

## Written submission from Scottish Environment Link

We are aware the Committee is taking evidence from the Crown Estate next week.

Please find attached a LINK Governance Group [response](#) to the SG consultation on interim arrangements, post-Smith Commission, which urges Scottish Ministers to:

1. define “good management” to embed principles of Sustainable Development and environmental stewardship in the interim body’s corporate approach;
2. ensure the public accountability of the interim body;
3. set a clear timetable for the development of a more considered legislative framework for managing Crown Estate assets in Scotland

Our Marine Group members have a strong interest in marine planning and view it as an important mechanism for sustainable development – including the much-needed enhancement of the health - of Scotland’s seas. We have set out these views in our recently published ‘[Living with the seas](#)’ report. In preparation of regional marine plans, Marine Scotland should – by virtue of the shared UK Marine Policy Statement “give consideration to the **social and economic benefits that the enhancement of marine ecosystems can provide**, including to coastal communities.” We also note that effective marine planning urgently requires money and resources, a point we made in our [2016 Scottish Parliamentary Election Marine Briefing](#).

We therefore suggest that revenues from the **interim body could be used to help take forward effective marine planning in Scotland.**