditure 2022/23

Income 2021/2022



Expenditure 2021/2022



Statement of Income and Expenditure 2022/23

INCOME

	£
West Sussex County Council	487,800
East Sussex County Council	439,800
Brighton and Hove City Council	115,600
Total Levies	1,043,200
Project & Permit income	79,408
Miscellaneous income	31,208
Total Income	1,153,816

EXPENDITURE

	£
Employees	742,005
Marine Operations	129,653
Finance, Administration & Other	61,128
Premises	62,015
Transport	19,430
Research, Projects & Donations	17,844
Compliance	17,605
Depreciation	82,197
Contribution to Earmarked Reserves	6,224
Total Expenditure	1,138,101
Surplus for year transferred to Reserves	15,715
Total	1,153,816

In accordance with Statutory Instrument 2010 No. 2199, Article 16

- (1) The expenses incurred by the Authority must be defrayed by the relevant councils in accordance with paragraph (2)
- (2) The percentage of those expenses to be defrayed by each relevant council is as follows:

	2022/23 Levy	
West Sussex County Council	46.7%	£487,800
East Sussex County Council	42.2%	£439,800
Brighton and Hove City Council	11.1%	£115,600
	100.0%	£1,043,200

Balance Sheet at 31 March 2023

LONG TERM ASSETS

	£	£
Historic cost or value		
: Vessels	1,140,000	
: Office Equipment	108,708	
: Vehicles	7,395	1,256,103
Accumulated depreciation		
: Vessels	(352,000)	
: Office Equipment	(52,561)	
: Vehicles	(7,395)	(411,956)
		844,147

SHORT TERM ASSETS

	£	£
Debtors	15,390	
Prepayments	44,159	
VAT reimbursement due	10,918	
Cash	1,041,307	1,111,774

SHORT TERM LIABILITIES

	£	£
Creditors	(26,418)	
Income in advance	(60,690)	
Deferred income	(13,518)	
Fixed Asset Penalties	(10,750)	
HMRC and Pension Fund	(27,887)	(139,263)
Net Assets	1,816,658	

Revenue Reserve at 1 April 2022	845,370
Surplus for year	15,715
Revenue Reserve at 31 March 2023	861,085
Earmarked Reserves	65,005
Revaluation Reserve	890,568
Total Reserves	1,816,658

Our Conservation and Research Work



*Sussex Wildlife Trust
Ecological Monitoring
includes water quality
testing and bird counts*

Work conducted by the Conservation and Research (C&R) Team over the 2022-2023 financial year continued to provide essential evidence to inform and monitor the Authority's management decisions, and further our understanding of the inshore marine environment and fisheries. There was a wide range of C&R work undertaken over this period; 47 workstreams were described in the Annual C&R Plan, drawn from the strategic Four-Year C&R Plan 2020-2024.

Embedded within the Four-Year C&R Plan is the Authority's move towards an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management, in alignment with Government policy as stated in the Fisheries Act 2020. The teams evidence collecting activities provide information that underpin the development of sustainable fisheries management, whilst protecting natural capital assets and associated ecosystem services.

The commitment to partnership working and community engagement is clearly illustrated in the work conducted and the support the IFCA receives from its partners and volunteers. Such collaboration is central to the way Sussex IFCA operates, providing mutual benefits in the sharing of resources, experience, skills, and data, enabling the provision of an effective service with limited capacity and resources.

Research was applied directly to the provision of evidence for the development of new byelaws, which aim to protect the marine environment whilst balancing the social and economic benefits of fishing. The following summarises highlights of priority workstreams in 2022-2023:

Beachy Head East Marine Conservation Zone management development

- Informal consultations were conducted in Eastbourne, Bexhill, and Hastings in February 2023, this consisted of 2 workshops in each location to introduce the rationale behind and process for development of management, as well as the proposed management options. An opportunity to provide feedback was given to attendees at the end of the second workshop
- Worked extensively with the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) to replicate the Agents of Change approach; MCS will produce a report evaluating the consultations based on outcomes and stakeholder feedback
- A separate report summarising feedback gathered from fishers during the informal consultation process was produced by Sussex IFCA, to consider the impact of each proposed management option on key fisheries in the district, and was incorporated into the management development process
- An updated MCZ Assessment was provided to Natural England based on their feedback in November 2022.

Marine Conservation Zone management monitoring and reviews

Utopia MCZ

- Review of management completed. Summary of evidence report presented at the January 2023 Committee Meeting, which outlined evidence collected since the introduction of management, this included fishing vessel effort, noncompliance within the site, and all updates to the Conservation Advice package provided by Natural England
- Due to low fishing intensities observed within the site and high levels of compliance, it was concluded that no changes to management were required. The next byelaw review will be completed in 4 years.

Pagham MCZ

- Review of management completed. Summary of evidence report prepared for April 2023 Committee Meeting
- MCZ Assessment produced for the purpose of undertaking this review. This was not produced at the time management was developed as this preceded introduction of a formal MCZ Assessment process
- Information on fishing activities within the site were collected through targeted Sussex IFCA fisheries patrols within Pagham Harbour, alongside reports from the RSPB in Pagham Harbour and Medmerry
- All updates to the Conservation Advice were included in the review process

- Due to low fishing intensities observed within the site and high levels of compliance, it was concluded that no changes to management were required. The next byelaw review will be completed in 4 years.

Kingmere MCZ

- Sussex IFCA continue to liaise closely with Southern IFCA and Natural England around management of bream sites as part of the ongoing review of management
- Ongoing monitoring of anglers targeting black seabream on compliance patrols, particularly during the nesting season (1st of April to 30th of June). This information is used to produce a report at the end of the nesting season
- The 7 acoustic receivers that are deployed within Kingmere MCZ (see Fish Telemetry Project) were maintained, facilitating study of the fine-scale spatial ecology of black seabream
- Of the 65 black seabream tagged within the Sussex IFCA district, a portion were tagged and released within Kingmere MCZ in the area of the acoustic array.

Nearshore Trawling Byelaw monitoring and collaborative work

Sussex Kelp Recovery Project (SKRP)

- Sussex IFCA continue to play a central role in SKRP, attending both the Steering Group and Research Group meetings
- The SKRP biennial report has now been produced, detailing the current projects and progress associated with the partnership and can be viewed here: **<https://sussexkelp.org.uk/news/reports-publications>**

- Sussex IFCA continue to support various projects associated with SKRP, such as the eDNA and BRUV surveys conducted by the University of Sussex.

Towed video surveys

- Annual towed video surveys were successfully carried out from Watchful to monitor seabed recovery following the Nearshore Trawling byelaw for the fifth consecutive year
- Sussex IFCA, in partnership with the Zoological Society London (the main partner for this aspect of SKRP's monitoring programme), are exploring how this data can be processed and used to inform a report of any changes observed as a result of the management.

Potting Survey

- Continued to input into the design of the Potting surveys, which are led by Blue Marine Foundation (BMF) and will be expanded to include additional sites off Brighton and Eastbourne in 2023
- Continued to review the associated report summarising the results of the surveys that is produced by BMF each year
- New sites off Eastbourne will contribute to a baseline for the crab and lobster fisheries within Beachy Head East MCZ before the introduction of management
- Supported data collection for this project by conducting several of the surveys, which were completed in partnership with local fishers

- Assisted in finding fishers to assist with the surveys through Shellfish Permit Holder relationships.

Fish Telemetry Project

- Collaborative project with the University of Plymouth tagging black seabream and European seabass. The Sussex array includes 23 offshore receivers off of Selsey Bill, 7 of which are set up as a fine-scale array within in Kingmere MCZ to investigate localised spatial ecology and site fidelity of black seabream
- 65 bream and 75 bass were tagged and released within the acoustic array
- 3 coastal receivers also deployed near Selsey, Pagham Harbour, and Chichester Harbour to investigate the use of harbours by sea bass
- A further 2 coastal receivers in Langstone and Pagham Harbour and maintained by the University of Plymouth
- Maintenance and data downloads of all receivers in the District were conducted and data is currently being analysed
- The University of Plymouth are producing reports associated with the end of the Fish Intel project
- The University of Plymouth has been awarded additional funding (FISP) and Sussex IFCA are communicating with the team to establish how we can bring value to the new project and create synergies with the maintenance of the existing receiver array. The main focus of the FISP project is to expand the array into Dorset and to tag other species, including sharks and rays.

Shellfish Permit Monitoring

- Ongoing collation of monthly catch data. 2022 Annual Catch Return Analysis report written and available on the Sussex IFCA website
- IFCA Permit Database launched in September 2022, with permit holders now able to log in and access a portal featuring their personal information and catch return data
- The database automates submission of catch returns, permit renewals, and administration of informal and formal warnings. This will allow capacity within the C&R team to be invested into other new and existing workstreams
- In combination with the 2017-2021 fishing effort analysis, Shellfish Permit Byelaw catch returns were used to estimate potting pressure within Beachy Head East MCZ and incorporated in the MCZ Assessment for the site
- Officers developed a best practice leaflet for cuttlefish trapping which will be circulated to local potters throughout the district. The document promotes the appropriate handling of cuttle traps and associated attached eggs, which in turn assists recruitment. The leaflet will also be used to promote the new shellfish permit database and link to relevant collaborative research
- Continued to support the Crustaceans, Habitat, and Sediment Movement (CHASM) project, including inputting future research ideas and planning the Sussex sediment monitoring and adaptive response workshop

- Presented at the Whelk Symposium held by BMF, detailing long term and seasonal trends, as well as spatial effects and lessons learnt from the SPB
- Attended the Crab and Lobster Symposium held by BMF.

Fisheries Management Plans

- Frontrunner Fishery Management Plan (FMP) workshop attendance, including Crab and Lobster, Whelk, Channel Non-Quota Demersal stocks, Bass, and King Scallop;

this involved 4 Officers attending 7 events, with a minimum total input of 24 hours into the consultations alone

- Commented on the draft Crab and Lobster FMP by Seafish
- Commented on the draft Whelk FMP by Seafish
- Engaged with Channel Demersal Non-Quota Species FMP process as IFCA representative.

Minimum Sizes Byelaw

Elasmobranch Code of Conduct

- Voluntary Code of Conduct (CoC) completed, including development of bespoke elasmobranch ID guide featuring ID-friendly illustrations by Marc Dando
- CoC includes recommended minimum sizes derived from average L50 sizes and included a review of the available primary and grey literature



IFCOs George Balchin and James Tapley on a Small Fish Survey in Chichester Harbour

- CoC also includes recommended best practice including details on animal handling and angling equipment
- The Shark Trust have agreed to advise on this project and some further minor improvements to the CoC are anticipated
- Plan to distribute the CoC when Minimum Size Byelaw is approved by Defra, as it is considered an apt complementary resource
- Engagement may form the basis upon which a wider Elasmobranch Network can be developed.

Hand Gathering Permit Byelaw

- The Hand Gathering Permit Byelaw proposes to introduce district wide permit system for individuals undertaking intertidal hand gathering activities, for individuals wishing to collect quantities above set bag limits
- The byelaw will also introduce bag limits for intertidal resource gathering, and places restrictions on the use of marine organism aggregation devices within several Marine Protected Areas throughout Sussex inshore waters
- Following approval by Committee, the Hand Gathering Permit Byelaw was submitted to the MMO and Defra for Quality Assurance and Secretary of State sign off. Once approved, Sussex IFCA will produce associated guidance documents to help ensure compliance amongst intertidal hand gatherers

- This will support the sustainable management of intertidal hand gathering within the Sussex IFCA district, enabling the IFCA to fulfil its duty to introduce effective and balanced fisheries management, as well as to further the conservation objectives of Marine Protected Areas.

Education and engagement work

Sussex Marine and Coastal Forum (SMaCF)

- Continued involvement in the Sussex Marine and Coastal Forum, including membership of both the Steering Group, tasked with coordinating the forum's mission/vision, and the Members Group for broader stakeholder engagement
- Involved in the recruitment of a SMaCF Chair, Nick Grey (environment Agency), to lead the group by shaping its priorities and direction.

Wild Coast Sussex

- Continued to support the ghost fishing and net recycling schemes, and Wild Beach elements of the project
- Supported the development and roll out of a net recycling survey, which aims to generate a better understanding of the amount of fishing gear disposed of in Sussex. The information gathered will help ascertain what is needed to set up a self-sustaining, long-term net recycling scheme of benefit to the fishing community and the environment

- Conducted pilot research project with Wild Coast Sussex (WCS) intern, which included work to develop a preliminary assessment of changes in sediment sensitive species recorded on the towed video surveys conducted in association with SKRP
- Two officers presented and led workshops at a Hackathon organised by WCS, which aimed to engage young people in consideration of issues in marine conservation by discussing specific topics such as kelp restoration and Beachy Head East MCZ.

Ocean Symposium

- Sussex IFCA Chief Officer gave opening presentation for 2022 Ocean Symposium
- Research Officer gave presentation on Beachy Head East MCZ and the upcoming informal consultations
- Sussex IFCA staff also presented a stall at the event, which detailed the various workstreams undertaken by Sussex IFCA

Shoresearch

- Undertaking multiple Shoresearch surveys with Sussex Wildlife Trust (SWT) to collect monitoring data on intertidal wildlife around Sussex
- Assisting Brighton University with intertidal rockpool surveys in Ovingdean.



Greater pipefish found on a small fish survey at Winner Bank



Snakelocks anemone in Ovingdean found on a field trip with students from the University of Brighton in March 2023

Small Fish Surveys (SFS)

- Supported Sparsholt College with a SFS at East Head, and Copperas in Chichester Harbour in November 2022 training students in ID and sampling techniques. Species found included juvenile mullet, bass and goby
- New surveys have since been arranged with the Solent Seascape Project, a group that is looking at saltmarsh restoration in Chichester Harbour. They have a control site and historical SFS data has been shared with the group to help provide them with a baseline for species found near the proposed restoration site. These surveys will be conducted in the summer of 2023 and into the autumn, including at a site Sussex IFCA has not surveyed since 2016. This partnership with the Solent Seascape Project has allowed us to expand our SFS programme and continue to collect valuable data in important essential fish habitat and nursery areas. In total, four sites will be surveyed each year, including a summer survey at Copperas; summer and autumn surveys at Winner Bank, Pilsey and Cobnor
- The RSPB at Pagham is looking to start up SFS at Medmerry, talks are ongoing with the team there to commence surveys in the summer/autumn.



ROV seabed survey in Beachy Head East MCZ

Partnership & Memoranda of Understanding

The Sussex IFCA endeavors to develop and instill a culture of cooperation and partnership throughout the organisation to achieve good outcomes, value for money and a high standard of service.

The Authority establishes agreed national and local memoranda of understanding (MoU's) with key organisations including the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), the Environment Agency (EA), Natural England (NE) and the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), Sussex Wildlife Trust, and the University of Brighton. The national MoUs are facilitated by the Association of IFCAs. MoUs are supported by a series of national and local partnership groups that meet regularly throughout the year.

The Authority has a range of service level agreements with local authorities and higher education that offer mutual benefits in respect to each organisation's work. Close cooperation with local authorities such as the Sussex Police and East Sussex Fire & Rescue Services offer unique benefits for the community, and support situations that require a multiple agency approach.

Nationally, the Sussex IFCA supports the Association of Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authorities (AIFCA) to develop national communications and provide a collective voice for all IFCAs. Where possible, the Association's Chief Executive represents the needs of IFCAs as a single voice in respect to the development

and interpretation of government policy concerning marine fisheries and conservation.

Through professional structures including the IFCA Technical Advisory Group (TAG), Chief Officers Group (COG) and the National Inshore Marine Enforcement Group (NIMEG), the Authority promote and develop best practice, share knowledge, data and expertise to contribute toward sustainable marine management, both within its District and the wider marine environment.

In Sussex, the IFCA is a member of various community structures that bring greater coherence to marine management, including Local Nature Partnerships, Chichester Harbour Conservancy Advisory Board, Catchment Partnerships, Sussex Marine & Coastal Forum, Sussex Kelp Recovery Project, The Living Coast UN Biosphere reserve, The Heritage Coast, Solent Forum, Solent European Marine Sites Management Group, Crustaceans Habitat and Sediment Movement, and Hastings Fisheries Local Action Group.



FPV Watchful crew for Fish INTEL acoustic receiver maintenance with the University of Plymouth in March 2023



Service Plan and Performance Standards

To promote increasing standards and a high level of customer satisfaction the Authority has developed and adopted a 'Service Plan'. The Service Plan enables stakeholders, customers and the wider public to easily understand the level of service they should expect.

The Service Plan, alongside other planning commitments, contributes towards the Authority delivering it's high level objectives, as defined in central government guidance provided to IFCAs, concerning their service delivery.

The Service Plan is subject to review and reflects the specific needs of those the Authority serves. These include individuals involved in the marine fishing and food sector, among other stakeholders.

Customer Charter

Once the Sussex IFCA was established, we introduced a 'Customer Charter' which states that:

We are committed to being a transparent and accountable organisation, we want you to know what you can expect from us and the level of service we will provide.

Our Promise

The six-point promise shows what you can expect from us.

1. We will be polite and respectful in all our dealings with you.
2. We will respond to you via the communication channel that you specify whenever we can (in person, the telephone, by email or letter).
3. We will serve you in a timely manner.
4. We will own your enquiry by taking responsibility for resolving it.
5. We will listen to your point of view.
6. We will provide you with accurate information that you can rely on.

Sussex IFCA's new Service Plan includes the following topics:

- Practical ways of working to maintain our commitments
- The staff
- Where we operate
- Complaints and compliments: Sussex IFCA's commitment
- How do I make a complaint?
- What if I'm not satisfied?
- How do I give compliments and make comments on Sussex IFCA's work?

Our new Service Plan and Performance Standards document can be found on our website, please follow this link:

<https://www.sussex-ifca.gov.uk/about-us>

Compliance and Enforcement



Senior Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officer, Nick Rogers, flying the Sussex IFCA DJI Matrice 300 RTK drone.

By using a risk-based approach to fisheries compliance management, which considers the stock, method of fishing and impacts on conservation sites, we are able to assess current enforcement activities and/or develop alternative initiatives. In general terms, if there is a major threat to the marine environment or stock and the likelihood is that it is a common occurrence, it is categorised as high risk and action would be necessary. For a risk where there is no immediate threat to the marine environment or stock but it could occur as low or even low to medium risk, light touch approaches are considered, such as education, self-regulation or even simply monitoring the situation.

Continued enforcement of the Sussex IFCA Nearshore Trawling byelaw, Shellfish Permit byelaw, Marine Protected Areas byelaw, and National European Seabass regulations were key tasks for the reporting period. The marine operations team conducted patrol activity targeting compliance risks, such as unmarked and untagged potting gear sea. Regular patrols in the inshore area ensured compliance by the fishing industry with regards to the new Nearshore Trawling Byelaw. The enforcement team leading patrols on land continued to conduct successful premises and commercial and recreational vessel landing inspections. Particular attention was also given to bass regulations and prohibited fishing methods such as drift netting, as well as enforcement of Sussex IFCA Scallop Closed Season byelaw.

As part of our enforcement duties, we inspect fishing gear at sea. When officers find infringements, we have powers to seize fishing gear for evidential purposes under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. Sussex IFCA has



also engaged in the collection of lost gear and ghost gear, which is then returned to fishers if ownership can be identified. Lost gear and ghost gear including strings of pots such as crab, lobster and whelk, and fishing nets. These pose a pollution risk to the environment and are a threat to wildlife; where this is found we try to retrieve it and enable safe disposal.

Sussex IFCA introduced a new compliance and enforcement asset towards the end of the 2021-2022 reporting period with a small unmanned aircraft (SUA). The DJI Matrice 300 RTK drone has been invaluable as an extra resource to supplement both our compliance and management responsibilities in its first year of operation following procurement. On one set of batteries, the drone has a maximum flight time of 55 minutes, a maximum speed of 23 m/s and can fly in wind speeds of up to 33mph. The Zenmuse H20T is a quad-sensor camera with a 20 MP zoom and 12 MP wide angle. The enhanced capability the drone and camera payload

offers to record evidence of possible offences, from perspectives not previously possible, aid in the collection of intelligence and act as a deterrent and improve the prevention and detection of fisheries offences.

2022-2023 compliance statistics

Category	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	total
Sea patrols	12	8	10	11	41
Vessels inspected at sea	26	11	7	16	60
Vessels monitored at sea	123	57	98	77	355
Shore patrols	20	19	19	16	74
Port visits (on shore patrols)	32	36	39	40	147
Shore inspections	11	12	12	14	49
Drone patrols	1	9	13	2	25
Verbal warnings	8	4	10	1	23
Written warnings	12	8	1	5	26
FAPs	0	0	0	0	0
Court prosecutions	0	0	0	0	0
Offence reports	0	13	11	7	31
Information reports	63	52	61	52	228

Publicity and Communication

Our challenge is to engage individuals, forums and organisations in order to break down any barriers that may exist; to involve and raise awareness of our work, and ultimately to inform people about the inshore marine environment and its fisheries.

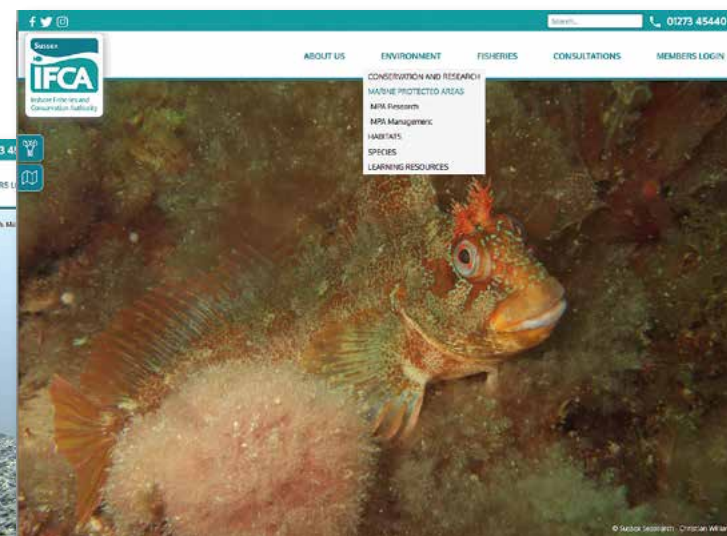
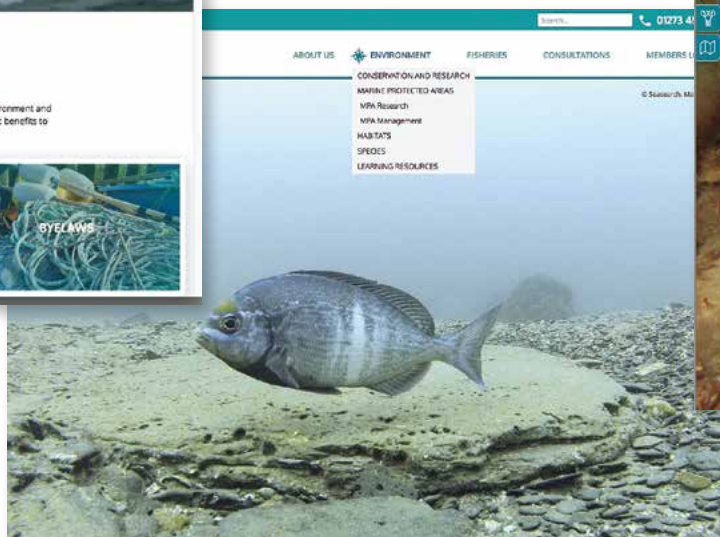
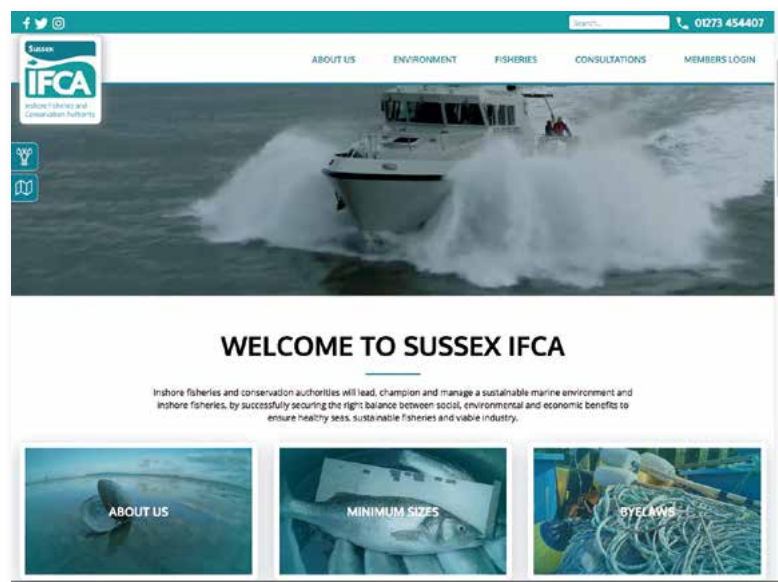
To support needs, we have a communications plan which identifies key messages and appropriate methods to communicate with others.

Our online presence through our website and social media continued to be vitally important forms of communication with our stakeholders throughout the year. Social media posts continued to be key platforms updating the work of Sussex IFCA. These social media platforms are updated regularly and provide an essential forum for dissemination of information to stakeholders alongside the newly developed website.

In the second quarter, the redesigned Sussex IFCA website (www.sussex-ifca.gov.uk) was launched, seeking to improve stakeholder engagement and accessibility of information. There were over 11800 visits to the website in the reporting

year. In addition, in the same quarter we launched the new Permit Database. The Permit Database allows permit holders to log in and access a portal which features their personal information, related to any permits held. Permit holders can update their data, input catch returns, and apply for and renew permit applications, including making required payments.

We understand that online material may not reach or suit everyone. Our officers that were still active on the ground and at sea remained important as direct contacts within the fishing community.



Example of public engagement

Sussex IFCA endeavour to attend a range of stakeholder group meetings across the district, ensuring representation is balanced across all sectors of the community and is of specific relevance to its' duties and responsibilities.

Beachy Head East MCZ fisheries management consultation workshops

HAVE YOUR SAY

What's it all about?

You are invited to join informal consultation workshops to inform the Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority's (IFCA) management of the Beachy Head East Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ). The workshops precede statutory consultation on byelaw measures proposed by Sussex IFCA and are an early opportunity for you to understand and influence management. They are open to anyone with an interest in fisheries management and the future of the local sea.

SCAN TO REGISTER

Dates & times

EASTBOURNE: Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club, Tuesday 7th & Tuesday 14th February 2023.

BEXHILL: De La Warr Pavilion, Monday 6th & Friday 17th February 2023.

HASTINGS: Station Plaza, East Sussex College, Thursday 9th & Thursday 16th February 2023.

Register your interest at: forms.office.com/s/KzAZthn3D or contact Sussex IFCA on 01273 454407 or admin@sussex-ifca.gov.uk by Tuesday 31st January.

If you cannot attend, you can still participate in the IFCA's informal fisheries management process via a questionnaire launched after the workshops at: www.sussex-ifca.gov.uk/live-consultations.

Workshop details

The workshops are paired, with two in each location. To get maximum benefit, it's important to attend both workshops if you can. They will be catered so we will need dietary requirements in advance.

WORKSHOP 1

- Overview of Beachy Head East MCZ and the organisations involved.
- Update on research and management in the MCZ.
- Community voice film showing a local view and opinions on the coast and sea.
- Development of a community vision for local society and sea.

WORKSHOP 2

- Feedback results from first workshops.
- Structured discussion activity to capture your views and opinions on potential fisheries management measures.
- Final 30-minute technical discussion for commercial fishermen only.

The Sussex IFCA is supported by the Marine Conservation Society's Agents of Change project to plan, facilitate, and report on the workshops. The Agents of Change project is funded by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and the LIFE programme of the European Union.

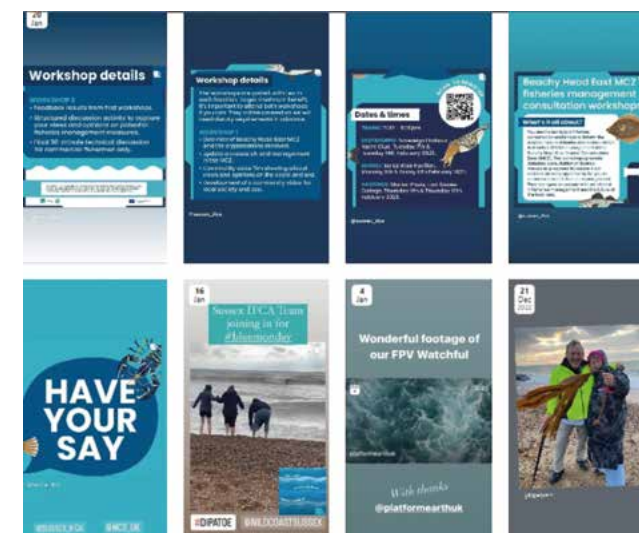


Chief Tim Dapling and IFCO Jake Wilson at the Beachy Head East Informal Consultation Workshop in Eastbourne in February 2023



IFCO George Balchin presenting at the 2022 TAG Conference in Jersey on Ecosystem-based fisheries management

In addition to the multitude of stakeholder group meetings officers attended throughout the reporting year, Sussex IFCA continued the development of a schedule for management for Beachy Head East Marine Conservation Zone. The Authority undertook informal consultation work, in association with the Marine Conservation Society (MCS), using the 'Community Voice Method' as was done previously for Tranche 1 sites Kingmere and Beachy Head West Marine Conservation Zone. A total of 6 informal consultation workshops were conducted in February within the locality of Beachy Head East MCZ; Hastings, Bexhill-on-Sea and Eastbourne.



Access to Information

We are committed to promoting and actively developing a culture of openness, transparency and accountability embodied in the various access to information legislation.

This refers to the general right of access that the public have to the information held by us and other public authorities. Rights of access to environmental information exist under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Requests for other types of information are dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Under the Data Protection Act 2018, individuals may also request a copy of any personal data that we hold about them. These requests should be sent in writing to:

Data Protection Officer

Sussex IFCA
and Conservation Authority
12A Riverside Business Centre
Brighton Road
Shoreham-by-Sea
West Sussex
BN43 6RE

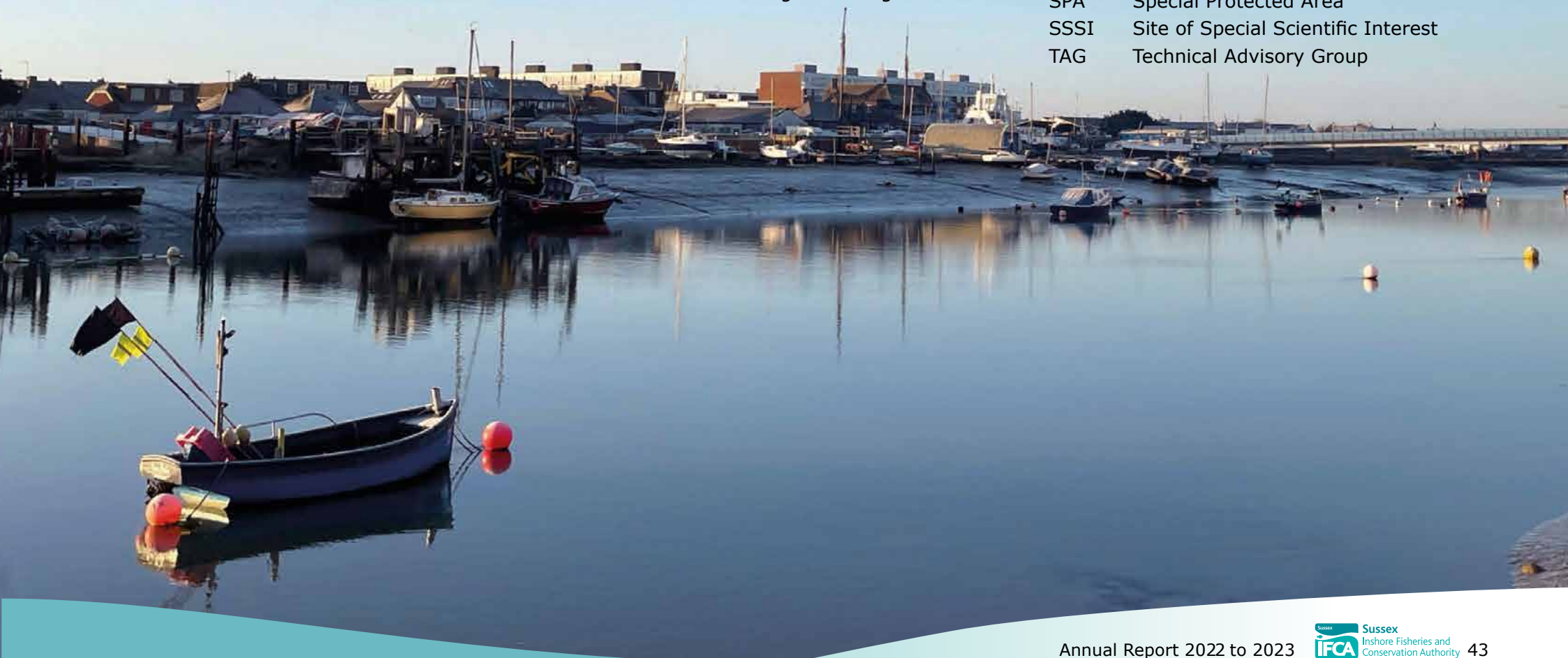


Glossary of Terms

AIFCA Association of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities
CEFAS Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquatic Science
Defra Department of Environment, Food and rural Affairs
EA Environment Agency
EMS European Marine Site
FMP Fisheries Management Plan
FPV Fishery Patrol vessel

FO Fishery Officer
HLO High Level Objective
HR Human resources
IFCA Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
IFCO Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Officer
MaCCA Marine and Coastal Access Act
MCZ Marine Conservation Zone
MMO Marine Management Organisation

MoU Memorandum of Understanding
MPA Marine Protected Area
NE Natural England
PI Performance Indicator
PR Public Relations
RSA Recreational Sea Angling
SAC Special Area of Conservation
SC Success Criteria
SLA Service Level Agreement
SPA Special Protected Area
SSSI Site of Special Scientific Interest
TAG Technical Advisory Group





Contact

Website: www.sussex-ifca.gov.uk
Email: admin@sussex-ifca.gov.uk
Permit Info: database@sussex-ifca.gov.uk
Call: **01273 454407**
Fax: **01273 454408**
Twitter: **sussex_ifca**
Facebook: **SuIFCA**
Instagram: **sussex_ifca**

Address:

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