

6. Details of how the proposed activity is in accordance with Scotland's National Marine Plan, including reference to relevant policies:

The proposed activity involves **the formation of a surface water outlet/outfall via installation of a gravity-fed drainage pipe through the existing seawall beneath the John Muir Link Path**. This activity aligns with the principles, general policies, and relevant sector policies of **Scotland's National Marine Plan (2015)** and supports sustainable coastal development.

General Policies (GEN 1–21)

The project is consistent with the following General Policies:

- **GEN 1 – General planning and development:**
The outfall forms part of essential infrastructure designed to responsibly manage surface water from a land-based development. It constitutes a low-impact intervention using an existing seawall, avoiding unnecessary alteration of the coastal environment.
- **GEN 4 – Co-existence:**
Works have been designed to avoid interference with other legitimate uses of the coast, including public access along the John Muir Link Path and nearshore recreational coastal activity.
- **GEN 5 – Coastal and marine environment:**
The works are small-scale, confined to an existing man-made asset (the seawall), and designed to minimise disturbance to coastal processes, habitats, and water quality. Mitigation measures will be included where necessary.
- **GEN 9 – Natural heritage:**
No designated marine protected areas, SACs, SPAs, or SSSIs are adversely affected by the proposed works. The activity avoids sensitive periods for marine species where applicable and incorporates best-practice construction methods.
- **GEN 12 – Water environment:**
The outfall supports an effective surface water drainage strategy, promoting sustainable water management and preventing uncontrolled discharge to the coastal environment. The system will comply with SuDS principles where appropriate.
- **GEN 19 – Noise:**
The activity is expected to generate minimal noise as works involve small-scale core drilling or breaking through an existing seawall. No impulsive noise-generating equipment (e.g., piling) is anticipated.

Sector Policies

- **INFRASTRUCTURE (INF 1–3):**
The proposal supports necessary coastal drainage infrastructure associated with upland development. Use of existing structures reduces environmental footprint and avoids the need for additional hard engineering.
- **COASTAL DEVELOPMENT (CD 1):**
The activity constitutes responsible coastal development by maintaining the functional integrity of the shoreline, avoiding disruption to natural sediment movement, and ensuring resilience to coastal processes.
- **FLOOD PROTECTION & DRAINAGE (FP 1):**
The gravity outfall facilitates safe and controlled discharge of surface water, reducing flood risk and improving management of runoff from adjacent land-based development.

Summary

Overall, the project aligns with the National Marine Plan by:

- Supporting **sustainable infrastructure development**
- Minimising **environmental and coastal process impacts**
- Ensuring **co-existence** with public access and other coastal uses
- Incorporating **mitigation and best practice**
- Enhancing **surface water management** in a controlled and environmentally responsible manner