AFL1: Guidance for Completing the AFL2 Form to Apply for a Fishing vessel Licence

Please read these notes and conditions carefully before completing application form AFL 2. Further information and guidance is available from your local Marine Management Organisation (MMO) office.

Completion of application form

1. The application form should be completed by the registered owner and information should match the details found on the Certificate of Registry. In the case of joint ownership, this means all those with one or more shares in the vessel must co-sign the application form as licences are issued in the names of all registered owners, and not just those with the largest shareholding. Exceptionally where a court has ordered that the rights in a licence are vested in someone other than the registered owner, that person may complete the application form as if he/she were the registered owner. In any such application the first indent of the declaration at section C should be deleted.

Section A: Licence categories

2. You should specify here the type of domestic licence that you wish to apply for, depending upon the licence entitlement that you hold). A full list of licence categories is contained at Annex A.

3. Separate application forms must however be submitted if you wish to fish the Thames and Blackwater herring fishery, irrespective of the size of the vessel. If you wish to apply for an external waters licence this should be done separately by contacting the Single Issuing Authority at uksia@marinemanagement.org.uk

Section B: Individual details

4. Section B1 contains details of the specifications and identifiers particular to the vessel to be licensed. Most can be found on your vessel's Certificate of Registry. These details will appear on the licence; it is very important that you ensure that they are correct. If any of these details change after the licence has been issued the licence will be invalid, and you must apply for a new licence using an official application form.

5. International radio call sign: If your vessel does not have an IRCS, please enter "not applicable" here. Otherwise please ensure full details are provided.

6. Main gear types (section B2): State the different main gear types from the list at Annex B that you normally use in the course of the year. You may specify up to a maximum of four types. These gear types will be specified in your licence, but for information only. This will not prevent you using other gear types not named in your licence. However if your pattern of fishing permanently changes so that the type of gear stated in your licence no longer accurately reflects the vessel's activities, you should apply for a new licence to be issued containing the correct information.

7. Ownership details: This section must include details of all registered owners or, where appropriate, details of a person authorised by Order of Court to hold the licence. Contact details for owner to be used to create an account on the Catch Recording Application. Please provide an email address and/or mobile number to be used to create an account on the Catch Recording Application.

8. Nominee details: The person that you specify here will receive all licences and notices, on your behalf. You may nominate yourself, but if you are likely to be at sea with your vessel for lengthy periods of time, you may prefer to nominate someone shore based, who can contact you at sea. Contact details for nominee to be used for
notification of licence variations. Please provide an email address and/or mobile number for the specified nominee to receive notifications of a licence variation which affects your licence.

9. Homeport details: The port which you specify here indicates where the majority of your landings will be made into. And helps the MMO ensure accurate completion of your application. The homeport should not be confused with the MMO Port of Administration, as this is simply the nearest MMO Office to your homeport which will process all of your licensed vessels administrative work.

Section C: Declaration

10. This declaration must be signed by all prospective licence holders, including all partners in the case of an application involving joint ownership. In signing this declaration you will be confirming that the details of the application are correct, and that you understand the conditions that you will be expected to meet once the licence is issued.

Documentation to accompany application form

11. You should include with your application the following:
   - the vessel's current Certificate of Registry;
   - if you have them, any current licences upon which the application is based;
   - either a notification of licence entitlement or a licence entitlement transfer application (Section D of AFL7 or Section F of AFL19, as applicable);
   - where appropriate, copy of a court order authorising a licence to be issued to you.

12. A first application on behalf of a company should also include:
   - a valid certificate of registration as a UK company for each company involved
   - names of directors and proof of authority of signatory to bind company.

Similar documentary evidence should be supplied where a company changes its name and/or directors/authorised signatories.

Revocation of licences

13. Licences are issued subject to fisheries ministers' discretion, and may be subject to variation, suspension and/or revocation at any time.

Decommissioning

14. If a vessel is decommissioned with grant, its licence(s) will be automatically revoked. Any subsequent application for a licence in respect of that vessel will be refused, even if the grant is re-paid.
Annex A: Fishing Vessel Licences available from MMO

Category A
Category A (Pelagic)
Category A (10 metre and under)
Category A (10 metre and under) Limited
Category B
Category C
Thames and Blackwater herring
Molluscan shellfish
Deep Sea

Annex B: Gear types

Beam trawl
Pelagic trawl (single)
Pelagic trawl (pair)
Demersal trawl (single)
Demersal trawl (pair)
Industrial trawl
Purse nets
Seine nets
Ring nets
Drift nets
Gill nets
Long lines
Shrimp trawl
Nephrops trawl
Scallop trawl
Scallop dredge
Creels, pots