

**Bay 2/23
Spring Place
105 Commercial Road
Southampton
SO15 1EG
United Kingdom**

**Tel: +44 (0)203 81 72454
Fax: +44 (0)23 8032 9104
E-mail: David.fenner@mcga.gov.uk**

Your ref:
Our ref:

20 December 2017

Dear Consultee

PROPOSED MGN 581 - REGISTRATION SURVEYS FOR FISHING VESSELS OF LESS 15M

The MCA would like to consult on a new Marine Guidance Note regarding the Registration Surveys of vessels of less than 15m Length Overall built before 16 July 2007 which wish to apply to operate as commercial fishing vessels.

MSN 1871 allows vessels of less than 15m built before 16 July 2007 to be considered by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) for Registration as fishing vessels. As part of the process MCA requires evidence that such vessels are safe and suitable for commercial fishing.

Since 2007, this evidence has been provided to the MCA by Seafish, whose surveyors (at the vessel owner's expense) survey such vessels against Seafish Construction Standards and submit their report to the MCA for consideration.

Seafish ceased undertaking surveys after 30 November 2017. MCA will now oversee these surveys, conducted by Authorised Surveyors on behalf of the MCA. This MGN sets out the processes by which this is achieved.

We would welcome your comments on the proposed MGN which should be forwarded to helen.duncan@mcga.gov.uk. This consultation will close on 31st January 2018.

This consultation and the comments received will be posted on the consultations page Gov.uk.

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. 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
Head of Fishing and Codes Policy

MCA CONSULTATION FEEDBACK FORM

1. Please indicate on which Consultation you are providing feedback:

--

2a. Please indicate whether you are responding on behalf of:

Please cross one box

Yourself as an Individual		A Trade Association		A Company		A Government Organisation	
A Trade Union		Other (please specify)					

2b. Please indicate whether you accessed this consultation package through:

Please cross one box

Post		Email		Website	
------	--	-------	--	---------	--

3. Please rate the quality of this consultation regarding accuracy, good English and spelling:

Please cross one box

Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor

4. Please rate the format of the consultation presentation (layout, Annexes etc):

Please cross one box

Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor

5. Please rate the consultation in terms of how clear and concise you felt it was:

Please cross one box

Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor

6. Did you feel that the consultation was conducted over a sufficient period of time?

YES

☐

NO

☐

7. Were any representative groups, organisations or companies not consulted who you felt should have been?

YES

☐

NO

☐

If YES, who?

8. Please let us have any suggestions for improvement or other comments you wish to make about this consultation below:

Thank you for your time. Please return this form to:

Consultation Co-ordinator,
Maritime and Coastguard Agency,
Spring Place, Bay 2/23
105 Commercial Road
Southampton
SO15 1EG

Or e-mail it to: consultation.coordinator@mcga.gov.uk

If you are happy to supply your name in case we need to contact you to discuss your views further, please enter it below (this is optional and your feedback will still be taken into account if you wish to remain anonymous):

Name:

Tel No:

Please note that the deadline for responses to the Consultation itself does not apply to the return of this form.