

The Association of IFCA's appoints Robert Clark as Chief Officer

The Association of IFCA's (AIFCA) has appointed Robert Clark to the Association's new role of Chief Officer. Robert joins the AIFCA from the Southern IFCA, where he was Chief Executive Officer. In this role, which he has held since 2013, Rob has been responsible for overseeing the development and transformation of fisheries management in Hampshire, Dorset and the Isle of Wight. He has held a number of other senior leadership roles within IFCA's, including as Chairman of the Chief Officers Group, Chairman of the Technical Advisory Group, and was also an Acting Chief Officer.

Following a review of the AIFCA Robert has been appointed to strengthen the organisation and drive forward internal improvements that will ensure continued support for the IFCA's duties.

Tony Tomlinson MBE, Chairman of the AIFCA said:

"I am thrilled to welcome Robert to the AIFCA. His experience of delivering inshore fisheries management, which supports local communities and protects the marine environment, will stand him in good stead to lead the organisation. Rob's impressive technical knowledge and skills will equip us well to move forward confidently in delivering on our strategy. His commitment to coastal communities stood out, and I am confident Rob will support us in becoming a stronger organisation that can really maximise the benefit of IFCA's".

Robert Clark said:

IFCA's put local communities at the heart of inshore fisheries management. I am excited to support this by helping the IFCA's collaborate further and engage with our partners. The AIFCA has a very clear vision - I am looking forward to working with our partners and helping to put our ambitious plans into action.

Robert Clark: Curriculum Vitae (CV)

2013 – 2020 Chief Officer Southern IFCA

2011 Acting Chief Officer Sussex IFCA

2008 – 2013 Deputy Chief Officer Sussex IFCA / Sussex Sea Fisheries Committee

Earlier career: Robert worked in various inshore fisheries management roles, including as a compliance officer and scientist. He holds Masters degrees in Coastal Management and Business Administration. He has published extensively on inshore fisheries management, marine policy and marine protected areas.

IFCA Vision

"lead, champion and manage a sustainable marine environment and inshore fisheries, by successfully securing the right balance between social, environmental and economic benefits to ensure healthy seas, sustainable fisheries and viable industries"