



SUSSEX MARINE AND COASTAL FORUM

Sustaining and enhancing the marine & coastal environment for the community

Terms of Reference of the Sussex Marine and Coastal Forum

Aim

The aim of the Sussex Coastal and Marine Forum is to promote a sustainable approach to the management, use and development of the Sussex Coast and Marine Areas, including Estuaries, to ensure that its inherent natural and cultural qualities are maintained and enhanced for the benefit of future generations.

Objectives

The forum will use communication via its member organisations and professional networks to:

- Focus on the conservation and enhancement of the marine and coastal environment
- Contribute to the development of national, regional and local coastal policies and provide input in furtherance of achieving its aim;
- Raise awareness and understanding of the human and natural changes likely to materially affect the Sussex coast and marine environment;
- Facilitate more integrated planning and management of the Sussex coast and marine environment; and
- Use its influence to implement local coastal designations as an integral part of its overall aim.
- Support coastal and marine protected areas, including Marine Conservation Zones, European Marine Sites, Sites of Special Scientific Importance, Sites of Nature Conservation Importance, the Brighton & Hove Biosphere and the Heritage Coast.

Ways of Working

The forum will:

- Provide an open a broadly based consultative forum;
- Develop joint group projects;
- Encourage co-operation and dialogue between the different interests and users of the Sussex marine and coastal waters; and
- Direct and encourage the gathering, necessary research and dissemination of knowledge in relation to the physical processes, natural environment and human use of the Sussex coastal zone.

Meetings

The forum will meet four times a year, once a quarter with the date of the next meeting to be confirmed at the end of each meeting.

Membership

Membership to the group will be at the agreement of the forum.

At least one member of the forum must be a member of the local LNP and able to liaise between the groups.

Chair

Each meeting will be led by a rolling chair. At the fourth meeting of each year a member organisation will be assigned and it is the responsibility of this organisation to nominate a chairperson for each meeting.



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The Secretariat

The secretariat will request agenda items and organise each meeting. The Secretariat will take minutes at each meeting and circulate these before the next meeting.

September 2014

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