
Shoreline Management Plan Refresh

SMP Forum Pre-meeting briefing

Welcome

The SMP Refresh Project is now underway and we are now about to hold a series of ‘SMP Forum’ meetings for each individual SMP.

So far, our SMP Refresh project team have been focusing on gathering and reviewing the national-scale information that is potentially relevant to all SMPs.

To date, we have mainly been channelling our communications (questionnaires, focus group suggestions, action plan requests, etc) to you via the Coastal Group Network, but we are now looking forward to working with you more directly. This will ensure the SMP Refresh is shaped by local experiences on the ground, so that the resulting outputs are as useful to you as possible.

What is the SMP Refresh?

The SMP-R Project, is being led by the Environment Agency undertaken by Jacobs and RHDHV on behalf of Coastal Groups. It will provide the following:

1. A review of what has changed since SMP2 (new legislation, climate change predictions, planning guidance etc) and how that might be accounted for in SMPs going forward.
2. Look specifically at where any of the above might need to be considered in your SMP.
3. Supplementary guidance for helping to manage the implementation of SMP policies, including a consistent template for SMP action plans.
4. Develop a prototype map based data and information web platform, which will both signpost and host (where appropriate) SMPs and coastal data (undertaken by Swirrl on behalf of the EA/CGN)

This is not SMP3 and it will not update SMP action plans, change policies, short cut the SMP policy change process or take away any local ownership or decisions on SMPs.

Why are we doing this now?

- There are 20 SMP2s covering England, mostly developed between 2006-2012. The 2005 DEFRA SMP guidance suggested some form of review at least every 5 years.
- The SMP2's are not 'wrong' or 'poor'; they are very good documents outlining the 'most appropriate thing' to do at the shoreline, steering investment and supporting decisions.
- But various new information/strategies have emerged since SMP2s were completed. The need for the refresh is to ensure that any implications of new legislation, knowledge and information since they were developed is being taken into account.
- So, this is simply a 'refresh' rather than a full review/rewrite.
- Ultimately, the SMP Refresh is here to help coastal groups and those involved in updating SMP action plans and managing the coast.
- The Environment Agency supported by Coastal Group Chairs felt that a 'do once, use many times' approach of refreshing all 20 SMPs would save time and money for each coastal group and SMP groups.

A national project but locally steered:

An important part of the SMP Refresh is to look at each SMP to establish if new information and legislation etc have any implications for your particular area.

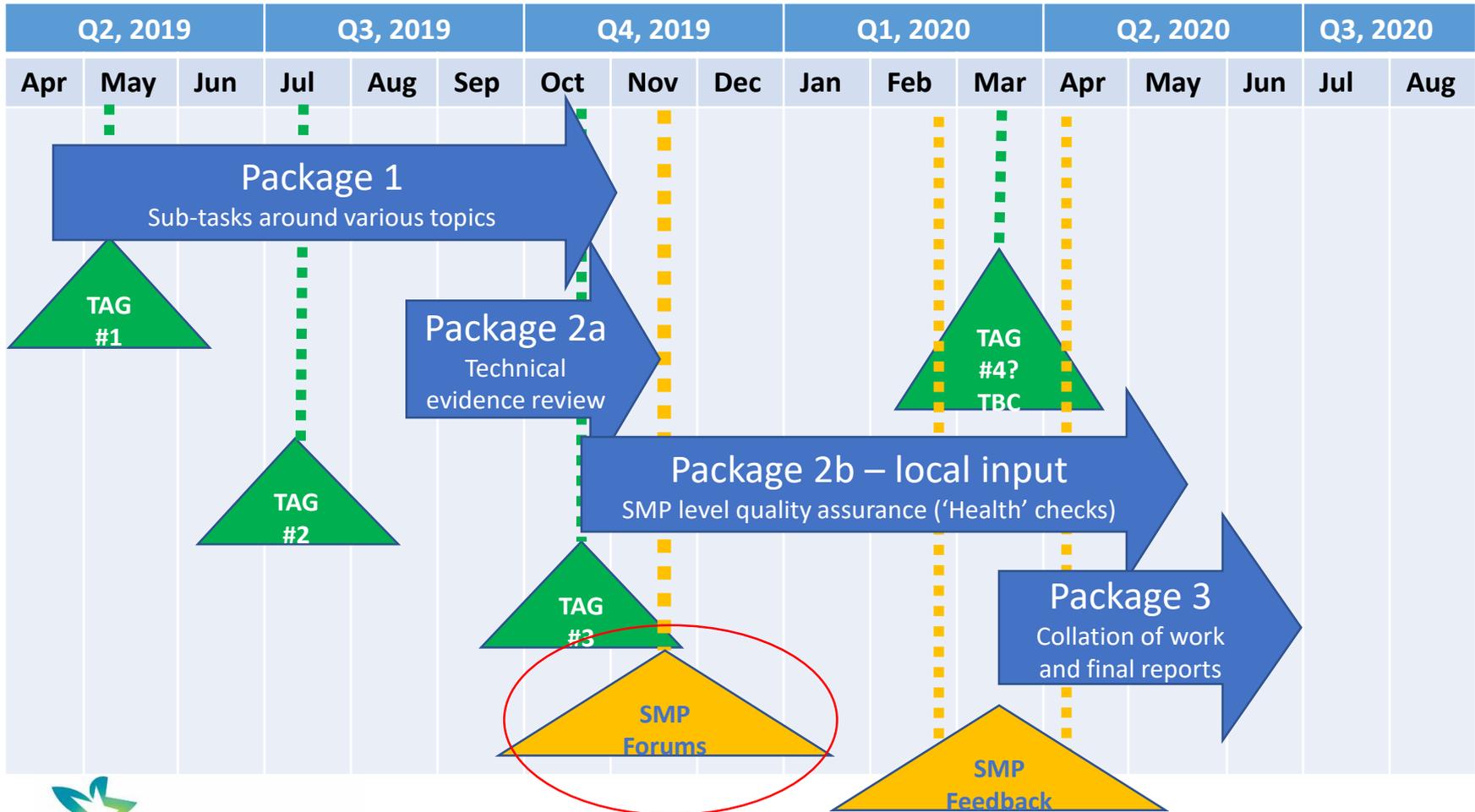
The SMP forum meeting will be an opportunity to discuss work undertaken to date on the SMP-Refresh, **but primarily to gather your knowledge and local experiences to inform the SMP health-check.**

This will help the SMP Refresh team to subsequently carry out their assessments and feedback their findings to each Coastal Group and SMP groups.

It is also a chance to identify any further persons or organisations to engage in the process.

The outputs from the forums will be provided in a report for your review and comment, during the early part of 2020.

Programme



SMP Refresh Forums

An outline agenda for the day is as follows:

1. Welcome and introduction to the SMP Refresh, and purpose of the day (Coastal Group chair or local SMP lead)
2. Overview of the SMP Refresh activities being undertaken (Jacobs/RHDHV)
3. Discussion on your Shoreline Management Plan, hearing how you are using it, what you are getting from it
4. 'Virtual walk' around your coast to hear more about specific places and matters relating to delivering shoreline management here

Shoreline Management Plan Refresh

If you have any questions or need further information before your SMP forum meeting, please contact the project team:

SMPR@jacobs.com

We look forward to seeing you and hearing about your SMP and coast