



TECF Management Plan 2006 - 2012

Mid-Term Review

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	MID TERM REVIEW: PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT	5
2	PROGRESS AGAINST ACTIONS	5
2.1	European Marine Site Management	5
2.2	Coordination.....	6
2.3	Information Management.....	7
2.4	Landscape & Biodiversity Conservation	10
2.5	Historic Environment.....	12
2.6	Water Quality	14
2.7	Waterfront and Marine Development & Commerce.....	16
2.8	Fisheries.....	18
2.9	Navigation	19
2.10	Public Access, Recreation and Moorings	20
2.11	Awareness and Understanding.....	22
3	CURRENT SITUATION	25
3.1	SWOT analysis	25
4	EXTERNAL PRESSURES.....	26
4.1	PESTEL Analysis.....	26
4.2	Assessment of progress on delivery	Error! Bookmark not defined.
5	ANALYSIS	27
5.1	Are emerging issues addressed in management plan?	27
5.2	How can we accommodate them?.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
6	AVAILABLE OPTIONS.....	ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.
7	CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS	ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.

8 ROLE OF TECF OFFICER ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.

8.1 Natural England’s View on the Future for European Marine Site Officers27

9 APPENDICES ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.

9.1 Document Guidelines.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

9.2 Project Status Report Sections Omitted**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

1 MID TERM REVIEW: PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

The Tamar Estuaries Management Plan 2006 - 2011¹ sets out the framework to enable the Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum and its partners to deliver statutory compliance and best practice in the management of the Tamar Estuaries.

Published in 2006, the Plan covers 11 key work themes such as Coordination; Landscape and Biodiversity Conservation and Waterfront and Marine Development & Commerce. It then goes on to identify 61 challenges that should be addressed and then goes on to list 134 separate work actions which would address these challenges, setting out the key organisations that will need to be involved.

The purpose of this Mid Term Review is therefore to:

- assesses actions against all 134 work actions under each of the 11 themes;
- provides an analysis against each of the themes, summarising progress, or otherwise, particularly where there are blockages to delivery;
- Look at new emerging external pressures;
- Review the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of TECF as a partnership;
- Assess whether the priorities set out in the TEMP still valid, or are there other new external pressures which are demanding a shift in priorities?
- Recommend any changes and identify priorities for the last two years of the Plan.

2 PROGRESS AGAINST ACTIONS

This section looks back at the work and priorities identified in the management plan, and assesses the progress made against the work items identified in the TECF Action Plan Document, along with an assessment of progress.

2.1 European Marine Site Management

2.1.1 What we said we wanted to achieve

- Maintain the Plymouth Sound and Estuaries European Marine Site (EMS) in favourable status;
- Agree, deliver, monitor and review the scheme of management for the EMS;

2.1.2 What we have achieved

The delivery against these actions is detailed in the sections 2.2 Coordination - 12.11 Awareness and Understanding.

¹ Tamar Estuaries Management Plan 2006 – 2012 available from:
<http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/homepage/environmentandplanning/conservation/tecf/tecfabout/tecfmanagementplan.htm>

2.2 Coordination

2.2.1 What we said we wanted to achieve

- Coordinate those with an interest and responsibility in the Tamar Estuaries through the provision of an identifiable forum(s) for communication and debate;
- Provide an effective framework for the management of the Tamar Estuaries that resolves issues and delivers added value through partnership and collaboration
- Deliver 'added value' coastal management projects

2.2.2 What we have achieved

Action	Organisational Involvement	Progress	
Ongoing need for forum(s) for the coordination of the estuaries' users and managers.			
Maintain current structure of TECF & PPMLC	TECF / PPMLC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF & PPMLC meetings have occurred. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review of PPMLC attendees in hand – with a view to replacing those who consistently do not attend.	☹
To develop the integration of WAG into the current TECF / PPMLC management structure	TECF / WAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WAG representatives attend TECF steering group.	☺
Review functional relationship between Yealm Estuary Management Forum & TECF	TECF / YEMF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF Officer attends Yealm Estuary Management Group. <input type="checkbox"/> Review of functional relationship still needs to be done.	☹
Ongoing need for a plan that informs users and managers of the agreed priorities for joint action			
Publish 5 year management plan	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tamar Estuaries Management Plan for 2006 – 2012 published	☺
Publish annual work programme & budget	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget has been fixed as per the Memorandum of Agreement and reported at TECF <input type="checkbox"/> Annual work programme to be completed	☹
Need to secure external funding to deliver 'added value' projects			
Employment of Coastal Officer	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coastal Officer now called 'Coastal Planning Coordinator'.	☺
Need for transparent process to establish Coastal Officers work programme			
Establish mechanism for timely agreement of TECF's annual action plan	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> Still to do, but mechanism must recognise the questions over securing project funding.	☹

Fragility of funding – the delivery of Tamar Estuaries Management Plan is dependent upon the employment of a Coastal Planning Coordinator, funded through partnership contributions			
Seek commitment to core funding contributions & produce Memorandum of Agreement between relevant organisations	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MoA in place and currently being signed by all members; covers the period until end March 2011. <input type="checkbox"/> Will need to be renewed for last year of Management Plan.	😊
Publicise TECF's role and achievements through Annual report	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New electronic newsletter launched that keeps stakeholders up to date with work of TECF	😊
Increase awareness of TECF through a website and education & awareness raising events and products. (Chapter 11)	TECF	See 2.11 Awareness and Understanding	

2.2.3 Analysis

Securing the commitment of funding continues to be a challenge, and whilst the accord secured through the Memorandum of Agreement provides some security up until April 2011, there will still be challenges ahead, particularly with the current pressures being placed on types of public and private funding. Steps to secure funding post April 2011 will have to become a priority.

2.2.4 Priorities for Action

- Start to explore funding opportunities for after March 2011.
- Start to explore renewing the Management Plan for post 2012.

2.3 Information Management

2.3.1 What we said we wanted to achieve

- Develop an integrated estuary-wide monitoring and research programme, and create the framework to manage and share results.
- Assist coordinated and informed decision making for the Estuary, by developing an appropriate and accessible data management system.

2.3.2 What we have achieved

Action	Organisational Involvement	Progress	
Centralising data for assessing the condition of the European Marine Site and other areas of interest within the estuary			

Develop integrated monitoring plan to inform future management and meet TECF's EMS reporting requirements	TECF / Natural England	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial exploratory meeting took place with scientific research partners. <input type="checkbox"/> NE still exploring framework for reporting on EMS status nationally. <input type="checkbox"/> Limited funding available from NE. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NE have developed and piloted 'Risk Assessment' approach to identify those activities which are deemed to be of high risk which should form basis for focus of work.	☹️
Implement monitoring plan	TECF / Natural England	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This still done on annual basis as stipulated by NE's process for bidding for limited monitoring funds.	☹️
Uncoordinated estuary research and estuary management agendas			
Identify TECF/ PPMLC & WAG research requirements and work with research organisations to deliver.	TECF / PPMLC/ WAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improved use of links with University of Plymouth enabled research projects being carried out by MSc students. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Now have updated figures on numbers of recreational boats in Estuary; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have better understanding of incidents of anchoring on eelgrass beds; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Also improved understanding of which habitats of the EMS are susceptible to sea level rises.	😊
Scope out potential for a Tamar science group	TECF / PPMLC/ WAG	<input type="checkbox"/> Work not yet started	☹️
Lack of accessible information for assessment of 'in combination and cumulative effects' as part of Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment			
Investigate options, & develop plan for managing data on all development impacting upon the estuary.	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metadata collected by NE on all key reports and data held. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some progress on putting key data on TECF website, and ensuring that the MBA Library holds copies. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Key data updated on GIS and desk-top assessment of data held by TECF has been undertaken. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work undertaken with University of Plymouth to explore use of shared data through their 'CETL' project. This resulted in some data being available to UoP students. <input type="checkbox"/> Database needed of all developments. <input type="checkbox"/> In theory, Plymouth Coastal Observatory will be holding key environmental data	☹️
Implement data management plan	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> Work not yet started	😊

Lack of accessible information or data to inform routine estuary management decisions			
Provide signposting service to existing data holders	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work currently done, TECF acting as focus for enquiries, signposting them to data holders	
Undertake audit of current & future data management needs and solutions	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Working with PML as partner on their MEDON project which will help identify some of the data. <input type="checkbox"/> M2C, if successful, will also help to deliver this.	
Implement information / data management solutions	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> Still to do	
Encourage recording & data sharing through relevant schemes	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> Still to do	

2.3.3 Analysis

The TEMP recommended a thorough approach the management of data with a comprehensive overhaul of the way in which data is collected and shared. With so many changes to marine and coastal policy, access to data is now recognised as key issue, and is being dealt with by many other bodies, such as Finding Sanctuary and Plymouth Coastal Observatory through the national marine data protocol, where data is collected just the once but shared by many.

In terms of local data, it is important that a balance is struck where the data that we have is used as productively as possible. However, it must also recognise that data alone will never provide all the answers, and that the principles of adaptive management require management decisions to be constantly reviewed against new data as it become available. Current thinking also recognises that the 'decision making tool' is as important as the data on which it is based, since there is an ever increasing amount of sometimes contradictory data, so it is the values attached to the datasets, and the priorities allocated that are as critical as the evidence base itself.

2.3.4 Recommended Priorities for 2010-2012

- Explore ways of sharing spatial data amongst TECF partners.
- Explore with Natural England a systematic approach to data collection.
- Continue to submit annual monitoring bids to Natural England that focus on potentially high risk activities of fisheries management, recreational angling, water quality, invasives loss of habitat through development.
- Continue to make use of students to undertake work and collect new data.

2.4 Landscape & Biodiversity Conservation

2.4.1 What we said we wanted to achieve

- Conserve, enhance and restore the distinctive character and beauty of the Tamar Estuaries.
- Achieve 'joined up' management of the neighbouring protected landscapes;
- Raise awareness and understanding the landscapes and biodiversity of the Tamar Estuaries.
- Further the conservation, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity within the Tamar Estuaries.

2.4.2 What we have achieved

Action	Organisational Involvement	Progress	
Implementation of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Bill – Creation of Natural England as a single public body with responsibility for landscapes and biodiversity			
Maintain close liaison between TECF & AONBs	Tamar Valley AONB / TECF / Natural England	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CPC attends TVAONB management groups and partnership groups. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular Upper Tamar Officers meetings ensures close liaison and development of joint initiatives.	☺
Proactively engage with Natural England to promote AONBs / TECF as mechanism for delivering Ecosystem approach.	Tamar Valley AONB / TECF / Natural England	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentations given to Natural England Conference on TECF as mechanism for delivering Ecosystem approach. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Also, representations to DEFRA on success of TECF as mechanism for delivering marine management	☺
Inappropriate development of key landscape sites			
Support actions to bring sensitive waterside sites into protective ownership & conservation management	Local Authorities / AONB / TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No sensitive sites identified	☹
Ensure development plans are sensitive to the 'waterscape'	Local Authorities / AONB / TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF now usually consulted by planning authorities. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF provided input into large number of developments in order that they contribute to the sustainable management of the estuary which includes respecting the 'waterscape'. Some developments were subsequently turned down as a result of TECF input. Also, see actions under Waterfront and Marine Development and Commerce.	☺
Management & protection of key visitor sites			
Support projects to bring enhanced management of key visitor sites	Local Authorities / AONB / TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹

Need for credible data / evidence base on landscape and biodiversity character and value			
Support work on new landscape character assessments for the countryside around the estuaries	DCC /CCC, Natural England	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial exploratory meetings carried out with Natural England, National Trust, AONBs, local authorities and Europarc. <input type="checkbox"/> Next stage to incorporate the work into the Green Infrastructure project being carried out by Natural England.	☺
Support work on survey & identification of Local Wildlife Sites	Wildlife Trusts, DCC, CCC,	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹
Encourage recording & data sharing through relevant schemes	Local Record Centres / MarLIN / TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹
Overall decline in the condition of the marine environment leading to the continuing loss of scarce or declining habitats and species			
Identification & promotion of biodiversity enhancement and restoration projects in line with National, Regional & Local Biodiversity Action Plans	TECF / PPMLC	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹
Identify appropriate managed realignment sites to mitigate for losses due to sea level rise & coastal squeeze.	TECF /Natural England / Local Authorities / EA / AONBs	<input type="checkbox"/> Sites have been identified, but no EA funding currently available.	☺
Implementation of the proposed Marine Bill			
Support the 'Finding Sanctuary' project in investigating the potential for Highly Protected Marine Reserves (No Take Zones) as part of a SW network.	TECF / PPMLC / WAG / Natural England	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support given through TECF and PPMLC. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CPC sits on Devon Steering Group <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF data shared with Finding Sanctuary <input type="checkbox"/> work on-going	☺
Identify local opportunities to improve marine nature conservation through the new legislative powers that become available	Natural England	<input type="checkbox"/> Potential for improved nature conservation as bye-law making powers are extended to Marine Protected Zones under the Marine & Coastal Access Bill.	☺
Non-native invasive species			
Support projects to control non-native invasive species.	Natural England / EA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work continues through the Upper Tamar Invasives Group to control Giant Hogweed, Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Input into DSFC's survey on Slipper Limpets promoted. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Input into MarLINs alien survey also promoted. <input type="checkbox"/> More work needed on monitoring marine invasives, particularly within marinas.	☺
Disturbance to wildlife by recreational activities			

Quantify scale & distribution of recreational impacts on wildlife.	TECF /PPMLC / WAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work programme fully developed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Principle of Planning Tariff secured to contribute to the costs. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work fully incorporated into 'M2C' bid for European funding. <input type="checkbox"/> M2C project turned down by EU, but 'strongly encouraged' to resubmit addressing the specific shortcomings.	☹️
Low awareness and understanding of the landscape and wildlife assets of the Estuary			
Develop & implement plan for minimizing recreational impacts ie Zoning of activities, sign boards, Codes of Practice, charts	Natural England / EA	As above	☹️

2.4.3 Analysis

Much of the work for this is included in the 'M2C' funding bid to European Union which was unfortunately recently turned down. M2C partners will now need to decide on whether to resubmit. If this bid subsequently proves successful, then there will be a clear delivery plan for achieving this. If not, then other sources of funding and delivery methods will need to be identified.

Also, it will be important to implement the 'managing recreational impacts' project – described in more detail under 'Public Access, Recreation and Moorings'.

2.4.4 Recommended Priorities for 2010-2012

- Managing the impacts of increased recreational activities on the European Marine Site is a key priority, linked to the production of a revised recreational management plan for the Estuary. This will include assessing current use, reviewing current capacity and coming up with new way of
- Planning items are dealt with under section 2.7

2.5 Historic Environment

2.5.1 What we said we wanted to achieve

- Improve the conservation and management of the maritime historic environment.
- Promote awareness and understanding of the character and extent of the maritime historic environment.

2.5.2 What we have achieved

Action	Organisational Involvement	Progress	
Lack of baseline information on intertidal and sub tidal interest features. Existing data on wrecks is not sufficiently accurate			
Audit & collate existing information, identify information gaps & survey	EH / DCC / CCC / PCC / UoP	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹️

Establish process (es) for coordinating the recording of maritime historic finds	EH / DCC / CCC / PCC / UoP	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹
Audit those sites or remains under threat due to marine or coastal development, sea level rise, coastal erosion or neglect	EH / DCC / CCC / PCC / UoP	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹
Ensure sufficient consideration of marine historic environment as part of development planning and licensing			
Ensure consultation with relevant data holding organisations.	DEFRA (MCEU) / EH / DCC / CCC / PCC / UoP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improved consultation techniques, especially by DEFRA for marine planning.	☺
Raise awareness of existing protocols & best practice within planning & licensing authorities	DEFRA (MCEU) / EH / DCC / CCC / PCC / UoP	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹
Neglect of historic sites and remains			
Promote lessons learnt / best practice eg Liverpool Bay Seascapes Project	EH / TECF / UoP	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹
Support work to develop management plans through engaging relevant stakeholders	EH / TECF / UoP	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹
Explore potential of the proposed Highly Protected Marine Reserves for the protection of historic sub tidal assets	EH / TECF / UoP	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹
Impacts of diving on historic ship wrecks			
Promote codes of conduct regarding Maritime Archaeology	TECF / UoP / EH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF members briefed on maritime archaeology	☺

2.5.3 Analysis

Little work has been carried out regarding Maritime Archaeology. This is mostly due to lack of resources for this issue; both financial and staff; even English Heritage have very little resources. The long awaited Historic Environment Bill was abandoned and the Marine Bill includes little on Archaeology.

2.5.4 Recommended Priorities for 2010-2012

- Ensure that sufficient consideration is given to marine archaeology.

2.6 Water Quality

2.6.1 What we said we wanted to achieve

- Achieve a water quality that is compatible with the estuaries' nature conservation interest and commercial and recreational usage.
- Ensure that the estuaries remain, as far as practicable, free from marine litter.
- Raise awareness and understanding of the water quality issues relevant to the Tamar Estuaries
- Assist with the implementation of the Water Framework Directive.

2.6.2 What we have achieved

Action	Organisational Involvement	Progress	
Diffuse pollution			
Strategic targeting of Agri-Environment Schemes in the Tamar & Lynher river catchments	EA / Natural England	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Catchment Sensitive Farming project implementing key elements of Catchment Management Plan	☺
Potential oil spill			
Ongoing development of the Tamar Estuaries Oil Spill Countermeasures Plan	MoD / Harbour Authorities / Local Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review of Oil Spill Counter Measures Plan completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment Group functioning identified. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oil Spill Exercise completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Learning points from exercise and subsequent actions identified.	☺
Marine litter			
Promote Marine Conservation Society's 'Adopt a Beach' Campaign, through TECF Website & publications	TECF /PPMLC / WAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newsletter established as means of promoting events.	☺
Support & promote clean up campaigns	TECF /PPMLC / WAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major Dive Clean planning underway for 2010. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Also series of beach cleans planned ahead of 'Blue Mile' event for 2010.	☺
Promotion & Review of Port Waste Management Plans	Harbour Authorities / MCA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EA have programme of visits to marinas to look at their environmental management.	☺
Support & develop projects to reduce the amount of litter entering the marine environment	TECF / PPMLC / WAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporting the RYA Green Blue initiative in their work.	☺
Emissions from recreational vessels (bilge / foul water / anti fouling / fuel leaks)			
Promote Codes of Conduct / Best Practice	TECF / EA /	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporting the RYA Green Blue initiative in their work.	☺
Pollution due to storm run off eg suspended solids from land, run-off from shoreside development sites or storm sewer overflows			

Advocate up take of Sustainable Urban Drainage schemes as part of development planning process	Local Authorities / EA / TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Built into the Coastal Development Guidance and included in all responses to planning applications. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Identified as part of the planning documents for all major developments in the City & PCC's Sustainability Strategy. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Included in all plans for developments.	☺
Advocate use of standard planning conditions in relation to run off management from shore side development sites	Local Authorities / EA / TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> As above	☺
Implementation of the Water Framework Directive			
Identify role & implications for TECF	EA / TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Detailed response sent to Draft River Basin Management Plan for the South West. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Raised awareness of the water management agenda within PCC; PCC Water Group to be established. <input type="checkbox"/> Awaiting finalised key documents before clarifying TECF's role.	☺
Preventing non-toxic contamination from discharges	EA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review of discharge consents completed by EA.	☺
Pollution due to dredging – disturbance of contaminated sediments			
Produce and Implement Dredging Protocols	NE/ MoD /TECF / DEFRA (MCEU)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Briefing organised to discuss production of Dredging Protocol. <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol not now needed before xxxx.	☺
Quantify threat caused by re suspension of contaminated sediments due to (a) Dredging (b) Trampling of intertidal mudflat.	NE/ MoD /TECF /DEFRA (MCEU)	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹
Develop plan for minimising impacts of (a) & (b)	NE / MoD /TECF /DEFRA (MCEU)	<input type="checkbox"/> No action	☹

2.6.3 Analysis

There has been an enormous amount of increased focus on water management with many policies being produced by the Government and its agencies. The framework for more effective water management is now being refined to reflect the Water Framework Directive, the Pitt Review into flooding, the forthcoming Flood and Waters Bill, the Draft River Basin Management Plan for the South West, Catchment Flood Management Plan and others. Over the next couple of years therefore, it is expected that there will be clarification on the roles and responsibilities for managing water quality, and TECF will continue to have a strong advocacy, enabling and implementing role in this.

Support for clean-up events will continue as a matter of course.

2.6.4 Recommended Priorities for 2010-2012

- Continue to support events such as beach and dive cleans
- Watching brief on emerging water policies and in identifying what they mean for local authorities.
- Support production of Dredging Protocol.

2.7 Waterfront and Marine Development & Commerce

2.7.1 What we said we wanted to achieve

- Ensure that the interests and integrity of the Tamar Estuaries are not compromised by inappropriate development.
- Ensure that development occurs in a sustainable manner, in accordance with the overall needs of the local community and with full regard for conservation interests of the estuary as a whole.
- To advise and support sustainable marine transport commerce and tourism initiatives.

2.7.2 What we have achieved

Action	Organisations Involved	Progress	
Confusion over planning responsibilities and controls below the high water mark			
Promote simplified guide to responsibilities / controls through TECF website	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Draft guidance produced; currently being consulted on. <input type="checkbox"/> Final to be put onto website. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Standardised info produced for planning applications.	☺
New planning policy framework			
Engage in consultation re. production of Local Development Frameworks documents & Regional Spatial Strategies.	Local Authorities /TECF /Natural England/ EA / MoD / AONB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Input into draft West Devon LDF Core Strategy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Input into preconsultation Core Issues paper for Cornwall Council's LDF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full use of TECF's Coastal Planning Guidance	☺
Local Development Framework documents (and other appropriate management plans) s to be assessed as a 'Plan or Project' under the Habitats Directive	Local Authorities /TECF /Natural England/ EA / MoD / AONB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All PCC documents screened and changed where necessary: including City Centre AAP.	☺
The assessment of in-combination and / or cumulative effects (particularly in respect to small scale land reclaim developments)			
Produce planning and design guidance on assessing, limiting and mitigating impacts of Coastal development. Promote adoption of guidance as a Supplementary Planning Document	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance completed: Plymouth Sound and Estuaries Coastal Planning Study 2006. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning Tariff agreed for Plymouth City Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Similar approach adopted by South Hams District Council for Sherford's S106 agreement.	☺
Ensure accessible records on past, current and future coastal planning proposals to facilitate cumulative effects assessment	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 'Audit of Coastal Change in the Tamar Estuaries', 1999 now available from the TECF website. <input type="checkbox"/> Work to develop database of developments post 1999 not yet started.	☺

Develop mechanisms for post-development impact monitoring to assess actual impact of development projects	TECF / Local Authorities	<input type="checkbox"/> Work yet to start	
Inappropriate waterfront development			
Respond to consultations on planning applications	EA / Natural England / Harbour Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF now use the Coastal Development Guidance as basis for all responses to applications.	
Produce best practice & design guidance for planning authorities & developers. Where suitable promote the guidance for adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document	TECF / Natural England / EA / Local Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 'Plymouth Sound and Estuaries Coastal Planning Study – Key Guidance'. 2006 published. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This key guidance forms the basis of all responses to license applications.	
Share expertise and communicate over provision of consultation responses	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EA/TECF calls periodic meetings of all competent authorities to discuss coastal development applications. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Info is shared amongst all competent authorities.	
Climate change / coastal defence / flood risk			
Continue to promote discussions concerning the potential for alternative soft engineering solutions for coastal defence/ managed realignment	EA / TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EA have identified potential sites.	
Support strategic flood risk assessment initiatives	EA / Local Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategic flood risk assessments becoming better understood and their findings addressed.	
Support development of catchment flood management plans	EA / TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ditto	
Support development of Shoreline Management Plans	EA / TECF / Local Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SMP2 consultation now completed. <input type="checkbox"/> Plans to be formally adopted by local authorities.	
Fulfilling the potential for waterborne public transport			
Promote findings of 2004 water transportation study	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Findings being incorporated into Local Transport Plans	
Loss of waterside maritime business space			
Advocate appropriate marine industry land allocations as part of development planning process	TECF / Local Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy to safeguard marine industry land is included in Plymouth City Council's core strategy. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 'Plymouth Ports' study currently being planned for completion early 2010 to identify needs of this industry.	

2.7.3 Comment

Considerable progress has been made under this section as it addresses the immediate problem caused by potential impacts resulting from development. The planning guidelines, and the way in which the issues is covered within Plymouth City Council's Local Development Framework has been identified as a key success for TECF, as has the use of the planning tariff to offset the costs of managing the increased recreational pressures.

The challenge now will be to ensure that the new Cornwall Local Development Framework takes a similar approach, although now that the matter has been piloted, this can broadly be accepted as 'business as usual'.

It is also hoped that the funding will be secured for the Plymouth Ports Study, which will help the local organisations to understand the critical role provided by Plymouth's ports.

2.7.4 Recommended Priorities for 2010-2012

- Complete the Port Master Plan
- Provide input into the Cornwall Local Development Framework in order to ensure coordinated approach for dealing with developments in the Tamar Estuaries and on Plymouth Sound.
- Complete the Coastal Development Guidance for Plymouth City Council and also produce generic information for the website.
- Continue to provide watching brief on water management issues.

2.8 Fisheries

2.8.1 What we said we wanted to achieve

- Achieve the sustainable management of the Tamar Estuaries fishing resource.

2.8.2 What we have achieved

Action	Organisations Involved	Progress	
Management of shore crab fishery			
Review extent and scale of impacts from shore crab fishery	DEFRA / DSFC / TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> Not started	☹
Implement recommendations of review	DEFRA / DSFC / TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> Not started	☹
Highly Protected Marine Reserves (HPMRs – Not Take Zones)			
Support the 'Finding Sanctuary' project in investigating the potential for Highly Protected Marine Reserves (No Take Zones) as part of a SW network.	TECF / PPMLC / WAG / NE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hosted presentations from Finding Sanctuary. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Promoted use through newsletter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coastal Planning Coordinator local rep on Devon steering group	☺
Support NE in their work to designate new Offshore SACs	NE/ TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local consultation held for Draft Eddystone & South Devon SAC	☺

in SW			
Low awareness of voluntary rules and statutory regulations governing fishing			
Develop & publish information leaflet	DSFC / DEFRA / EA / TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
All fisheries			
Undertake assessment of all ongoing fisheries within and adjacent to the SAC. Identify appropriate management actions where they are shown to be having an adverse effect.	NE / DEFRA / DSFC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data being collected through Finding Sanctuary; data collection to be completed by Spring 2010.	☺
Implement recommended course of action	NE / DEFRA / DSFC	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☺
Angling			
Assess scale & distribution of impact of Recreational Angling	NE / EA / DSFC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data being collected through Finding Sanctuary	☺
Bait Collection			
Clarify extent and scale of impacts from shore crab fishery	DEFRA / DSFC / TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Publish Code of Practice	DEFRA / DSFC / TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹

2.8.3 Comment

Fisheries management is one of the activities identified in Natural England's risk assessment as having a high risk score meaning that more work is needed to provide effective management controls. However, resources will need to be secured in order to address these actions.

2.8.4 Recommended Priorities for 2010-2012

- Provide leaflets on the bylaws relating to fishing in Plymouth Sound and the Tamar Estuaries.
- Continue to work through Finding Sanctuary in order to collect data.

2.9 Navigation

2.9.1 What we said we wanted to achieve

- Provide for the continuing safe use of the estuaries by watercraft.
- Protect the public right of free navigation within the constraints of the relevant harbour and Port Orders.
- Acknowledge and where possible accommodate the changing needs of commercial and military shipping using the port.

2.9.2 What we have achieved

Action	Organisations Involved	Progress	
Dredging management			
Monitor rates of sedimentation within the estuary	Harbour Authorities	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Quantify threat caused by re suspension of contaminated sediments due to dredging	Natural England / MoD	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Produce maintenance dredging protocol	Natural England / MoD	See actions under previous section Water Quality	
Produce best practice guide for capital dredging	DEFRA (MCEU)	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Review of consent for Rame Head dump site	DEFRA (MCEU)	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Support projects to research the beneficial use of dredged spoil	TECF / Harbour Authorities / MoD	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Maintaining navigability in the upper Tamar			
Establish criteria & responsibilities for maintaining adequate navigation between Calstock & Gunnislake	TV AONB / TECF / QHM	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Support work to implement navigability criteria	TV AONB / TECF / QHM	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹

2.9.3 Comment

Dredging will be addressed in more detail in the forthcoming Marine and Coastal Access Bill which will hopefully clarify matters. Until then, TECF will need to support any work to produce a Dredging Protocol and support any work being carried out by the partners.

2.9.4 Recommended Priorities for 2010-2012

- Support MoD on any work into alternative methods of dredging and the production of a dredging protocol.

2.10 Public Access, Recreation and Moorings

2.10.1 What we said we wanted to achieve

- Ensure that existing public access to the estuaries and coast is maintained and publicised.
- Seek opportunities for improving the quality of public access opportunities.
- Ensure an estuary-wide approach to the management of moorings.
- Improve information management about mooring facilities in the Tamar Estuaries.

2.10.2 What we have achieved

Action	Organisations Involved	Progress	
Poor access in the Upper Tamar Valley			
Support Tamar Valley Mining Heritage project	TV AONB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TVAONB progressing with projects to stabilise mine features, create trails and install interpretation	☺
Support the development of public rights of way improvement plans	DCC / CCC / PCC	<input type="checkbox"/> No action undertaken by TECF	☹
Poor awareness of existing access opportunities			
Highlight access opportunities through TECF website	Local Authorities / TECF / AONBs /	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF partner in the Stepping Stones to Nature project being run by Plymouth City Council.	☺
Promote TECFs 'Audit of Public Access to the Tamar Estuaries'	Local Authorities / TECF / AONBs /	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☺
Promote South West Coast Path & Plymouth Waterfront Walkway	Local Authorities / TECF / AONBs /	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☺
Promote links with public transport opportunities	Local Authorities / TECF / AONBs /	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☺
Waterfront development			
Support Local Development Framework policies & proposals that protect & enhance waterfront access, and deliver findings of 2004 Water Transportation Study.	TECF / Local Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Input into Cornwall and West Devon Core Strategy work	☺
Support Local Transport Plan policies & proposal that deliver findings of 2004 Water Transportation Study.	TECF / Local Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Items fed through to Local Transport Plan	☺
Respond to consultations on planning applications that may effect waterside access	TECF / Local Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF key consultee on all coastal developments	☺
Lack of estuary wide information on slipways, access points, footpaths, ferries			
Promote through TECF Website	TECF / AONBs / Local Authorities	<input type="checkbox"/> Water based recreation leaflet planned for 2010	☺
Update the 1997 'Guidebook to the Tamar Estuaries'	TECF / AONBs / Local Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suggest this is not necessary	☺
Lack of coordination and strategic management of moorings			

Action	Organisations Involved	Progress	
Form moorings liaison group populated by those authorised to lay and / or manage moorings.	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Review Port of Plymouth Recreation Study	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> This was to be done through M2C project. Following the unsuccessful bid, a further bid will be submitted.	☺
Form estuary wide policy on future response to changes in mooring demand	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No new moorings have been permitted for some years.	☺
Promote best practice	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Utilise TECF website as sign posting service to mooring managers.	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Nature conservation impacts of anchoring and mooring impacts			
Quantify scale of threats to Seagrass beds & other key habitats or species due to anchoring and/or mooring	MoD / Natural England / Local Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eelgrass bed monitoring ongoing. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research undertaken with UoP into recreational boating and eelgrass beds. Findings are awaited.	☺
Identify & implement actions to limit impacts	MoD / Natural England / Local Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best practice used from elsewhere	☺

2.10.3 Comment

The management of the increasing recreational pressures is ever more critical driven as it is by increasing population and higher participation rates. It is unfortunate that the M2C Interreg project was not approved as this was to be the delivery vehicle for much of the work identified under this heading. If M2C proves impossible, then it will be important to find other ways of delivering this vital work. Plymouth City Council has committed £15,000 / year over the next 3 years to carry out a proportion of this work, and it will be important to find other matched funding to ensure this is delivered.

2.10.4 Recommended Priorities for 2010-2012

- Complete recreational guide to the Tamar Estuaries
- Carry out audit and capacity study of slipway facilities and use findings to inform Green Infrastructure Project.
- Complete Recreational Management Plan for Tamar Estuaries.
- Increase the use of water based transport as a means of exploring the Estuary.

2.11 Awareness and Understanding

2.11.1 What we said we wanted to achieve

- Increase awareness and understanding about the natural and historic heritage of the Tamar Estuaries.
- Achieve high awareness of TECF's role in delivering sustainable management in the Tamar Estuaries.

2.11.2 What we have achieved

Action	Organisations Involved		
Educating shore based visitors about the marine environment			
Maintain & enhance on-site interpretation at key locations around the estuary	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken <input type="checkbox"/> There is likely to be opportunities through Stepping Stones to Nature and Blue Sound HLF funded projects.	
Optimise TECF website as mechanism for answering enquires about the value of the Tamar estuaries.	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Website continuously updated	
Supporting community work to link local people to their local marine environment	TECF / Coastnet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coastnet are working on their marine community awareness project.	
Educating recreational users of the marine environment			
Provide Information & Interpretation at Slipways / Access points/ Marinas	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	
Promote involvement in national & regional education campaigns.	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Input and support to Devon Marine Educators Group	
Promote & support eco-tourism initiatives		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Providing support and input into "Working together in Watersports" European project for Devon and Cornwall	
Educating commercial users of the marine environment			
Provide appropriate interpretation to ferries, business, charter boats etc	TECF / PPMLC	<input type="checkbox"/> Liaising with commercial dive boats in order to offer training to them over winter.	
Fulfilling the potential of the estuary, and its catchment, as an educational resource			
Need to coordinate provision of environmental education opportunities around the estuaries	TECF / MarLIN / DWT / CWT / UoP / WCRT / Natural England / EA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Input and support to Devon Marine Educators Group	
Support an estuary wide network of environmental educators	TECF / MarLIN / DWT / CWT / UoP / WCRT / Natural England / EA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newsletter structure means they can be contacted directly. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Otherwise suggest not necessary given Blue Sound interpretation project and Devon Marine Educators Meeting.	
Support academic organisations to utilise Tamar as teaching, learning & research resource	TECF / MarLIN / DWT / CWT / UoP / WCRT / Natural England / EA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF full input into University of Plymouth CETL project, with some transfer of data. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF offers input into key University of Plymouth degree and post-grad courses	

Action	Organisations Involved		
Coordinate an educational events diary & Tamar Festival	TECF / MarLIN / DWT / CWT / UoP / WCRT / Natural England / EA	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken as yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECF working with Sport Environment to provide environmental input into 'Blue Mile'; a major mass participation event planned for 2010. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Key dates for events included in TECF Newsletter	☺
Establish network of 'coastal environment' presenters for the talk circuit	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Optimise TECF website as mechanism for supporting & promoting existing educational activities around the Tamar Estuaries	TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☹
Support the development of 'floating classroom' initiatives	TECF / TVAONB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support provided as required.	☺
Promoting global, international or national environmental messages at a local level			
Promote & Support National Campaigns such as Low Tide Day, World Oceans Day, Adopt a Beach, National Science Week	TECF / WAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Events publicised in newsletter	☺
Provide sign posting service to schools on existing relevant educational packages & local expertise.	TECF/ WAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All queries go to relevant educational package / local organisation with appropriate expertise.	☺
Raise profile and awareness of the European Marine Site			
Provide guidance on limiting damage to designated features	Natural England / TECF	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken	☺
Promote European Marine Site through Wembury Marine centre	WAG / DWT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DWT continue to do this	☺
Maintain & enhance on-site interpretation at key locations around the estuary	TECF / AONB / Local Authorities / WAG	<input type="checkbox"/> No work undertaken, although renewal is now needed of major information boards.	☹
Optimise TECF website as mechanism for answering enquires about the value of the European Marine Site.	TECF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Website updated and revised on continuous basis.	☺

2.11.3 Comment

Raising awareness of marine issues has been greatly helped through the establishment of the electronic newsletter, which makes it much easier to communicate with the key stakeholders and to disseminate information. Already it has proved invaluable in encouraging partners to work together more closely and to make links to other areas of work.

The interpretation around the area is now very old and desperately needs to be replaced, although this would require major capital works. One option may be to use the RNLI style of signing on a modular basis, as and when the funding arises.

The key events for next year will focus on the Blue Mile, Blue Sound and Stepping Stones to Nature, which will provide the focus for wider participation and understanding in the marine environment.

2.11.4 Recommended Priorities for 2010-2012

- Complete the recreational users guide to the Tamar Estuaries;
- Increase understanding through events such as Blue Mile and initiatives such as Dive and Beach Cleans;
- Provide full involvement in the Blue Sound project and the Stepping Stones to Nature project which combines increasing participation in countryside and marine recreation with increasing understanding.

3 CURRENT SITUATION

3.1 Delivery Mechanisms

Reviewing delivery against the Management Plan highlights that to a large extent the nature of the work carried out by TECF and its Coastal Planning Coordinator falls into 4 categories:

1. **Policy and Strategy support** – inputting into the emerging coastal and marine policies and strategic consultations with focus on around ensuring that the new policies reflect the need and interests of Plymouth Sound and the Tamar Estuaries as well as the partners.
2. **Projects** - developing and implementing key projects.
3. **Supporting partners** – providing support through consultative working to address conflicts of use and management pressures as they arise.
4. **Business as usual** – Providing the newsletter, responding to general enquiries from the public and students, working with the University etc.

3.2 SWOT analysis

<p style="text-align: center;">Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strength of TECF partnership • Communication • Leadership provided by QHM / MoD • Strong track record • Contribution of partners 	<p style="text-align: center;">Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflicting interests • Problems associated with securing core funding; • No port masterplan to plan for future commercial port activities; • Failure to recognize importance of port activities in the city; • Low awareness of TECF and the EMS in the wider community;
<p style="text-align: center;">Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Planning and the potential of exploiting the emerging legislation; • Unitary authorities and developing closer links through the Community 	<p style="text-align: center;">Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small scale cumulative activities could impact on the EMS; • Credit crunch means that sourcing funding is much more difficult;

<p>Network Areas;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TECF could more closely align its activities to emerging legislation such as Water Framework Directive, River Basin Management Plans • The planning tariff could enable a source of funding subject to the credit crunch. • European funding can enable projects to be delivered. • New offshore SACS including South Devon and Eddystone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inconsistent political agendas; • Planning blight caused by increased blast zones following Buncefield; • 25% increase in population can lead to increasing pressures on EMS.
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4 EXTERNAL PRESSURES

4.1 PESTEL Analysis

<p>Political</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europe pushing Water Framework Directive and River Basin Management Planning; • Marine Bill; • Introduction of Marine Spatial Planning; • Move to streamlining marine consents; • Climate Change; • New Coastal Policy sets out new priorities including Adaptation Strategies, Catchment Flood Management Plans, River Basin Management Plan.; • Creation of unitary authorities; • Cornwall moving to Local Area Networks; • Bathing Waters Directive tightening up requirements. 	<p>Economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Tariff and Local Development Frameworks; • Climate Change and sustainability key factor in determining coastal uses; • Move to renewable energy sources; • Port Master Plans may help identify areas of growth for commercial port activity; • Credit crunch is impacting on income from Planning Tariff; • Future of dockyard: waterside land may be released from MoD related use;
<p>Social</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in use of river unknown • Population due to increase by c25% over next 20 years. • Increasing pressure on coastal strip • River transport pressures; • 	<p>Technological</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More data emerging all the time (eg Plymouth Observatory); • More co-ordinated approach to collecting marine data along with the associated efficiencies this would bring;
<p>Environmental</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in use of river unknown 	<p>Legal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to include equality impact assessment of plan

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to focus on management of riskiest activities • Climate change and sea level rises; • Increased flooding; • Agricultural run-off will need to be minimised. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to acceptable bathing water quality; • Changes to Shellfish quality requirements; • |
|---|---|

4.2 Natural England's View on the Future for European Marine Site Officers²

Natural England have identified the key current roles of EMS Project Officers as:

- Facilitating the delivery of statutory duties
- Providing added value in terms of education, coordination, integration, brokering solutions, networking and listening (sic!).

Natural England go on to identify the key challenges facing EMS Officers as job security, salary (pension, index linked salaries), project funding (including securing internal funding and matched funding), maintaining a profile, assimilation of new policies, isolation and access to training.

Natural England then went on to identify possible future roles for EMS Officers that include involvement in: MPA Stakeholder process; marine spatial planning structures; new coastal access requirements under the Marine and Coastal Access Bill, developing broader public engagement on marine issues; co-ordinating Competent authority engagement on new issues such as MCZs, developing integration with other designations and finally building the knowledge base in the host organisations.

5 Analysis

5.1 Are emerging issues addressed in management plan?

The Tamar Estuaries Management Plan identified a large number of actions that would be taken in order to address the critical issues affecting the European Marine Site. Whilst actions have been taken against the vast majority of the plan, now is probably the time to start to focus on a couple of critical issues in order to provide targeted impact and to have lasting effect.

It is therefore timely to consider how best to parcel up key actions into deliverable projects that make the most of any funding resources likely to be available from the partners and have a real impact.

Looking at the 'Recommended Priorities' sections under each of the above themes whilst reflecting on the SWOT and PEST analysis, it is possible to draw out the core priorities for the coming 2 years. These are suggested in the following section.

5.2 Recommended Priorities for 2010 - 2012

The 10 recommended priorities for the coming two years are therefore identified as follows:

1. **TECF:** Secure funding for post 2012 and identify methodology to update Tamar Estuaries Management Plan.
2. **Coastal Development:** Complete Coastal Development Guidance and develop central database for all coastal works.
3. **Planning:** Support Cornwall Council in the production of their Local Development Framework.

² Taken from a presentation given by Mark Quigley

4. **Recreational Management:** Complete revision of Recreational Management Plan (through M2C if application proves successful). Includes production of recreational users leaflet and audit of slipways.
5. **Water – based Recreational Transport:** Deliver a plan to improve water transport in the Tamar Estuaries through improved promotion and some infrastructure works.
6. **Port Commerce:** Complete Plymouth Port Plan
7. **Water Quality & Public Awareness:** Run a series of clean-up events including Dive Clean and Beach Cleans
8. **Recreation & Public Awareness:** Full involvement in Blue Mile as the major public event for 2010 and in the two major Heritage Lottery funded projects for the Plymouth area: Stepping Stones to Nature and Blue Sound.
9. **Policy & Strategic:** Shaping implementation of emerging water management agenda and marine / coastal management.
10. **Sharing information:** Continue to produce newsletter and keep website up to date.

As stated before this does not include the 'business as usual elements of work which include responding to enquiries, general support for partners, dealing with the public etc.

5.3 Next Steps

Once agreed, the next steps will involve drawing up project outlines for the key actions identified for the final two years of the Management Plan and securing the funding to make them happen. It is proposed to present this at the next TECF meeting in March 2010.