

Eleventh Month Progress Report FY 2025/2026

Officers’ Recommendation

That Members note the content of the Eleventh Month Progress Report (Agenda Item 8 – Annex A).

Background

An Annual Report must be produced as a requirement of S.178 Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (MaCAA). The Eleventh Month Progress Report (**Annex A**) will help to inform the completion of the Annual Report for Financial Year (FY) 2025/2026 that will be sent later this year to Defra. The Eleventh Month Progress Report will also help Members determine the content of the Annual Plan for FY 2026/2027, that Officers will finalise after the Authority meeting, held on 19th March 2026.

Context for Reporting

The Annual Plan for FY 2025/26 included 50 listed tasks, and these tasks were sometimes broken down into smaller elements of the larger workstreams. Some tasks were new, some carried forward from previous years, and some are repetitive “business as usual” tasks undertaken every year. Every task is related to national IFCA Success Criteria.

Tasks (or sub-tasks) set out in the Annual Plan for FY 2025/2026 were considered to be achievable for completion within twelve months. Therefore, compared to the required actions set out in the Annual Plan, the status of each task (or sub task) in terms of delivering on the intended outcomes, can only be either complete or incomplete.

This is also true at the eleventh month stage, however some tasks (or sub tasks) marked as incomplete in the Eleventh Month Progress Report may be finalised by 31st March 2026, and this will be reflected in the final Annual Report that will be published and sent to Defra.

Reporting Methods

Officers have acknowledged past feedback from Members who requested a clear use of signalling regarding the status of tasks, and to provide explanations of why some tasks have not been achieved as originally anticipated. The Eleventh Month Progress Report includes symbols and text sections, with the tasks numbered and set out as they are within the Annual Plan for FY 2025/2026, with each placed in a section relevant to the national IFCA Success Criteria.

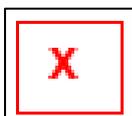
Key:



Repeating Task (Business as Usual)



Completed tasks, or sub-tasks forming part of larger workstreams, are indicated with a green tick.



Incomplete tasks, or sub-tasks forming parts of larger workstreams, are indicated with a red cross.

Summary

Of the 50 workstreams many were repeating tasks “Business as Usual” that are undertaken every year. Some of these incomplete tasks are expected to be complete by 31st March 2026. The completion of some workstreams, or sub-tasks, is not within the control of the Authority or its Officers.

Reporting on Additional Work

Every year Officers and Members undertake work that may not have been set out in the Annual Plan, but was important to undertake for a range of reasons. The Eleventh Month Progress Report includes a summary of additional work that was undertaken. Additional work that has begun, but may not be complete, can also inform the Annual Plan for FY 2026/2027, with some work taken forward, remaining as a Key Task.

The Final Annual Report FY 2024/2025

Officers continue to recognise that the finalised Annual Report is an opportunity each year to showcase the achievements of the Authority.



The Final Annual Report FY 2024/2025 was sent to Defra in October 2025.

D&S IFCA highlighted completion of the Annual Report in a news item, shared with AIFCA.

It is envisaged that the finalised Annual Report FY 2025/2026 for submission to Defra will be created in the same format as the Annual Report FY 2024/2025.

Publicising Annual Reports and Annual Plans

The D&S IFCA’s website includes a display page - [ANNUAL BUSINESS PLANS & REPORTS](#). This page sets out information about the requirements for the Authority to produce both an Annual Plan and Annual Report each year, and provides links to Annual Plans and Reports so they can easily be viewed and downloaded.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers

- Authority meeting minutes ([Section B - D&S IFCA Website Resource Library](#))
- [D&S IFCA Annual Plan 2025 - 26](#) (that includes national success criteria)
- [The Final Annual Report FY 2024/2025](#)