

## North Devon Marine Pioneer

# Safeguarding North Devon's marine benefits

## A Marine Natural Capital Plan for North Devon

### The challenge

In January 2018 the UK Government published [A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment](#). Its ambition is to improve and restore the environment for the next generation. The challenges for this project are:

- How do we deliver the aims and ambitions of the 25 Year Environment Plan locally to benefit current and future generations?
- How can we ensure that when decisions are made, the benefits of nature are considered?
- How do we secure food production, improve water quality, and enhance tourism and recreation while restoring and improving nature?
- How do we restore nature in North Devon so that it helps improve people's health?
- How can we support people, businesses and organisations to contribute to achieving the 25 Year Environment Plan's ambitions locally?
- How can we work together to maximise benefits for people and nature while minimising the disadvantages – and to distribute both fairly?

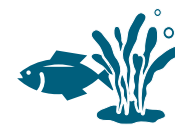
Through local delivery of the **25 Year Environment Plan** we will find ways to have clean, healthy, productive and biologically diverse seas; connect people to nature; and use the sea and coast sustainably.

### The project aims

- Pilot the development of the first Marine Natural Capital Plan in England (natural capital is the wildlife and natural resources that we rely on).
- Support local delivery of the 25 Year Environment Plan.
- Use the information and outputs of the Marine Pioneer to help decision makers in North Devon to restore and improve nature.
- Help users of the marine environment to understand decisions that affect them and become involved when and how they choose.
- Provide information and methods to consider environmental, social and economic information and how they integrate and connect in decision making.
- Encourage stewardship of the natural environment.



### VALUE OF NATURE



ecological



societal



economic

## In practice

This project will provide a framework to:

- understand how decisions are made about use of the coast and sea, and the impact of those decisions
- provide information to help decision makers (local and national) to consider the value of the natural environment in their decisions
- inform how money is spent on the marine environment and identify opportunities for both private and public investment
- support integrated working across organisations that includes more people in decisions about investments and activities – linking land and sea
- offer lessons that can be transferred to other coastal areas to support people, the economy and nature.



## The future

- Using this framework, we will work towards enhancing North Devon's natural environment for future generations.
- We will base the framework on the outputs of the Marine Pioneer, and engage with decision makers and stakeholders across North Devon to detail:
  - information about the benefits we get from nature
  - options for fair and representative inputs to decision making
  - partnerships – such as a fishermen, scientists and managers partnership – working to improve nature and the future of fishing
  - ways for people to get involved, to connect with and benefit from nature.
- The framework will contribute to investment planning to inform how resources are allocated, ensuring natural assets and services are secured for people into the future.
- We will use the framework to better integrate planning, delivery and investment across land and sea in North Devon, providing a model for other coastal and marine areas.

## Project partners

[North Devon Biosphere](#)

[Marine Management Organisation](#)

[Devon & Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority](#)

[Natural England](#)

[Plymouth Marine Laboratory](#)

[University of Plymouth Marine Institute](#)

[WWF](#)

[Blue Marine Foundation](#)

[South West Partnership for Environmental and Economic Prosperity \(SWEEP\)](#)

This project is a contribution to the North Devon Marine Pioneer ([northdevonbiosphere.org.uk/marinepioneer.html](http://northdevonbiosphere.org.uk/marinepioneer.html)).

