

# FOR PLYMOUTH'S MARINE AND MARITIME ROLE

## Pledge 34 – Campaign for Plymouth Sound to be designated a National Marine Park

**What we said we would do:** We will support the campaign for Plymouth Sound to be designated the country's first National Marine Park.

**What we wanted to achieve:** Local and national commitment to support the development of Plymouth Sound as the UK's first National Marine Park.

**What we have done:** History was made in Plymouth when key local, regional and national partners came together to create the UK's first ever National Marine Park. Plymouth Sound National Marine Park will aim to showcase to the world the unique and fantastic assets that Britain's Ocean City has to offer, including an estimated 1,000 different species of marine life, and help boost the economy, attract more visitors and enable funding for research and a range of other benefits.

For the first time ever city leaders, experts in the marine and maritime sector and other partners from the public, private, and voluntary sector participated in a signing to demonstrate their support for making the National Marine Park happen.

Lewis Pugh, UN Patron of the Oceans, said: "In the past Plymouth launched many great voyages that changed the history of the world. It is my hope that, in the future, people will look back at Plymouth as the ocean innovator that set the standard for National Marine Parks in Britain and across the globe."

The government has also given its backing to Plymouth. Environment Secretary Theresa Villiers said: "Our seas provide great economic opportunities for our world-leading marine sector but they also need our protection."

Key partners signed the Declaration of Intent for Plymouth Sound National Marine Park on Friday 13 September and then on Saturday 14 September there was a public celebration event Plymouth Hoe.

**What's next:** Following the Declaration of Intent and to support the creation of the National Marine Park, the Council will facilitate a further phase of extensive stakeholder engagement. This work will be overseen by a new National Marine Park Board. This engagement will include a series of all-day workshops involving stakeholders, which will be designed to help resolve challenges and identify innovative solutions to inform a five year National Marine Park business plan and sustainable funding model.

The process will engage stakeholders from across the many marine and maritime interests, with participants being drawn from organisations and individuals across a range of sectors, including defence, commercial fishing, angling, marine technology, visitor economy, and research, as well as the natural environment.

### Find out more!

Here are some news stories about our work to deliver the pledge:

<http://plymouthnewsroom.co.uk/250000-funding-bid-submitted-move-forward-plymouths-national-marine-park-plans>

<http://plymouthnewsroom.co.uk/plymouth-uks-first-national-marine-park/>



OFFICIAL