

Marine Policy Branch
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

27 March 2014

Dear Sir / Madam,

Consultation on the Statement of Public Participation for the Welsh National Marine Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this Statement.

The Institute for Archaeologists

The Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) is a professional body for the study and care of the historic environment. It promotes best practice in archaeology and provides a self-regulatory quality assurance framework for the sector and those it serves.

IfA has over 3,000 members and more than 70 registered practices across the United Kingdom. Its members work in all branches of the discipline: heritage management, planning advice, excavation, finds and environmental study, buildings recording, underwater and aerial archaeology, museums, conservation, survey, research and development, teaching and liaison with the community, industry and the commercial and financial sectors.

In matters relating to maritime archaeology IfA is advised by its Maritime Affairs Group (MAG), to which most professional maritime archaeologists belong. The Group exists to:

- advance the practice of maritime archaeology by promoting professional standards for the management, conservation, understanding and enjoyment of the maritime archaeological resource;
 - provide advice and commentary to IfA on matters relating to maritime archaeology;
 - aid in the development of professional guidelines and standards for the execution of maritime archaeological work;
 - promote the training of archaeologists and others in maritime archaeological practice;
- and,
- facilitate the exchange of information and ideas about maritime archaeology and to communicate these to the wider profession.

IfA's Wales / Cymru Group also has over 300 members practising in the public, private and voluntary sector in Wales.

The Statement of Public Participation for the Welsh National Marine Plan

General

IfA strongly supports the marine plan-making process in Wales and elsewhere in the United Kingdom and welcomes the recognition of the historic environment as a key consideration to be taken into account in marine plans (page 4 of the consultation document).

The Institute wishes to be actively involved in the production of the Welsh National Marine Plan and to this end I would be grateful if you would register my contact details (tim.howard@archaeologists.net) for the provision of further information.

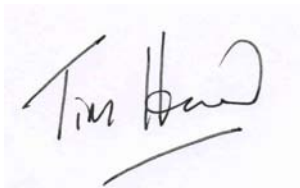
Specific Question

1. Do you agree with the approach to public participation as set out in this Statement of Public Participation? If not why not?

1.1 Yes. IfA looks forward to participating fully in this process.

If there is anything further that I can do to assist please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Howard', with a horizontal line underneath.

Tim Howard LLB, Dip Prof Arch
Policy Advisor