

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Developing a new approach for the allocation of additional quota in England

Call for evidence

July 2019

Contents

Why we are consulting.....	1
Your opportunity to contribute to this project.....	2
The questionnaire	2
Responses.....	4
Confidentiality and data protection.....	4

Why we are consulting

Following Brexit, we will negotiate with the EU and coastal states for a fairer share of fishing opportunities.

In the fisheries white paper, [Sustainable Fisheries for Future Generations](#)¹ we set out plans to promote a more competitive, profitable and sustainable fishing industry across the whole of the UK and to set a gold standard for sustainable fishing around the world.

We said we intended to begin a conversation about how to allocate the additional quota we negotiate. We indicated that we would work with stakeholders to develop a new and different approach to allocating this.

We also set out various issues we would consider in developing the approach to allocation in England. These include:

- establishing a reserve of quota to be managed and allocated in accordance with new criteria to meet the future needs of the industry. This could include allocation of some fishing opportunities specifically for recreational angling
- allocating part of any new quota in the reserve to underpin a new approach to tackle the problem of choke species, so that the crucial discard ban works in practice as well as in theory
- allocating some fishing opportunity through a tendering or auctioning system
- developing new criteria to define low impact inshore fishing vessels to replace the current 'under 10 metre' category
- potentially trialing an effort (days at sea) based regime in place of a quota regime for some inshore fisheries
- integrating recreational angling within the new fisheries framework recognising the societal benefits of this activity and impacts on some stocks
- ensuring our coastal communities derive maximum benefit from quota

This call for evidence is to inform the development of this new approach. It is part of the process to enable us to gather and evaluate appropriate evidence.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/fisheries-white-paper-sustainable-fisheries-for-future-generations/sustainable-fisheries-for-future-generations-consultation-document>

Your opportunity to contribute to this project

This is an opportunity for you to provide evidence that will help us to consider how to allocate any additional fishing quota in England we may secure during negotiations following Brexit.

Evidence submitted might include new or existing reports or documents as well as data in various forms. However, it can also include narratives of your personal experiences of fishing inside and outside of quota management systems and how these have influenced your approach to fishing. Your opinions and viewpoints are also welcome but it is evidence synthesis and knowledge gathering that is at the core of this call.

This is a public document that has been placed on the Defra consultation website. It invites you to contribute to a series of questions structured around the considerations we set out in the White Paper. It also provides an opportunity for you to add any further points that may not easily fit under the other questions.

The questionnaire

About you

First name:

Last name:

Organisation (if applicable):

Postal address:

Email address:

Telephone number:

Do you wish for your name to be published alongside your response in any documents we make available to the general public as a result of this call? (Yes/No)

Different models

1. Which allocation models from other parts of the world could we learn from?
2. Are there positive aspects of the current allocation model which should be replicated in the approach for allocating additional quota?
3. Are there aspects of the current allocation model which should not be replicated in the approach for allocating additional quota?

A competitive, profitable and sustainable fishing industry

4. How could competitiveness, profitability and sustainability be considered in developing an approach for using additional quota?
5. How could we demonstrate that we have made good decisions in how we use additional quota?

Fishers and the fishing fleet

6. How could we identify groups or individuals that could use additional quota and determine why they need this quota?
7. How could we define 'active fishers'? And what processes can we establish, if any, to ensure active fishers have opportunities to access additional quota?
8. How could we define 'new entrants'? And what processes can we establish, if any, to ensure new entrants have opportunities to access additional quota?
9. How could we determine the capacity of the current fleet to catch additional quota?

Approaches to using additional quota

10. How could we use additional quota to tackle choke risk and to deter catches or discards in excess of quota?
11. How could we design an allocation system (including tendering or auction) that would contribute to our aim of a competitive, profitable and sustainable fishing industry?
12. How could we use additional quota in a trial to test whether fishing can be carried out sustainably under an effort based regime?
13. How could we use additional quota to integrate recreational fishing activity into a quota management system?
14. How could we best support coastal communities with additional quota and what evidence is there about the value of community-based quota schemes and the forms they could take?
15. How could we use additional quota to improve our evidence on fish stocks and fisheries?

Anything else

16. Are there any other issues or is there any additional evidence that you think we should be considering in relation to additional quota?

Responses

To submit your response, please complete the questionnaire available from the Citizen Space website at the following link: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/fisheries/fishing-quota-allocation-developing-a-new-approach>

Alternatively, you can send us your comments by post to:

Additional Quota - Call for Evidence

Defra Future Fisheries Team

1st Floor, Seacole Building

2 Marsham Street

London, SW1P 4DF

Or directly to our dedicated email account: fisheriesengagement@defra.gov.uk

Please let us have your comments by **30 August 2019**.

Confidentiality and data protection

This Call for Evidence 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, the Department 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 on the Department.

The Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs will process your personal data in accordance with the law and in the majority of circumstances this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties. A full privacy notice is included the parts above.

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
Area 6B, 6th Floor
Defra
Nobel House
17 Smith Square,
London, SW1P 3JR.

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



© Crown copyright 2019

You may re-use this information (excluding logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence v.3. To view this licence visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/ or email PSI@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at www.gov.uk/government/publications

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at:

fisheriesengagement@defra.gov.uk