



# **SOLENT FORUM UPDATE**

**Solent Forum Meeting  
15 March 2018**

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# Solent Forum Staff

- Peter Barham – Solent Forum Chair
- Karen McHugh – Solent Forum Manager
- Carolyn Francis – Solent Forum Officer (retiring Sept 18)
- Kate Ansell – Solent Forum Officer
- New Full-Time SFO from June 2018

# Member Services

## CORE

- Next Steering Group meeting will be on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018 in Winchester Horizon Planning
- The next Solent Forum meeting will be on 10 October 2018 on Southampton
- Solent News was sent out in August 2017, the next edition will be in January 2018.
- Monthly News Alerts includes an Solent analysis of applications for marine licences
- Student Mike Clark Bursary Awards –
  - 2018 Award launched
- Solent Information Database – up to date
- Marketing Strategy – Brochure, website, social media, letters, slips and cards

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# Sub-Groups

- **SEMS Secretariat** Carolyn Francis
  - Online monitoring underway 1<sup>st</sup> March – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018
  - Annual Management Group meeting 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018
  - New format for Annual Management Report – to be published Oct/Nov
  - Natural England condition assessments updated – to present at April NEG
  - Risk categories may be assigned to activities in 2018
  - SF Officer has regular telecoms with other EMS/NE Officers
  
- **Natural Environment Group** KMcHugh
  - Next meeting 25 April 2018.
  - No call for funding bids this year.
  - Littering in the Solent Project launched. PG meeting 28<sup>th</sup> March 18
  - Next meeting 21 November 2018. Discussions will take place on actions arising from SEMS monitoring and Solent condition assessments (if published). Theme: Water Quality
  
- **Water Quality Awards** Karen McHugh
  - 2018 awards announced.

# Associate Steering Group Members

Two new members

- RYA to represent Recreation Sector
- University of Portsmouth to represent Academic Sector

# Business Development

- **Marine Conservation Zones in Solent** – Tranche 3 delay to 2019
- **Coastal Communities Fund 2018** – Launched and bids to be in by April. Solent Forum to make 2 expressions of interest. 1/ BUDS and 2/ Littering in the Solent. Call for partners

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# Projects

- MMO Enhancing Stakeholder Engagement Project (2017 - 2019) Project worth approx 15k)
- Beneficial use of Dredgings in Solent (BUDS) – Phase 1 complete.
- Littering Project – part of NEG or Solent Forum – Start-up meeting 28<sup>th</sup> March

# MMO Enhancing Stakeholder Engagement Project (MMO ESEP)

- **Coastal Partnership Project: MMO, Solent Forum and others**
  - MMO lead
  - Each partner has own contract for engagement
  - Other CPs - Devon, Dorset, Thames, North West, Solway Firth & Durham
  - Successful funding bid for European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
- **Solent Forum Engagement 2017 – 2019 Contract £15,475** outside VAT
  - Objective: to engage more with stakeholders, more effectively to strengthen marine plans and their implementation and monitoring
  - Allow development of enhanced communication plans, especially to access hard to reach stakeholders
  - Detail tools and activities to id opportunities to raise awareness
  - Enable MMO to expand its reach adding value to marine plans
  - Kate Ansell SFO Officer to manage
- **Coastal Partnerships to hold a wide range of workshops**
  - To secure the comprehensive engagement required [www.solentforum.org](http://www.solentforum.org)





# MMO Enhancing Stakeholder Engagement Project (MMO ESEP)

## ○ Timetable

- Start-up meeting November 2017
- Stakeholder ID (3 days) November 2017
- Communications and Engagement Plan 17/18 March 2018
- Stakeholder Engagement **Workshop 1** (7days) Summer 2018
- Communications and Engagement Plan 18/19 September 2018
- Stakeholder Engagement **Workshop 2** (7days) March 2019
- Communications and Engagement Plan 19/20 May 2019
- Stakeholder Engagement **Workshop 3** (7days) August 2019

## ○ Workshop Detail

- Pre-workshop telecom briefings with MMO
- Solent Forum to promote workshops
- Solent Forum to organise and run workshops, with MMO help to facilitate
- Solent Forum and MMO co-chair workshops
- Solent Forum to take workshops notes and produce full written record of workshops

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# BUDS Project

'Bring about beneficial use of dredging within one or more Solent sites, using an incrementally phased approach to scope and cost sediment sourcing and sediment receiver sites, building a system of protocols and guidance **FOUR PHASES – funding for phase 1**

1. Project scoping and partnership building – Solent Forum managed. Work by ABPmer has begun

2. Working with stakeholders to develop further phases of work and to develop strategic guidance and protocols – Solent Forum managed

3. Feasibility Study and detailed cost Benefit Analysis – SCG involvement

4. Beneficial use project

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# Coastal Communities Fund Potential Project

**Projects by 20/21 for bids of £50k or more. Two rounds – Early round for revenue projects and main round. Aim: Economic development of coastal towns by increasing and safeguarding jobs.**

1. Must prove outcomes and spend all money
2. Must be legally constituted
3. Must work with Coastal Community Teams and LEPS
4. Expression of interest early round by 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Main round 30<sup>th</sup> April

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# Key Reports Released

- **Defra 25 Year Plan**

- headlines relating to coast and marine -

**Generally well received as joined-up and ambitious**

- New independent environment body
- Emphasis on partnership working especially private sector
- Natural capital ecosystem approach
- Flood & erosion strtg, emphasis on resilience, not bldg in flood zones
- Catchment approach
- Biodiversity net gain in planning
- Sustainable water abstraction
- Reducing plastics
- Pioneer projects
- Improving marine ecology

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# Key Reports Released

- **RSPB Sustainable Shores**
  - Update on Seas of Change work 10 years ago
  - Opportunity mapping for MR sites. 7500 Ha in South East, 2<sup>nd</sup> to E Anglia
  - Many sites in Solent
  - Intertidal habitats lost at alarming rate. Need to do much more
  - Through SMPS, National adaptation progs
  - Need strong post brexit design and protection, more partnership wking
  - More Beneficial Use Dredgings
- **Future of the Sea – Marine Biodiversity by Govt Office Science (Foresight)**
  - Unprecedented pressure on biodiversity and ecosystem functioning
  - Key stresses: Ocean warming, sea level rise, plastic pollution, alien species, over exploitation, habitat destruction, and ocean acidification.
  - Biodiversity: globally 49% decline in populations
  - Analyses good and services from ecosystems
  - Need secondary legislation after brexit. MPA management, continued post brexit protection

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# Working with other Coastal Partnerships

- **Catchment & Coastal partnership workshop on estuaries and coast 6<sup>th</sup> March**
  - Carolyn attended
  - Working with catchment partnerships
  - Focus on water quality
  - Solent Forum part of Seaview,
  - Solent Forum delivering Litter Project
- **CPN Coastal Challenge Summit 24<sup>th</sup> April**
  - Working with LGA and Coastal SIG
  - Bring together CPs and Coastal Community Teams + LEPS
  - Build opportunities for collaboration
- **CPN Annual Meeting**                      **TBA**
- **EMS Working Group**                      **On-going**