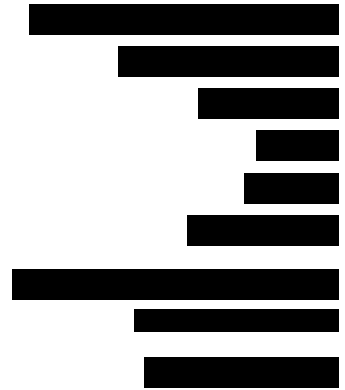




Marine
Management
Organisation



Test Valley Borough Council
Beech Hurst
Weyhill Road
Andover
SP10 3AJ

11/03/2022

Dear the Test Valley Planning Team,

This is the MMO Marine Planning and Marine Licensing response to your Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 Stage 1 Public Consultation.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on your Local Plan at the Regulation 18 stage.

As the marine planning authority for England, the MMO is responsible for preparing marine plans for English inshore and offshore waters. At its landward extent the Marine Plan boundaries extend up to the level of the mean high water spring tides mark (which includes the tidal extent of any rivers), there will be an overlap with terrestrial plans which generally extend to the mean low water springs mark.

Marine plans will inform and guide decision makers on development in marine and coastal areas. Planning documents for areas with a coastal influence may wish to make reference to the MMO's licensing requirements and any relevant marine plans to ensure the necessary considerations are included. In the case of the document stated above, the [South Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan](#) is of relevance. The South Marine Plan covers the area from the river Dart in Devon to Folkestone in Kent, including the tidal extent of any rivers within this area.

All public authorities taking authorisation or enforcement decisions that affect or might affect the UK marine area must do so in accordance with the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and any relevant adopted Marine Plan, in this case the [South Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan](#), and the [UK Marine Policy Statement](#) (MPS) unless relevant considerations indicate otherwise. Local authorities may also wish to refer to our [Online](#)



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE | Bronze

[Guidance](#), [Explore Marine Plans](#) and the [Planning Advisory Service soundness self-assessment checklist](#).

There are a multitude of policies within the South Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan and Technical Annex. We would suggest your own interpretation of the South Marine Plan is completed, however some potentially relevant policies include: climate change, biodiversity, co-existence, employment, infrastructure, renewables, tourism and recreation, access, water quality.

Marine Licensing

The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 states that a marine licence is required for certain activities carried out within the [UK marine area](#).

The MMO is responsible for marine licensing in English waters and for Northern Ireland offshore waters.

The marine licensing team are responsible for consenting and regulating any activity that occurs “below mean high water springs” level that would require a marine licence. These activities can range from mooring private jetties to nuclear power plants and offshore windfarms.

Further points to note

You do not refer to the MMO and the Marine Policy Statement. We would also recommend you mention the [South Marine Plan](#). Under the Marine and Coastal Access Act, any authorisation or enforcement decisions must be made in accordance with the marine plan. Any other decisions which may impact the marine area must have regard to the marine plan.

If you believe you may have the need for Marine Licences, please ensure that the coastal concordat is mentioned here. The [Coastal Concordat](#), requires each council to be signed up by 2021. This is mentioned in the [25 Year Environment Plan](#):

“The government’s 25 Year Environment Plan includes a commitment for all local authorities with a coastal interest in England to be signed up to the coastal concordat by 2021. The concordat will be periodically reviewed, as was done in 2018 and 2019 to monitor the progress of this commitment.”

Page 77: You refer to ‘the coast’ and ‘Shoreline Management Plans’, We would also recommend you mention the [South Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan](#) here, showing regard to the marine plans. You could also mention this under the ‘Environment’ section.

The [South East Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan](#), and the [South West Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan](#) were both adopted in 2021, which cover the adjacent areas. Please ensure correct reference to the South East, South, and South West marine plan areas where included.

I believe your council did not attend a South Marine Plan Implementation Training session in February/March 2021. This provided an introduction to marine planning, and I would suggest re-visiting the material in our recorded [webinar](#). Please let me know if you have any questions regarding implementation of the marine plan.

As previously stated, these are recommendations and we suggest that your own interpretation of the South Marine Plans is completed. We would also recommend you consult the following references for further information:
[South Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan](#) and [Explore Marine Plans](#).

Yours sincerely,



Lauren James
Marine Planning Officer (South)

Telephone: 

Mobile: 