

Responsibilities

| Organisational Roles and Responsibilities | Relevant legislation or policy | Existing Management |
|---|--|--|
| Act as UK government's statutory adviser and a statutory consultee on all aspects of the historic environment and its heritage assets, including under seas archaeology | National Heritage Act 1983 | |
| Advise on the heritage aspects of marine and coastal development projects | National Heritage Act 1983 | |
| Advisor to the MMO on heritage aspects of Marine Spatial Planning | Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 | |
| Provision of guidance on how heritage considerations can be in to account in Shoreline Management Plans | n/a | |
| Competent Authority with a general duty, in the exercise of any of their functions, to have regard to the EC Habitats Directive and Wild Birds Directive | The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulation 2017 | Any competent authority authorising a plan or project that may (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), have a significant effect on the protected site, must undertake an appropriate assessment of the implications for that site in view of that site's conservation objectives |
| Statutory duty as a public authority to take reasonable steps to conserve and enhance the special features of sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs) | Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended | Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981(as amended) imposes a duty on public bodies in exercising their functions to take reasonable steps, consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to further conservation and enhancement of the special features on a SSSI. This applies where the public body is exercising its statutory functions on a SSSI |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| | | or on land outside the SSSI where those functions affect a SSSI. |
| Statutory duty as a public authority to consider the effect of proposed activities on MCZs before issuing any authorisation | The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 | The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (Section 125) places a general duty on public authorities in regard to MCZs. Public authorities must exercise their functions (so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of the functions) in a manner which best furthers - or where that is not possible, least hinders - the conservation objectives for MCZs |
| Statutory duty as a public authority to have regard to conserving biodiversity as part of decision making | Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 | Under Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, there is a duty on all public authorities have regard, in exercising its functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity. The Act states that 'conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat.' |