

## Socio-Economic Assessment of the Scottish Solway: Summary



### Sea Fisheries

- Dominated by scallop & queen scallop fisheries
- Overall tonnage has declined over last 5 years, but value has increased
- Other activity includes traditional haaf netting
- Cockle fishing closed since 2011



### Marine Aquaculture

- Little marine aquaculture along the Scottish Solway coast
- Most notable site is Loch Ryan Oyster Fishery, producing high quality native oysters



### Seafood Processing

- Key sector in Dumfries & Galloway, employing around 400 people
- Main centre of activity is Annan, with some activity in Kirkcudbright



### Shipping and Transport

- Ferry services operate between Loch Ryan and Larne (P&O) and Belfast (Stena Line)
- Upwards of 1.5m passengers are carried each year over both routes, and a large volume of freight



### Energy, Aggregates, Subsea Cables & Pipelines

- Robin Rigg Wind Farm has 58 operational turbines in Scottish waters, although is serviced from Cumbria
- Gas pipelines between Scotland and Northern Ireland



### Sport, Recreation & Tourism

- Popular beaches and walks around the Solway coastline, with various nature and wildlife reserves
- Sailing and water sports, with development proposals for Stranraer
- Location for sea angling



### Historic Environment and Cultural Heritage

- Rich maritime history, with many sites of historical importance, including castles, monuments, and lighthouses
- Supports the visitor economy, with various museums and visitor centres



### Defence

- The Ministry of Defence have exercise, training and testing areas at West Freugh, near Stranraer, and the Dundrennan Range, near Kirkcudbright



### Marine Management and Education

- Various orgs have a remit for the management of the Solway – most are based outside the region
- At a regional level, the Solway Firth Partnership plays a key role in promoting sustainable use and furthering understanding of the Solway

