

Regional Fisheries Groups NEWSLETTER

Find out more about our upcoming port and coastal visits on our webpage [here](#)

Regional updates and ongoing actions: **YOU SAID**

The catch app is not always practical to use.

You wanted an opportunity to speak with the minister.

Why does the fleet modernisation (or engine replacement) grant funding only apply to the coastal fleet using static gear and why does it not include trawl vessels?

You would like opportunity to speak with the MCA regularly.

Regional updates and ongoing actions: **WE DID**

We spoke to the team behind the catch recording app and they are now looking for volunteers for a focus group to test the functionality of the app and introduce new features for those that use it.

We hosted a national meeting back in March. Thank you to all those who participated. We are still busy working through the actions.

Defra attended the South RFG online meeting in May to answer your questions and explained that this round is a trial, and further rounds may open to trawl vessels.

The MCA have agreed to attend Q&A sessions in the triennial RFG meetings.

Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) seafarers medical Q&A

At the previous RFG meeting, Laurance Capstick attended to answer your MCA related queries. This meeting focused on the upcoming medical requirements. We've included some quick Q&A answers below.

What happens if a fisher does not pass the medical?

This depends on the medical assessment for example if it is the ML5 they may get a referral to a specialist.

Can a personal doctor be used?

For the ENG1 this must be done by an MCA approved doctor. The ML5 can be done by any registered doctor.

What happens when the Grandfather rights are no longer available?

Grandfather rights will be carried forward into the subsequent years; if you apply for the Grandfather rights before the 30th November 2023 you will be eligible.

For more common questions answered, please visit the FAQ page [here](#).

Catch recording application focus group

Lex Palmer, from the under 10m catch recording team, is seeking participants for a focus group to give feedback on the catch recording app.

The time commitment will be minimal, with online meetings taking place once every three months or so. Interested volunteers, please contact the RFG team:

regionalfisheriesgroups@marinemanagement.org.uk

Inshore Vessel Monitoring System (I-VMS)

The MMO are posting regular updates to the [iVMS webpage](#) and will be posting letters directly to all affected vessels.

If you have any questions, please contact the I-VMS team or the funding team:

I-VMS emails to:

ivms@marinemanagement.org.uk

Grants team email:

FaSS.queries@marinemanagement.org.uk

Grant fund opportunities

Fisheries and Seafood Scheme (FaSS)

The FaSS is currently open for applications and is aimed at small, local. The FaSS can provide a maximum contribution to a project of £250,000.

[Fisheries and Seafood Scheme - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Infrastructure Round 4: Recreational Sea Fishing (Closed 19 June 2023).

You can apply for a minimum of £10,000 and a maximum of £100,000 for projects supporting the recreational fishing sector that develop infrastructure & promote sustainable growth.

[Apply for the UK Seafood Fund: Infrastructure Scheme round 4 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Infrastructure Round 3: Fleet Modernisation (Closing 31 October 2023).

Funding of up to £40,000 is available to replace engines for the small-scale coastal fleet using static gear.

[Apply for the UK Seafood Fund: Infrastructure Scheme round 3 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)



An aerial view Swanage beach

Do you have views on Fisheries Management Plans?

Do you know what a Fisheries Management Plan is? Have you been able to participate? Is it meeting your expectations? Have your say!

Defra have commissioned an independent research team to assess how the development of FMPs is progressing. Your views and opinions will be a key part of this evidence.

If you are interested in discussing the FMP stakeholder engagement with the research team or would like to know please contact **Ellie Cook** at:

FMPEvaluation@icf.com or on +44 (0) 20 3096 5511