

Summary Report to Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee 25th January 2017

At the Council meeting in May 2015, Council agreed to make it a requirement that the Council nominee(s) to four specific outside bodies shall submit summary reports to the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee. The specific bodies identified were: -

- Essex Fire Authority
- Southend University Hospital - NHS Foundation Trust
- Essex Police and Crime Panel
- Kent & Essex Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority

In your response, please indicate which Group / Body this report relates to.

Notes:-

- *Where there is more than one nominee, a joint report shall be submitted.*
- *Council has agreed that updates shall be submitted to every other ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.*

Last update October 2016

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Name of Group / Body:- Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority.

Update on Key Issues

There is work going on to implement new Marine Protection Areas (MPA's) around the sea areas off the River Blackwater, Crouch, Roach and Colne to protect the Native Oyster stock part of the MCZ area. Hythe Bay in Kent dealt with as an MPA, and off the Dungeness, Romney Marsh and Rye Bay an extension to the SPA extension to protect Tern foraging grounds.

Cockle Surveys will commence again in spring, and provided the High "Spat fall" survives over the winter, the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) may be increased for 2017. The Whelk permit byelaw is being reviewed to ensure the technical specifications are still right, this needs to be reviewed every three years. More research is being undertaken to try and increase the Whelk population/Fishery.

There are new E.U. Bass management measures coming into force this year and quotas and TAC's will all be reviewed. Rod and line fishing will have measures against them removing more than 10 fish a month, this will affect charter boats, pier and shore fishing and anyone caught overfishing could be prosecuted.

Measures are being looked to manage the Thornback Wray more efficiently as whole no take areas are preventing the taking of Wray's by commercial fishermen whilst rod and line anglers are still removing stock.

Person / Persons Making Response: Councillor John Lamb

Date:- 5th January 2017