

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Structure

Q1. Do you agree with the timescales outlined?

Yes X No

Comments

Vision

Q2. Do you agree with this vision?

Yes X No

Q3. Does the draft vision have the right level of ambition? If not, please offer alternative text or suggestions.

Comments

Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Q4. Do you think implementation to achieve Good Environmental Status under Descriptor 10 will be sufficient or do you think additional action in Scotland is also necessary?

Yes X No

Comments

Strategic Directions

Q5. Do you agree that Strategic Directions are a suitable way of outlining action under the Strategy?

Yes X No

Q6. Do you agree with the list of Strategic Directions?

Yes X No

If not, how would you reword them or what would you add?

Comments

Actions

Strategic Direction 1:

Q7. What are your views on the possible actions?

Agree education which should major on the visual and need to change design of products. Additional – replace all *polystyrene takeaway containers (these crumble/ break up with age so more ingestible) with degradables (egg carton type). Replace plastic straws with waxed paper and plastic *knives & *forks with wood. Plastic water & juice bottles eliminate *detachable caps. *Small/break up to small pieces – ingested.

Q8. Which do you believe is the most important possible action in helping to deliver

Education – focus on the effects litter has on marine life – visual images placed in bus shelters. The visual carries the clearest message – people do not read.

Education in Schools – parents are the key to this initiative. Unless they are on board continuing the program out of school, the real benefits expected will not be realised. Currently the major initiatives seem to be in primary schools – this is not good enough. Secondary schools, colleges and universities have to be included in the program. Following on from formal education – Community Councils and Tenants & Residents Associations should take up the mantle.

Councils need educating in road sweeping programs and bin sizes (seagull proof) & placement - **all in relation to footfall**; so much more important in vicinity of rivers and beaches.

Litter collects on the ledge of the sewer pipe through the town of Ayr. This is not cleaned due to the health & safety aspects of ladder access, consequently when river floods everything is washed out to sea.

Attention should be given to populated areas along all rivers.

Consider litter filters for weirs – close spaced tines projecting to a collecting crossway.

Q9. Can one or more of these possible actions be delivered under existing activities or do you think more action is needed under the Marine Litter Strategy?

More action is needed for both possibilities. Action has to be Scotland wide and not left to individual authorities to interpret.

Strategic Direction 2:

Q10. What are your views on the possible actions?

Agree with both.

Q11. Which do you believe is the most important possible action in helping to deliver the Marine Litter Strategy?

Expand Fishing for Litter initiative as it will contribute greatly to education programs.

Q12. Can one or more of these possible actions be delivered under existing activities or do you think more action is needed under the Marine Litter Strategy?

More action is needed preferably under option 3, due to the importance of driving this strategy forward to success.

Q13. Do you think any of the existing actions need to be improved? If so, please provide details.

Enforcement, improve free port facilities & education.

Strategic Direction 3:

Q14. What are your views on the possible actions?

I agree with both.

Q15. Which do you believe is the most important possible action in helping to deliver the Marine Litter Strategy?

Incentivise.

Q16. Can one or more of these possible actions be delivered under existing activities or do you think more action is needed under the Marine Litter Strategy?

More action is needed preferably under option 3, due to the importance of driving this strategy forward to success.

Q17. Do you think any of the existing actions need to be improved? If so, please provide details.

Produce waste as a resource. Recover & recycle nets.

Strategic Direction 4:

Q18. What are your views on the possible actions?

All organisations must be aligned so that all information is shared and research coordinated.

Q19. Which do you believe is the most important possible action in helping to deliver the Marine Litter Strategy?

Port reception & free recycling facilities.

Q20. Can one or more of these possible actions be delivered under existing activities or do you think more action is needed under the Marine Litter Strategy?

More action is needed preferably under option 3, due to the importance of driving this strategy forward to success.

Q21. Do you think any of the existing actions need to be improved? If so, please provide details.

Monitoring of small and microscopic plastic particles including polystyrene foam products which crumble with age.

Strategic Direction 5:

Q22. What are your views on the possible actions?

Without a steering group there will be insufficient momentum generated amongst the different organisations/agencies. I consider local communities should be engaged with at some point.

Q23. Which do you believe is the most important possible action in helping to deliver the Marine Litter Strategy?

Steering group.

Q24. Can one or more of these possible actions be delivered under existing activities or do you think more action is needed under the Marine Litter Strategy?

More action is needed preferably under option 3, due to the importance of driving this strategy forward to success.

Q25. Do you think any of the existing actions need to be improved? If so, please provide details.

Work with other countries to improve enforcement. Enforcement has to have teeth otherwise it will be a waste of resources.

Option for delivery

Q26. Do you think that Option 4 is the most appropriate mechanism for developing and improving policies under the Marine Litter Strategy?

Yes No

Any other views on the options outlined or other options not identified are also invited.

Option 3 is best. Yes more expensive but will be more successful. The Marine Strategy is so important that the matter can not be left to chance or targets missed as they have been with the Government target for 2013 – for waste reduction. “Don’t spoil the ship for a halfpenny’s worth of tar.”

Equalities

Q27. Are there any equalities issues that should be factored into the Equalities Impact Assessment for the Marine Litter Strategy?

Yes No

Poorer areas of population (higher density) are often neglected in litter clearing operations in relation to the more affluent areas (low density).

Clearing litter in relation to footfall would balance the equation reducing scattered litter which can find its way to rivers.

Marine vessels – ‘rich & poor’ – must be treated equally in relation to enforcement.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

Q28. Do you have any feedback on the findings of the Strategic Environmental Assessment?

Yes No

Comments

Partial Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment (BRIA)

Q29. Are there any particular issues that you wish to highlight with regard to the partial BRIA, and the potential impacts on the third sector, business and the economy?

Yes No

For every tourist who does not return to Scotland because of the litter and the mess on roads, towns and beaches – Scotland loses money.

Litter is a disincentive to inward investment – in spite of government incentives.

Litter creates a depressing environment – increasing illness, crime and anti social behaviour.

General

Q30. Are there other issues that have not been highlighted in this consultation that you would like to mention?

Yes No

Until all councils alter their policy of litter bin placement (currently based on ability to get transport right up to the bins) there will be nothing on the beaches for visitors to dispose of their rubbish. The public, in the short term until education takes hold, will continue to be lazy and leave the litter on the beach – this can be considerable in the more populous areas.

Size of bins and frequency of emptying in relation to footfall can not be emphasised strongly enough.

LITTER IS THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG – it wasn't the tip that sank the Titanic but the "mass" below the waterline. The "Mass" below the litter is ignorance, a throw away culture, irresponsibility and bad habits. Until attitudes change litter will continue to flow. In this respect **hard hitting visual education** (because people do not read) has to be the way forward or else Scotland will be sunk out of sight in litter.