



Agenda Item B12

Success criteria 3

By: Assistant Chief IFCO

To: Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority –
20 May 2014

Subject: **Enforcement Code of Conduct**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: To introduce the Enforcement Code of Conduct for boarding and inspection of fishing vessels at sea

The boarding and inspection of vessels at sea is an activity which IFCAs have significant experience in. However, it is an activity which requires the co-operation of the Master of the vessel being boarded as well as the understanding that the officers do have the power to board. It is also implicit within the Defra guidance to IFCAs that operations and working practices are as transparent as possible.

Attached in Appendix 1 to this item is a draft of a Code of Conduct which KEIFCA officers will use when carrying out boarding's and inspections of fishing vessels. This Code of Conduct was developed jointly by all IFCAs so that vessels which move around the coast can expect the same type of inspections to take place no matter where in the country they are working. This helps to standardise working and ensure our enforcement practices and procedures are fully transparent.

This Code of Conduct will be placed on the KEIFCA website so that all Masters of vessels have access to it and can see how IFCOs will conduct themselves prior to and during boarding's, as well as what is expected of the persons aboard vessels being inspected.

The Authority is asked to **APPROVE** this Code of Conduct.