Spatial Design in The Crown Estate

01/02/2022

THE CROWN ESTATE

The Crown Estate – who are we?

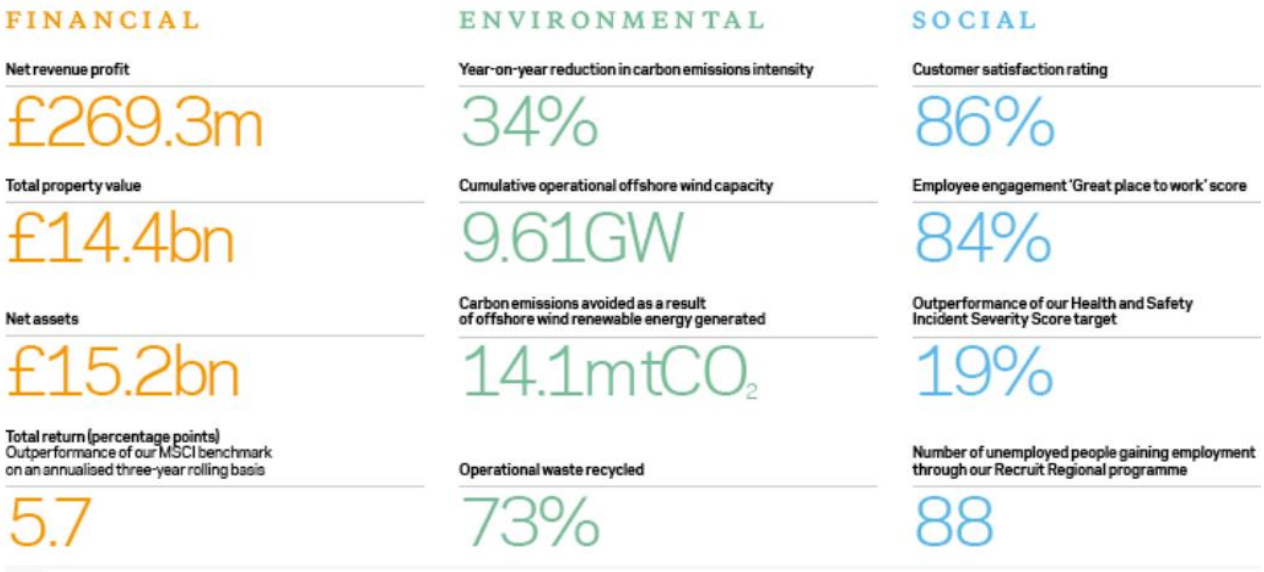
Established by an Act of parliament in 1961.

We are responsible for management of a diverse portfolio across England, Wales and Northern Ireland, to create lasting and shared prosperity for the nation.

We are the managers of, and play an active role on the seabed around England, Wales and Norther Ireland, including offshore energy, marine aggregates, cables and pipelines.

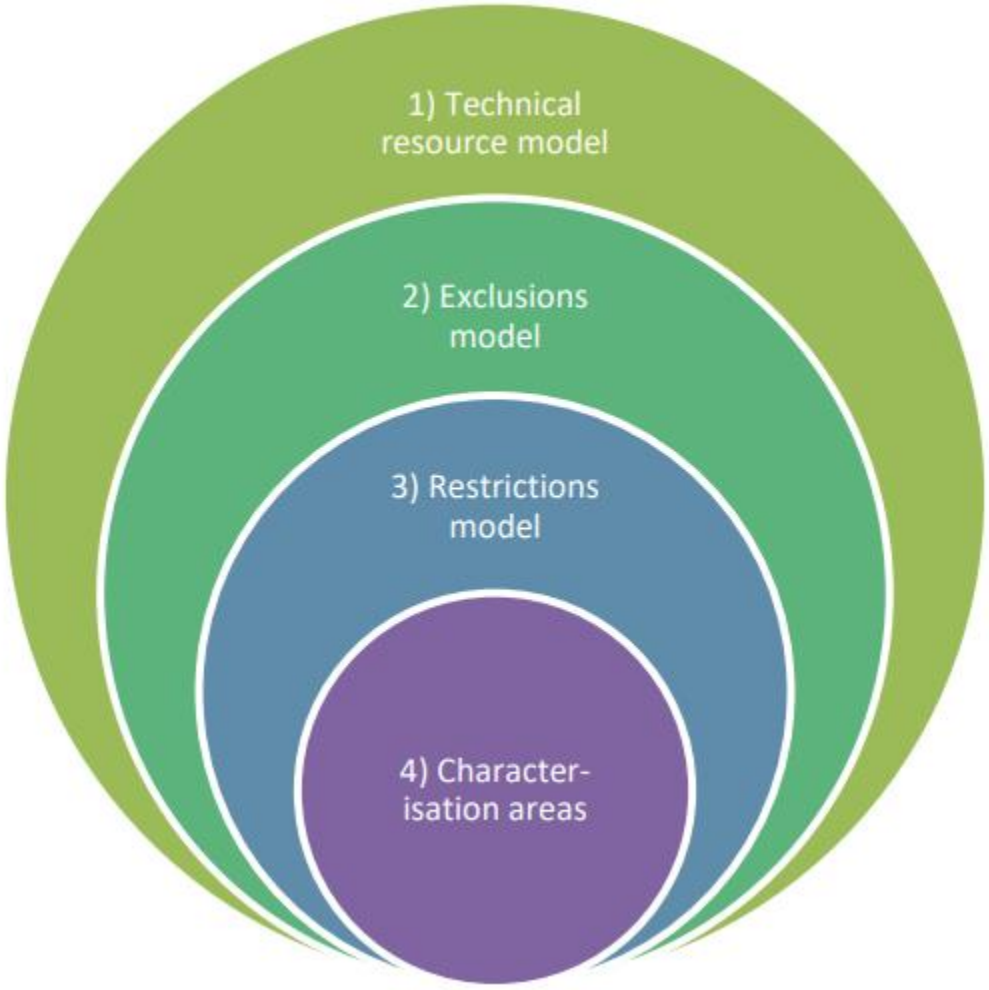
We also manage around half of the foreshore, the area between mean high and mean low water.

Our year in numbers



How have we leased the seabed?

- Different sectors have historically worked in different ways.
- The Crown Estate has undertaken different degrees of spatial design in the different sectors.
- In all cases we will consider areas of resource, areas of exclusions, and areas of consenting or conflict risk.
- We have obligations as a public authority under the Habitat Regulations and, where a leasing activity constitutes a plan, will be required to undertake a plan level HRA.



Round 4

Goals

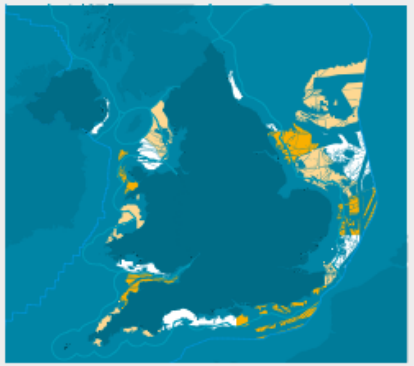

Delivers a robust pipeline for low-cost offshore wind deployment
To help meet industry appetite and Government policy objectives for new offshore wind capacity, supporting the UK's clean energy transition.
Offers an attractive, accessible and fair proposition to developers
At repeatable scale, contributing to the development of a competitive, resilient and innovative offshore wind market.
Balances the range of interests in the marine environment
Supported by extensive engagement with stakeholders and the promotion of responsible evidence-based site selection.
Makes efficient use of the seabed
Recognising its value as a national asset, now and for the long term.
Unlocks the value of the seabed in line with our statutory obligations
Securing best consideration over the long-term, for the benefit of the public finances.

2018

Developed early proposals on the potential scale, location and nature of new leasing based on extensive data analysis:

- 18 seabed regions identified
- ≤50M water depth
- ~6GW capacity

FEB – JUN 2018



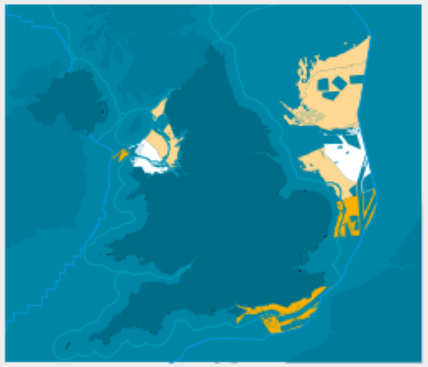
Regional characterisation

After spatial analysis and stakeholder feedback, we identified the least constrained (most technically favourable) areas of seabed for offshore wind development.

From the feedback received and our own further analysis, we:

- Refined the seabed regions:
  - 5 proposed to be included
  - 4 under further consideration
- Increased to ~7GW capacity
- Extended to ≤60M water depth
- Progressed design of the tender process

JULY – DEC 2018



Two stage regional refinement

Following extensive spatial analysis and stakeholder engagement, we refined seabed regions further.

Reasons for removing some areas include:

- Ministry of Defence ranges and exercise areas
- Potential visual sensitivity within 13km of shore
- Overlap with busy shipping routes
- Major consenting risk due to cumulative environmental impacts, particularly ornithology.

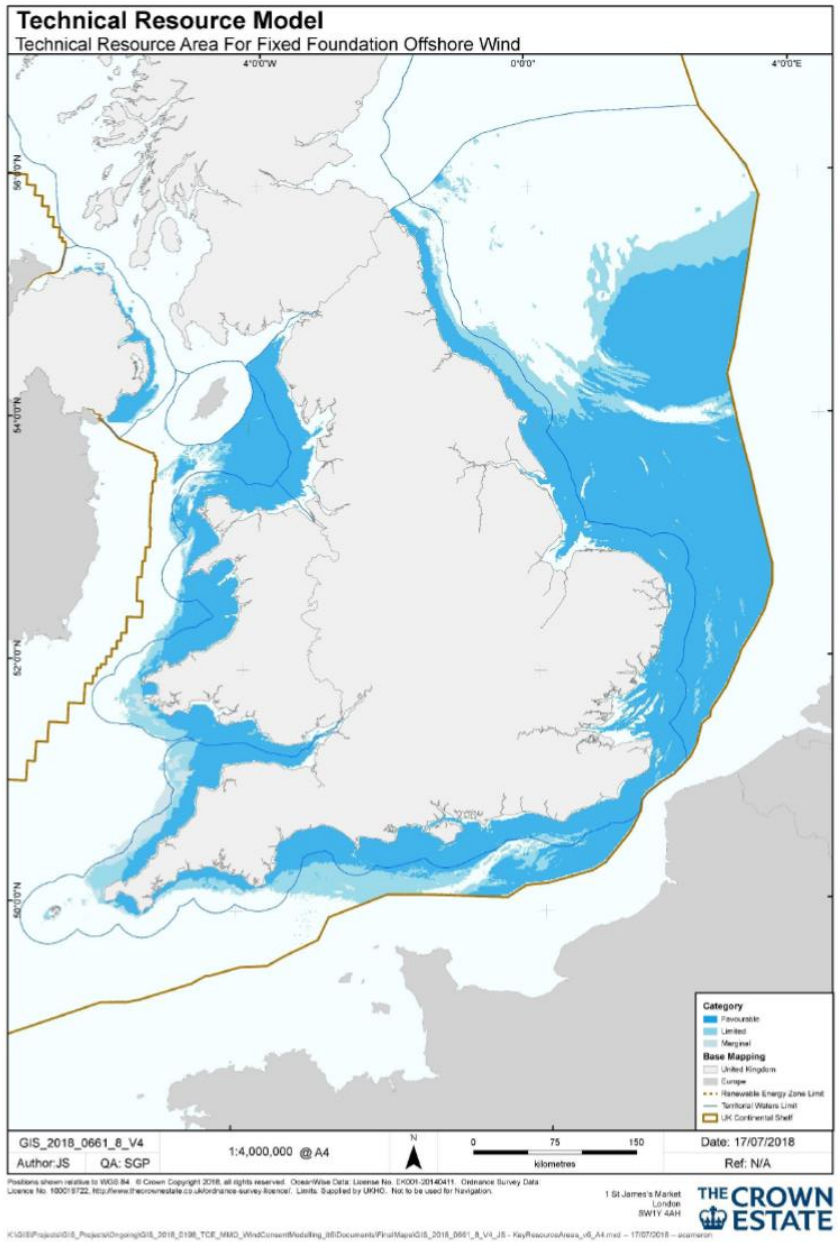
JAN – AUG 2019

Developed our final leasing design and shared with stakeholders and the market.

- 29 attended stakeholder webinar
- 176 attendees across market webinar and event

Updates to our proposal included:

- Three-stage tender process designed to be fair, objective and transparent
- Investing in strategic enabling actions to help enable sustainable and coordinated growth
- More flexible payment structure to share development risk
- Building evidence base to support Round 4 plan-level HRA
- Incentives to encourage innovation


Technical Resource Model
Technical Resource Area For Fixed Foundation Offshore Wind
4°0'0"W
0°0'0"
4°0'0"E
56°0'0"N
54°0'0"N
52°0'0"N
50°0'0"N
Category
Favourable
Limited
Marginal
Base Mapping
United Kingdom
Europe
Renewable Energy Zone Limit
Territorial Waters Limit
UK Continental Shelf
GIS_2018_0661_8_V4
Author:JS
QA: SGP
1:4,000,000 @ A4
N
0
75
150
kilometres
Date: 17/07/2018
Ref: N/A
1 St James's Market
London
SW1Y 4AH
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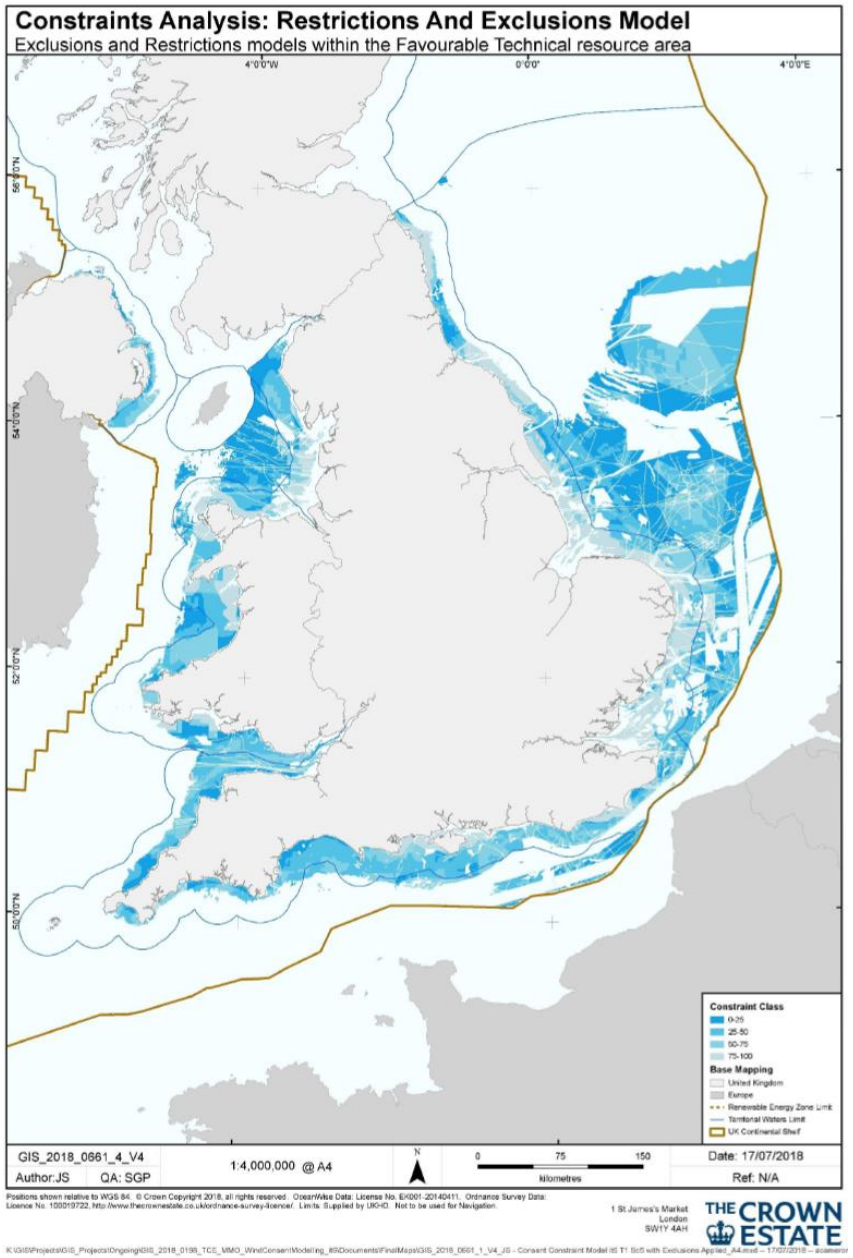
Constraints Analysis: Restrictions And Exclusions Model
Exclusions and Restrictions models within the Favourable Technical resource area
4°0'0"W
0°0'0"
4°0'0"E
56°0'0"N
54°0'0"N
52°0'0"N
50°0'0"N
Constraint Class
0-25
25-50
50-75
75-100
Base Mapping
United Kingdom
Europe
Renewable Energy Zone Limit
Territorial Waters Limit
UK Continental Shelf
GIS_2018_0661_4_V4
Author:JS
QA: SGP
1:4,000,000 @ A4
N
0
75
150
kilometres
Date: 17/07/2018
Ref: N/A
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SW1Y 4AH
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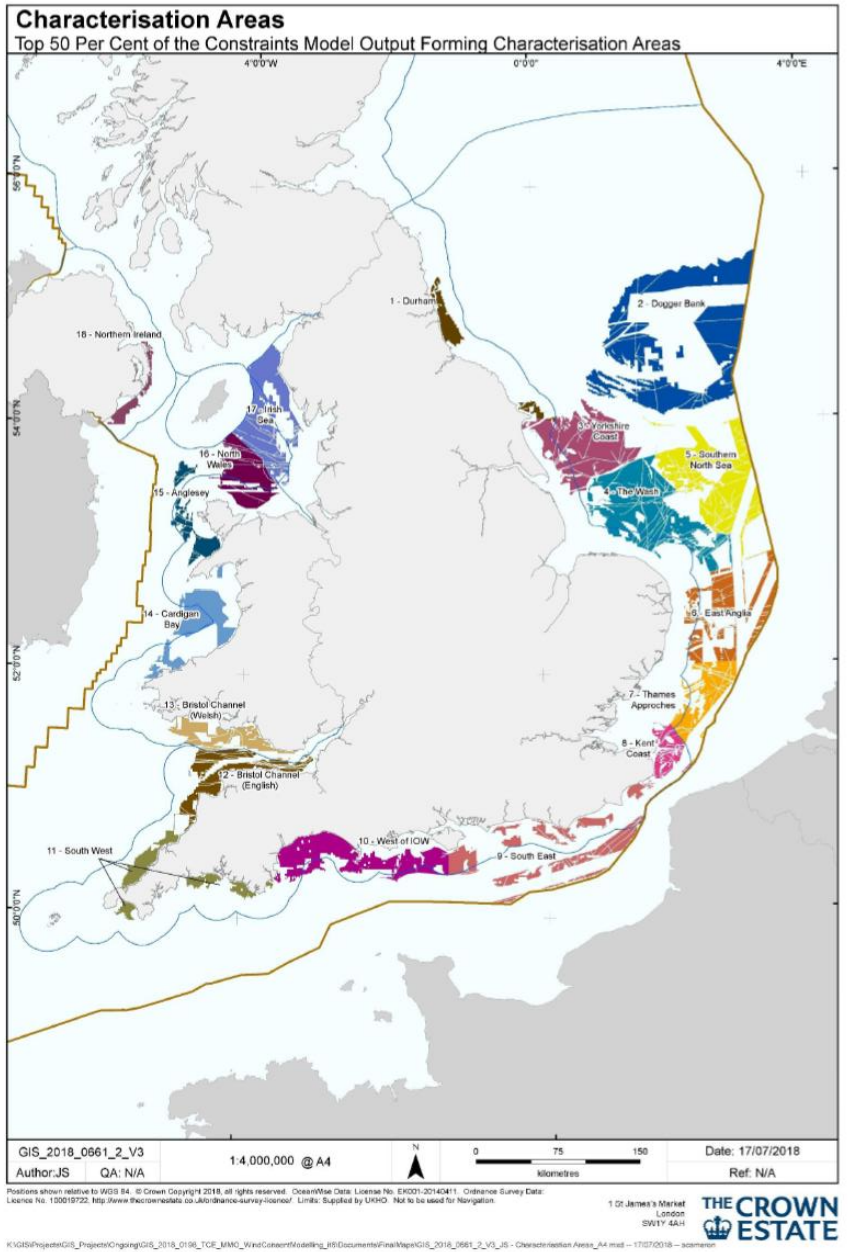
Constraints Model

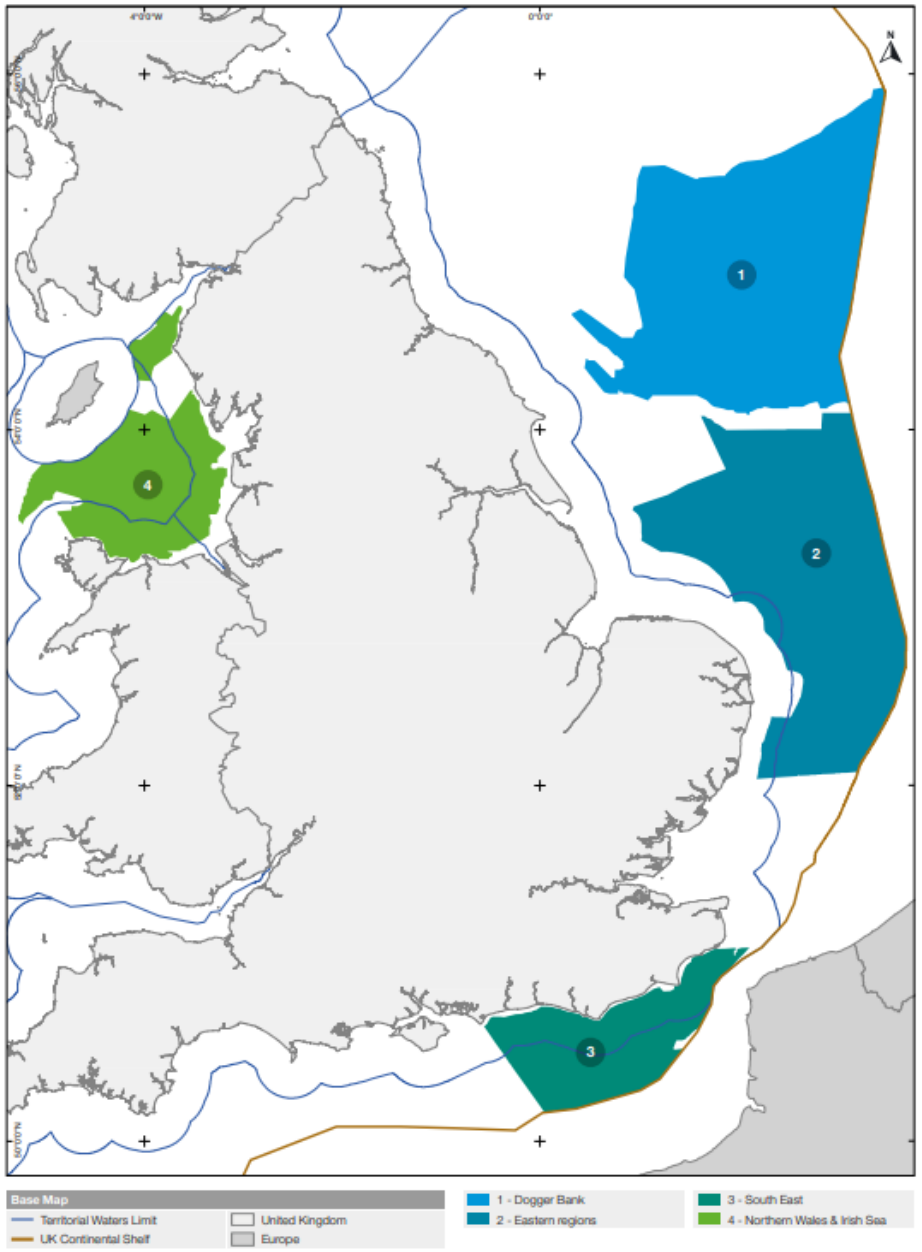
- Uses relevant data layers to characterise the sea area in terms of favourability.
- This includes:
  - Fishing activity (MMO Fishing Intensity Data Layer);
  - Navigation intensity;
  - Environmental data;
  - Visual sensitivity;
  - Recreational usage.
- The Data Layers are weighted, before being used in the model to define areas of higher or lower favourability.

https://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/media/3331/tce-r4-resource-and-constraints-assessment-methodology-report.pdf



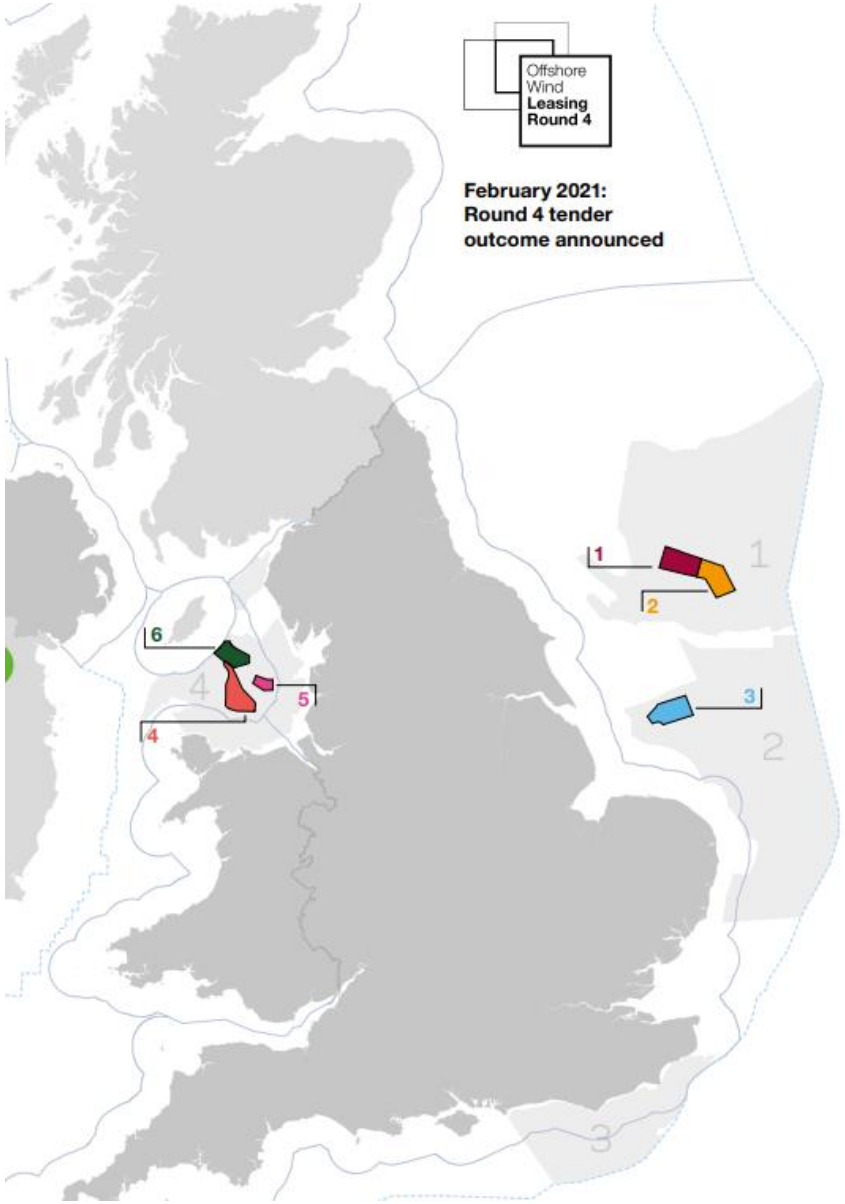
Region refinement

- Refines the outputs from the constraints model into more coherent areas.
- Refined on the basis of stakeholder dialogue and consideration of consenting constraint.
- These areas were taken forwards into the commercial tender process.
- Information on the regions, including analysis of potential fisheries interactions, were provided to potential bidders to inform site selection.



Results

- Following the commercial tender, preferred projects were announced.
- Six areas selected as preferred projects, now subject to plan-level HRA.
- Total potential capacity of just under 8GW.
- Following completion of the plan-level HRA any projects offered an agreement for lease will enter the planning process.



Looking to the future

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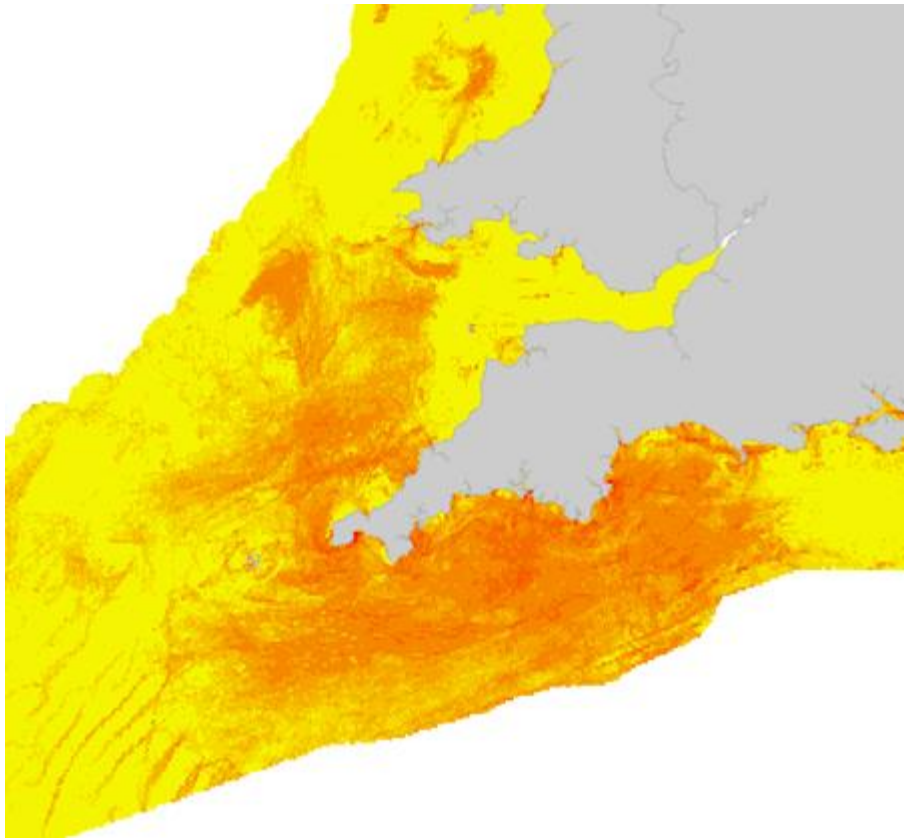
The Crown Estate and Offshore Renewables

- Our role;
- The ambition;
- Our approach;
  - The revised approach
    - Taking an active role in site selection
  - Engagement informs decisions;
    - We will engage with our stakeholders
  - Data informs decisions;
    - We will commit to using the best available data and evidence
    - The Offshore Wind Evidence and Change Programme



Questions?

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