## News story: MMO support second round of EMFF England FLAG launch events

Cornwall FLAG will hold their launch event at Looe on 10 March 2017, closely followed by Dorset and East Devon on 13 March 2017 at Weymouth. North of Tyne will then launch at North Shields on 16 March 2017 and finally on 17 March 2017 North Thames will hold their event in Leigh on Sea.

The launches mark a significant step in the progression of the FLAG community led local development strategies after six FLAGs were awarded £800,000 under the EMFF scheme, and the four FLAGs follow <u>Holderness and Hastings FLAGs</u> who launched in January.

Commenting on the FLAG launches Michelle Willis (MMO Director of Finance and EU) said:

"Senior MMO staff will attend all of the FLAG launches to show our support for the critical work of the FLAGs. The strategies being pursued by all of the FLAGs will make a significant contribution to fisheries, industry and the wider community.

I personally find it very rewarding to follow the progress of the FLAGs and to see the difference EMFF funding is making to individuals and business. Both the journey of the FLAGs and a focus on projects funded by EMFF is available on our Marine Developments Blog."