

ADO Update – FLAG Meeting December 2018

- **Aquaculture Park;** Discussions are on-going with a local stakeholder about the Aquaculture Park concept and how this could fit in with local marine stakeholders. Constructive dialogue has helped to develop the concept further and a new project brief will be available shortly. In wider terms, the ADO has discussed this concept with the Sea Fish Industry Authority who may be able to provide funding to develop a local case study. This approach also matches recommendations under the Seafood 2040 strategy in terms of developing Priority Aquaculture/Coastal Development Zones around England's coast.
- **Aquaculture Film;** There is an Aquaculture Film planned to show Industry activity in the region, highlight career paths into the sector as well as the availability of training. The story-line has now been established and the ADO is supporting the film maker with planning and access to local aquaculture operations.
- **Virtual HUB & Cefas Marine Aquaculture Mapping Project;** The Local Development Strategy (LDS) includes the proposal to establish a 'Virtual Hub' – which is envisaged as being an aquaculture information service to complement existing resources. The first stage that is planned in assessing what roles such a Hub should undertake will be a stakeholder consultation.
 - **Core HUB Component/Service;** In order to fulfil a useful role, ideally a Virtual Hub should perform some function(s) not already found elsewhere i.e. a core service that will attract interest and 'hits'. Discussions are currently underway between the ADO and Cefas about building a Virtual Hub around the output of the Cefas Aquaculture Mapping Project. The Hub could then build in links to other existing resources like the Cefas Regulatory Toolbox, Seafish resources, DCF, MMO, TCE etc.
 - **Other roles;** A Virtual Hub could also play a role in education, marketing, developing local brands. Ideas and suggestions welcomed!
- **Seaweed Cultivation;**
 - **SSIA 2018 & SAMS Workshop:** The ADO, with support from FLAG and logistical organisation from DCF, facilitated local industry and expert group attendance at the 2018 Scottish Seaweed Industry Association (SSIA) conference held in Oban in November. This conference was followed by a workshop at the Scottish Association of Marine Science (SAMS) on practical aspects of seaweed cultivation.
 - **Cefas Workshop:** DCF, in collaboration with Cefas, have organised a knowledge exchange workshop as part of the seaweed cultivation feasibility study. This workshop will take place on the 12th December 2018 and will include a guest speaker from SAMS. It is envisaged that this workshop will also allow broodstock seaweed samples to be taken back to the SAMS laboratory in order to help future production of seeded ropes for cultivation locally.
 - **Exeter University:** The ADO is working with Exeter University to support a project application through internal University funding for a regional workshop on seaweed cultivation and diversification of aquaculture that would be held in late January 2019. This would bring together interested parties in the South West and some key people from outside the region with a view to complimenting the knowledge exchange workshops being proposed by SAMS for 2019.
- **High Potential Opportunity;** The region has been awarded an HPO which is a mechanism whereby the Aquaculture sector within the region will be highlighted and promoted to

attract inward investment. The ADO is working closely on the HPO development with DCC Economic Development / Dorset LEP / Cefas / DCF/ Kingston Maurward College.

The HPO will launch in February 2019 with an event at KMC - https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dorset-agritech-real-progress-tickets-53290722987?utm_source=Dorset+Argritech+-+Real+Progress&utm_campaign=86589e584f-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_12_10_08_58&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_6874085866-86589e584f-127910945

- **Seafood 2040 Strategic Framework (SF2040):** An English strategy through which increasing aquaculture production is highlighted as a priority. Key to achieving the strategy objectives was the formation of the Aquaculture Leadership Group (ALG) to implement aquaculture recommendations. In recognition of DCF's commitment to increasing aquaculture production, DCF through the ADO role has been appointed as a core ALG Member. This announcement was made at the SAGB meeting held in October 2018 at which the ADO was in attendance. The ADO is due to attend the ALG's first meeting on the 14th December and to report back to Industry on anything relevant to the Dorset and East Devon region.