

# Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs) – Defra's role



Presentation to Eastern IFCA Committee

11 October 2010

**Colette Clarke**

# Defra – what do we do?

- Defra is the UK government department responsible for policy and regulations on the environment, food and rural affairs
- This includes policy and regulations for the marine environment



# Defra – vision for marine environment

- Government's vision for marine environment - **“Clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas”**
- Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 aims to help deliver this by putting in place better systems for delivering sustainable development of marine and coastal environment
- **IFCAs have a key role:** modernising management and regulation of inshore fisheries and helping ensure that the Act's conservation measures are implemented effectively



# What is Defra's role in relation to IFCAs?

- Wider policy, e.g., marine nature conservation and marine protected areas, marine planning, inshore issues: shellfish, sustainable access to inshore fisheries
- Implementation – sorting out the logistics:
  - Working in partnership with CFOs
  - Drafting secondary legislation
  - Funding
- Guidance
- Assessment
- Ongoing policy overview

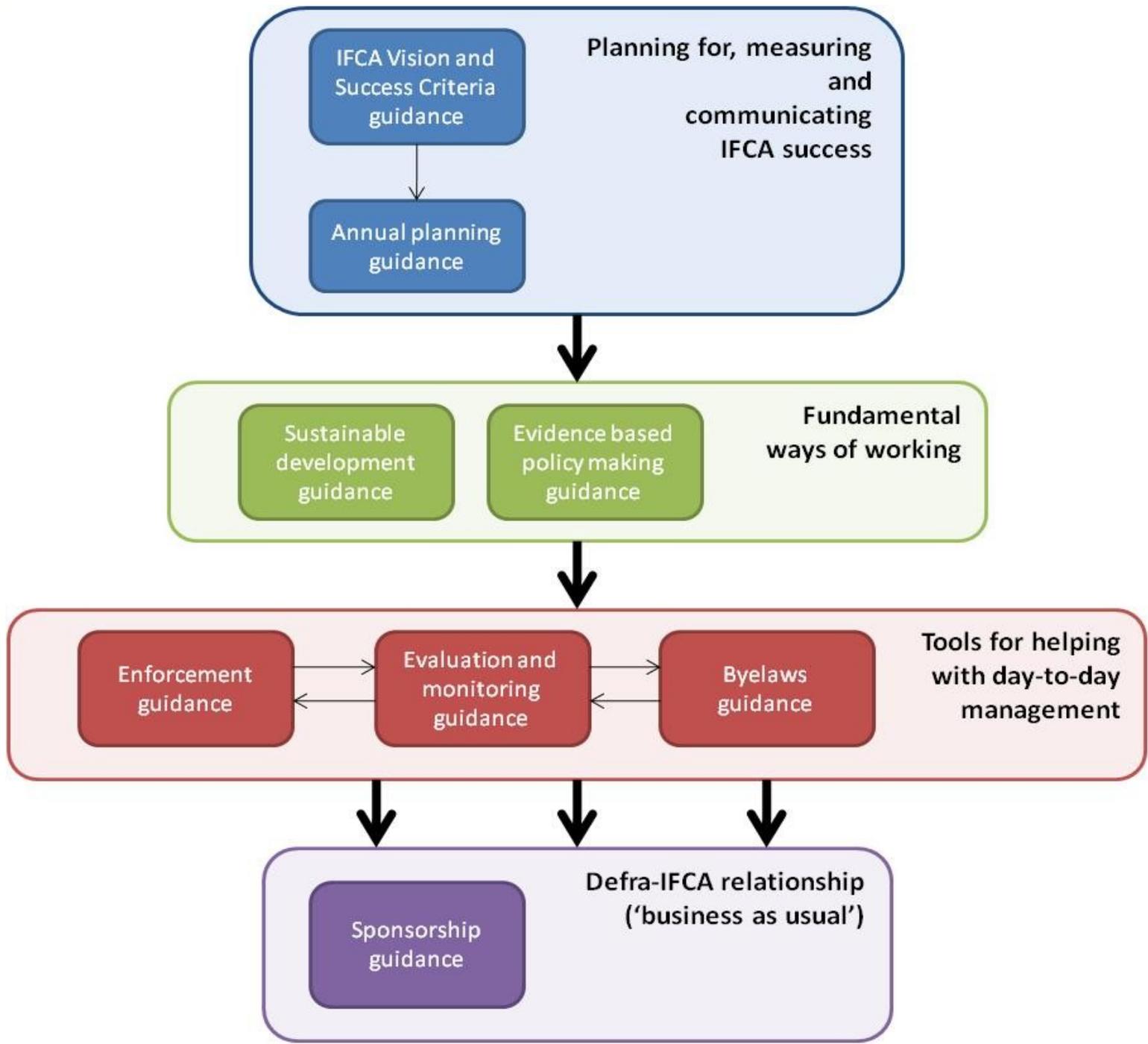


# Guidance to IFCAs

- Guidance on:
  - applying best practice in your work
  - how we expect you to meet your new duties



Getting your views on this guidance  
towards the end of this month





## IFCA vision

“Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities will lead, champion and manage a sustainable marine environment and inshore fisheries, by successfully securing the right balance between social, environmental and economic benefits to ensure healthy seas, sustainable fisheries and a viable industry.”

- Success criteria and high level objectives:
  - Help you focus on what's important
  - Help you prioritise
  - Help you achieve your vision
- Now developing performance indicators to help you measure how well you are doing against these objectives



- Required to publish **annual plans and reports**: more publicly accountable
- Secretary of State has **4-yearly review** of IFCA performance



# Next steps for us and you

- Getting your views on our guidance to IFCAAs (Nov-Dec)
- Finalising Transitional Funding Scheme
- Distributing new burdens funding - depending on outcomes of current Spending Review (by Dec-Jan)
- Helping you and your Chief Fisheries Officer with annual and financial planning (by Jan)
- Organising training on new duties for IFCA staff (Jan-March)
- Completing legal framework for IFCAAs (by March)

# Further information

- Website:

[www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/fisheries/wwo/ifca](http://www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/fisheries/wwo/ifca)

- Email:

[IFCA.contact@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:IFCA.contact@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

# Questions

- Any questions?



defra  
Department for Environment  
Food and Rural Affairs

