**MCA responses to the Fees consultation**

| **Number** | **Organisation** | **Summary of response received** | **MCA comment** |
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| 1 | Isle of Man Ship Registry | Increase in fees does not go far enough for the UK to stay competitive in the future. The UK should look at other models e.g. the Marshall Islands. | Noted. Thank you for your comments. |
| 2 | Mecal Ltd. | Fees should be more in line with Class Societies. | Noted. Thank you for your comments. |
| 3 | British Marine & British Marine Boat Shows | Clarification over whether the proposed increases apply to Fishing Vessels only. | The increases apply to all vessels. |
| 4 | Turus Mara | Fees should be phased in over 5 years. The MCA should look to localise operations with less top/middle management and cut bureaucracy at all levels. | After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately. At the same time, it is delivering the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme which will implement efficiencies in service delivery.  |
| 5 | Elliot Morton | The Charges should remain the same because as a small company we have already moved the smaller vessels (5 in total) under the workboat code to MCA approved Surveying companies on the grounds of cost and better and consistent surveyors. There is a consultation to move our local MCA office a two and a half hour drive away to further increase the travel costs. The cost could be recovered from better and more thorough vessel inspection of foreign flagged shipping using Australia as an example. The Agency should consider the greater use of technology to reduce inspection time. | The Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately. Smaller organisations such as Certifying Authorities that are authorised to carry out Code vessel survey and certification on behalf of MCA can be run at lower costs and it is logical for small businesses to want to reduce costs where this is permitted. The last MCA fee increase was in 2006 and fees have been maintained at an artificially low level compared with actual costs since that time, with the gap being paid out of public funds. For larger vessels, survey hourly rates are considered to be lower than those of the Recognized Organisations who could be authorised for this work for Classed vessels. The recent Survey and Inspection Consultation proposed the move of the Marine Office from Beverley to Bridlington. After considering the responses to the Consultation, the MCA decided that the NE England Marine Office will be retained in or near Beverley but in order to make efficiency savings, it will be reduced in size. The MCA has retained a seafarers’ examination centre in the Tyne area which is located at South Tyneside College. |
| 6 | NHS Kernow CCG (Dr Boulter) | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 7 | NHS Kernow CCG (Dr Jackson) | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 8 | Approved doctor in Essex | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 9 | Totalise.co.uk | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 10 | Approved doctor in Lancaster | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 11 | Stena | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 12 | BP Shipping | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 13 | CMA Ships | Phased increase is preferred as the shipping sector is struggling currently. | The Agency recognises the concerns of CMA Ships. |
| 14 | Approved doctor in Greenock | The proposed increase to the ENG1 is reasonable. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 15 | Approved doctor in Bangladesh | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 16 | Health Work Ltd. | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 17 | Mecal Ltd. | Fees should be more in line with Class Societies. | Please see response to question two. |
| 18 | Approved doctor in Peterhead | Proposed ENG1 fee is reasonable as long as no follow up work is required | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 19 | Seafish | The consultation made no mention of course/centre approval costs. | This consultation is concentrating on existing fees only. Once this consultation exercise is complete, we intend to look at course/centre approvals costs and other new fees. |
| 20 | 48 Wimpole Street London - Approved doctor | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 21 | Bryden Medical Ltd | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 22 | Dorset NHS | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 23 | Isle of Wight Approved Doctor | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 24 | Lowestoft Approved Doctor | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 25 | Dr C S McMinn | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 26 | Lorn Medical Centre Oban | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 27 | Dr Sally Bell | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 28 | Jon Newstead | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 29 | Dr Tok Hussain | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 30 | Dr Ian Griffiths | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 31 | Royal Yacht Association | The RYA does not agree to the proposed increase to the UK Small Ships Register (SSR) Online Registration Service to £35 especially as the Agency is developing a new online SSR registration system. | Thank you for your comments, which have been noted. |
| 32 | Dr Bram Ganesan | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 33 | Dr Sam Huddlestone | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 34 | Princes Street Surgery Dundee | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 35 | Liverpool Approved Doctor | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 36 | Dr Yvonne Davies | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 37 | Dr Suzanne Lane | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 38 | Red Funnel | It is difficult to predict on the impact on the Red Funnel’s operations. Increase should come with improved service and should be phased. The Agency should consider the use of Classification Societies for Hull and Machinery issues. | The MCA has carried out a review of its Survey and Inspection (S&I) activities. This has resulted in actions planned to improve efficiency and reduce costs, for example by reducing the number of Marine Offices, more surveyors working remotely and re-organised management systems to improve quality control. More digital solutions for ways of working will be introduced over the next few years, for example electronic filing systems, databases, reports and certificates. Hull and Machinery surveys are already carried out on domestic passenger ships which are Classed and MCA would encourage Red Funnel to Class their vessels.  |
| 39 | Dr John Stout | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 40 | Dr Janet Pierson | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 41 | Rose King ETO | Increases should be phased in as absorbing cost increases over the last 10 years in one uplift is too difficult to manage for the industry. Annual increases should be implemented in future. Consideration should also be given to extending the validity of certificates to 10 years. | The MCA is looking to review fees on a more regular basis in future and will maintain certificates in compliance with the STCW Convention. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 42 | Dr Hari Krishnan | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 43 | The Solent Steam Packet Ltd | A single large increase will impact on a small charity and such an increase should be phased in. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 44 | Dr Coralie Cauchois | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 45 | Coastworks | Survey fees should not be increased to address inefficiencies within the organisation. | As explained in the consultation document, the last fee increase was in 2006 and the gap between costs and fee recovery has been met by public funds. It would not be right to continue with the public subsidizing these costs any longer than necessary. In future, the MCA intends to increase fees more regularly in line with costs to reduce the impact sudden fee increases can cause to industry. Separately the Agency is implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its work conducting surveys in the future.  |
| 46 | Riverside Medical Practice Inverness | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 47 | Seaprobe Atlantis | Fees should not be increased as existing fees already a burden on small businesses. Also the seasonal nature of the business means that it will have a direct impact on profitability. | As explained in the consultation document, the last fee increase was in 2006 and the gap between costs and fee recovery has been met by public funds. It would not be right to continue with the public subsidizing these costs any longer than necessary. In the future, the MCA intends to increase fees more regularly in line with costs to reduce the impact sudden fee increases can cause to industry. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 48 | Dr Manual Fernandes | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 49 | Bodriggy Health Centre | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 50 | Windwave Workboats Ltd | Fees increases should be phased in so that businesses can manage their cash flow accordingly. | As explained in the consultation document, the last fee increase was in 2006 and the gap between costs and fee recovery has been met by public funds. It would not be right to continue with the public subsidizing these costs any longer than necessary. In the future, the MCA intends to increase fees more regularly in line with costs to reduce the impact sudden fee increases can cause to industry. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 51 | Dr John Bush | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 52 | P&O Ferries | Costs should be recovered through efficiencies where possible and a phased increase would be preferred. | As explained in the consultation document, the last fee increase was in 2006 and the gap between costs and fee recovery has been met by public funds. It would not be right to continue with the public subsidizing these costs any longer than necessary. In the future, the MCA intends to increase fees more regularly in line with costs to reduce the sudden impact fee increases can cause to industry. The Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme is implementing proposals to make our business more efficient and effective to customer demands. |
| 53 | Winch Lane Surgery - Nicola Tinsley (Practice Manager) | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 54 | Dr Twumasi | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 55 | Dr Tim Stevenson | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 56 | Dr Ajay Bedi | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 57 | Sean Stringfellow | The MCA needs to become more efficient in its processing of certificates and the British government needs to do more to support British seafarers. | Currently the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its certification processes more efficient. Also, the Agency is implementing the recommendations of the Maritime Growth Study which will help make the UK Ship Register more commercially attractive.  |
| 58 | Zodiac Maritime Ltd | The increase in fees needs to be matched with an improvement in service levels. | Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection work in the future.  |
| 59 | Dr John Canning | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 60 | Evans Marine Services Ltd. | Seasonal boat operators will not be able to absorb the proposed increases in fees. | As explained in the consultation document, the last fee increase was in 2006 and the gap between costs and fee recovery has been met by public funds. It would not be right to continue with the public subsidizing these costs any longer than necessary. In the future, the MCA intends to increase fees more regularly in line with costs to reduce the impact sudden fee increases can cause to industry.After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 61 | Dr James Niblock | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 62 | Cosmar - Ian Caig | The Agency should review its policy for surveyor travel in order to reduce costs and consider a phased increase so that industry is able to plan in an effective way. | As part of the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, the Agency is implementing ways to improve the MCA service relating to overseas surveys provided to the shipping industry. The Agency is considering options for implementing increases to enable full cost recovery of services while recognising the needs of industry.  |
| 63 | Dr Christine Dainty | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 64 | Associated British Ports | We would prefer not to have staged increases in costs to allow for more secure future budgeting. | The Agency is considering options for implementing increases to enable full cost recovery of services while recognising the needs of industry.  |
| 65 | Dr Ian Gordon - Marine Medical Services | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 66 | Dr Peter Snape | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 67 | Dr Peter Mayner | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 68 | Burgess Yachts | The Agency is not operating in the most efficient manner in terms of providing survey services and the standard of administration is much slower than other administrations.Before implementing any increase the Agency should look to improve its services and implement the Maritime Growth Study recommendations. A potential impact of the fees increase would be reducing the overall size of the market in which the MCA operates. | As part of the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, the Agency is implementing ways to improve the MCA service relating to surveys provided to the shipping industry. The Agency is considering options for implementing increases to enable full cost recovery of services while recognising the needs of industry. |
| 69 | St Agnes Boating - John Peacock | The fees need increasing and no further savings can be made without compromising safety and quality of service. We are facing a number of cost pressures and the proposed increase would put a greater strain on margins.The proposed increases to training costs may encourage companies to flout regulations to in order to avoid costs. | After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 70 | Mallaig & NW Fishermen's Association | The Association recognises the need for full cost recovery but believes that there are more efficiencies to be made in the Agency which would improve the current service. It would prefer phasing of any increase with the trialling of the Aide Memoire checklist. | Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection work in the future. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 71 | Dr Christine Penny | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 72 | Bookings, Princess River Cruises | Princess River Cruises recognises the need for full cost recovery however there are potential efficiencies to be made as the proposed increase for the survey fee is greater than inflation over the last ten years. A phased increase would be more appropriate and perhaps a different charging regime for Inland Waterways. | Currently the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection work in the future. Also, the Agency will look to review its fees on more frequent basis to ensure that the impact to industry is minimised.After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 73 | Rosie Hogwood-Helm, BMA | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 74 | Alison Smedley, Inland Waterways | Inland Waterways accepts the need for full cost recovery. However it would prefer no increases for operators on Category A waters as the survey fee may cause some operators to go out of business. A sliding scale for different categories of water being used and the frequency of inspections should be reviewed.  | Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection work in the future. Also, the Agency will look to review its fees on more frequent basis to ensure that the impact to industry is minimised.After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 75 | Derek Cardno, Scottish Fishermen's Federation | Further efficiencies in the Agency should be considered with a phased approach to increasing fees. | After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately. Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection work in the future. Also, the Agency will look to review its fees on more frequent basis to ensure that the impact to industry is minimised. |
| 76 | Karen Toms | The Agency should be looking to recover its costs however it should adapt its business processes to be become as efficient as possible first before applying any increases. Otherwise the increase is masking inefficiency within the organisation. Staffing levels need to be reviewed and there is no evidence of service improvement linked to this proposed increase. | Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection work in the future. As part of this, Programme staffing levels are being reviewed. Also, the Agency will look to review its fees on more frequent basis to ensure that the impact to industry is minimised.After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 77 | Scott Baker, Svitzer | The Agency should be looking to recover its costs and adapt its business processes to be become as efficient as possible. A phased approach over 5 years would be preferred. The Agency may want to consider block fees as a means to achieve a more certain stream of income and to enable more effective resource planning. | Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection work in the future. Also, the Agency will look to review its fees on more frequent basis to ensure that the impact to industry is minimised in future and consider alternative charging models where appropriate.After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 78 | Edward Tuite (British Marine) | The Agency should be looking to recover its costs and adapt its business processes to be become as efficient as possible while providing high quality service to its customers. An immediate increase will have a severe impact on industry especially combined with office closures. Domestic passenger vessels should be considered as a vulnerable group. The Agency should consider domestic passenger vessels as a vulnerable group. Improved communication channels within the Agency and clearer standards will help the end user. Inland Passenger Vessels may be more vulnerable to the impact of the cost increases and there may be a greater impact to the tourist industry and smaller passenger vessels. | Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection across all coverage areas in the future. Also, the Agency will look to review its fees on more frequent basis to ensure that the impact to industry is minimised.After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 79 | Karen Toms | The Agency should be looking to recover its costs however a 57% increase in the survey fee means that the MCA has been poorly run over the last five years. Improvements should be made before any increases are applied and should be just above inflation. Staffing levels need to be reviewed to provide an efficient level of service. | Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection across all coverage areas in the future. Also, the Agency will look to review its fees on a more frequent basis to ensure that the impact to industry is minimised. |
| 80 | Nautilus (Allan Graveson) | Nautilus expressed its concern about the Agency’s lack of engagement and the analysis produced to arrive at the proposed fees within the context of growing the wider maritime sector as expressed in the Maritime Growth Study.It also had concerns about the scale of increases on a number of fees affecting individual seafarers and that increases should be restricted to the equivalent of RPI over the same period. | The Agency appreciates the concerns of Nautilus in taking into account the wider policy implications of the proposed fees increases. However, at the same time, it needs to recover the cost of the services it provides to the maritime sector. Also, for a number of reasons, we have not been in a position to increase our fees for over ten years. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 81 | National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers | RMT is concerned about a shift in the burden of fees recovery from survey work to STC fees. The union is also concerned that the time and cost study was not provided. It would prefer to see the cost of STC services frozen particularly fees for Ratings Certification and Boatmasters and if this is not possible then any increase limited to 20%. RMT also expressed concern about the £752 Safe Manning Certificate being removed, the impact on Surveyor utilisation rates and the Marine Office network being reduced. | The Agency appreciates the concerns of RMT in taking into account the wider policy implications of the proposed fees increases. However, at the same time, it needs to recover the cost of the services it provides to the maritime sector. Also, for a number of reasons, we have not been in a position to increase our fees for over ten years.  |
| 82 | Dr Patrick McGuigan | ENG1 fee has not increased enough to provide the quality of medical required for seafarers. | The Agency has written to you separately about the ENG1 fee, recognising the issues raised by stakeholders. After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years.  |
| 83 | Adrian Mundin forwarding Intrada Ships response | Efficiencies and cost increases should go hand in hand. The proposed large increases are unacceptable to industry and greater than the equivalent RPI increase of 30% over 10 years. The Agency needs to employ the right number of surveyors with the correct salary package and should consider a tariff based system for survey fees. It needs to consider why funds are required up front instead of charging when work is completed and process refunds more efficiently. | Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection across all coverage areas in the future. Also, the Agency will look to review its fees on a more frequent basis to ensure that the impact to industry is minimised. |
| 84 | Adrian Mundin (Chamber of Shipping) | Any increase needs to be over 3-5 years as several sectors within the industry are facing difficult trading conditions. Service standards should be linked to fees and fees needs to be compared on a continuous basis. The Agency needs to improve its on-line capability, simplify its charging structure and surveyors need to be available to reflect the needs of the industry. | Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection across all coverage areas in the future. Also, the Agency will look to review its fees on a more frequent basis to ensure that the impact to industry is minimised.After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |
| 85 | Serco Northlink Ferries | The Agency should charge fees to cover the cost of services in line with inflation and a reasonable price increase is acceptable so that the public purse is not covering industry spend. Serco Northlink Ferries believe that the MCA is committed to driving quality service provision whilst maintaining an efficient operational focus on costs.  | Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection across all coverage areas in the future. Also, the Agency will look to review its fees on a more frequent basis to ensure that the impact to industry is minimised. We appreciate recognition of the need to cover our costs. |
| 86 | National Federation of Fishermen’s Organisations | We agree with the need to cover costs but feel that the fishing industry is not currently being given the service required to justify the survey fees increase proposed. The Agency should look to a five year horizon to increase fees and incentivise fishing vessels owners to keep their vessels in the best condition and therefore reduce the number of follow up visits. | Currently, the Agency is investing in a number of systems to make its processes more efficient and thereby improve customer service levels. The Agency is also implementing the Survey and Inspection Transformation Programme, which will improve the way the MCA conducts survey and inspection across all coverage areas in the future. Also, the Agency will look to review its fees on a more frequent basis to ensure that the impact to industry is minimised.After careful consideration of the consultation feedback, the Agency has decided to phase in survey fees over two years and the seafarer medical fee (ENG1) over three years, with all other fees increasing immediately.  |

A total of 86 responses was received, of which one was a duplicate (response 17) and the other was a clarification question (response 3). Therefore after removing these, the net total is 84.