

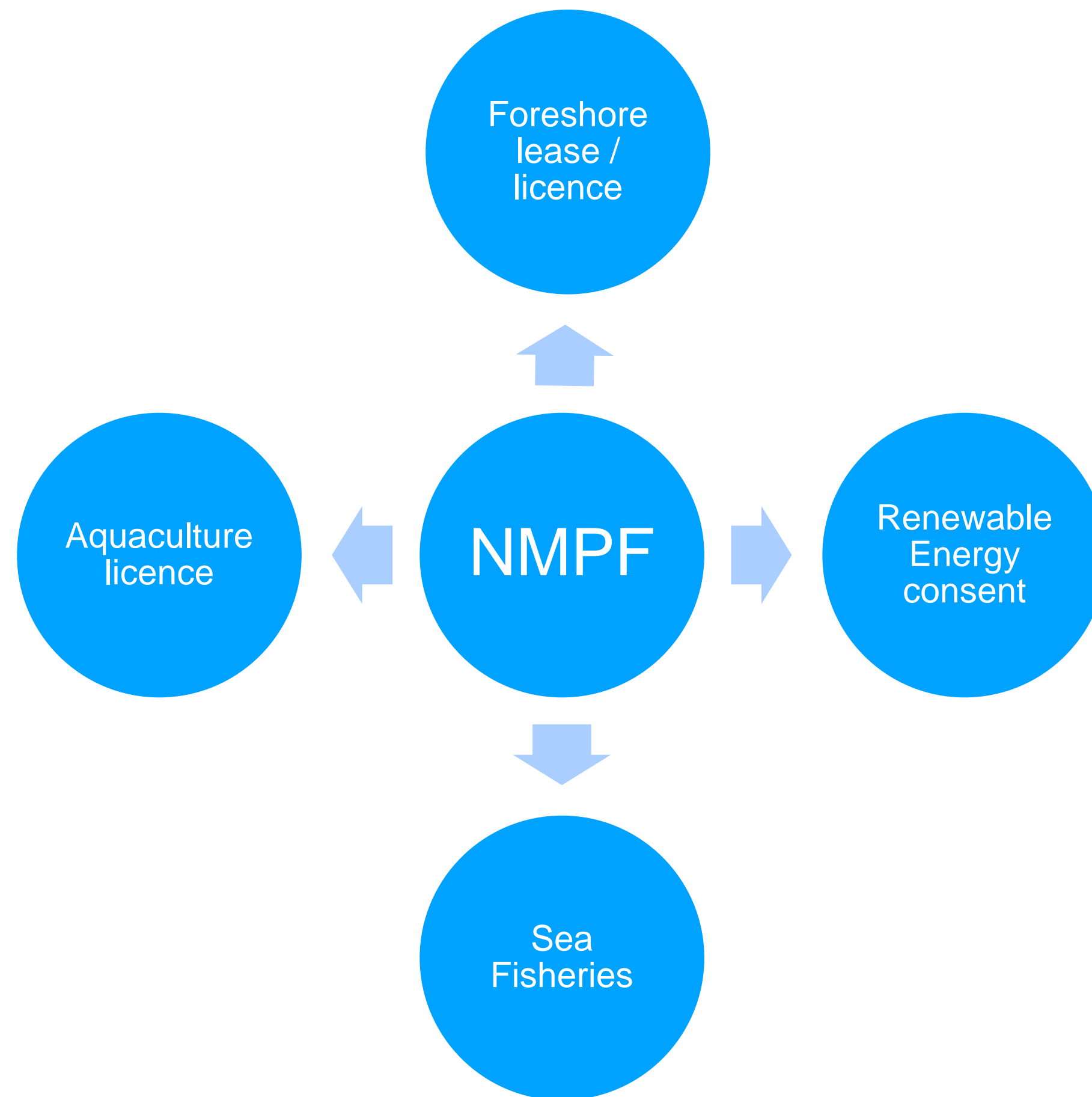


Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Integrated Forward Planning for Ireland's Marine Area – Developing the National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF)

MRIA Marine Renewables Emerging Technologies Industry Forum – 1 February 2019

NMPF in practice – basis for all decision-making in marine regulation



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil
Department of Housing,
Planning and Local Government

National Marine
Planning Framework
Baseline Report



NMPF – Baseline Report – what?



Flagged as ‘issues’ paper in MSP Roadmap – December 2017

It sets out:

- the policy, legislative and regulatory context for Marine Spatial Planning;
- a description of the “as is” situation in terms of existing sectoral development and activities in Ireland’s maritime area;
- an initial elaboration of potential high level objectives; and
- A number of consultation questions or issues intended to prompt discussion and consideration amongst stakeholders.
- Big questions include: To zone or not to zone (for ORE and others)?



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NMPF – Baseline Report – some key questions



- (draft) High Level Objectives – appropriate balance of environmental, social, economic?
- Have we identified all uses / activities that need to be planned for? What have we missed?
- Climate change – how can we ensure that the NMPF supports ambitious adaptation / mitigation measures?
- Transboundary issues in post-Brexit world.
- Spatial designation – zoning or not?



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NMPF – Baseline Report – spatial designation



One of a broad range of management actions that may be utilised in marine planning and management. It may be used for a range of purposes:

- To provide protection for biologically and ecologically important habitats, ecosystems, and ecological processes;
- To spatially separate conflicting human activities or to co-locate compatible human activities;
- To protect the natural values of the marine management area while allowing reasonable human uses of the area;
- To allocate areas for reasonable human uses while minimizing the effects of these human uses on each other and nature; and
- To preserve some areas of the marine managed area in their natural state undisturbed by humans except for scientific or educational purposes.

Zoning is one of a range of ways to achieve objectives in marine planning. Varying views – pros and cons...many examples already exist.

The final spatial designation product in a large multiple use maritime area will be the result of compromise, accommodating a range of needs, interests, and political requirements.

Spatial designation is an integral part of all forward planning but it is not simple!



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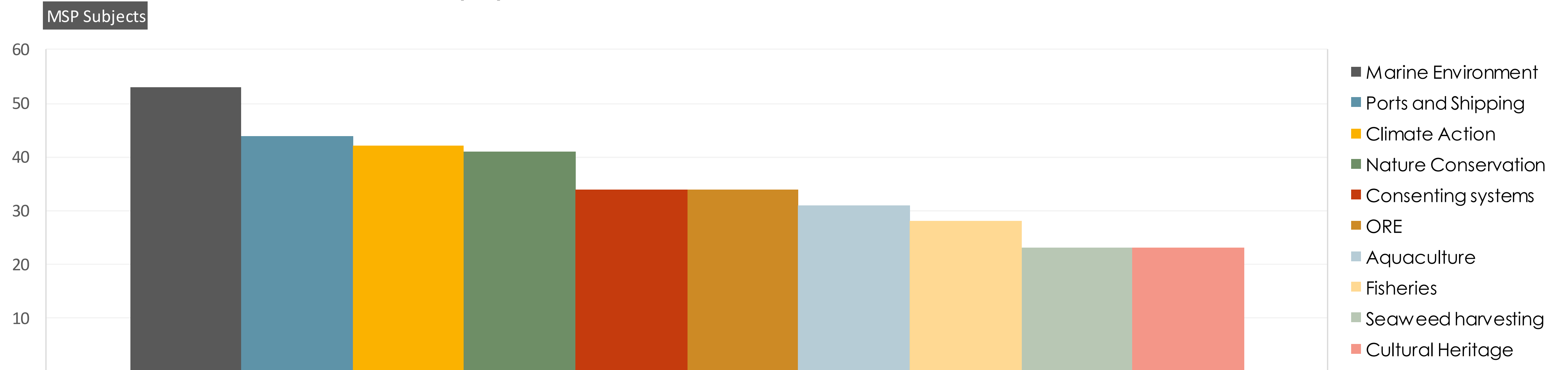
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NMPF – baseline report consultation



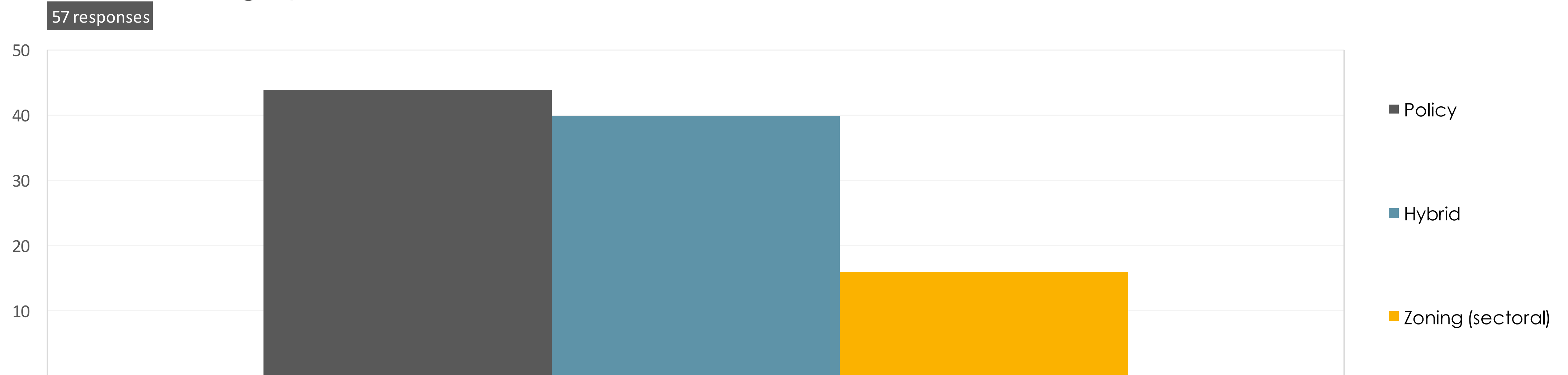
Submissions received by topic (%)



NMPF – baseline report consultation



Response to zoning question



NMPF – next steps

- Detailed analysis of submissions received (underway).
- Discussion with relevant Departments – bilaterally, through IDG etc. (immediate).
- Agree broad approach(es) – commence drafting (Q1).
- Present to Advisory Group / Government (end Q2).
- Publish draft NMPF.
- SEA / AA commencing in parallel.

Get in touch – msh@housing.gov.ie /  @MSP_Ireland



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