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Department of  
**Agriculture, Environment  
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# UK Quota Management Rules

## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

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# 1. Introduction

- 1.1 These UK rules are published by the Secretary of State in consultation with the other fisheries policy authorities (“FA”s) and the Marine Management Organisation (“MMO”). They cover the UK level management of fishing quota determined by the Secretary of State in accordance with international obligations of the UK for each year or other period specified in the determination<sup>1</sup>. This document is extant until an updated version is published.
- 1.2 These UK rules implement the 2012 Concordat on Management Arrangements for Fishing Opportunities and Fishing Vessel Licensing in the United Kingdom<sup>2</sup> as it relates to fish quotas, as well as accounting for the policies laid out in the Joint Fisheries Statement. These rules set out the apportionment method of fishing opportunities between the different parts of the UK. These rules also include other matters which are relevant to how fishing opportunities are managed between FAs. Including how we will manage:
- Stocks that are not apportioned
  - In-year international and domestic exchanges
  - Inter-annual transfers (banking and borrowing)
  - Unauthorised fishing and penalties
  - Movements of vessels between different parts of the UK
- 1.3 These UK rules are administrative. They will be updated from time to time by the Secretary of State in consultation with the other FAs. Where appropriate, this may also include consultation with industry and other stakeholders as well as the wider public. The Secretary of State reserves the right, after consultation with FAs, to depart from these rules, should the need arise.

## Secretary of State Determination

- 1.4 As set out in sections 23 and 24 of the Fisheries Act 2020, the Secretary of State will provide a determination of UK quota, i.e. the maximum quantity of sea fish that may be caught by UK fishing boats. From this determination UK quota will be

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<sup>1</sup> The determination, as applicable from time to time, can be accessed here:

[Fishing opportunities for British fishing boats - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/fishing-opportunities-for-British-fishing-boats)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/concordat-on-management-arrangements-for-fishing-quotas-and-licensing-in-the-uk>

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apportioned to the 4 FAs. The determination will be presented to Parliament and published online<sup>3</sup>.

- 1.5 These UK rules detail how each FA gets their share of UK quota. Individual FA rules (**Annex A**), as amended from time to time, detail how this share of UK quota is then distributed and managed by the respective FA. The term apportionment is used to refer to the division of quota between FAs. Allocation refers to the distribution of quota by FAs to the industry for use by licensed fishing vessels.

## 2. Apportionment of UK quotas among FAs

- 2.1 UK quota will be divided into two pots. Each pot will be apportioned between the four FAs. It is up to each FA to determine how to manage their share of each pot. Sections 2.5 and 2.6 explains how the split between these two pots of quota will be calculated. Sections 2.9 and 2.13 provide how the first pot will be apportioned. Section 2.14 provides how the second pot will be apportioned.
- 2.2 For the purposes of apportionment, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands will be treated as part of England.
- 2.3 Where the UK is making use of regulations to apply De Minimis<sup>4</sup> (“**DM**”) and High Survivability (“**HS**”) exemptions a deduction will be applied to the UK’s TAC<sup>5</sup>. These stocks and the applied percentage deductions will be shared by the MMO during the allocation process, alongside the methodology for the calculations. Exemption deductions are made to the UK’s total TAC before any further steps are taken.

### Division of quota between the two quota pots

- 2.4 The UK quota as published in the Secretary of State determination will be split into Existing Quota (“**EQ**”) and Additional Quota (“**AQ**”).
- 2.5 For the purposes of apportionment, EQ is calculated using the agreed figures in **Annex B** to this document. These are broadly based on the quota the UK received under the EU’s Common Fisheries Policy.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/22/section/24/enacted>

<sup>4</sup> These are deductions applied to UK’s quota for a specified stock to account for a percentage of discarding in specific fisheries, as per EU regulation 1380-201, article 15 (4-5), as retained in UK law. Full guidance is available [here](#).

<sup>5</sup> As defined in the extant version of the Secretary of State’s Determination.

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- 2.6 For the purposes of apportionment, AQ is all quota which the UK secures as an independent Coastal State above the EQ baseline figures.
- 2.7 Any quota stocks not apportioned among the FAs may be allocated at the discretion of the UK Government in consultation with the other FAs. Quota stocks not allocated are listed in **Annex C**.
- 2.8 In a given year, if the Secretary of State decides to not apportion a stock, or proportion of a stock, the reasons for this will be communicated to the other FAs and, where appropriate, with industry and other stakeholders.

### Description of method for apportioning Existing Quota (EQ)

- 2.9 The apportionment of EQ among FAs is done through a number of steps.
- (a) Once EQ is calculated (as per section 2.5) this quota will be divided between FAs.
- (b) The UK's EQ may be subject to further deductions (overfishes at the UK level) accrued during the previous fishing year. UK deductions are applied for relevant fish stocks where the UK landings exceeded the UK's adapted quota at the end of the reporting year (as per the final UK monitoring tables published<sup>6</sup>).
- (c) Special allocations are deducted from the UK EQ and allocated directly to the groups listed in **Annex D**. These are made directly to a single FA and the amounts will be totalled as per section 2.13(f).
- (d) The remaining EQ will then be divided further into 3 amounts assigned to the following 3 groups and in the following order:
- (i) 10-metres-and-under vessels not attributed to a Sectoral Group ("**10-Metres And-Under Pool**").
- (ii) Over-10-metre vessels not attributed to a Sectoral Group ("**Over-10-Metre Pool**")
- (iii) The sector – groups which are allocated quotas and have management responsibilities for them. The details of which are set out in these rules and in more detail in the individual FA quota management rules (see **Annex A** for hyperlinks to these documents).
- 2.10 Where applicable groups with quota management responsibility, as set out in individual FA quota management rules, will be collectively referred to as "**Sectoral Groups**".

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/quota-use-statistics>

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- 2.11 The Over-10-Metre Pool and the 10-Metres-And-Under Pool will be together referred to as the “**Non-Sector Pools**”.
- 2.12 A natural or legal person may have vessels in one or more of the allocation groups mentioned in section 2.9(d), but the same vessel can only be in one of the three groups named in section 2.9(d).
- 2.13 The apportionment process of EQ across these three groups is explained for each group as follows:

### **(a) Apportioning EQ to the UK 10-Metres-And-Under-Pool**

- (i) First, the UK calculates the amount of existing quota to be attributed to the 10-Metres-And-Under Pool by one of the following three methods:
- Fixed Quota Allocation unit (“**FQAs**”<sup>7</sup>) share: Pool FQA units are not associated with vessel licences but are held as a block by FAs. The allocation for each stock is a product of the pool’s percentage share of total UK FQA units, as at 1 January, multiplied by the EQ tonnage.
  - Underpinned share: Full details are set out in **Annex F**.
  - Minimum tonnage: Full details are set out in **Annex F**.
- (ii) The calculated share to the UK 10-Metres-And-Under Pool is whichever of the three methods (FQA share, underpinning, or fixed minimum tonnage) in 2.13(a) (i) generates the highest tonnage for each stock.
- (iii) The UK 10-Metres-and-Under Pool’s EQ will then be apportioned relative to recorded landings by 10-Metres-and-Under Pool fishing vessels of each nationality in the period 2008 to 2012. These fixed shares for each FA can be found in **Annex G**.

### **(b) Apportioning EQ to the UK Over 10-Metres-Pool**

- (i) The UK calculates the amount of quota to be attributed to the Over-10-Metre Pool by one of the following two methods:
- FQA share: the Over-10-Metre Pool amount will be apportioned relative to the number of FQA units held for the stock on over-10-metre licences issued by each FA that are not attributed to a Sectoral Group on 1 January of the quota

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<sup>7</sup> **Annex E** provides further detail on FQA units.



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management year. The allocation is a product of the pool's percentage share of total UK FQA units multiplied by the EQ tonnage.

- Underpinned share: This minimum level is based on the share of UK quota attributable in 1994 to the Over 10-Metre Pool and is recalculated every year. Full details of the percentage shares are set out in **Annex H**.
- (ii) The calculated share to the UK Over-10-Metre Pool is whichever of the two methods (FQA share or underpinning) in section 2.13(b) (i) generates the highest tonnage.
- (iii) The UK Over-10-Metre Pool's EQ amount will then be apportioned relative to the number of FQA units held for the stock on over-10-metre licences issued by each FA that are not attributed to a Sectoral Group on 1 January of the quota management year.

### **(c) Apportioning EQ to Sectoral Groups**

- (i) After the amounts of EQ to be apportioned to the Over-10-Metre Pool and the 10-Metres-And-Under Pool have been deducted, the remaining EQ will be apportioned amongst FAs relative to each FA's share of FQA units on sectoral licences.
- (ii) The sector amount for each FA will be apportioned relative to the number of FQA units held for each stock on sectoral vessel licences, dummy licences, and any FQA units from licence entitlements administratively linked to a Sectoral Group using an AFL8 form (see **Annex I**).
- (d) Certain stocks, for which there are no FQA units, have alternative arrangements for apportionment between FAs. These alternative methods are bespoke to the stocks mentioned and are agreed by the FAs. A list of stocks and their allocation method are shown in **Annex J**.
- (e) The apportionment of EQ for stocks without FQA units will follow the same methodology as laid out in section 2.13a-c, using the alternative allocation key (**Annex J**) as the basis for the calculations.
- (f) Each FA will be apportioned EQ tonnage for the stock that is the sum of the 3 amounts at sections 2.13a-e plus any Special Allocation (see 2.9(c)). From this point on, FAs are responsible for allocating the amounts of quota provided to them by the UK government. FAs will provide spreadsheets showing how quotas have been allocated. These are published online<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup> [Fishing quota allocations for England and the UK - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

## Description of method for apportioning Additional Quota (AQ)

2.14 The method for apportioning additional quota will be based on two key principles:

- To ensure, as far as possible, that no administration is worse off
- To share the rest fairly across the whole of the UK.

In order to achieve these principles, additional quota is first divided into two tiers, AQ1 and AQ2.

### Defining the quota for the AQ1 pot

- (a) The aim of Tier 1 is to identify quota that the UK regularly used to swap in and fish via the EU's International Quota Swapping system. Looking at 2012-16 (the five years prior to the EU referendum), average UK landings in excess of opening quota (post-banking and borrowing) have been identified. For the stocks where this is applicable, this is calculated as a % of the TAC, and named Tier 1 AQ. The share of additional quota defined as Tier 1, or AQ1, is applied to the TAC in order to determine the AQ1 tonnage. The thresholds up to which Tier 1 applies can be found in **Annex K**.
- (b) Once AQ1 is calculated, it will be apportioned only to those FAs with a track record of landing it, with the aim to ensure that no FA is worse off. Details on the apportionment of this quota can be found in section 2.14(d).
- (c) It should be noted that AQ1 does not apply to all stocks, because not all stocks have a history of average landings above opening quota during this time period.

### Apportionment of AQ1

- (d) AQ1 quota will be apportioned between the 4 FAs on the basis of the Historic Uptake of vessels in their administration for the period 2012-19. Historic Uptake shares were calculated using MMO vessel landings data<sup>9</sup>. Each FA's 2012-19 vessel landing from all waters (UK, EU and third country) are divided by all UK 2012-19 vessel landings from all waters. These shares are defined for each stock and can be found in **Annex L**.
- (e) All AQ above that maximum limit provided in 2.14(b) will be defined as AQ2 and be apportioned under the provisions in section 2.14(g).

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<sup>9</sup> [UK commercial sea fisheries landings by Exclusive Economic Zone of capture: 2012 – 2019](#)

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- (f) For stocks with no AQ1 threshold, all AQ will be in the AQ2 pot and apportioned as per section 2.14(g).

### Apportionment of AQ2

- (g) The UK will apportion AQ2 quota to the 4 FAs using shares based on a 90:10 Historic Uptake to Zonal Attachment ratio:
  - i) 90% of each FA's share is calculated based on its historic uptake of that stock (as per **Annex M**).
  - ii) 10% of each FA's share is calculated based on the estimated proportion of that stock in its waters (zonal attachment).  
For example, if English vessels historically landed 50% of the quota in a stock, but 80% of the landings of that stock were taken from English waters, England's AQ2 share would be:  $(50\% \times 90\%) + (80\% \times 10\%) = 53\%$ .
- (h) Zonal attachment shares are calculated by dividing UK and EU27 vessel landings in each DA's waters by UK and EU27 vessel landings in the UK's EEZ, for the years 2012-16. The same MMO landings data used to calculate Historic Uptake is used here, the years 2012-16 have been chosen due to EU data constraints. There are some cases in which no zonal attachment data is available for a stock. In the majority of cases, these stocks are allocated based on historic uptake shares only. These stocks are marked with an asterisk in **Annex M**.

The FA shares for AQ2 can be found in **Annex M**.

### Exceptions: Mackerel

- (i) The AQ shares for each FA for mackerel have been calculated using the same methodology as the other stocks. However, it should be noted that the landings recorded under the relevant stock codes have been combined in order to provide the AQ shares per FA. This means AQ shares for each FA for mackerel are a combination of MAC/2A34., MAC/2CX14-, MAC/8C3411, and MAC/2A4A-N.
- (j) The reason for the slightly different treatment of these stocks is because these TAC areas cover the same biological stock, and there is a high level of flex under the mackerel stock codes. This means that aggregating the data at the species level (by combining landings across the TAC codes) is the most robust method. The final quota apportionment figures for each FA will be provided at the stock code level.

### Exceptions: AQ

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- (k) As an exception from the general approach outlined in 2.14 a-h, the Welsh Government will receive an uplift of quota for the stocks listed in **Annex N**. This uplift will take place prior to the remaining AQ being apportioned to other FAs as per 2.14 a-h. Stocks where an exception for the Welsh Government have been made will be in lieu of their AQ1 or AQ2 share.
- (l) As an exception from the general approach outlined in 2.4 a-h, MMO, on behalf of the Isle of Man, and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) will receive an uplift of quota for the stocks listed in **Annex N**. This uplift will take place prior to the remaining AQ being apportioned as per 2.14 a-h.

## Ancillary Notes

### Special condition stocks

- 2.15 Following from the UK's quota determination there have been several adjustments to the many special condition stocks (“**SC**”), and also known as ‘flex quotas’, ‘inter-area flexibility’ or ‘of which stocks’. These SC stocks will be apportioned to FAs relative to their total apportioned share of the Parent Stock (EQ + AQ). Example, Parent Stock A has a SC limit of 10%. If FA1 is apportioned 100 tonnes of Parent Stock A, FA1 will be apportioned 10 tonnes of the SC stock. Further details on SC stocks are included in the Secretary of State Determination. SC stocks realigned in 2024 are outlined in **Annex O**.

### New quotas

- 2.16 Where quotas are created for stocks to which the UK has previously had access but there was no TAC, or where the UK has a quota share of a stock for which it did not have previously, Secretary of State will consider establishing an appropriate methodology for apportionment, following consultation with the FAs and representatives of the fishing industry and any other interested parties.
- 2.17 Where there is an in-year amendment to a TAC, the UK will undertake a recalculation of the apportionment process as detailed in sections 2.4-2.14.

## 3. Managing Sectoral Groups

- 3.1 POs may accept members from any part of the UK and may receive allocations of fish quota from any of the FAs. Details of who is eligible to be part of a Scottish QMG can be found in the Scottish quota management rules (**Annex A**).

## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

- 3.2 These UK rules will govern the quota management responsibilities of Sectoral Groups, although the relevant FA will be responsible for their day-to-day management and for deciding on their recognition.
- 3.3 In particular, while allocating fish quotas is a devolved administrative function, managing quota uptake and connected matters will be administered on a UK basis through these rules and in practice by the FAs working together.

### **Granting sectoral quota management responsibilities: Sectoral group responsibilities**

- 3.4 The granting and continuing responsibility for sectoral quota management responsibility will be subject to conditions.
- (a) Sectoral Groups will have effective arrangements for monitoring landings of their vessels and enforcing group catch restrictions, including (if applicable) by imposing penalties on those in breach of those restrictions. Sectoral Groups will supply their managing FA with details of these arrangements, including copies of rules, and will notify them of changes.
  - (b) Sectoral Groups will provide information as the FA may decide with respect to their membership and vessels administered in the Sectoral Group. Details of information required are at **Annex Q**. Where there is a conflict between Sectoral Groups claiming a particular vessel's membership and there is no completed documentary evidence, FAs reserve the right to apply special arrangements for attributing the FQA units of the vessel in question, until such time as the matter has been resolved to their satisfaction.
  - (c) Sectoral Groups will, on request from their managing FA, provide information about the landings of their vessels as the FA may specify. In particular, where it appears that the Sectoral Group's allocation for a given quota stock risks being reached, the Sectoral Group will, if requested by its managing FA, submit information about landings within 2 days of landings having taken place.
  - (d) Sectoral Groups will submit any other information relevant to quota management in the form and at the time specified by FAs.
- 3.5 FAs will provide Sectoral Groups with official information about their landings on a weekly basis and in more detail on request. Sectoral Groups should, as soon as they become evident, alert their managing FAs to any apparent discrepancies

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between official information and the Sectoral Group's own records, so that they may be checked.

### **Adjustments to landings data**

- 3.6 FAs will make adjustments to quota uptake (landings data) as soon as possible after it becomes apparent that landings have not been declared accurately. Where it is not possible to take account of the correct figures in-year for quota management purposes, like towards the end of the quota year, FAs will adjust the following year's allocation(s) for the relevant stock(s) of the Sectoral Group to which the vessel belonged at the time of the landing in question.
- 3.7 Where adjustments to landings data are proposed, the owner of the vessel at the time of the landing in question will first be sent a letter by the relevant FA. This will set out the facts of the case and give them an opportunity to comment or make representations on the matter, normally within 3 weeks of the date of the letter. The letter will be copied to the vessel's Sectoral Group at the time of the landing in question as any adjustment will be made to that Sectoral Group's landings. Appeals will be dealt with within the FAs independently of those responsible for initially deciding on the case. If, having considered such representations, the FA is satisfied that reasonable grounds still exist for adjusting landings data, a letter confirming the adjustment will be sent to the owner (copied to relevant Sectoral Group).

### **Permission to hold dummy licences**

- 3.8 An FA may issue one or more dummy licences to a Sectoral Group that it manages, to which it may assign FQA units.
- 3.9 Permission to hold such a licence is conditional upon providing the issuing FA information, in the form and detail prescribed, about the FQA units assigned to the dummy licence. FAs will in particular require information about the people on whose behalf FQA units are assigned to the licence.
- 3.10 Where a Sectoral Group does not, in the FA's opinion, fully comply with any request for information they issue, the FAs reserve the right to withhold allocations of fish quota from the Sectoral Group. Amounts withheld may relate to particular FQA units on the dummy licence or may relate to all or a percentage of the units assigned to the licence.

## **Moving vessels between Sectoral Groups during the quota management year**

- 3.11 POs must email FAs completed PO1 forms<sup>10</sup> when a vessel joins or leaves a Sectoral Group, copying the email to the vessel's port of administration. The form should be submitted within 2 weeks of a vessel joining or leaving a Sectoral Group.
- 3.12 Where a vessel leaves a Sectoral Group to join another, its landings will continue to be attributed to the Sectoral Group it is leaving until such time as FAs receive a PO1 form from both Sectoral Groups involved. The vessel will not be relicensed until FAs receive both PO1 forms and will not be entitled to fish because the licence will now be invalid due to its change of Sectoral Group.
- 3.13 All landings will normally be attributed to the Sectoral Group the vessel is a part of at the date of landing. FAs reserve the right to attribute the landings from any voyage to the Sectoral Group the vessel was a part of at the start of the voyage. In a case where a vessel joins a new Group following de-recognition of their original PO/group, at the point of de-recognition any unfished quota, for that fishing year, attributed to the vessel based on its FQA holdings will be transferred across to the group that it joins. Likewise, landings by a specific vessel that have resulted in an overfish against that vessel's own FQA quota holding, or the original PO's dummy licence will also be transferred to the new group's allocation of quota. These transfers may also occur in the weeks after de-recognition to cover activity data for the vessel yet to be captured in our databases at the point of de-recognition.

## **Fishery closures**

- 3.14 Where FAs consider that a Sectoral Group has taken in full its allocation for a quota stock, the managing FA will normally consult the Sectoral Group before the fishery is closed to it and fishing vessels administered by it. FAs will work together to close the fishery to all fishers in the relevant Sectoral Group. Any closure will apply to all fishing vessels, both over-10-metres and 10-metres-and-under, fishing against the Sectoral Group's allocation for the stock.

# **4. Fisheries Authorities' quota allocation groups**

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/join-or-leave-a-fish-producer-organisation>

## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

- 4.1 FAs may establish quota allocation groups that are only open to fishing vessels that they license. These groups are referred to in these rules as 'FAs' quota allocation groups' and may include 10-metres-and-under vessels of the licencing FA.
- 4.2 The conditions under which fishing vessels may be admitted to FA quota allocation groups that are only open to licensees of that FA will be decided by FAs in their quota management rules.
- 4.3 Where a PO wishes to make use of the facility described at section 7b of the 2012 concordat<sup>11</sup> of reporting separately for quota uptake purposes to each FA that it receives quota, then each sub-group of UK national vessels in its membership will be treated as an FA quota allocation group. POs must apply to make use of this facility no later than 30 November in the year before the relevant quota management year.

### **Moving vessels between FAs' quota allocation groups during the quota management year**

- 4.4 Where over-10-metre vessels move from one FA's quota allocation group to a group established by a different FA, then the exporting FA will transfer an amount of quota that is equivalent to that notionally or actually assigned to that licensee during the allocation process described at section 2.9 to the importing FA. This will be less than any landings that it has made up to that point. If for any stock its landings exceed that quota value, it will for the remainder of that year be prohibited from landing that stock.
- 4.5 The amount to transfer may be adjusted to take account of any reassigned quota share that may have taken place under exporting FA's management arrangements. The exporting FA will inform the importing FA of any necessary adjustment at the time that the vessel changes nationality.
- 4.6 The importing FA may limit accepting any vessel into any pool arrangements to fish for stocks covered by its pool in the absence of the vessel obtaining the appropriate fishing licence from the importing FA.

### **Moving vessels from an FA allocation group to a Sectoral Group during the quota management year**

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<sup>11</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/concordat-on-management-arrangements-for-fishing-quotas-and-licensing-in-the-uk>



## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

- 4.7 Where a fishing vessel wishes to leave an FA quota allocation group to join a Sectoral Group, it will be for the Sectoral Group to decide whether or not to accept the applicant.
- 4.8 Where a fishing vessel moves from a FA allocation group to a Sectoral Group, the exporting FA will decide what, if any, amount of quota notionally or actually assigned to that licensee during the apportionment process described at section 2.9 will transfer to the importing Sectoral Group.

### **Fishery closures**

- 4.9 FAs will close FA quota allocation groups to fisheries to prevent overfishing.

### **Groups**

- 4.10 For the remainder of the UK QMR, all Sectoral Groups and FA quota allocation groups shall be collectively referred to as "Groups".

## **5. Domestic quota swaps and transfers**

- 5.1 Groups and FAs may swap quotas allocated to them. The minimum quantity of a stock which may be swapped or transferred will be 100kg (0.1 tonne).
- 5.2 Swaps are subject to agreement by the managing FA(s). FAs will not, in particular, approve a swap that would leave a group with a negative allocation or an overfish. Where one or both of the parties wishes to cancel an approved swap, a further swap form, authorised by both parties, must be submitted to the managing FA(s), reversing the original swap.
- 5.3 A Sectoral group or an FA will not normally be permitted, before the issue of final allocations, to swap out more than 70% of its initial allocation for the previous year multiplied by the percentage change in UK quota compared with the previous year.
- 5.4 For stocks that incorporate an 'of which' allocation provision, swaps and transfers may relate to the main stock and/or to the 'of which' element. A transfer involving only the 'of which' element does not change the quotas for the main stock, but adjusts the relative amounts which can be taken in the 'of which' area. In submitting swap requests for such stocks FAs and groups must make the exact nature of the transfer clear.

## 6. International Quota Transfers

- 6.1 The UK and the EU have agreed a mechanism to conduct in-year fishing quota transfers.
- 6.2 Quota transfers made under the mechanism will take place on specified exchange dates. Exchanges may be proposed by sectoral groups and FAs but will only be concluded if agreed by both the UK Government and the European Commission. Groups cannot fish against this arrangement until the UK and the EU have agreed the exchange.

### Procedure

- 6.3 Groups and FAs are able to negotiate their own transfers with industry in the EU. Proposed transfers must be submitted to the relevant FA in advance of each exchange date. The form to be used is included online<sup>12</sup> and the dates which apply will be advised by FAs.
- 6.4 Defra, in consultation with FAs, will consider proposed transfers before compiling a final list. Defra is responsible for agreeing the final list with the European Commission.
- 6.5 In the event that a proposed transfer is rejected, the group proposing the transfer will be informed as soon as possible. However, as the proposed transfers will only be reviewed collectively at the end of the period for each set of transfers it may be that there is a delay which prevents the transfer from being reconfigured for that specific window.
- 6.6 Once the transfers have been approved by the UK and European Commission, groups will receive confirmation regarding the outcome of their proposed transfer.
- 6.7 Quota transferred as part of an agreed transfer will then be exchanged between the groups involved. Updates will be made to allocation spreadsheets and the agreed transfers will be published online<sup>13</sup>.

### Guidance

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-and-eu-fishing-quota-transfer-form>

<sup>13</sup> [Fishing quota transfers between the UK and the EU - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fishing-quota-transfers-between-the-uk-and-the-eu)

- 6.8 Specific guidance has been developed to work alongside the transfer form. This guidance is included in **Annex R**. This guidance sets out how to use the form and the information that is required to support and justify each exchange. Queries in relation to the form and guidance should be directed to your FA.

## 7. Unauthorised fishing and penalties

- 7.1 This relates to unauthorised fishing and the penalty and compensation arrangements that may apply when it takes place. It is also about circumstances where there is no unauthorised fishing but where prejudice has been caused.

### Deductions where there is unauthorised fishing

- 7.2 The final weekly spreadsheets for this quota year will be considered to decide whether unauthorised fishing has taken place.

### Deductions for stocks where inter-annual flexibility is permitted

- 7.3 Any uptake of a stock over 110% of a group's adapted (end-year) total quota will be considered unauthorised fishing. Where such unauthorised fishing has taken place, deductions will be applied to all landings above 110%.

Uptake (as a percentage of end year quota)	Minimum deductions
Over 110% up to and including 115%	Overfishing x 1.1
Over 115% up to and including 120%	Overfishing x 1.2
Over 120%, up to and including 130%	Overfishing x 1.3
Over 130%, up to and including 150%	Overfishing x 1.5
Over 150%, up to and including 160%	Overfishing x 1.9
Over 160%	Overfishing x 2.0

### Deductions for stocks where inter-annual flexibility is not permitted<sup>14</sup>

- 7.4 Any uptake of a stock over 100% of a group's adapted (end-year) total quota will be considered unauthorised fishing. Where such unauthorised fishing has taken place, deductions will be applied to all landings above 100%.

Uptake (as a percentage of end year quota)	Minimum deductions
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<sup>14</sup> See MMO allocation spreadsheet for a full list of allocated quota stocks which are not covered under the inter-annual flexibility provision (i.e. may not be banked or borrowed).

## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

Over 100% up to and including 105%	Overfishing x 1.1
Over 105% up to and including 110%	Overfishing x 1.2
Over 110%, up to and including 120%	Overfishing x 1.3
Over 130%, up to and including 140%	Overfishing x 1.5
Over 150%, up to and including 150%	Overfishing x 1.9
Over 150%	Overfishing x 2.0

- 7.5 The UK will deduct amounts of quota directly from the relevant group so as to ensure compliance with any penalties and to provide any compensation deemed necessary to FAs and/or groups that have suffered prejudice.
- 7.6 Where the deduction exceeds a group's allocation, deductions will be made over future years until the amount has been cleared.
- 7.7 The UK reserves the right to make deductions in another stock where the penalty cannot be fulfilled from a group's normal allocation. The stock to be deducted will be decided by the relevant FA.

### **Deductions where there is a UK overfish of an unallocated stock**

- 7.8 Where there is a UK overfish of an unallocated stock, all POs who have members who fished that stock will be proportionally accountable for the overfish. The UK will apply deductions equivalent to the overshoot. Relevant FAs will decide which stocks and quantities are to be deducted from each PO by way of a penalty. The FAs will primarily deduct sufficient stocks and quantities to be used for international trading in an attempt to clear the UK overfish. The FAs may also deduct other stocks/quantities as required to ensure a proportional penalty is applied to all POs involved.

### **Using deducted quota**

- 7.9 Deductions made from groups will be used to comply with UK deductions, to ensure full allocation of quota by groups which have underfished and which the UK was unable to bank due to the activity of other UK groups, and to provide compensation to groups which are judged to have suffered prejudice.
- 7.10 Where the UK makes internal deductions, due to the application of penalties arising from unauthorised fishing or due to repayment of borrowed quota, the UK will first comply with applying any necessary deductions to the UK total.

## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

- 7.11 Where there is residual quota after application of 7.10, the UK will add this quota to the UK's banked quota, up to the total amount underfished by UK groups, and will be distributed amongst those groups which did not overfish in the previous year. The banking allocation rules, as per 8.3, will be applied.
- 7.12 Where residual quota remains following the deduction and distribution of quota, as per 7.10-11 such amounts will in general be allocated to FAs in line with the method of apportionment described in section 2 above, except that FQA units assigned to groups which have been identified as overfishing, or otherwise causing prejudice, will be disregarded.

## 8. Interannual Flexibility

- 8.1 Interannual flexibility is a mechanism formed of two parts. Banking is transferring uncaught amounts of fish quota from the current year to be caught in the next year. Borrowing is using quota from next year in the current year. These flexibilities are provided for in retained EU law and are limited. Interannual flexibility involves the UK government directly adjusting the allocations of groups. MMO will inform UK groups each year which stocks may be banked and borrowed once these details are available. The special quota allocations set out in the Secretary of State Determination are eligible for banking and borrowing if the parent stock is eligible.

### Banking

- 8.2 For eligible stocks<sup>15</sup>, the UK may bank up to 10% of its final quota or its remaining uncaught quota, whichever is the lesser amount.
- 8.3 To allocate quota to groups, which the UK has banked from the current year into the next, the UK will:
- (a) Identify groups whose end-year uptake is less than 100%.
  - (b) For each qualifying group, end-year landings in the year from which quota is to be banked will be multiplied by end-year percentage uptake in that year – this calculation will create an index of tonnage from which pro-rata group shares will be calculated and allocated by the UK directly (see **Annex S** for an example of banking).

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<sup>15</sup> See MMO allocation spreadsheet for list of eligible stocks.

## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

- 8.4 Groups which landed 100% or more of their adapted quota holding (as per the final weekly spreadsheet) will not be eligible to receive banked quota in the following year.

### **Borrowing**

- 8.5 The UK may exceed its adapted (end-year) quota by 10% for eligible stocks<sup>16</sup>. A similar approach will normally be taken by the FAs in relation to all groups. The UK will apply borrowing automatically to all group's uptake of quota stocks up to 110%, if the stock is eligible.
- 8.6 Where landings are made against borrowed quota, the tonnage landed will be removed from the allocation for that group in the following year.
- 8.7 Where landings exceed 110%, deductions under section 7.3 will be applied.

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<sup>16</sup> See MMO allocation spreadsheet for list of eligible stocks.

## **Annex A: FA Quota Management Rules**

English Quota Management Rules, as amended from time to time, can be found [here](#)

Scottish Quota Management Rules, as amended from time to time, can be found [here](#)

Welsh Quota Management Rules, as amended from time to time, can be found [here](#)

Northern Irish Quota Management Rules, as amended from time to time, can be found [here](#)

## Annex B: UK Existing Quota (EQ) Share

The UK's existing quota baselines have been agreed between the 4 FAs and are provided in tables 1 and 2. Table 1 shows all those stocks where the existing quota baseline has been defined as a % share of the total TAC. Table 2 shows those stocks where the existing quota baseline is defined as a fixed tonnage. More detailed background on the methodology which was used to calculate the EQ baseline shares can be found in **Annex B.2**.

### Stocks with % EQ baselines

For stocks where the UK holds a share of the TAC, the existing quota share is defined as the UK's relative stability [RS] share, plus the average Hague Preference [HP] gains between 2014-20 for the applicable stocks. Table 1 presents this baseline as a % of the UK+EU TAC and as a % of the total TAC. Shares in Table 1 are rounded to 2 decimal places (d.p.) for presentation purposes. More detail on the calculations used to determine these figures can be found in **Annex B.2**.

Table 1: Stocks with % EQ baselines

Stock name	Stock code	UK EQ as % of UK+EU TAC (RS+HP)	UK+EU share of Total TAC	UK EQ as % of total TAC
Anglerfish (7)	ANF/07.	17.98%	100.00%	17.98%
Anglerfish (North Sea)	ANF/2AC4-C	81.38%	100.00%	81.38%
Anglerfish (West of Scotland)	ANF/56-14	30.77%	100.00%	30.77%
Greater Silver Smelt (Western)	ARU/567.	5.59%	100.00%	5.59%
Blue Ling (Western)	BLI/5B67-	19.22%	100.00%	19.22%
Boarfish (Western)	BOR/678-	6.36%	100.00%	6.36%
Black Scabbardfish (Western)	BSF/56712-	5.69%	100.00%	5.69%
Cod (Irish Sea)	COD/07A.	42.67%	100.00%	42.67%
Cod (Eastern Channel)	COD/07D.	9.25%	100.00%	9.25%
Cod (North Sea)	COD/2A3AX4	46.93%	83.00%	38.95%
Cod (West of Scotland)	COD/5BE6A	60.28%	100.00%	60.28%
Cod (Celtic Sea)	COD/7XAD34	7.88%	100.00%	7.88%
Cod (NAFO 3M)	COD/N3M.	16.33%	57.03%	9.31%
Greenland Halibut (North Sea and West of Scotland)	GHL/2A-C46	72.65%	100.00%	72.65%
Haddock (Irish Sea)	HAD/07A.	47.88%	100.00%	47.88%
NS Haddock	HAD/2AC4.	84.17%	77.00%	64.81%
Haddock (West of Scotland)	HAD/5BC6A.	80.61%	100.00%	80.61%
Haddock (Rockall)	HAD/6B1214	80.61%	100.00%	80.61%
Haddock (Celtic Sea)	HAD/7X7A34	10.00%	100.00%	10.00%
Clyde Herring	HER/06ACL.	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Herring (Irish Sea)	HER/07A/MM	73.97%	100.00%	73.97%



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Herring (ASH)	HER/1/2-	21.91%	6.51%	1.43%
Herring (North Sea)	HER/4AB.	23.17%	60.00%	13.90%
Herring (Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	HER/4CXB7D	9.58%	11.00%	1.05%
Herring (West of Scotland)	HER/5B6ANB	60.42%	100.00%	60.42%
Herring (Western Channel and Bristol Channel)	HER/7EF.	50.00%	100.00%	50.00%
Herring (Celtic Sea)	HER/7G-K.	0.12%	100.00%	0.12%
Hake (North Sea)	HKE/2AC4-C	18.01%	100.00%	18.01%
Hake (Western)	HKE/571214	17.97%	100.00%	17.97%
Horse Mackerel (Western)	JAX/2A-14	9.39%	100.00%	9.39%
Horse Mackerel (Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	JAX/4BC7D	11.35%	100.00%	11.35%
Lemon Sole and Witch (North Sea)	L/W/2AC4-C	61.08%	100.00%	61.08%
Megrims (7)	LEZ/07.	14.34%	100.00%	14.34%
Megrims (North Sea)	LEZ/2AC4-C	96.26%	100.00%	96.26%
Megrims (West of Scotland)	LEZ/56-14	31.36%	100.00%	31.36%
Ling (North Sea)	LIN/04-C.	76.94%	100.00%	76.94%
Ling (Western)	LIN/6X14.	33.83%	100.00%	33.83%
Mackerel (species level)	mac.27.nea	47.37%	49.54%	23.46%
Mackerel (North Sea)	MAC/2A34.	5.33%	3.24%	0.17%
Mackerel (Western)	MAC/2CX14-	58.32%	39.91%	23.28%
Nephrops (7)	NEP/07.	32.80%	100.00%	32.80%
Nephrops (North Sea)	NEP/2AC4-C	86.62%	100.00%	86.62%
Nephrops (West of Scotland)	NEP/5BC6.	97.64%	100.00%	97.64%
Picked Dogfish (North Sea) (also known as 'Spurdog')	DGS/2AC4-C	81%	100.00%	81%
Plaice (Irish Sea)	PLE/07A.	51.11%	100.00%	51.11%
Plaice (North Sea)	PLE/2A3AX4	28.46%	93.00%	26.47%
Plaice (West of Scotland)	PLE/56-14	60.77%	100.00%	60.77%
Plaice (English Channel)	PLE/7DE.	29.09%	100.00%	29.09%
Plaice (7fg)	PLE/7FG.	23.45%	100.00%	23.45%
Plaice (7hjk)	PLE/7HJK.	12.50%	100.00%	12.50%
Saithe (North Sea)	POK/2C3A4	16.73%	48.00%	8.03%
Saithe (West of Scotland)	POK/56-14	41.13%	100.00%	41.13%
Saithe (Celtic Sea)	POK/7/3411	15.35%	100.00%	15.35%
Pollack (7)	POL/07.	17.44%	100.00%	17.44%
Pollack (West of Scotland)	POL/56-14	36.62%	100.00%	36.62%
Northern Prawn (North Sea)	PRA/2AC4-C	22.01%	100.00%	22.01%
Redfish [Shallow Pelagic] (5,12,14)	RED/51214S	0.12%	15.45%	0.02%
Roundnose Grenadier (Western)	RNG/5B67-	4.84%	100.00%	4.84%

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Sole (Irish Sea)	SOL/07A.	22.19%	100.00%	22.19%
Sole (Eastern Channel)	SOL/07D.	19.23%	100.00%	19.23%
Sole (Western Channel)	SOL/07E.	58.82%	100.00%	58.82%
Sole (North Sea)	SOL/24-C.	4.29%	100.00%	4.29%
Sole (West of Scotland)	SOL/56-14	20.00%	100.00%	20.00%
Sole (7fg)	SOL/7FG.	28.13%	100.00%	28.13%
Sole (7hjk)	SOL/7HJK.	16.67%	100.00%	16.67%
Sprat (North Sea)	SPR/2AC4-C	3.82%	100.00%	3.82%
Sprat (English Channel)	SPR/7DE.	52.50%	100.00%	52.50%
Skates and Rays (Eastern Channel)	SRX/07D.	15.04%	100.00%	15.04%
Skates and Rays (North Sea)	SRX/2AC4-C	64.69%	100.00%	64.69%
Skates and Rays (Western)	SRX/67AKXD	25.84%	100.00%	25.84%
Turbot and Brill (North Sea)	T/B/2AC4-C	15.44%	100.00%	15.44%
Tusk (North Sea)	USK/04-C.	40.54%	100.00%	40.54%
Tusk (Western)	USK/567EI.	28.17%	100.00%	28.17%
Blue whiting (species level)	whb.27.1-91214	17.97%	41.42%	7.44%
Blue Whiting (Northern)	WHB/1X14	19.81%	37.57%	7.44%
Whiting (Irish Sea)	WHG/07A.	52.83%	100.00%	52.83%
Whiting (North Sea)	WHG/2AC4.	66.91%	90.00%	60.22%
Whiting (West of Scotland)	WHG/56-14	64.47%	100.00%	64.47%
Whiting (Celtic Sea)	WHG/7X7A-C	10.73%	100.00%	10.73%

### Stocks with tonnage EQ baselines

For stocks where the UK quota has historically been transferred in from Norway, Faroes or Greenland, the existing quota share is defined as the UK's average quota allocation between 2014-20. Table 2 presents these baselines. More detail on the methodology behind calculating these baselines can be found in **Annex B2**.

Table 2: Stocks with tonnage EQ baselines

Stock name	Stock code	UK EQ baseline (tonnage)
Anglerfish (Norway 4)	ANF/04-N.	284
Ling and Blue Ling (Faroese Waters)	B/L/05B-F.	105
Cod and Haddock (Faroese)	C/H/05B-F.	801
Cod (Svalbard)	COD/1/2B.	4075
Cod (Arcto-Norwegian)	COD/1N2AB.	10146
Cod (Greenland)	COD/N1GL14	378
Flatfish (Faroese)	FLX/05B-F.	92
Greenland Halibut (Norway 1,2)	GHL/1N2AB.	25
Greenland Halibut (Greenland)	GHL/5-14GL	216
Haddock (Arcto-Norwegian)	HAD/1N2AB.	782

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Ling (Norway 4)	LIN/04-N.	99
Nephrops (Norway 4)	NEP/04-N.	45
Other Species (Norway 4)	OTH/04-N.	3456
Other Species (Faroes)	OTH/05B-F.	179
Other Species (Norway 1,2)	OTH/1N2AB.	186
Saithe (Faroes)	POK/05B-F.	656
Saithe (Norway 1,2)	POK/1N2AB.	156
Redfish (Norway 1,2)	REB/1N2AB.	150
Redfish (Faroes)	RED/05B-F.	5
Redfish [Deep pelagic] (Greenland))	RED/N1G14D	13
Tusk (Norway 4)	USK/04-N.	4
Faroes Blue Whiting	WHB/2A4AXF	1037

### Annex B.2: Methodology used for determining EQ baseline

The EQ baselines determine for the purposes of allocations the amount of quota the UK received as an EU member state (i.e. our existing quota). Any quota negotiated over and above this share will be defined as additional quota. There are two types of baseline figures – those represented as a % share of the total TAC, and those represented as a fixed tonnage.

#### EQ baseline calculations: stocks with % share baselines (table 1)

Defining our historic RS+HP share

For stocks where the UK invoked Hague Preference<sup>17</sup> and consistently gained quota between 2014-2020, the baseline share has been adjusted to include these gains. Hague preference gains have been calculated based on the UK's actual share of the EU TAC in comparison to RS share between 2014-2020 (only including those years in which HP was invoked). This applies to six stocks, as seen below in table 3.

Table 3: HP gains included within the EQ baseline shares (rounded to 2 d.p.).

Stock name	Stock code	UK RS share (% of UK+EU TAC)	HP gains	RS+HP share (% of UK+EU TAC)
NS Whiting	WHG/2AC4.	52.74%	14.17% points	66.91%
WS Whiting	WHG/56-14	57.32%	7.15% points	64.47%
WS Saithe	POK/56-14	17.69%	23.44% points	41.13%

<sup>17</sup> The Hague Preference is a Common Fisheries Policy mechanism designed to adjust national fish quota allocations to take account of the needs of certain fisheries-dependent areas in northern parts of the UK and in the Republic of Ireland. These arrangements provided additional fishing opportunities to the UK, at the expense of other Member States when quotas for certain stocks fell below determined trigger levels.

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NS Haddock	HAD/2AC4.	77.61%	6.56% points	84.17%
Rockall Cod	COD/5W6-14	52.60%	8.21% points	60.81%
WS Cod	COD/5BE6A	52.60%	7.68% points	60.28%

Converting our historic RS+HP share to a % of the total TAC

Once the UK's RS+HP shares had been defined, this was converted into a share of the total TAC to ensure the baselines reflect our status as an independent coastal state. This calculation was done by multiplying the UK's RS+HP gains by the EU+UK's share of the total TAC. The figures for this calculation can be seen in table 1.

Any quota provided by a share above this baseline will be defined as Additional Quota.

### **EQ baseline calculations: stocks with fixed tonnage baselines (table 2)**

For stocks where the UK+EU do not have an agreed % share of the total TAC (because the stock has been transferred in from another coastal state), we cannot complete the calculations above. Therefore, the average UK quota allocation between 2014 and 2020 (or, including as many years within this range as is possible) is utilised for the existing quota baseline. The baseline figures can be seen in table 2.

Any quota above this baseline figure will be defined as Additional Quota.

## Annex C: Quotas Not Apportioned by the UK Government

Stock name	Stock code	Reason
Northern Albacore	ALB/AN05N	12 licences available put out for interest annually
Alfonsinos	ALF/3X14-	Small TAC share, managed by by-catch limitation in UK fishing licence.
Greater silver smelt 1,2	ARU/1/2.	Small TAC share
North Sea Greater silver smelt	ARU/3A4-C	Small TAC share
Bluefin tuna in the NE Atlantic	BFT/AE45WM	To be used in pilots to test viability of commercial and recreational fisheries.
Blue Ling International 12	BLI/12INT	Bycatch stock
NS blue ling	BLI/24-	Small TAC share, managed by by-catch limitation in UK fishing licence.
North Atlantic Blue Shark	BSH/AN05N	Bycatch stock
Rockall cod	COD/5W6-14	Non-allocated by-catch fishery managed by licence conditions.
Picked dogfish (Spurdog) (Western)	DGS/15X14	Non-allocated fishery managed by licence conditions Bycatch stock
Western Deep-sea sharks	DWS/56789-	Stock cannot be landed
Faroes flatfish	FLX/05B-F	Small TAC share, access limited by external licence. Managed at UK level only
Greenland Halibut International 1,2	GHL/1/2INT	Bycatch stock
North Sea herring, small mesh by-catch	HER/2A47DX	Small TAC share
WS Herring	HER/5B6ANB	TAC managed to cover stock assessments and enable a research only fishery
Ling (3a)	LIN/03A-C.	Small TAC share
Ling (5)	LIN/05EI.	Small TAC share, managed by by-catch limitation in UK fishing licence.
Ling (1,2)	LIN/1/2	Small TAC share, managed by by-catch limitation in UK fishing licence.

## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

Norway Pout (North Sea)	NOP/2A3A4.	Not allocated
Redfish (international 1,2)	RED/1/2INT	Managed via licences
Redfish [Deep Pelagic]	RED/51214D	Not allocated
Redfish [Shallow Pelagic]	RED/51214S	Not allocated
Small-eyed ray	RJE/7E	Scientific sentinel fishery managed through application process
Small-eyed ray	RJE/7FG.	Small TAC share, managed by by-catch limitation in UK fishing licence.
Undulate ray	RJU/7DE.	Small TAC share, managed by by-catch limitation in UK fishing licence.
Biscay Roundnose grenadier	RNG/8X14-	Zero TAC Share
Sandeels	SAN/2A3A4.	Not allocated
Atlantic red seabream (Azores)	SBR/10-	Small TAC share, managed by by-catch limitation in UK fishing licence.
Western red seabream	SBR/678-	Small TAC share, managed by by-catch limitation in UK fishing licence.
Skates and Rays (8,9)	SRX/89-C	Small TAC share
North Atlantic Swordfish	SWO/AN05N	Not allocated
Tusk	USK/1214EI.	Small TAC share, managed by by-catch limitation in UK fishing licence.

## Annex D: UK Special Allocations

To be taken from the UK EQ allocation.

### **MAC/2CX14 (western mackerel)**

A special allocation of 1,750 tonnes of western mackerel is made from the UK's EQ. The allocation will be made to the MMO for the South West handline fishery, covering landings by vessels fishing for mackerel by handline in ICES areas 7e, f, g and h.

### **MAC/2A34 (North Sea mackerel)**

A special allocation of either 23.2% of the UK's EQ for MAC/2A34, or 300 tonnes, whichever is the greater amount, is made for North Sea mackerel. The allocation will be made to Marine Directorate Scotland for 10-metres-and-under vessels authorised to fish by Marine Directorate Scotland for mackerel in ICES areas 4a and 4b.

### **HER/07A/MM (Irish Sea herring)**

A special allocation of either 0.8% of the UK's EQ for HER/07A/MM, or 30 tonnes, whichever is the greater, is made for Irish Sea herring. The allocation will be made to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) for the Mourne herring fishery in ICES area 7a.

## Annex E: FQA Units

- 1.1 Fixed Quota Allocation (FQA) units are the primary means of apportioning and distributing quota between Fisheries Authorities (FAs) and within FAs to the industry. FQA units were introduced in 1999. The number of FQA units which were to be allocated was calculated based on each vessel's share of landings over the period 1994 to 1996.

The FQA Register<sup>18</sup> is a list of fishing vessel licence and entitlement holders who hold FQA units.

- 1.2 Each FQA unit represents a share of the quota for each stock, following the adjustments applied by the FAs. These include, but are not limited to, underpinning, and special allocations, all of which are described elsewhere in the QMR.

### Exceptions to 1.1

- 1.3 Fixed quota allocation (FQA) units were established on landings during the reference period 1994 to 1996. This table shows where different reference periods have been used.

Stock name	Stock Code	Reference period
Faroes cod/haddock <sup>19</sup>	C/H/05B-F	1996 to 2000
Faroes saithe	POK/05B-F	
Faroes Redfish	RED/05B-F	
Faroes Others	OTH/05B-F	
Faroes ling or blue ling <sup>20</sup>	B/L/05B-F	2000 to 2002
Atlanto-Scandian herring	HER/1/2-	1998 to 2000
Western black scabbardfish	BSF/561214	1999 to 2001
Western roundnose grenadier	RNG	1999 to 2001
Western blue ling	BLI/567	1999 to 2001
North Sea tusk	USK/04-C	1999 to 2001
Western tusk	USK/567EI	1999 to 2001
North Sea ling	LIN/04-C	1999 to 2001
Western ling	LIN6X14	1999 to 2001
Tusk, anglerfish, ling and Nephrops in ICES Area 4 (Norwegian waters) <sup>21</sup>	USK/04-N LIN/04-N	2002 to 2004

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.fqaregister.service.gov.uk/>

<sup>19</sup> Stocks only available following conclusion of a written agreement with Faroes.

<sup>20</sup> Stocks only available following conclusion of a written agreement with Faroes.

<sup>21</sup> Stocks only available following conclusion of a written agreement with Norway.



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	ANF/04-N NEP/04-N	
Greenland halibut in ICES areas 2a, 4, 6 (UK, EU and international waters)	GHL/2A-C46	2000 to 2004
Boarfish in ICES areas 5, 6 and 7	BOR/678	2010

### FQA Transfers

- 1.4 FQA units can be traded/transferred between licenses with the only exceptions being the permanent trade of FQA units to and from Scotland and the rest of the UK which is currently suspended due to the FQA embargos in place.
- 1.5 The embargo on the movement of FQA units from Scotland to the rest of the UK has been in place since January 2014. The embargo on units transferring from the rest of the UK to Scotland has been in place since December 2016.
- 1.6 FQA units can be transferred at any point in the year. FQA units may only be moved between licences where permitted by FAs. These arrangements are set out in the guidance on the MMO part of the gov.uk website<sup>22</sup>.

### Assigning licences and FQA units to groups

- 1.7 The following rules will apply for the purposes of assigning licences and FQA units to the groups referred to in section 2.9(d). FQA units assigned to a fishing vessel licence, at 1 January, will be included when calculating the amounts to be allocated to the FA if the licence has been:
  - suspended or frozen by an FA
  - downgraded because of non-compliance with the economic link licence condition.

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<sup>22</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fixed-quota-allocation-units>

## Annex F: Arrangements for Underpinning (10-Metres-and-Under Pool)

Stock name	Stock Code	Fixed floor percentage (of UK EQ, see section 2.13a (i))	Fixed minimum tonnage
NS Cod	COD/2A3AX4	4.50	-
NS Haddock	HAD/2AC4.	-	100
NS Hake	HKE/2AC4-C	-	-
NS Nephrops	NEP/2AC4-C	-	-
NS Plaice	PLE/2A3AX4	-	-
NS Saithe	POK/2C3A4	-	20
NS Sole	SOL/24-C.	9.81	-
NS Whiting	WHG/2AC4.	0.33	-
NS Anglers	ANF/56-14	-	5
WS Cod 6a	COD/5BE6A	-	10
WS Haddock 6a	HAD/5BC6A.	-	10
WS Megrim	LEZ/56-14	-	5
WS Nephrops	NEP/5BC6.	9.56	-
WS Plaice	PLE/56-14	-	5
WS Pollack	POL/56-14	-	5
WS Saithe	POK/56-14	-	5
WS Sole	SOL/56-14	-	-
WS Whiting	WHG/56-14	-	10
Angler 7	ANF/07.	5.10	-
Cod 7a	COD/07A.	1.60	-
Cod 7d	COD/07D.	25.70	-
Cod 7b-k (excluding 7d)	COD/7XAD34	25.70	-
Haddock 7b-k	HAD/7X7A34	3.30	-
Hake 67	HKE/571214	1.00	-
Megrim 7	LEZ/07.	1.50	-
Nephrops 7	NEP/07.	0.70	-
Plaice 7a	PLE/07A.	4.60	-
Plaice 7de	PLE/7DE.	21.00	-
Plaice 7fg	PLE/7FG.	18.70	-
Plaice 7hjk	PLE/7HJK.	0.00	-
Pollack 7	POL/07.	10.90	-

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Saithe 7	POK/7/3411	1.90	-
Sole 7a	SOL/07A.	9.00	-
<b>Stock name</b>	<b>Stock Code</b>	<b>Fixed floor percentage (of UK EQ, see section 2.13a (i))</b>	<b>Fixed minimum tonnage</b>
Sole 7d	SOL/07D.	34.80	-
Sole 7e	SOL/07E.	5.20	-
Sole 7fg	SOL/7FG.	8.10	-
Sole 7hjk	SOL/7HJK.	0.00	-
Whiting 7a	WHG/07A.	1.40	-
Whiting 7b-k	WHG/7X7A-C	12.00	-

## Annex G: Fixed Shares for apportioning UK 10-Metres-and-Under Pool Existing Quota Between FAs

This table shows how 10-Metres-And-Under Pool quota amounts will be apportioned between the FAs, as per 2.13 (a) (iii).

Stock Name	Stock Code	Percentage share of UK 10mu tonnage			
		England	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
Angler 7	ANF/07.	97.0	0.6	1.6	0.8
Blue Ling (Western)	BLI/5B67	25	25	25	25
Cod 7a	COD/07A.	70.0	5.9	10.6	13.5
Cod 7b-k (excluding 7d)	COD/7XAD34	97.2	0.7	1.9	0.2
Cod 7d	COD/07D.	98.7	0.6	0.5	0.2
Haddock 7a	HAD/07A.	44.3	1.4	15.1	39.2
Haddock 7b-k	HAD/7X7A34	98.5	0.4	0.5	0.7
Hake (Western)	HKE/571214	88.6	3.7	1.4	6.4
Herring 4c, 7d	HER/4CXB7D	98.6	0.5	0.0	0.9
Herring 7ef	HER/7EF.	96.4	0.0	3.6	0.0
Herring 7g-k	HER/7G-K.	10.6	0.0	89.4	0.0
Ling 4	LIN/04-C.	80.5	18.8	0.6	0.0
Ling 6-14	LIN/6X14.	99.1	0.4	0.3	0.2
Megrim 7	LEZ/07.	93.4	0.3	0.2	6.1
Nephrops 7	NEP/07.	32.5	6.2	0.4	60.9
NS Anglers	ANF/2AC4-C	88.2	10.9	0.9	0.0
NS Cod	COD/2A3AX4	91.5	7.6	0.5	0.4
NS Haddock	HAD/2AC4.	92.3	5.9	1.8	0.0
NS Hake	HKE/2AC4-C	98.8	0.5	0.6	0.0
NS Lemon Sole & witches	L/W/2AC4-C	96.5	2.6	1.0	0.0
NS Mackerel	MAC/2A34.	5.4	94.2	0.4	0.0
NS Megrim	LEZ/2AC4-C	3.8	96.2	0.0	0.0
NS Nephrops	NEP/2AC4-C	50.9	48.6	0.5	0.0
NS Plaice	PLE/2A3AX4	94.2	4.9	0.8	0.0
NS Saithe	POK/2C3A4	43.8	56.2	0.0	0.0
NS Skates & Rays	SRX/2AC4-C	97.0	2.0	0.6	0.3
NS Sole	SOL/24-C.	98.7	0.2	1.0	0.1

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NS Sprat	SPR/2AC4-C	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NS Turbot & Brill	T/B/2AC4-C	98.0	1.4	0.5	0.0
NS Tusk	USK/04-C	25	25	25	25
NS Whiting	WHG/2AC4.	97.5	1.1	1.4	0.0
Plaice 7a	PLE/07A.	70.5	5.3	18.1	6.0
Plaice 7de	PLE/7DE.	97.8	0.7	1.4	0.1
Stock Name	Stock Code	Percentage share of UK 10mu tonnage			
		England	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
Plaice 7fg	PLE/7FG.	66.4	0.0	29.0	4.6
Pollack 7	POL/07.	98.7	1.0	0.2	0.1
Saithe 7	POK/7/3411	98.6	0.1	1.3	0.0
Skates & Rays 67 xd	SRX/67AKXD	82.4	1.1	15.4	1.1
Skates & Rays 7d	SRX/07D.	97.9	0.6	1.5	0.0
Sole 7a	SOL/07A.	60.8	1.6	30.2	7.4
Sole 7d	SOL/07D.	98.1	1.1	0.8	0.0
Sole 7e	SOL/07E.	97.1	1.6	1.2	0.1
Sole 7fg	SOL/7FG.	75.4	0.0	23.9	0.7
Sprat 7de	SPR/7DE.	99.0	0.8	0.2	0.0
WS Mackerel	MAC/2CX14-	70.0	18.8	1.8	9.4
WS Nephrops	NEP/5BC6.	4.1	92.8	1.7	1.5
Whiting 7b-k	WHG/7X7A-C	96.8	0.5	2.0	0.7
Whiting (Irish Sea)	WHG/07A	25	25	25	25
WS Haddock 6a	HAD/5BC6A.	1.6	85.6	0.0	12.9
WS Megrim	LEZ/56-14	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
WS Anglers	ANF/56-14	1.2	33.0	6.6	59.2
WS Plaice	PLE/56-14	4.6	63.3	0.0	32.1
WS Pollack	POL/56-14	0.4	96.9	0.0	2.7
WS Saithe	POK/56-14	25	25	25	25
WS Sole	SOL/56-14	3.4	18.8	0.0	77.7
WS whiting	WHG/56-14	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0

## Annex H: Arrangements for Underpinning (Over-10-Metres Pool)

### Initial underpinned quota shares calculation

- 1.1 The 1991 to 1993 track records for all vessels included in the 1994 allocations exercise formed the base data for assessing the underpinning levels. The calculations below split vessels into categories based on their length. Within the Over-10-Metre Pool, quota isn't allocated to vessels based on their length category, however, fleet activity is still assessed by these same vessel categories to then provide a total underpinned amount for the Over-10-Metre Pool.
- (a) For the non-sector, the qualifying vessels for each stock were identified by establishing a minimum qualifying track record. The level of this was set so that the combined track records of all qualifying vessels formed about 95% of the total non-sector track record for that stock.
- (b) The qualifying vessels for 1994 were broken down into 3 length groups based on their overall length:
- less than 40 feet (12.2 metres)
  - 40 to 60 feet (12.2 to 18.29 metres)
  - over 60 feet (18.3 metres and over).
- (c) In each of the length groups, and for each stock, the total track records for all UK vessels and the track record for just the 'pure' non-sector vessels were calculated. The quota share for each vessel for each length group was then calculated using the following formula:
- $(P / T) / N$  where

P = 'Pure' non-sector track record for length group – the 'pure' non-sector excluded vessels in membership, at 1 January 1994, of producer organisations which fished against non-sector allocations for the stock in question.

T = Total track record for all UK vessels irrespective of length group.

N = Number of qualifying vessels in the length group.

### Underpinned share for the current quota year calculation

- 1.2 For each underpinned stock, the track records for the previous 3 years of licensed vessels in the non-sector at 1 January of the quota year will be used to identify the number of qualifying vessels for each length group by applying the same qualifying track record as used for the base-year (1994).

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1.3 The underpinned quota share for each length group will then be calculated by multiplying the quota share per vessel by the number of qualifying vessels at 1 January of the quota year. The shares for each group are added together to obtain an overall share figure for the non-sector.

The qualifying track records mentioned in 1.1 (b) and the quota shares for each vessel mentioned in 1.2 are below.

### Qualifying track records and quota shares for each vessel

Stock Name	Stock Code	Qualifying track record (tonnes)*	Length band		
			Under 40 feet	Between 40 and 60 feet	Over 60 feet
			Quota share per vessel (% of UK EQ, see section 2.13b (i))		
NS Cod	COD/2A3AX4	6	0.02	0.03	0.04
NS Plaice	PLE/2A3AX4	6	0.03	0.04	0.19
NS Sole	SOL/24-C.	1	0.08	0.16	0.16
NS Whiting	WHG/2AC4.	2	0.01	0.01	0.04
WS Cod 6a	COD/5BE6A	1.5	0.03	0.04	0.06
WS Nephrops	NEP/5BC6.	10	0.13	0.26	0.15
WS Whiting	WHG/56-14	3	0.14	0.15	0.18
Cod 7b-k	COD/7XAD34	1.5	0.11	0.12	0.16
Plaice 7de	PLE/7DE.	2	0.17	0.18	0.10
Plaice 7fg	PLE/7FG.	0.65	0.44	0.63	0.42
Sole 7d	SOL/07D.	0.5	0.16	0.13	0.11
Sole 7e	SOL/07E.	0.25	0.07	0.1	0.1
Sole 7fg	SOL/7FG.	0.3	0.18	0.25	0.14

\* Represents the minimum total tonnage those vessels in the non-sector at 1 January 1994 caught during 1991 to 1993, which in the previous 3 years collectively accounted for 95% of total non-sector landings.

## Annex I: AFL8 Forms

- 1.1 AFL8 forms are sent to licence entitlement holders each December.
- 1.2 The return of the completed AFL8 forms by the licence holder(s) determines in which Sectoral Group the FQA units on licence entitlements are to be attributed at the start of each quota management year (1 January).



## Annex J: Stocks Apportioned by Alternative Methodologies

There are several stocks where the UK does not have FQA units and instead apportions quota by the distribution methodologies outlined in the table below.

Stock name	Stock Code	Apportionment key
Skates & Rays 67 xd Skates & Rays 7d	SRX/6AKXD7 SRX/07D	Calculated on the assessment of uptake during an agreed reference period (2006 to 2008) for both the sector and non-sector groups.
Haddock 7a	HAD/07A	FQA holdings of COD/07A plus FQA holdings of WHG/07A
Cod (Eastern Channel)	COD/07D	FQA holdings of COD7bk (a stock no longer in use)
Cod (Celtic Sea)	COD/7XAD34	FQA holdings of COD7bk (a stock no longer in use)
Faroes Blue Whiting	WHB/2A4AXF <sup>23</sup>	FQA holdings of WHB/1X14

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<sup>23</sup> Stock only available if included in the written agreement with Faroës.

## Annex K: AQ1 Baselines

These figures represent the maximum share of the TAC, above the UK's EQ share, that may be defined as AQ1. Where the UK's share of total TAC is lower than the sum of the UK's EQ and AQ1 baseline share, the amount of AQ1 will simply be that amount greater than the EQ tonnage.

*AQ1 baselines rounded to 2 d.p. for presentation purposes.*

Stock name	Stock code	AQ tier 1 baseline (% of total TAC)
Angler 7	ANF/07.	1.37%
WS Anglers	ANF/56-14	5.72%
Herring 7a	HER/07A/MM	23.28%
WS herring	HER/5B6ANB	6.84%
Herring (Celtic Sea)	HER/7G-K.	0.60%
NS Horse Mackerel	JAX/4BC7D	6.97%
Megrim 7	LEZ/07.	0.07%
Ling 4	LIN/04-C.	0.91%
Plaice 7hjk	PLE/7HJK.	4.38%
NS Sole	SOL/24-C.	0.77%
Sprat 7de	SPR/7DE.	9.76%
NS Cod	COD/2A3AX4	9.46%
NS Herring	HER/4AB.	0.59%
Herring 4c7d	HER/4CXB7D	0.04%
NS Saithe	POK/2C3A4	3.73%
NS Whiting	WHG/2AC4.	2.04%
Mackerel (species level)	mac.27.nea	0.42%

## Annex L: AQ1 Shares by FA for Apportioned Stocks

Stocks in bold are subject to Welsh quota uplift. Quota is apportioned to England, NI and Scotland after applying this uplift so final shares for these stocks may vary slightly.

Common Stock name	TAC code	AQ tier 1 DA shares			
		England	NI	Scotland	Wales
Angler 7	ANF/07.	76.70%	2.86%	16.26%	4.17%
WS Anglers	ANF/56-14	13.55%	0.66%	85.78%	0.00%
NS Cod	COD/2A3AX4	20.15%	0.02%	79.83%	0.00%
Herring 7a	HER/07A/MM	3.33%	96.65%	0.00%	0.02%
NS Herring	HER/4AB.	22.56%	7.74%	69.70%	0.00%
Herring 4c7d	HER/4CXB7D	99.86%	0.00%	0.14%	0.00%
WS herring	HER/5B6ANB	22.15%	10.77%	67.08%	0.00%
Herring (celtic sea)	HER/7G-K.	0.04%	97.78%	0.00%	2.18%
NS Horse Mackerel	JAX/4BC7D	98.05%	0.25%	1.70%	0.00%
Megrim 7	LEZ/07.	85.55%	0.24%	8.55%	5.66%
Ling 4	LIN/04-C.	12.53%	0.05%	87.42%	0.01%
Mackerel (species level)	mac.27.nea	11.26%	7.22%	81.52%	0.00%
Mackerel (North Sea)	MAC/2A34.	<i>Apportioned at species level</i>			
Mackerel (Western)	MAC/2CX14-	<i>Apportioned at species level</i>			
Plaice 7hjk	PLE/7HJK.	96.63%	0.05%	3.33%	0.00%
NS Saithe	POK/2C3A4	37.05%	0.04%	62.92%	0.00%
NS Sole	SOL/24-C.	94.31%	0.04%	5.65%	0.01%
Sprat 7de	SPR/7DE.	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
NS Whiting	WHG/2AC4.	17.49%	0.21%	82.28%	0.01%

## Annex M: AQ2 Shares by FA for Apportioned Stocks

Stocks in bold are subject to Welsh quota uplift. Quota is apportioned to England, NI and Scotland after applying this uplift so final shares for these stocks may vary slightly.

Common Stock name	TAC code	AQ tier 2 DA shares			
		England	NI	Scotland	Wales
Herring (Irish Sea)	HER/07A/M M	9.10%	89.04%	1.30%	0.56%
Sprat (English Channel)	SPR/7DE.	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Horse Mackerel (Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	JAX/4BC7D	98.11%	0.23%	1.66%	0.00%
Herring (West of Scotland)	HER/5B6AN B	19.93%	9.77%	70.29%	0.00%
Cod (North Sea)	COD/2A3AX 4	18.93%	0.02%	81.04%	0.00%
Anglerfish (West of Scotland)	ANF/56-14	12.20%	0.60%	87.20%	0.00%
Plaice (7hjk)	PLE/7HJK.	96.97%	0.04%	2.99%	0.00%
Whiting (North Sea)	WHG/2AC4.	18.19%	0.19%	81.60%	0.01%
Saithe (North Sea)	POK/2C3A4	33.35%	0.03%	66.62%	0.00%
Anglerfish (7)	ANF/07.	78.14%	2.68%	14.64%	4.54%
Ling (North Sea)	LIN/04-C.	11.32%	0.04%	88.63%	0.01%
Sole (North Sea)	SOL/24-C.	94.88%	0.03%	5.08%	0.00%
Herring (Celtic Sea)	HER/7G-K.	0.68%	88.00%	0.00%	11.32%
Herring (North Sea)	HER/4AB.	21.55%	6.96%	71.49%	0.00%
Mackerel (species level) <sup>24</sup>	mac.27.nea	10.29%	6.50%	83.21%	0.00%
Mackerel (North Sea)	MAC/2A34.	<i>Apportioned at species level</i>			
Mackerel (Western)	MAC/2CX14-	<i>Apportioned at species level</i>			
Megrims (7)	LEZ/07.	86.04%	0.22%	7.69%	6.05%

<sup>24</sup> The mackerel uplift for Wales is 100% Western mackerel. We express this at the species level as this is where we apportion mackerel and Wales receives no North Sea mackerel quota.

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Herring (Southern North Sea and Eastern Channel)	HER/4CXB7D	99.87%	0.00%	0.13%	0.00%
Hake (North Sea)	HKE/2AC4-C	31.97%	0.05%	67.98%	0.00%
Whiting (West of Scotland)	WHG/56-14	1.72%	0.90%	97.38%	0.00%
Cod (West of Scotland)	COD/5BE6A	2.56%	0.34%	97.11%	0.00%
Blue Whiting (Northern)	WHB/1X14	4.68%	3.72%	91.60%	0.00%
Redfish [Shallow Pelagic] (5,12,14)	RED/51214S	3.01%	0.00%	96.99%	0.00%
Saithe (West of Scotland)	POK/56-14	7.43%	0.01%	92.56%	0.00%
Haddock (Celtic Sea)	HAD/7X7A34	71.31%	16.48%	10.66%	1.55%
Skates and Rays (Eastern Channel)	SRX/07D.	98.01%	0.02%	0.90%	1.06%
Sole (Western Channel)	SOL/07E.	98.92%	0.01%	0.37%	0.69%
Cod (Celtic Sea)	COD/7XAD34	90.75%	2.66%	4.61%	1.98%
Cod (Irish Sea)	COD/07A.	5.32%	88.87%	2.57%	3.23%
Cod (Eastern Channel)	COD/07D.	99.82%	0.00%	0.16%	0.02%
Roundnose Grenadier (Western)	RNG/5B67-	0.04%	0.00%	99.96%	0.00%
Black Scabbardfish (Western)	BSF/56712-	0.03%	0.00%	99.97%	0.00%
Sprat (North Sea)	SPR/2AC4-C	38.02%	0.00%	61.98%	0.00%
Skates and Rays (Western)	SRX/67AKXD	74.75%	4.08%	13.94%	7.24%
Pollack (7)	POL/07.	96.72%	2.29%	0.38%	0.61%
Nephrops (7)	NEP/07.	4.51%	85.19%	7.57%	2.74%
Hake (Western)	HKE/571214	45.01%	1.69%	53.16%	0.14%
Boarfish (Western)	BOR/678-	11.53%	0.00%	88.47%	0.00%
Plaice (English Channel)	PLE/7DE.	98.58%	0.03%	0.73%	0.66%
Turbot and Brill (North Sea)	T/B/2AC4-C	75.73%	0.18%	24.09%	0.00%
Horse Mackerel (Western)	JAX/2A-14	61.28%	19.59%	19.13%	0.00%
Plaice (7fg)	PLE/7FG.	85.70%	0.84%	0.42%	13.04%
Sole (7hjk)	SOL/7HJK.	98.95%	0.03%	1.02%	0.00%

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Whiting (Celtic Sea)	WHG/7X7A-C	84.20%	8.73%	4.66%	2.41%
NS Haddock	HAD/2AC4.	12.06%	0.56%	87.38%	0.00%
Ling (Western)	LIN/6X14.	22.89%	0.67%	76.03%	0.41%
Greater Silver Smelt (Western)	ARU/567.	58.27%	0.00%	41.73%	0.00%
Plaice (North Sea)	PLE/2A3AX4	72.56%	0.03%	27.42%	0.00%
Herring (Western Channel and Bristol Channel)	HER/7EF.	99.95%	0.00%	0.00%	0.04%
Saithe (Celtic Sea)	POK/7/3411	89.10%	5.44%	1.63%	3.83%
Sole (Eastern Channel)	SOL/07D.	99.63%	0.00%	0.34%	0.03%
Haddock (West of Scotland)	HAD/5BC6A.	0.33%	1.02%	98.65%	0.00%
Tusk (Western)	USK/567EI.	0.50%	0.00%	99.50%	0.00%
Sole (7fg)	SOL/7FG.	91.02%	0.24%	0.17%	8.57%
Skates and Rays (North Sea)	SRX/2AC4-C	52.01%	0.02%	47.96%	0.00%
Blue Ling (Western)	BLI/5B67-	0.46%	0.00%	99.54%	0.00%
Anglerfish (North Sea)	ANF/2AC4-C	9.42%	0.16%	90.42%	0.00%
Sole (West of Scotland)	SOL/56-14	2.02%	14.74%	82.63%	0.61%
Lemon Sole and Witch (North Sea)	L/W/2AC4-C	24.62%	0.20%	75.17%	0.01%
Sole (Irish Sea)	SOL/07A.	41.91%	46.26%	4.09%	7.75%
Greenland Halibut (North Sea and West of Scotland)	GHL/2A-C46	0.60%	0.00%	99.40%	0.00%
Haddock (Irish Sea)	HAD/07A.	1.04%	92.17%	3.24%	3.55%
Megrims (West of Scotland)	LEZ/56-14	2.85%	0.26%	96.89%	0.00%
Tusk (North Sea)	USK/04-C.	10.00%	0.00%	90.00%	0.00%
Nephrops (West of Scotland)	NEP/5BC6.	0.88%	11.41%	87.70%	0.01%
Plaice (Irish Sea)	PLE/07A.	59.15%	32.85%	0.96%	7.05%
Northern Prawn (North Sea)	PRA/2AC4-C	83.56%	0.00%	16.44%	0.00%
Haddock (Rockall)	HAD/6B1214	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Whiting (Irish Sea)	WHG/07A.	4.60%	85.61%	3.03%	6.76%

## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

Pollack (West of Scotland)	POL/56-14	1.34%	2.50%	96.15%	0.00%
Megrims (North Sea)	LEZ/2AC4-C	3.99%	0.01%	96.00%	0.00%
Nephrops (North Sea)	NEP/2AC4-C	15.78%	2.92%	81.28%	0.02%
Plaice (West of Scotland)	PLE/56-14	0.71%	1.09%	98.20%	0.00%
Cod (NAFO 3M)*	COD/N3M.	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Herring (ASH)*	HER/1/2-	0.65%	0.02%	99.34%	0.00%
Cod (Svalbard)*	COD/1/2B.	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Greenland Halibut (Norway 1,2)*	GHL/1N2AB.	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Other Species (Norway 1,2)*	OTH/1N2AB.	99.98%	0.00%	0.00%	0.02%
Anglerfish (Norway 4)*	ANF/04-N.	27.05%	0.00%	72.95%	0.00%
Ling and Blue Ling (Faroese Waters)*	B/L/05B-F.	2.94%	0.00%	97.06%	0.00%
Cod and Haddock (Faroese)*	C/H/05B-F.	0.68%	0.00%	99.32%	0.00%
Cod (Arcto-Norwegian)*	COD/1N2AB.	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Cod (Greenland)*	COD/N1GL1 4	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Flatfish (Faroese)*	FLX/05B-F.	1.98%	0.00%	98.02%	0.00%
Greenland Halibut (Greenland)*	GHL/5-14GL	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Haddock (Arcto-Norwegian)*	HAD/1N2AB.	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Ling (Norway 4)*	LIN/04-N.	48.57%	0.00%	51.43%	0.00%
Nephrops (Norway 4)*	NEP/04-N.	6.76%	0.00%	93.24%	0.00%
Other Species (Norway 4)*	OTH/04-N.	40.87%	0.00%	59.13%	0.00%
Other Species (Faroese)*	OTH/05B-F.	0.50%	0.00%	99.50%	0.00%
Other Species (Norway 1,2)*	OTH/1N2AB.	99.98%	0.00%	0.00%	0.02%
Saithe (Faroese)*	POK/05B-F.	7.68%	0.00%	92.32%	0.00%
Saithe (Norway 1,2)*	POK/1N2AB.	98.84%	0.00%	1.16%	0.00%
Redfish (Norway 1,2)*	REB/1N2AB.	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Redfish (Faroese)*	RED/05B-F.	7.77%	0.00%	92.23%	0.00%

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Redfish [Deep pelagic] (Greenland))*	RED/N1G14 D	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Tusk (Norway 4)*	USK/04-N.	1.94%	0.00%	98.06%	0.00%

Zonal Attachment data is unavailable for stocks marked with an \*. As such, AQ is apportioned entirely by Track Record for these stocks.



## Annex N: AQ Exceptions

### Exceptions for Wales

The figures below assume the UK has at least this much additional quota in each of these stocks. If we receive less additional quota in one or more of these stocks then the minimum uplift for Wales will instead be the amount received.

TABLE 1

Stock name	Stock code	Uplift for Wales (tonnes)
Cod (Celtic Sea)	COD/7XAD34	2
Cod (Irish Sea)	COD/07A	1
Skates and Rays (Western)	SRX/67AKXD	55
Pollack (7)	POL/07	10
Plaice (7fg)	PLE/7FG	32
Sole (7fg)	SOL/7FG	36
Sole (Irish Sea)	SOL/7A	1
Anglers (7)	ANF/07	50
Mackerel (Western)	MAC/2CX14	50
Irish Sea Herring	HER/07A/MM	20

### Exceptions for England (Isle of Man) and Northern Ireland

- (i) An exception for England (Isle of Man) of either 25% of the UK's AQ for Herring (Irish Sea), or the minimum tonnage listed in Table 2, whichever is the smallest.
- (ii) An exception for England (Isle of Man) of either 20% of the UK's AQ for Nephrops (7), or the minimum tonnage listed in Table 2, whichever is the smallest.
- (iii) An exception for Northern Ireland for Western Mackerel, representing 50% of the exception laid out in point I (Herring, Irish Sea).

TABLE 2

	ISLE OF MAN		NORTHERN IRELAND
	Herring (HER/07A/MM)	Nephrops (NEP/07.)	Mackerel (MAC/2CX14-)
<b>2023</b>	100t	0t	50t
<b>2024</b>	200t	100t	100t
<b>2025</b>	300t	200t	150t
<b>2026</b>	400t	235t	200t

## Annex O: SC stocks realigned in 2024

Stock code	Stock name	English Allocation methodology
LEM/*2AC4-C	Lemon sole (North Sea)	Apportion using parent stock (L/W/2AC4-C) methodology.
WIT/*2AC4-C	Witch (North Sea)	Apportion using parent stock (L/W/2AC4-C) methodology.
TUR/*2AC4-C	Turbot (North Sea)	Apportion using parent stock (T/B/2AC4-C) methodology.
BLL/*2AC4-C	Brill (North Sea)	Apportion using parent stock (T/B/2AC4-C) methodology.
BLL/7DE	Brill (English channel)	Apportion using track record (2018-2022 average reference period) between the sector and non-sector, and then to individual POs.
LEM/07D	Lemon sole (Eastern Channel)	Apportion using track record (2018-2022 average reference period) between the sector and non-sector, and then to individual POs.
PLE/*7D	Plaice VIId	Apportion using parent stock (PLE/7DE) methodology.
PLE/*7E	Plaice VIle	Apportion using parent stock (PLE/7DE) methodology.
WHG/*7BCEK	Whiting VIIb,c,e-k	Apportion using parent stock (WHG/7X7A-C) methodology.
WHG/*7D	Whiting VIId	Apportion using parent stock (WHG/7X7A-C) methodology.

## Annex P: Scientific quotas

- 1.1 In accordance with retained EU law, catches taken in the framework of scientific research which are marketed and sold do not have to be counted against the relevant UK quotas provided that they do not exceed 2% of the UK's total TAC share (including any amendments thereto following bi-lateral quota exchanges). Scientific quotas are managed by each FA, after UK TAC has been apportioned.
- 1.2 Such catches will be authorised and monitored separately from the uptake of FA and Sectoral Group allocations by the managing FA. Any catches in excess of those authorised which are marketed and sold will be counted against the appropriate allocation. Any proposal to fish quota stocks for scientific research purposes must be received prior approval from the managing-FA for the vessel. Contact details for each FA can be found in the individual FA QMR documents (**Annex A**).

## Annex Q: Sectoral Group membership lists

1. Fisheries Authorities (FAs) will consult Sectoral Groups by January to verify that FA records correctly reflect their membership and vessel lists, to ensure that:

- vessels receive the correct licence
- quota allocations are based on accurate data in respect of membership at 1 January (and other relevant factors, such as the attribution of licence entitlements).

2. These consultations will take the form of various lists which contain details of member vessels and licence entitlements. For each entry in all the lists, the licence number and the associated vessel's name, registration number (RSS) and port letter and number (PLN) is required.

3. All such, lists will be exchanged in computer readable form.

### Licensing lists required by January for quota allocation purposes

4. FAs will issue full licensed vessel lists to groups in early January which will reflect group membership as at 1 January. This list will be known as 'List 1'.

5. Sectoral Groups will be required to examine these lists and report any discrepancies with supporting documentary evidence to the managing FA within 2 weeks of receiving the list. FAs will use this information to update central vessel lists for the purpose of issuing licences for the relevant year but only where completed PO1 forms have been received from both groups involved dated prior to 1 January.

6. FAs will issue final licensed vessel lists to groups to include any agreed amendments by the last week in January. This list will be known as 'List 2'.

7. Further alterations to FAs' records of membership will be considered after the dates set out in this annex only in exceptional circumstances.

8. Sectoral Groups are reminded that this end-year exercise does not override the requirement to notify FAs immediately of all individual movements of vessels during the year by means of the form PO1<sup>25</sup>.

9. Please note that POs are also required to provide additional information on membership in accordance with the 'Guidance on the recognition criteria of UK fisheries

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<sup>25</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/join-or-leave-a-fish-producer-organisation>

## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

producer organisation'<sup>26</sup>. QMGs should contact Marine Directorate Scotland for further information regarding membership list requirements.

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<sup>26</sup>

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/856988/2019-07-17\\_UK\\_FPOs\\_new\\_standards.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/856988/2019-07-17_UK_FPOs_new_standards.pdf)

## Annex R: International Quota Swaps Guidance

### Guidance on completing the UK and EU fishing quota transfer form

This guidance explains how to complete the UK and EU quota transfer form<sup>27</sup>.

Please complete the organisation, name and email address sections. The Fisheries Administration (FA) will use these contact details if they need to discuss the proposal with you.

Include any reference number that you want to use for this proposal and insert the date into the relevant box.

Complete the table with all of your proposed exchanges. You can use:

- one form to propose multiple exchanges with multiple other parties
- one row for each transfer that would make up each exchange.

For example, if an exchange would see quota in stock A move to the UK and in return quota in stock B would move to the EU, use one row for the inward transfer of stock A and one row for the outward transfer of stock B.

### What to enter

#### Column B

In Column B identify each stock to be transferred. Place the cursor into the first box under the heading stock code. To the right-hand side of this box will appear a drop down arrow. If you click on the arrow you will see a list of all stock codes. Select the relevant code for the stock that you are proposing to transfer.

**Please note:** Proposals which include any of the flex stocks (those that have an \* in the stock code) for outward exchange will come under very close scrutiny and may be asked to be removed for the proposal to proceed.

#### Columns C and D

In Columns C and D record the tonnage of the stock which would be transferred outward or inward. Only one of these boxes needs to be completed on each row. Use multiple rows where multiple stocks would be transferred.

#### Column E

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<sup>27</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-and-eu-fishing-quota-transfer-form>

## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

In Column E record the EU member state that would be involved in the proposed exchange.

### **Column F**

In Column F record the industry body from the EU member state mentioned in column E that would be involved in the proposed exchange.

### **Column G**

In Column G record all of the UK groups involved in the proposed exchange. For example, if multiple groups have combined quota into one proposal.

### **Column H**

In Column H, using the drop-down options, select if this exchange is being concluded:

1. On behalf of an individual vessel in the sectoral group.
2. By the group on behalf of all vessels in the sectoral group.
3. On behalf of a company which owns or manages vessels in the sectoral group (if 3, state the company name as part of your reply in Column K).

### **Column I**

In Column I provide a justification for the proposed exchange. As part of the review process, a written justification (in column I) in relation to each proposed transfer is required. In this column you should include:

- Planned use of incoming quota
- Consequences to your sectoral group and wider industry of not conducting the proposed exchange
- Explanation of why the quota is being brought into the UK where there is evident excess held by the UK and why a domestic exchange is not viable.

A proposed exchange may not be approved if you do not demonstrate how the proposed exchange is in the broad interests of the UK.

If the justification for the exchange is not deemed strong enough to support the transfer, the proposal will likely be rebuffed. In such instances, an explanation will be provided to the sectoral group and the group may redraw the proposal, and associated submission, and resubmit.

### **Column J**

In Column J provide an explanation for how the ratio of exchanges proposed is the best available and why a more favourable ratio was not achievable. Also explain why the exchange ratio for the proposed transfer may not match or better those achieved in previous rounds or years.

### **Further Consideration**

## Rules for the management of the UK's fisheries quotas

Further consideration will include whether:

Your justification must give the case for proceeding and explain the wider benefit for the UK from this proposed exchange. A proposed exchange may not be accepted if:

- we have less quota available in the UK this year compared to the quantity landed in any of the past three years.
- UK uptake in the quota to be transferred out is more than 85% in any of the past three years.
- the transfer could increase choke risks.
- the quota to be transferred out was overfished at UK level in any of the past three years.
- this is a one-way transfer of quota out of the UK, unless it is part of a chain or package of proposals that have an ultimate benefit to the UK. All aspects of any chain or package should be completed within the same window.
- the proposed transfer does not have a clear justification for the value or ratio of exchange.
- Your group does not hold the necessary quota or if you cannot provide evidence of a swap form having been submitted to ensure that the amount of quota in the proposed exchange can be covered.

If you fail to complete all sections, or provide inadequate justification for approval, your proposal may be delayed or declined. Additional information may be requested where lacking. Where a proposed transfer is outside of what is considered acceptable, and the associated justification is unsatisfactory, it will not be approved.

### **Where to send the form**

You will need to send the form to your FA based on your location in the UK. When a proposed exchange involves groups from multiple parts of the UK, send the form to all of the relevant FAs.

### **Contacts**

If you need help completing the form or have any comments relating to the transfers, contact your Fisheries Administration<sup>28</sup> directly. An up-to-date list of email addresses for FAs is available online.

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<sup>28</sup> [UK and EU fishing quota transfer form - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)



## Annex S: Banking example

The example below shows illustrative figures for 8 Sectoral Groups and the fisheries administration allocation groups for the Over-10-Metre Pools and the 10-metres-and-under pools. All quota amounts are in tonnes (t). For those quota groups eligible to bank, the index has been applied which is simply their landings multiplied by their percentage uptake. For example, PO2's index of 32,000 accounts for 17.2% of the 185,600 total. So PO2 gets 17.2% of UK banking.

		End-year quota (t)	End-year catch (t)	Uptake (%)	Eligible	Index	Index share (%)	Banking amount (t)
PO1		1,000	1,000	100	No			
PO2		500	400	80	Yes	32,000	17.2	112.9
PO3		2,000	800	40	Yes	32,000	17.2	112.9
PO4		400	100	25	Yes	2,500	1.3	8.8
PO5		1,000	900	90	Yes	81,000	43.6	285.9
PO6		200	100	50	Yes	5,000	2.7	17.6
PO7		500	600	120	No			
PO8		50	45	90	Yes	4,050	2.2	14.3
Non-sector	England	400	100	25	Yes	2,500	1.3	8.8
	Wales	0	0		No			
	Scotland	200	120	60	Yes	7,200	3.9	25.4
	Northern Ireland	0	0		No			
10mu	England	100	90	90	Yes	8,100	4.4	28.6
	Wales	0	0		No			
	Scotland	200	150	75	Yes	11250	6.1	39.7
	Northern Ireland	0	0		No			
<b>UK TOTAL</b>		<b>6,550.0</b>	<b>4,405</b>	<b>67.3</b>		<b>185,600</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>655</b>

