

Attendees

Ed Vidler (EV)	Independent Chair
Daisy May (DM)	MMO
Paul Trebilcock (PT)	CFPO
Karen Pringle (KP)	SWFPO
Jim Portus (JP)	SWFPO
Sean McSeveney	Plymouth City Council
Theresa Redding (TR)	Natural England
Craig Maw (CM)	National Federation of Fish Friers
Clive Palfrey (CP)	Seafood Cornwall Training
Beshlie Pool (BP)	South Devon & Channel Shell Fishermen
Hazel Curtis (HC)	Seafish
Gus Caslake (GC)	Seafish
Kimberly Cullen (KC)	Seafish/Seafood 2040
Phillip Quirie (PQ) (Minutes)	Seafish

1. Welcome and apologies

EV welcomed everyone to the meeting and conducted round-table introductions. Apologies were received from: Andy Matchett, Nathan de Rozarieux, Dave Cuthbert, Sarah Clark, and Andy Pillar.

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 1st November 2018

EV ran through the minutes of the last meeting page-by-page, welcoming any comments or discrepancies. The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting. GC then ran through the actions, all of which were completed.

ACTION 01: Seafish to upload agreed minutes to the SSWAC section of the Seafish website.

3. Seafish News

HC introduced herself as the Interim Director of Corporate Relations, and outlined some of the key Seafish output over the past months:

- *Preparing your business for EU exit* – an online 'live' document, updated as new information becomes available: <https://www.seafish.org/article/preparing-your-business-for-eu-exit>
- Scottish Seafood Summit took place in Aberdeen 26-27 March, themed around the EU exit. Registration is now open for the next summit in Humberside in October 2019.
- UK scallop management conference held in February.
- Seafish published the Rules of Origin and EU/UK Free Trade Agreements guidance note on website, available here: <https://issuu.com/seafishuk/docs/4945?e=35799057/66381152>
- National Fish & Chip Awards were held in January – a high-profile event serving the iconic sector of UK foodservice, and attracting significant sponsorship, making it a levy-neutral event.
- Seafood Week 2018 witnessed good engagement figures, as the campaign continues to grow – increased retailer, foodservice, and wholesaler involvement.
- Seafish are sponsoring the Young Seafood Chef of the Year 2019 award, which is run by Grimsby Institute.
- Seafish have launched a Young Seafood Leaders Network (YSLN), which aims to attract young hopeful leaders to develop the seafood industry and share cross-sector knowledge.
- Responsible Fishing Scheme (RFS) is developing version 2 which includes a full transition to Global Seafood Assurances (GSA) by May 2020. Seafish has resources in place to smooth the transition.
- Responsible Fishing Ports Scheme now being developed for smaller ports.

- Seafish are establishing a Seafood Expert Panel, giving Seafish and wider industry access to specific expertise, with the aim of filling any knowledge gaps.
- Seafish Trade & Tariff Tool – a self-service Tableau tool enabling seafood businesses to access UK trade and tariff data at product and country level. The tool is based on the HMRC data set, and HC demonstrated the tool and the variety of search filters. The data will be updated either quarterly or bi-annually, and the tool is embedded in to the Seafish website:

<https://www.seafish.org/article/trade-tariff-tool-in-tableau>

ACTION 02: Seafish to circulate link to *Preparing your business for EU exit* on Seafish website.

A brief discussion then took place about the Rules of Origin work and possible post-Brexit certification requirements. This is an area Seafish are currently looking at, and can report back with further information after the meeting.

ACTION 03: Seafish to establish certification requirements and responsibilities for numerous export scenarios in a no deal exit from the EU, and report back to Committee.

A short discussion also took place about marketing and promoting seafood in the South West, and it was felt that a greater Seafish presence at regional events and festivals would be beneficial.

ACTION 04: Seafish to investigate consumer festival and event opportunities in the South West for 2019.

HC then ended the agenda item by announcing the retirement of Malcolm Large as Head of International Trade and Regions, with Seafish Northern Ireland Manager, Lynn Gilmore, promoted to the role. Lynn's replacement in Northern Ireland is Dr Annika Clements. Director of HR, Linsey Neill, has now returned from maternity leave.

4. Seafish South West update & work going forward

GC gave an overview of Seafish work carried out over the past twelve months in the South West of England:

Promoting consumption:

- Consumer engagement at seafood events and festivals (Fishstock, Brixham, and Dorset Seafood Festival);
- Hosted chefs from The Salt Room in Brighton, the 2017 winners of Seafood Restaurant of the Year;
- Presentation, interviews, and subsequent visit to Idle Rocks Hotel in St Mawes, the 2018 winners of Seafood Restaurant of the Year;
- Provided advice and support to BBC on a documentary focusing on Cornish sardine fishery.

Training:

- Delivered presentations and PFD training to new entrants fishermen's courses for Western Training and Seafood Cornwall training;
- Vessel safety survey carried out on behalf of Whitby Training School for new entrant fishermen in Padstow;
- Provided technical assistance to Blue Marine to assist Lyme Bay reserve fishermen on improving fish quality – possible delivery of training and temperature monitoring to be delivered in harbours.

Projects:

- South West Fishing Safety Forum established, with excellent participation and feedback from industry;

- FSP sprat acoustic survey – undertaken in October in Torbay, and links in with Cefas endeavour survey. Submitted a follow-up FSP application on behalf of industry for 2019;
- Fishing for litter – funding proposal submitted to Morrisons, engaged with KIMO and Seafood Cornwall Training to discuss requirement for increased participation by SW vessels;
- Engaged with Torbay Cleaner Coast and local gear makers to look at opportunities to recycle end of life fishing gear – pilot project to be developed in 2019;
- Actions lead on Fisheries Improvement Plans (FIPs) for SW monkfish and crab, and technical assistance on all four FIPs (monkfish, scallop, crab, and lobster).

Seafish Ambassador in the SW:

- Technical assistance to both FLAGs in Cornwall & Dorset, and East Devon;
- Waitrose visit to Newlyn – harbour visit and trip to sea on a ring net vessel;
- Market visits for seafood businesses looking to source fish from the area;
- Generic fisheries and seafood advice from internal and external stakeholders;
- Support for safety officer application through the Cornish FLAG and upcoming PFD-PLB roll-out in Cornwall;
- Support Cefas/DEFRA engagement with industry on bycatch, and present at a cetacean bycatch workshop;
- Responsible Fishing Ports Scheme – facilitated a visit to a range of SW ports for assessors looking to develop a small ports standard;
- Established and facilitated inaugural meeting of a Seafish South & South West group to assist co-ordinate Seafish work in the South of England and Wales;
- Facilitated MSC visits to Brixham and Newlyn, including market visits and sea trips.

CSMA Chairship:

- Hosted discussions on setting catch limits for sardines and setting an appropriate harvest control strategy to maintain MSC certification;
- Revamped website as a result of successful application to EMFF
- Cefas – managed the ongoing work on the Fisheries Science Project (FSP) for sprat and sardine, and the design and monitoring of a self-sampling and catch reporting scheme;
- Instigated one of the first random Observer programs with the Sea Mammal Research Unit (SMRU) to collect information on cetacean bycatch in the sardine ring net fishery;
- Implemented a voluntary responsive effort control in a non-TAC fishery through individual vessel catch limits;
- Monitored and reviewed sardine catches against agreed catch limits for each vessel – monthly updates sent to members;
- Trialled acoustic hydrophones to monitor cetacean activity around ring netters whilst undertaking fishing operations;
- BBC and Fishing News interviews on the Cornish sardine industry;
- Facilitated letter to the Fisheries Minister on fishery access, on behalf of CSMA;
- Helped the Cornish sardine fishery retain MSC certification, making it the only accredited sardine fishery in Europe.

GC confirmed the budget for 2019-20 will not be reduced, before outlining ongoing work in the South West by the five challenges set out in the Seafish Corporate Plan for 2018-21:

Challenge 1: Changing Landscape

- Facilitate the Seafish SW England Advisory Committee, maintaining close relations with key stakeholders in the area;

- Work with industry and internal colleagues to address and inform on issues prevalent to the South West;
- Generic fisheries and seafood enquiry logging on the CRM.

Challenge 2: Enjoy Seafood

- Support seafood events in the SW, including Dorset Seafood Festival, Paignton, and Plymouth;
- Development of SW resources under new Seafish branding for events and festivals;
- Seafood Week events in the SW (4-11 Oct);
- Facilitation of trade and promotional visits to the area;
- Engagement with seafood ambassadors in the area.

Challenge 3: Safe & Skilled

- Chair the SW Fishing Industry Safety Forum and assist with the development of a forum website portal for SW fishermen;
- Assist with the delivery of PFDs and PLBs to SW fishermen;
- Support new entrants courses for South West Approved Training Providers;
- Basic gear technology training delivered as required;
- Delivery of technical gear workshops at Hirtshall's flume tank;
- Technical support and training for small vessels on fish quality and monitoring.

Challenge 4: Good Source & Supply

- Technical assistance on all four FIPs in the South West for monkfish, scallop, crab, and lobster;
- Support for Cornish Sardine Management Association as Chair and manage MSC certification;
- Ongoing technical assistance and support to both FLAGs in Cornwall & Dorset and East Devon.

Challenge 5: Deep Insight

- Pilot project for recycling end-of-life fishing gear;
- Ongoing FSP and support work on sardine and sprat stock assessments and continuation of catch monitoring;
- Provide support and facilitation for Lyme Bay sprat fishery through Cefas fisheries science project, improving stock information and quota management;
- Work with industry and science to address cetacean bycatch issues in the SW;
- Assist industry response to emerging issues through provision of expert knowledge of the SW seafood industry.

A short discussion about recycling end-of-life fishing gear then developed, and it was suggested that it becomes an area of focus for future Seafish work in the South West, should GC's intended pilot project demonstrate feasibility and value. EV reminded the group that GC will circulate the project requests for scoring shortly after the meeting.

ACTION 05: Seafish to collate SSWAC project requests and circulate for scoring.

5. Seafood 2040

KC introduced herself as Seafood 2040 Project Manager, and briefly explained that Seafood 2040 is a strategic framework with a vision and action plan, designed to double seafood consumption in England by the year 2040. Seafish facilitates the strategy, with KC's role funded by EMFF on a two year contract

KC described how a thriving seafood industry in England will look in 2040:

1. Seafood consumption has doubled.

2. Wild catch fisheries are verifiably sustainable and flourishing.
3. Significant growth has occurred in the aquaculture sector.
4. Business growth is enabled by infrastructure improvements.
5. Opportunities for exports have increased.
6. Access to international markets for responsibly sourced raw materials has been assured.

KC continued, explaining the governance and structure of the project. The industry task force assembled to devise the strategy developed 25 recommendations, which form the basis of the strategy. KC gave an overview of some of the recommendations and some of the work carried out thus far.

KC invited comments, questions, and suggestions, which led to a discussion. It was suggested such a strong focus on aquaculture may lead to alienation of coastal catching communities, but it was agreed the document should be circulated to allow individuals to fully read, understand, and consider the recommendations, at which point they will be better placed to provide any relevant input.

ACTION 06: Seafish to circulate Seafood 2040 digitally to members.

The Seafood 2040 document can be viewed or downloaded from the Seafish website here:

https://www.seafish.org/media/publications/SEAFOOD_2040_lo_singlep.pdf

6. Introductions from Sean McSeveney and Clive Palfrey

SM introduced himself and described his marine and fishing background, having been in the Navy before skippering a fishing vessel. He is now the Fishing Industry Development Manager for Plymouth City Council, with the remit of growing the fishing industry in Plymouth. He explained his immediate areas of focus are:

- Labour, training, skills, recruitment (targeting school leavers and ex-servicemen as potential new entrants to the industry);
- Maximising RFS and RFPS certification;
- Plymouth seafood festival.

CP introduced himself as the new Sea Safety Advisor for Seafood Cornwall Training. CP was a vessel owner and skipper before he swapped it for an onshore job selling commercial fishing equipment. CP explained his intention to adopt a front-line approach to safety awareness, offering on-board guidance and advice. He will offer the following industry assistance:

- Sea safety drills and risk assessments;
- On-board safety advice and guidance;
- Health and wellbeing advice;
- Booking relevant safety training courses;
- Involvement in the roll-out of the Plymouth lifejacket project;

7. Any other business

EV asked for any other business. Nothing was raised.

8. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be arranged in six months, with the date and location to be circulated once confirmed.

ACTION 07: Seafish to arrange next meeting in approximately 6 months.

Action Summary	Assigned to	Timeframe
01: Seafish to upload agreed minutes to the SSWAC section of the Seafish website.	PQ	01.06.2019
02: Seafish to circulate link to <i>Preparing Your Business for EU Exit</i> guide on Seafish website.	PQ	01.06.2019
03: Seafish to establish certification requirements and responsibilities for numerous export scenarios in a no deal exit from the EU, and report back to Committee.	GC & Ivan Bartolo	01.06.2019
04: Seafish to investigate consumer festival and event opportunities in the South West for 2019.	GC & Nikki Hawkins	01.07.2019
05: Seafish to collate SSWAC project requests and circulate for scoring.	GC	01.07.2019
06: Seafish to circulate Seafood 2040 digitally to members.	GC	01.06.2019
07: Seafish to arrange next meeting in approximately 6 months.	GC	Next meeting

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