



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

National Marine Planning Framework

Structure and emerging draft policies

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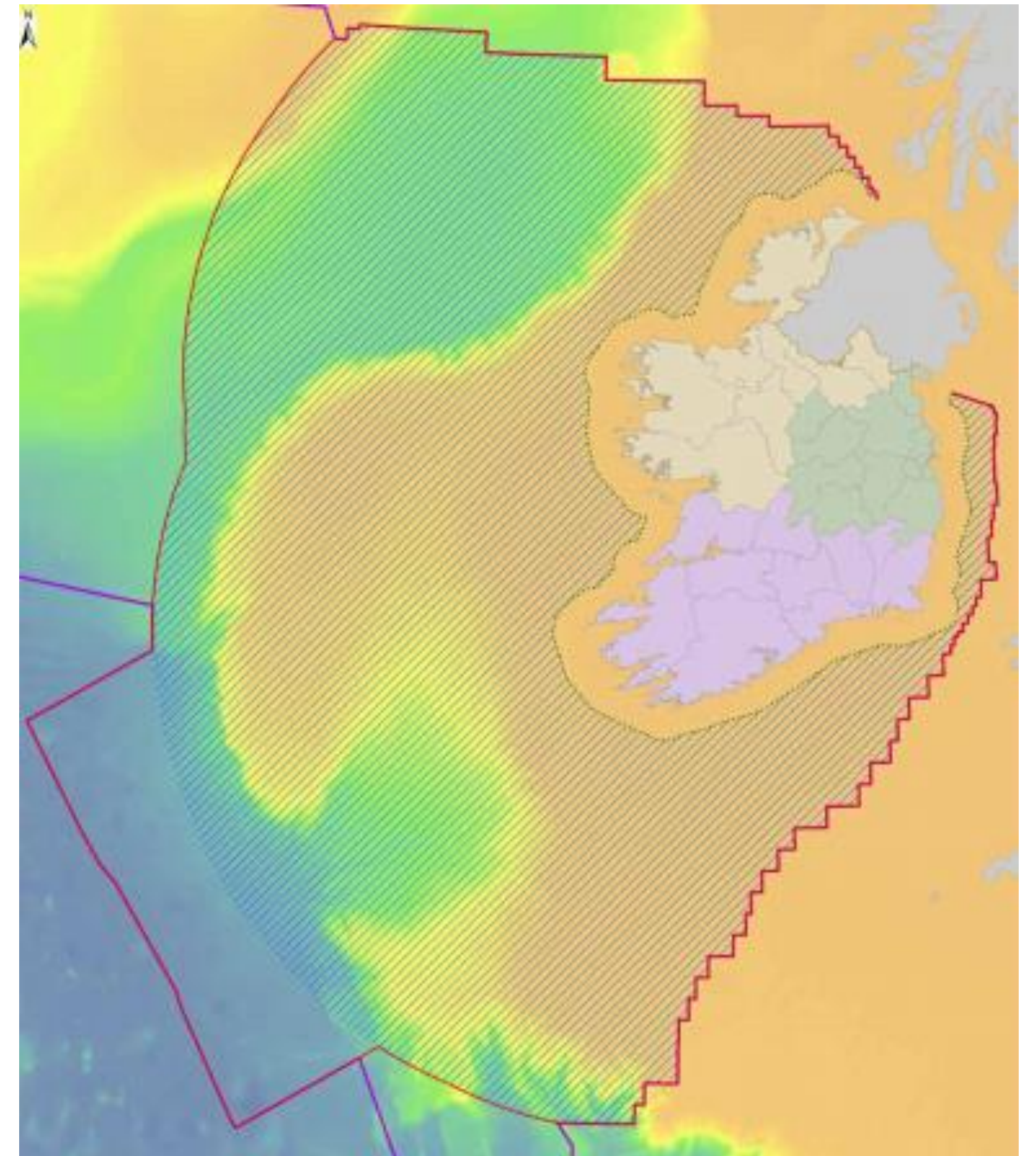
Marine Spatial Planning – what is it?



Balancing demands for using the sea, planning when and where activities take place, ensuring they are as effective and sustainable as possible.

Activities include:

Climate change; Aquaculture; Culture & heritage; Defence & security; Energy; Fisheries; Marine aggregates and minerals; Conservation; Ports & Shipping; Cables & pipelines; Tourism; Water quality



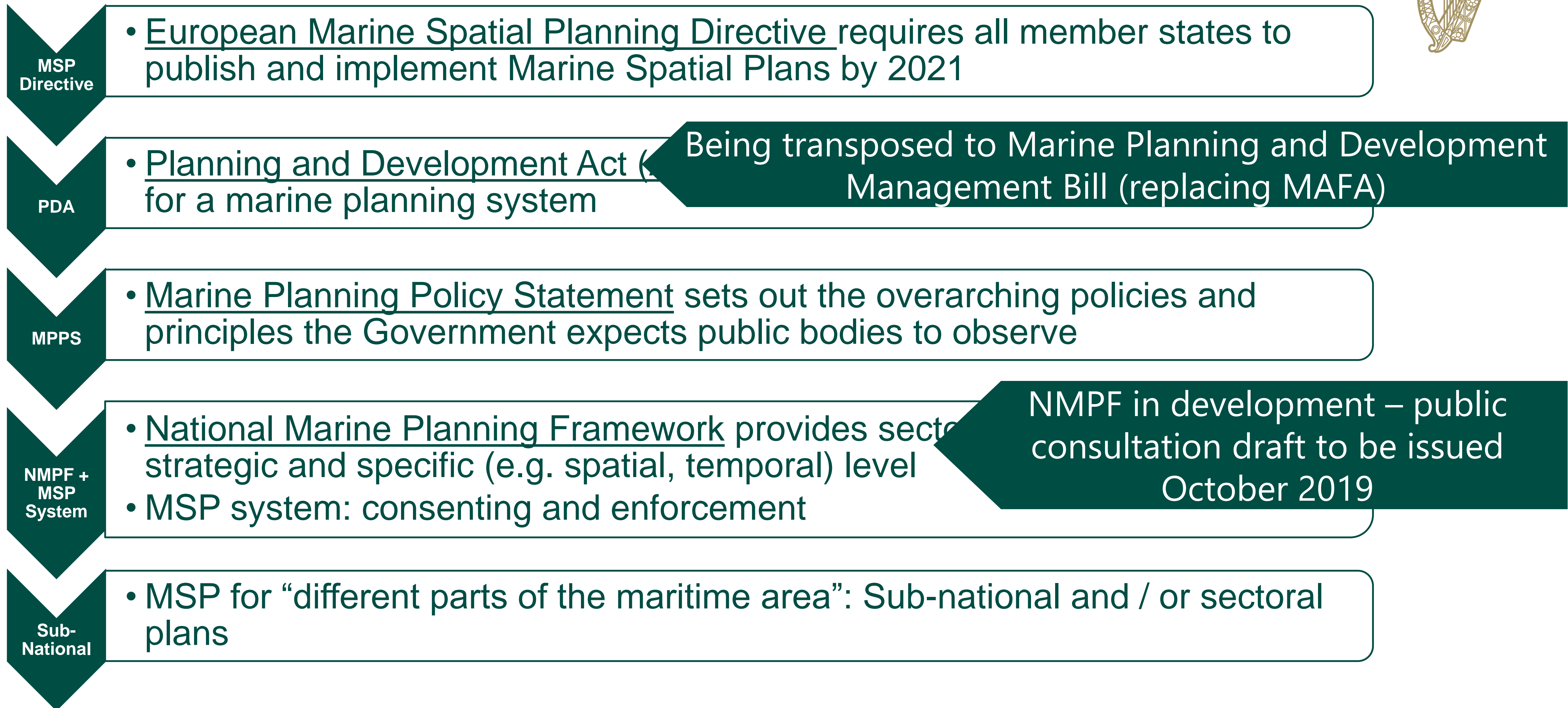
Who is involved?

As well as the MSP team in DHPLG:

- Multi-sectoral advisory group chaired by Minister English
- Marine Coordination Group: Cross-departmental group chaired by Minister Creed (DAFM)
- Marine Legislation Steering Group: Cross-departmental group chaired by the Department of the Taoiseach
- Technical and evidence support from the Marine Institute
- SEA and HRA undertaken with RPS



Marine Spatial Planning – how does it work?



NMPF – Proposed Draft Plan Structure



Introduction

- Recap on MSP concept – origins, purpose, benefits – practical effect of the plan
- Commitments to public and stakeholder engagement
- Summary of process to date (Roadmap, Baseline Report etc.)
- Consultation arrangements for draft NMPF

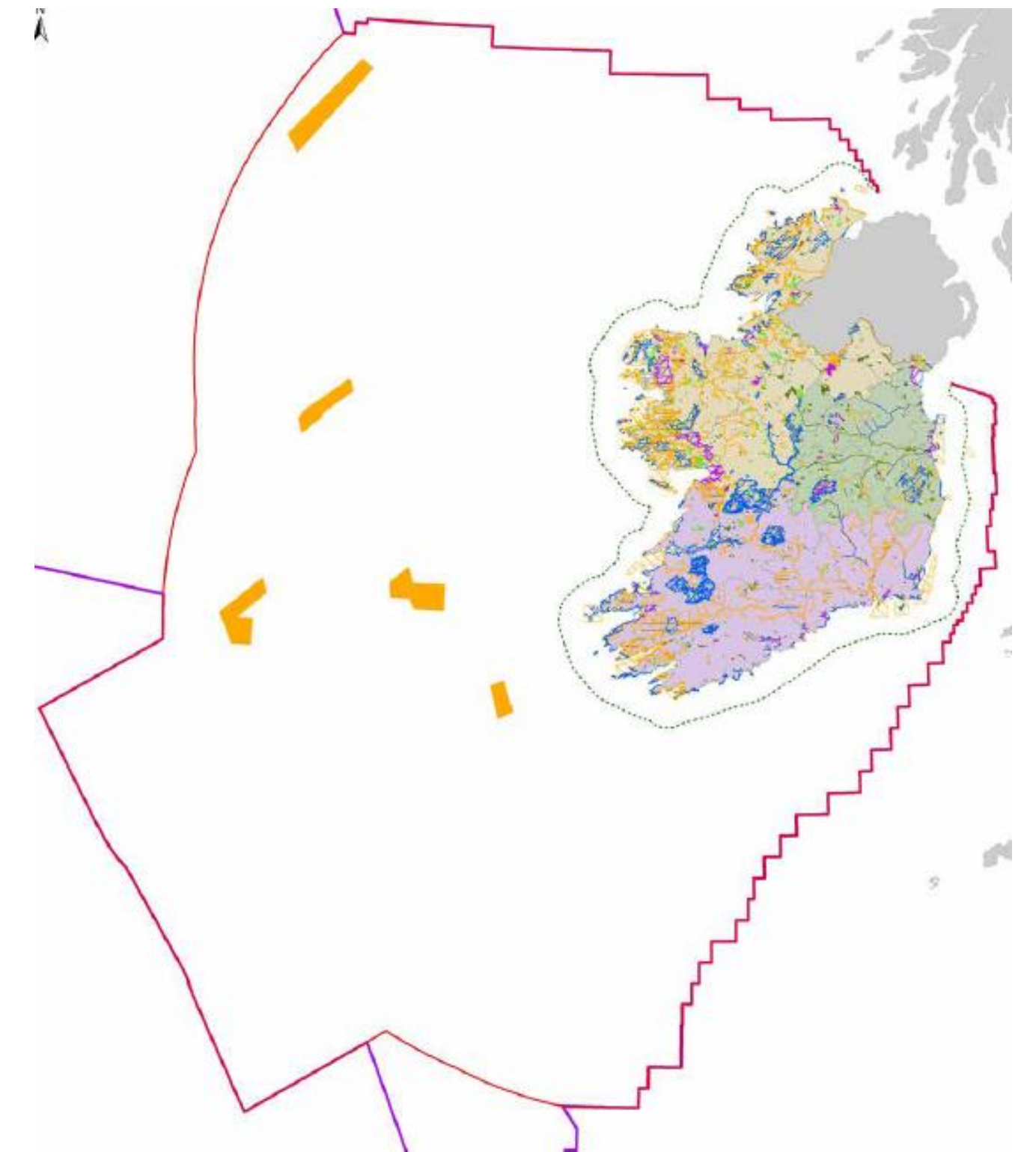
Vision, Objectives and Approach to Policies

- Marine Planning Policy Statement – Vision, Goals and Targets
- NMPF High Level Objectives

Marine Planning in Broader Context

- EU Policy and Legal Framework
- National Policy and Legal Framework
- Linkage with Land Planning
- Marine Environment / Ocean Health
- Environmental Assessments
- National Regulatory Context
- Climate Change
- International Boundary issues / Brexit

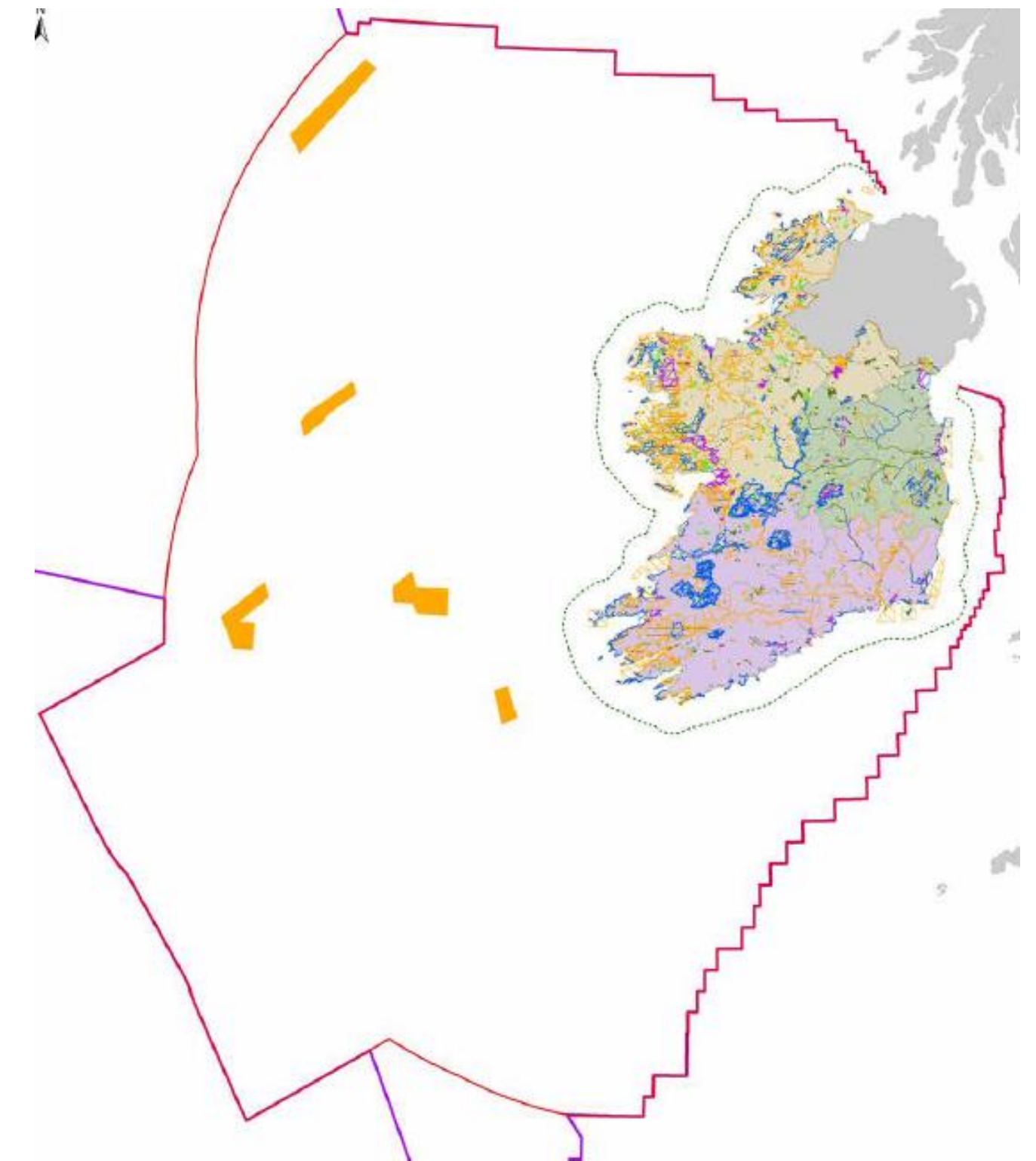
Policies – General, Sectoral



General or Overarching Marine Planning Policies



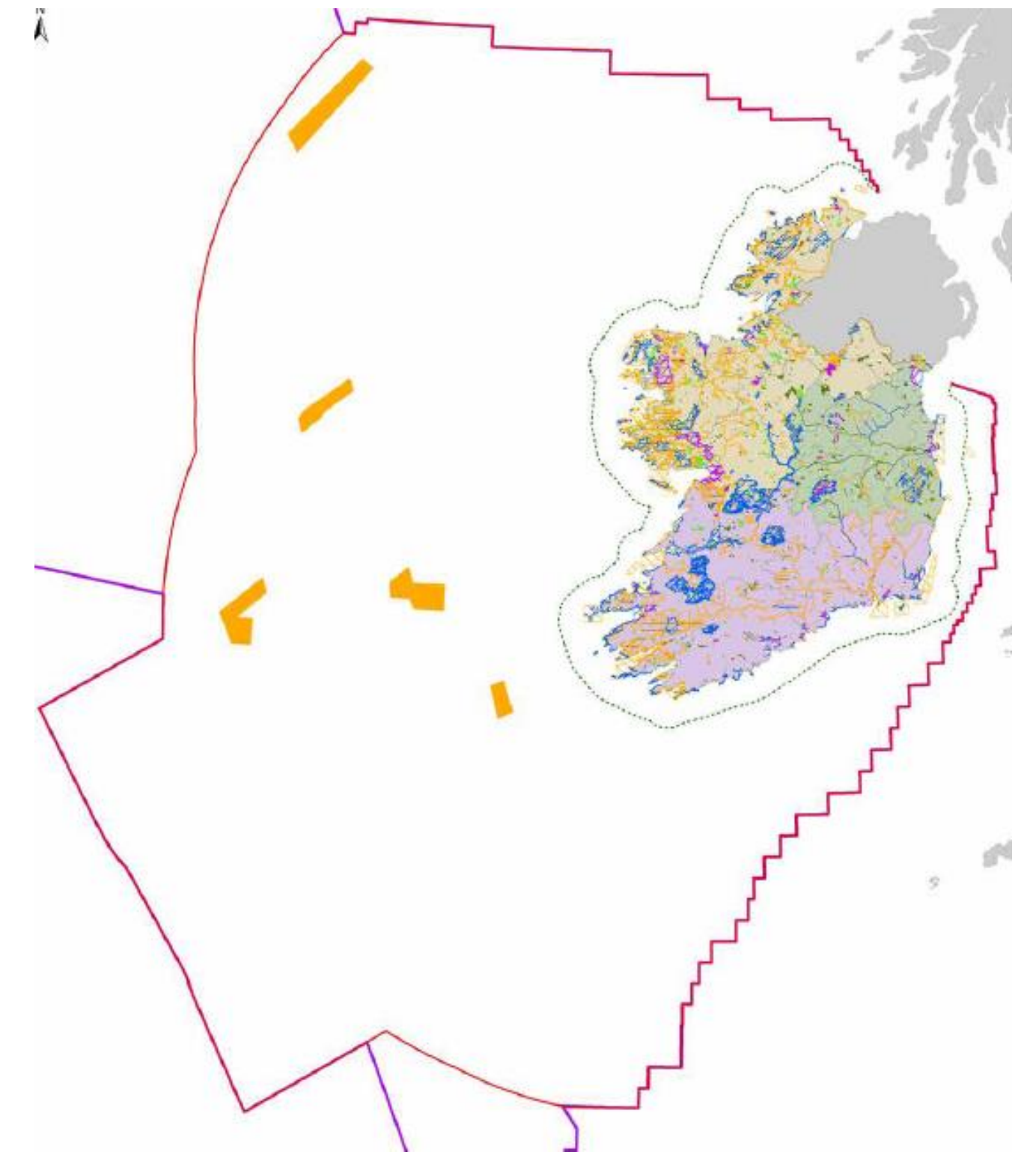
- Applicable to all proposals in the maritime area
- Contextualised, explained and justified individually
- Represent the characteristics against which impacts of proposals will be considered
- Numbered and presented separately, and cross-referenced to other relevant policies
- Supplemented by the sector specific policies in sectoral chapters in the plan
- Grouped according to overarching theme or forward planning pillar (social, environmental and economic), and listed under specific headings



General Marine Planning Policies (contd.)



Environmental	Social	Economic
Air Quality	Access	Co-existence
Biodiversity	Heritage	Infrastructure
Climate Action	Island Communities	
Cumulative Impacts	Seascape and Landscape	
Disturbance	Societal Benefits	
Habitats		
Marine Protected Areas		
Marine Waste and Litter		
Noise		



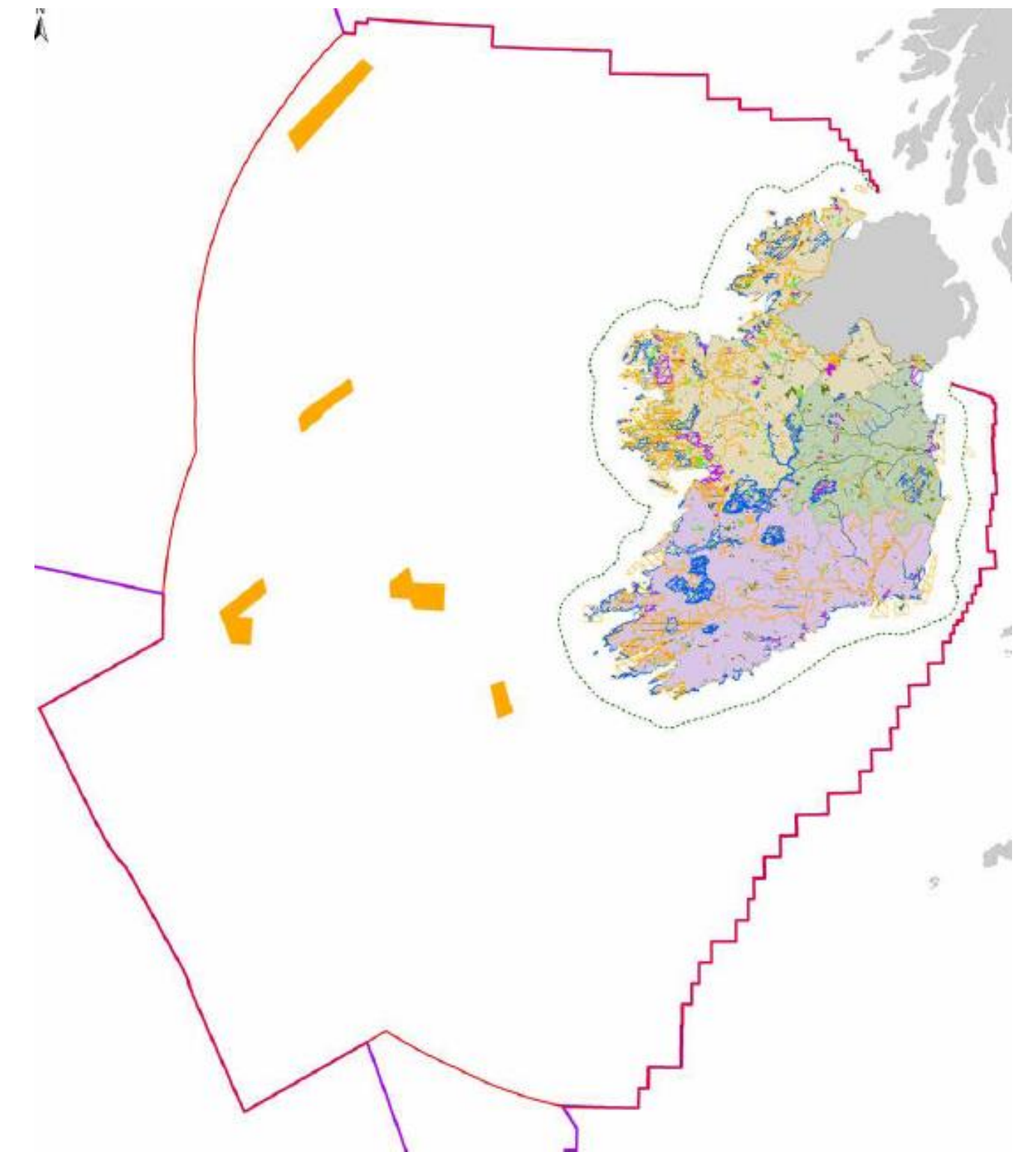
General Marine Planning Policies (contd.)

Example – Coexistence

Proposals should demonstrate that they have considered how to optimise the use of space, including through consideration of opportunities for co-existence and co-operation with existing activities, providing benefits to existing activities where appropriate.

If proposals cannot avoid significant adverse impacts of their activity (including displacement) on existing activities they must, in order of preference:

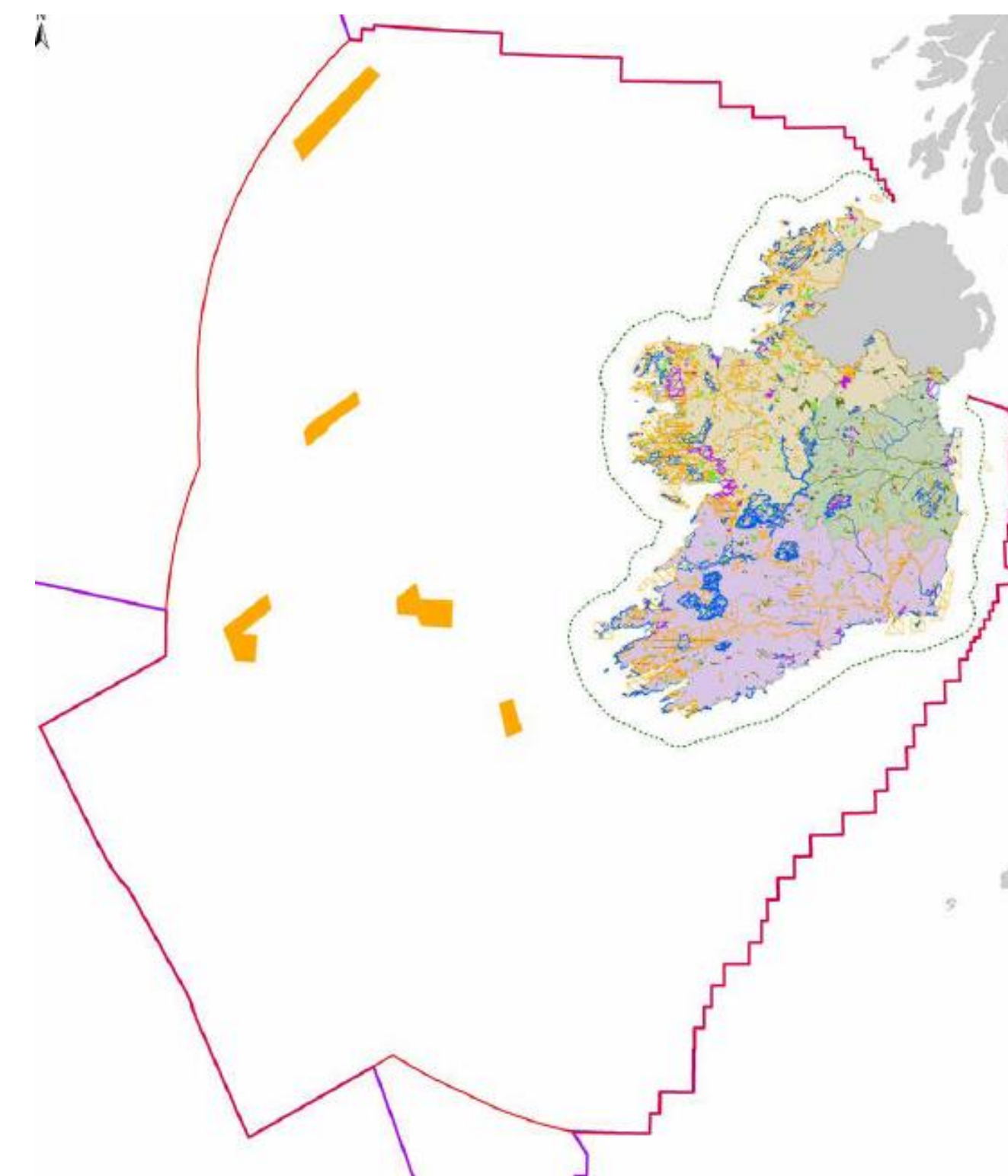
- a. minimise significant adverse impacts,
- b. mitigate significant adverse impacts, or
- c. if it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding.



Sector/Activity Marine Planning Policies



- In combination with General policies, more detailed basis for decision-making across all marine sectors/activities:
 - Types of activity to be supported
 - Interactions with others
 - Sensitivity of the receiving environment
 - Approach to mitigating or avoiding impacts
- Supplemented in some cases by specific zonings once a legislative process is in place
- Apply to all "proposals" as defined P&D (A) Act 2018 – includes policies or plan formulation by public bodies as well as decisions on individual applications
- Public bodies legally obliged to “secure the objectives” of NMPF policies
- DHPLG may direct a public body in this regard if not satisfied with compliance



Sector/Activity Marine Planning Policies (contd.)

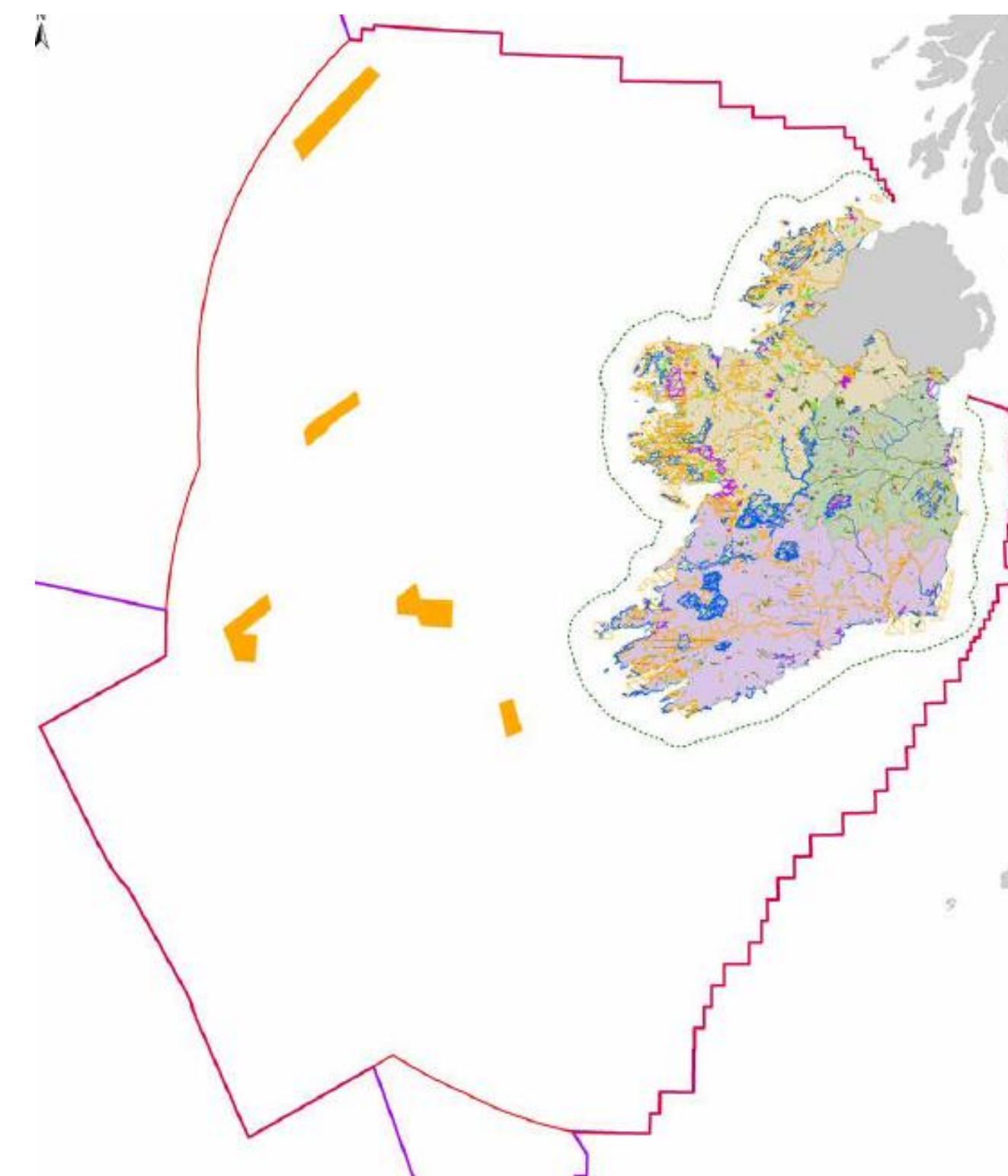
Example – Ports, Harbours, Shipping

Proposals that may have a significant impact upon current activity and future opportunity for expansion of port and harbour activities should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:

- a. avoid,
- b. minimise, or
- c. mitigate

significant adverse impacts.

If it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding.

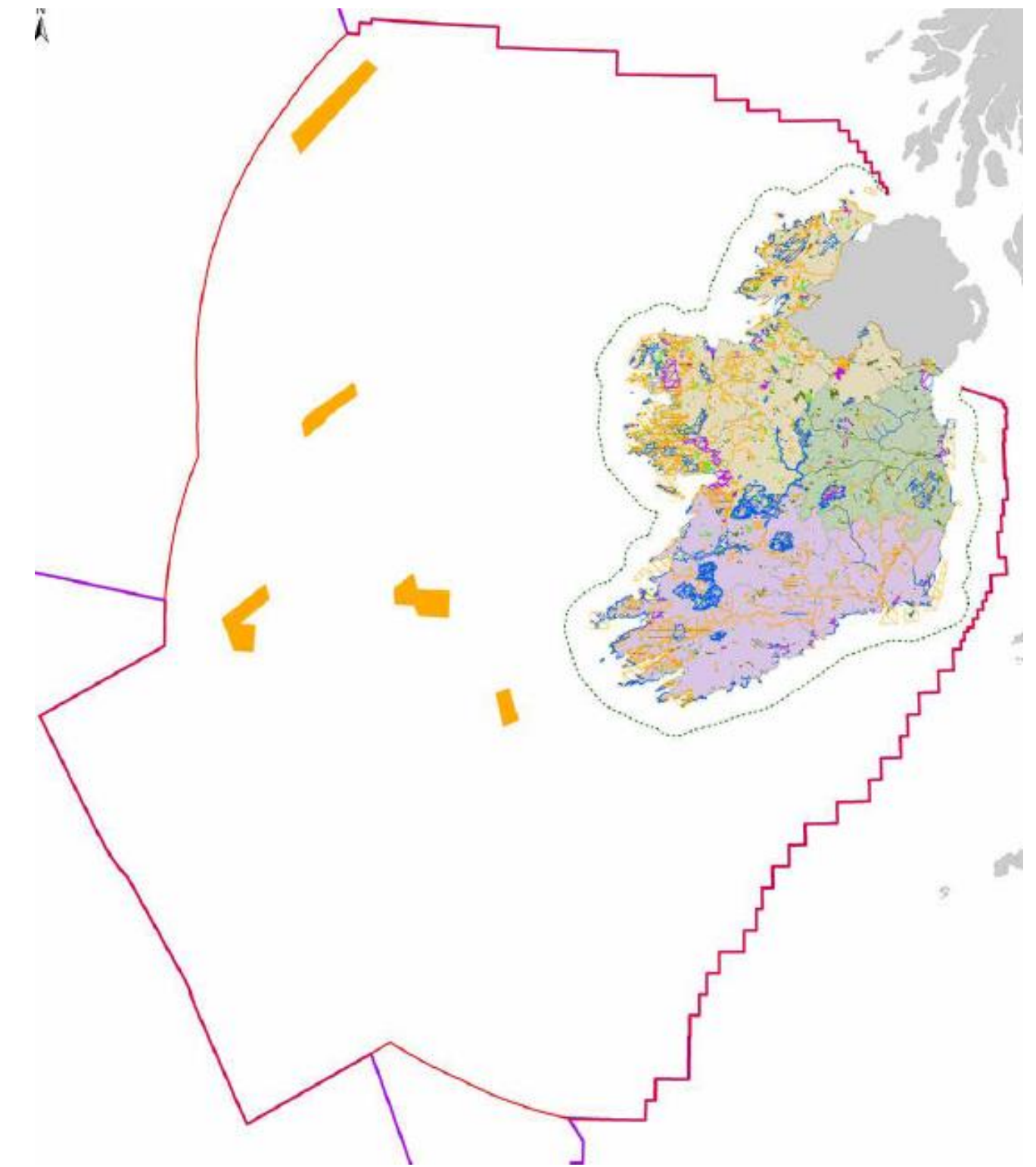


Marine Planning Policies – Supporting Text



Each policy to be accompanied by supporting material, including:

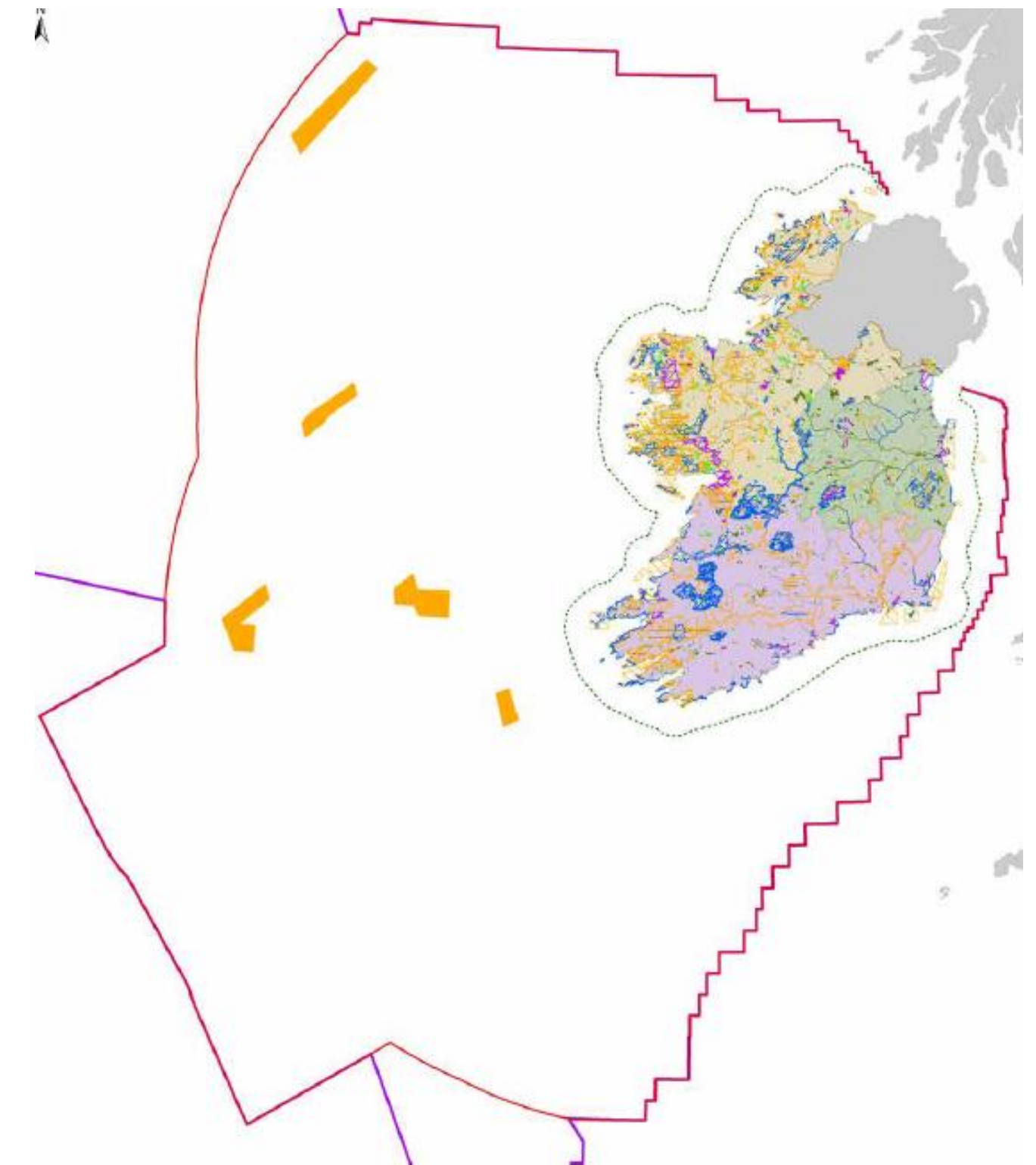
- Background to the policy – local, national, European and international context
- Cross-referencing to other relevant policies
- Map(s) including spatial information about the state of activities and identifying where a policy applies e.g. port and harbour jurisdictions
- Interpretation notes for terms or approaches that may be policy specific
- Signposts to important references and / or sources of information e.g. National Ports Policy, Ports Masterplans, Port Capacity Study, The-Ten T Network Plan
- Suggestions of who the policy might be of particular interest to
- Identification of stakeholders to be consulted e.g. Irish Lights, Coast Guard, fishing etc.



Marine Planning Policies – support implementation of...



- Action Plan to Tackle Climate Disruption;
- OREDP;
- Energy White Paper
- National Ports Policy;
- White Paper on Defence;
- National Physical Activity Plan;
- National Broadband Plan;
- Rebuilding Ireland;
- People, Place and Policy: Growing Tourism to 2025;
- National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development;
- Water Services Policy Statement & River Basin Management Plan;
- Marine Strategy Framework Directive Programme of Measures.



NMPF – Next Steps

- Draft plan going to Government shortly for publication late September / early October
- Key linkages to Marine Planning and Development Management Bill and Marine Planning Policy Statement
- SEA/AA published in parallel
- 3 month consultation
- Regional Events in Autumn

