

Submission from Mr M Entwistle (Chairman) on behalf of the "Association of Scottish Yacht Charterers"

Please provide some details about yourself. Only include details that you wish to give. Even if you do not wish to give other information it would help us if you could write in the town, village or city in which you live.

Name:Mark Entwistle.....

Your interest:Chairman.....

The organisation that you represent:Association of Scottish Yacht Charterers.....

Your contact details e.g. address or postcode: ...c/o Skye Yachts Ltd. Ardvasar, ISLE OF SKYE. IV45 8RS.....01471

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Please write here which town, village or city you live in:Ardvasar, Skye.....

Summary of Questions

Chapter 1: The added value and benefits of a Coastal and Marine National Park

Views are invited on the potential benefits a Coastal and Marine National Park could bring:

- How could a Coastal and Marine National Park help communities develop in a more sustainable way and meet community aspirations?
- What problems could a Coastal and Marine National Park address?
- Are there any other examples of benefits that a Park could bring?

Why are you only prepared to address possible benefits and making no effort to identify any disadvantages? The same approach was adopted at the Consultation meetings. There is insufficient information available as to the powers and aims of the Park to answer either way.

Chapter 2: Selecting the Location of Scotland's First Coastal and Marine National Park

Comments on whether the final selection should be based on these factors are invited, including how accessibility can best be considered.

It is important that you do not create a Theme Park to be flooded with members of the general public patronising tearooms. This would simply destroy what you are trying to protect

Are there other factors that should also be considered when selecting the location? Consultees are invited to rank the proposed criteria in order of preference.

Which area do you consider to be the strongest candidate as a Coastal and Marine National Park?

In particular do consultees agree that:

The strongest all round case can be made for Argyll Islands and Coast area and Ardnamurchan, Small Isles and South Sky Coast area? A combination of these two areas would also be a strong candidate?

What criteria would you use to set the landward and seaward boundaries of the Park?

Chapter 3: Functions, Powers and Governance

The Park Plan

What functions and powers would you wish a Park to have?

It is important that new powers are vested with the local population and not with unelected appointees. The 5/25 minimum local representation is too low. What interface is there with the current powers of the Crown Estate? See also financial comments.

Relationships with Town and Country Planning

Do you consider that planning control for the land component should remain with the local authority or should it be transferred to the Park Authority?

The Park Authority is an unelected quango and should therefore not be allowed to take over the role of the Elected council.

Conservation and Recreation Management

Comments are invited on the potential functions of a Coastal and Marine National Park relating to conservation and recreation management.

Do you think that the potential for zoning to form an element of the development and implementation of the Plan is sufficient or should other site-based protection measures be considered?

Ministers seek consultees' views on whether the Park Authority should be given a last resort 'stop' power.

Comments on these issues are invited.

Governance

Are the principles for establishing the Park Board the right ones for ensuring local and national views are taken into account, including the views of those using the area but who do not live there?

Do you have any other views on the Board and governance of the National Park Authority?

See above

Financial Implications

Comments are invited on the running costs and financial implications of a Coastal and Marine National Park.

The costs should be met from “new” money, not a reallocation of that already administered by LEC’s, Councils etc. If sufficient locals of suitable quality are to be attracted to serve on the Park Board, a realistic level of remuneration is required. Small Business operators in particular cannot spare the time/money to be adequately represented unless remunerated. A board of well meaning pensioners is not representative of the community.