



## Call for Evidence: Fisheries Report, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013 to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014

### WHAT is the Call for Evidence?

The call for evidence document outlines the scope of EU competence for Fisheries and their management. Put simply, competence is the EU's power to act. The call for evidence lists key issues which the final report will cover including marine fisheries, shellfisheries and aquaculture. The questions are designed to generate evidence about where EU action on fisheries helps and hinders the UK. This involves looking at the level at which decisions should be taken, how successful the current EU arrangements are, and what future challenges and opportunities for fisheries management will be. A report will then be published in summer 2014, summarising the evidence gathered from the call for evidence.

### WHAT is the aim?

This work stems from a Coalition commitment to review the balance of competences between the UK and the EU. This report is one of thirty-two subject-based reports which will provide an informed and objective analysis of what EU membership means for the UK. This report aims to deepen public and parliamentary understanding of the nature of our EU membership by examining the EU's effect on fisheries and its management in the UK. Most importantly, the report will be a summary of evidence submitted by a variety of interested parties. However, it won't be producing recommendations or drawing conclusions.

### WHY take part?

We are sending out the call for evidence widely to those involved in the fishing industry, NGOs, trade bodies, business, interest groups, Parliament, the devolved governments and academics. We invite anyone with relevant knowledge, expertise or experience to respond to the questions in our call for evidence. This is an opportunity for people to have their say on an important issue.

### WHEN respond by?

The call for evidence period will last twelve weeks from **21<sup>st</sup> October to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014**. Throughout this period we will hold a series of events to inform individuals and organisations about the review, to encourage debate on key issues and to collect evidence for the final report. Please contact us for further information on these workshops.

### WHAT next?

Contact us for more information:

[balanceofcompetence.fish@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:balanceofcompetence.fish@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Visit our consultation page to read the call for evidence documents and complete the online survey:

[consult.defra.gov.uk/eu/boc-fisheries](http://consult.defra.gov.uk/eu/boc-fisheries)