



Department
for Environment,
Food & Rural Affairs

Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street London
SW1P 4DF

T: 03459 335577
helpline@defra.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Dear Consultee

Consultation on the Marine Strategy Part 1: UK Updated Assessment and Good Environmental Status

Updated assessment of progress towards achieving Good Environmental Status (GES) and proposals for new objectives, targets and indicators for the next 6 years

Defra, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland, the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government are seeking views on the third update to the UK Marine Strategy Part One, as required under the UK Marine Strategy Regulations 2010.

This update forms part of the UK's ongoing commitment to restoring and protecting the marine environment while supporting sustainable economic growth through a thriving ocean economy. It sets out our assessment of progress made towards achieving the targets set for GES in the Marine Strategy Part One in 2019. It also sets out proposals for updated high level objectives, targets and indicators to be used for the next reporting cycle. Where possible we have based our assessments on those completed for the OSPAR Convention for the Protection of the North East Atlantic Quality Status Report (QSR2023).

This consultation seeks views on:

- The updated assessment of the state of the UK's seas and progress made since the 2019 update.
- The proposed determination of GES for the next 6-year assessment cycle (referred to as 'overarching targets' for GES); and
- The criteria, environmental targets and indicators proposed for monitoring progress during the next cycle.

This consultation relates solely to the updated UK Marine Strategy Part One. It does not include the UK's marine monitoring programme outlined in Part Two, nor the programme of measures detailed in Part Three of the Marine Strategy.

This consultation document can be found on the GOV.UK website:

English

[UK Marine Strategy Part One Update 2025 - GOV.UK](#)

Welsh

[Diweddariad ar Ran Un Strategaeth Forol y DU 2025 - GOV.UK](#)

You can find information on the UK Marine Strategy Regulations (2010) at: [The Marine Strategy Regulations 2010](#)

Responses

The consultation will be open for 8 weeks, from 20th June 2025 to the 15th August 2025. All responses should be received by 23.59 (11:59pm) on 15th August 2025.

Online:

Our preferred method for receiving responses is via the Citizen Space consultation page, where you can also respond in Welsh using the Welsh language version, which can be found here: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/uk-marine-strategy-1/uk-marine-strategy-part-one-update-2025>.

Alternatively:

Email: marine.strategy@defra.gov.uk

Post:

Marine Strategy Implementation Team
1st Floor, Seacole Block
2 Marsham Street
Westminster
London
SW1P 4DF

If you would like to request a hard copy of this consultation, please contact us using the details above.

Consultation Criteria

This consultation is in line with the government's Consultation Principles. This can be found at www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance.

Copies of responses will be made available to the public on request. If you do not want your response – including your name, contact details and any other personal information – to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, that won't count as a confidentiality request.

Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under freedom of information legislation. But, because of the law, we cannot promise that we will always be able to keep those details confidential. We will summarise all responses and place this summary on our website at: www.gov.uk/defra.

This summary will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details.

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to Defra Consultation Co-ordinator: email consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk.

Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries, please contact us as above.

Yours sincerely,

UK Marine Strategy team

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs