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Maritime &  
Coastguard  
Agency

Dear Consultee

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Your ref:  
Our ref:

9 June 2015

Dear Consultee,

## CONSULTATION OF THE REVISED VOLUNTARY FISHING VESSEL CODES OF PRACTICE,

This consultation seeks comments on the revisions to the following Marine Guidance Notes:

- MGN 501 – The Code of Practice for Fishing Vessels of 24 metres and Over – Standards which can be used to prepare for your MCA Survey and Inspection
- MGN 502 - The Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Fishing Vessels - Standards which can be used to prepare for your MCA Inspection;

This consultation also seeks comments on revisions to the proposed MGN containing the Code of Practice for Fishing Vessels of 15m to less than 24m – Standards which can be used to prepare for your MCA inspection. This Code was previously consulted upon between October and December 2013.

The consultation period will run for 8 weeks. Please send your responses to MCA by email to [Gareth.love@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:Gareth.love@mcga.gov.uk) or to the address at the head of this letter by 14/08/2015.

The Consultation has seven appendices.

Appendix 1 – Draft MGN introducing the Small Fishing Vessel Code of Practice

Appendix 2 – Draft Small Fishing Vessel Code of Practice

Appendix 3 – Draft MGN introducing the 15-24m Fishing Vessel Code of Practice

Appendix 4 – Draft 15-24m Fishing Vessel Code of Practice

Appendix 5 – Draft MGN introducing the 24m and Over Fishing Vessel Code of Practice

Appendix 6 – Draft 24m and Over Fishing Vessel Code of Practice

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### Appendix 7 – Business Engagement Assessment

The consultation documents are available online from the Gov.uk site at [www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultations&topics/maritime-and-coastguard-agency](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultations&topics/maritime-and-coastguard-agency)

#### Freedom of Information Act

*Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).*

*If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence. 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 will process your personal data in accordance with the DPA and in the majority of circumstances; this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.*

#### Consultation Criteria

This consultation has been conducted in accordance with the Cabinet Office Consultation Principles Guidance.

#### Feedback

If you have any comments regarding the conduct of this consultation please contact the Consultation Co-ordinator at [consultation.coordinator@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.coordinator@mcga.gov.uk). We are continually trying to improve the way in which we conduct consultations and appreciate your views, so we would also be grateful if you could complete and return the attached feedback form. These should be submitted to the Consultation Co-ordinator and are not affected by the deadline for this consultation.

Yours faithfully,

David Fenner  
Vessel Standards Branch

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