MCZ Team,
c/o Post Room,
Nobel House,
17 Smith Square,
London.
SW1P 3JR

GHT/WTL

28th March, 2013

Dear Sirs,

Re: Consultation on Proposed Designation of Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs)

Thank you for providing an opportunity to comment on the proposed designation of Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs).

Bridlington Harbour is situated on the East Coast of England, four miles west of Flamborough Head. It is a thriving Trust Port and is the largest shellfish port in England consisting of 50 fishing vessels and landing over £6m of crabs and lobsters per annum. The fleet operates between Flamborough Head and the Humber and up to 30 to 40 miles from Bridlington. Bridlington Harbour also handles the catches from Hornsea and Withernsea. The fishing fleet operates in both MCZs, MG8 and MG9, fishing with low impact potting gear.

The development of offshore renewables is already being challenged by the fishermen because of the significant area that is taken up by these offshore renewables. We welcomed the fact that the two areas were not included in the first tranche and were subject to further review.

Bridlington Harbour Commissioners have a disposal site for 20,000 tonnes of dredged materials, HU015, which is .65 of a kilometre from the proposed reference area 9. If this reference area 9 is approved, the Harbour Commissioners would need to find a new disposal site which would be very costly. Could not the reference area be on the renewables sites?

Bridlington Harbour Commissioners consider that there is enough control over the fishing areas which are already fished sustainably. Any interference in the viability of the fishing fleet will have a serious socio-economic impact on the whole community and its associated businesses.

Yours faithfully,

G. H. Traves MBE
Chairman