

**Telephone:** 0207 238 5204  
**Web:** [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)



12<sup>th</sup> January 2012

Dear Consultee,

**INDUSTRY LED NON-FORMAL CONSULTATION ON AQUACULTURE IN ENGLAND:  
PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH IN THE ENGLISH AQUACULTURE  
INDUSTRY**

I am writing to invite views on planning for sustainable growth in the English Aquaculture industry. This innovative consultation has been written by an industry group, representing the aquaculture industry in England, and seeks to identify how the industry can grow in England. Defra are running the consultation on behalf of the industry.

The following documents can be found on Defra's website at:

[www.defra.gov.uk/consult/2012/01/12/aquaculture-1201/](http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult/2012/01/12/aquaculture-1201/)

- A copy of this letter
- The consultation document
- A list of consultees

We welcome your views and comments on the proposals.

These documents are not being published in hard-copy, however if you experience any difficulty in accessing the versions on our website, please contact us by e-mail at: [AquaculturePlanforEnglandConsultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:AquaculturePlanforEnglandConsultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

**Responses**

In order to save paper, I encourage you to respond by email if possible, to:

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

Alternatively, postal responses should be addressed to:

**Defra, Aquaculture Team, Area 2C, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR.**

Please do not send duplicate responses by both email and hard copy.

**Joint responses**

If you are responding on behalf of a number of organisations, please indicate clearly in your response who you are representing. It is not necessary for your members to submit multiple identical responses. Group members who wish to submit their own response are politely requested to restrict their individual reply to those areas where they disagree with the group reply or have additional information or comments. This will help improve the efficiency of our analysis, and we are most grateful for your co-operation.

**Deadline**

This consultation will run for 8 weeks. The deadline for all responses is therefore **8 March 2012**. I regret that we may not be able to consider any views which are received after this date.

**Consultation Criteria**

This consultation is in line with the Code of practice on Consultations. This can be found at [www.berr.gov.uk/bre/](http://www.berr.gov.uk/bre/)

When this consultation ends, we intend to put a copy of the responses in the Defra library at Ergon House, London. This is so that the public can see them. Also, members of the public may ask for a copy of responses under freedom of information legislation.

If you do not want your response - including your name, contact details and any other personal information – to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, that won't count as a confidentiality request.

Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under freedom of information legislation. But, because of the law, we cannot promise that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

To see consultation responses and summaries, please contact the library at:  
Defra, Information Resource Centre, Lower Ground Floor, Ergon House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR

Telephone: 020-7238-6575

Email: [defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Please give the library 24 hours' notice. There is a charge for photocopying and postage.

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to Defra Consultation Co-ordinator, Area 7B Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR, or email [consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk).

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

Yours Faithfully  
Matthew Whittles

**Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**