



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Quota and CMO Policy Team
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Date: 13 October 2020

Dear Consultee,

FISHERIES: CONSULTATION ON APPORTIONING ADDITIONAL QUOTA BETWEEN THE UK ADMINISTRATIONS

I am writing to invite views on how we split additional quota between the four UK fisheries administrations in 2021.

BACKGROUND

In January 2021, at the end of the transition period, the UK will be an independent coastal State with rights and duties under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea to control and manage the resources in our waters. We will have left the Common Fisheries Policy and will no longer be bound by the EU's outdated and unfair method for sharing fishing opportunities. We are committed to moving away from relative stability to a fairer share of fishing opportunities for our fishing industry across the British Isles.

We will be negotiating with the EU and other coastal States this year on 2021 fishing opportunities, including quotas, for shared fish stocks. There will be negotiations in future years for fishing opportunities beyond 2021.

We aim to secure additional quota in these negotiations - over and above what we had before we left the EU – and we need to be ready to allocate any additional quota we secure. However, we will not know precise stocks and tonnages we will have in 2021 until negotiations conclude later this year.

WHY WE ARE CONSULTING

We would like your views on how we split additional quota between the four administrations in 2021. We are working closely with the Northern Ireland Executive, Scottish Government and Welsh Government on this and will share the responses to this consultation with them.

At the same time, we are consulting separately on how we allocate this additional quota to industry in England and the Crown Dependencies. The devolved administrations are responsible for allocating quota in their parts of the UK. We are also consulting separately on the future of the economic link in England.

As stated in the 2018 white paper we are not currently planning to alter the allocation methodology for our existing quota. This will provide certainty and stability for industry.

We would like to thank you in advance for your support in this important work. We want to learn from your experience and to take your ideas on board. We need your help to get this right.

The consultation documents may be found on Defra's website: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/fisheries/apportioning-additional-quota-between-the-uk-admin>

We welcome your views and comments on the proposals. If you wish to obtain a copy of this consultation please contact fisheriesengagement@defra.gov.uk

RESPONSES

To submit your consultation response please complete the consultation questionnaire provided through Citizen Space (Citizen Space is an on-line consultation tool).

This consultation will run for 4 weeks from 13 October to 10 November 2020. Responses should be received by **10 November**.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION

This consultation document and consultation process have been planned to adhere to the Consultation Principles issued by the Cabinet Office.

Representative groups are asked to give a summary of the people and organisations they represent and where relevant who else they have consulted in reaching their conclusions when they respond.

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal data, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes these are primarily the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA). We have obligations, mainly under the EIRs, FOIA and DPA, to disclose information to particular recipients or to the public in certain circumstances.

If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, as a public authority, Defra is bound by the Freedom of Information Act and may therefore be obliged to disclose all or some of the information you provide. In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality

can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding.

This consultation is being conducted in line with the Cabinet Office "Consultation Principles" and be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance>.

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to:

Consultation Coordinator, Defra
2nd Floor
Foss House
Kings Pool
1-2 Peasholme Green
York
YO1 7PX

Or email: consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk

Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries, please contact us as above.

Yours faithfully

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Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

fisheriesengagement@defra.gov.uk