Options generation: Initial options summary

Options – key characteristics and assumptions	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Key issue to address	Significant growth in renewables in the next 20 years (and beyond).	Significant growth in renewables in the next 20 years (and beyond).	Change in aggregate extraction, both potential increase in area needed and change in distribution.	Change in aggregate extraction, both potential increase in area needed and change in distribution.
Area concerned	Round 3 zones.	Round 3 zones.	Aggregates resource zones outside of Round 3.	Aggregates resource zones including inside of Round 3.
Priority assumption	Wind, with no safeguarding of areas in Round 3 zones for other activities.	Wind, but with signalling of important areas in Round 3 zones for other activities.	Aggregates, except where it is exists in Round 3 zones.	Aggregates, including where it exists in Round 3 zones.
Spatial analysis	Heavily weighted technical opportunity map, combined with maps of other considerations. Gives areas with good technical opportunity for wind and less emphasis on compatibility of activities occurring in Round 3 zones.	Equally weighted technical, social, environmental and economic activities. It gives a balanced view of compatibility of activities of the Round 3 zones with the technical opportunity for wind.	Areas with potential resource for aggregates outside of Round 3 zones delineated, then analysed for areas of opportunity, based on fewer incompatible activities being present.	Areas with potential resource for aggregates delineated (including where in Round 3 zones), then analysed for areas of opportunity, based on fewer incompatible activities being present.
What does the spatial analysis tell us?	Which parts of the Round 3 zones are more or less compatible for wind activity, if technical considerations for wind form 50 per cent of the assessment of compatibility? The analysis also allows	Where, if technical considerations (as a proxy for cost of energy) were not as highly weighted, would the areas be that had the fewest incompatible activities going on in them? The analysis also allows	Where, within the possible resource area outside of Round 3 zones are the places for aggregates extraction that are the most compatible, given other considerations? The analysis also allows	Where, within the possible resource area including in Round 3 zones, are the places for aggregates extraction that are the most compatible, given other considerations? The analysis also allows

Options – key characteristics and assumptions	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
	overlaying of potential footprints for wind, which then give further insight as to how activities and consideration may be accommodated, or where effects may be greatest.	overlaying of potential footprints for wind, which then gives further insight as to how activities and consideration may be accommodated, or where effects may be greatest.	overlaying of potential footprints for aggregates, which then give further insight as to how activities and consideration may be accommodated, or where effects may be greatest.	overlaying of potential footprints for aggregates, which then give further insight as to how activities and consideration may be accommodated, or where effects may be greatest.
What are the implications for options?	There is potential for displacement of activities from their current areas in Round 3 zones, with uncertainty as to how this will occur or how they could be accommodated elsewhere. The option will have to try and account for displacement or changes in behaviour from other sectors and environmental considerations and fit them in with other activities and considerations outside of Round 3 zones.	This option can look at the first projects for wind developers, and understand what these interact with and the implications of those interactions. This can then be anticipated and accommodated for, in order to attempt to minimise impacts on other activities, by signalling where those activities happen and suggesting that this will need to be taken into account when deciding on the siting of wind projects.	This suggests that there is a large area of potential resource that does not use the same space as Round 3 zones and that a significant but relatively easily accommodated amount of space is needed for future and current aggregates extraction. It also highlights where there may be more potential for impact, either on other sectors or interests, from aggregates activity within the resource areas.	This means that there is a large area of potential resource, including some within Round 3 zones (particularly Hornsea), though the majority is outside Round 3 zones. It also suggests where aggregate extraction activity could happen in order to cause minimum disturbance to other activities and conservation interests in the marine plan area. Crucially, one of the areas of minimum disturbance for both wind and aggregates is in the Hornsea Round 3, exactly where the first wind project is proposed. This tells us there is a potential conflict that needs investigating.
What about other activities and	In this option, other activities (including nature	While wind is still the most important activity within the	Activities are affected in two ways. Firstly, those activities	As for Option C, but this could also include wind,

Options – key characteristics and assumptions	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
interests?	conservation) are considered as less of a priority than wind and where conflicts occur the presumption is that wind would develop, as long as all existing legislation (such as environmental impact assessment, navigational safety) is met. This is likely to lead to displacement or a change in usage patterns from other activities.	zones, it is delivered in a way that takes account of other activities (based on their current distribution) in a manner that aims to avoid the need for prioritisation of wind above all other activities. This option would see the plan signalling areas within the wind zones that may be particularly important for other activities. As a result, such activities may be able to be accommodated to varying degrees and in some cases, possibly even exclude wind from some relatively small areas of Round 3 zones, for example shipping corridors.	that use the aggregates resource areas are still able to use these areas, but must prove that they do not impinge upon the ability to gain the required amount of aggregates from the East plan area. Secondly, if we signal those areas within the larger safeguarding areas where other activities occur, this would be a clear signal that these would need to be considered in any future proposal for development.	where aggregates areas extend into Round 3 zones, meaning that the two main drivers of change are **potentially** competing for the same space. There would need to be a supplementary decision about whether priority was accorded to one or other activity, or whether temporal prioritisation may be possible.