

## ADO Update – FLAG Meeting January 2019

- **Aquaculture Park;** A new version of the project brief summarising the potential application of this approach locally has now been produced and is awaiting feedback. This approach 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. Dates have now been pencilled in for deployment of the seeded seaweed ropes and it is hoped that the seaweed cultivation project will become a central part of the film.
- **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. Discussions have been held with Cefas about incorporating the aquaculture mapping project output as a central role of the Hub. Options for hosting a Virtual Hub are currently being investigated and costed. These options could include hosting the Hub under the Cefas umbrella of websites, placing the Hub under the DCF website or creating a new standalone domain.
- **Seaweed Cultivation;**
  - **SSIA 2018 & SAMS Workshop:** The summary report of the SSIA annual conference and subsequent workshop at SAMS is now available. Please feel free to contact the ADO if there are any specific questions regarding either the conference or workshop.
  - **Cefas Workshop:** DCF, in collaboration with Cefas, delivered a knowledge exchange workshop on the 12<sup>th</sup> December as part of the seaweed cultivation feasibility study.
  - **Cultivation Project:** It is hoped that seeded ropes will be deployed in February 2019 if all the relevant permissions, licenses etc. can be obtained by then. There have also been discussions and a meeting held to discuss the potential establishment of a collaborative south west seaweed hatchery.
- **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 has reviewed and commented on the draft HPO together with DCC Economic Development / Dorset LEP / Cefas / DCF/ Kingston Maurward College. The HPO will launch in February 2019 with an event at KMC.
- **Scallop Workshop;** DCF hosted a workshop for stakeholders on behalf of Scalloptech which was attended by the ADO. The workshop allowed stakeholders the opportunity to find out more about the plans for a proposed offshore cultivation site.
- **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. The ADO attended the ALG's first meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> December and through this is helping to shape the work programme for the group.