

# MARINE PLANNING

## Applying the UK Tradition of Discretionary Planning to the Seas

*This is a brief summary of the presentation given at the AMURE symposium on 'MSP in the Context of Integrated Maritime Policy' on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at the European University Institute of the Sea (IUEM), Brest.*

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- ❑ MSP practice is diversifying in practice, reflecting wider spatial planning traditions
- ❑ British tradition of discretionary planning: Planning applications determined in accordance with the statutory plan for the area unless material considerations indicate otherwise
- ❑ More flexible system, with more 'organic' physical outcomes
- ❑ Reflected in the UK approach to MSP

- ❑ UK development of MSP
- ❑ Landmark legislation: 2009, 2012
- ❑ UK-wide, high-level Marine Policy Statement
- ❑ Plan-making devolved to four jurisdictions
- ❑ England has completed East inshore and offshore plans
- ❑ Comprehensive range of policy sectors

- Highly participatory, through consultation
- Overall vision for the plans
- Objectives-led
- Policy statements to achieve objectives
- Policies supported by information, including maps, and justification
- No spatial allocation for different uses (in contrast to MSP in some other contexts)
- Plans act as a guide for licensing etc decisions, in line with wider discretionary approach