

From: Will Wright, Chief Officer Kent and Essex IFCA

To: Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority –
22 May 2018

Subject: **Consultation paper - reviewing vessel length and engine
power byelaws**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: The consultation paper outlines the possible options for developing a new standard district wide vessel length and engine size byelaw, and seeks comment on these options from the fishing industry and stakeholders.

Recommendations:

Members are asked to **DISCUSS** the draft consultation paper and **AGREE** to the consultation process laid out in the paper.

Progress since the last meeting

Building on the recommendation from the last meeting to develop a new byelaw that has one constant overall vessel length for the whole KEIFCA district, officers have developed a consultation document as requested (Appendix A). Officers welcome any feedback and are happy to make changes and are aiming to start a 10-week consultation from the beginning of June. The intention will be to try and distribute the consultation as widely as possible, by sending it directly to as many fishermen and fishermen's associations as possible and by officers handing out the consultation directly to fishermen.

Initial feedback from the industry has been positive and some members of the industry have requested we progress with speed. The most significant comment from the industry after the last meeting concerned grandfather rights.

Next steps

The plan as agreed at the last meeting would be that the Authority will be updated as to key feedback from the consultation at the next Authority meeting in September, but it is suggested that the scrutiny of the detail from the

consultation replies and the initial development of the byelaw wording would take place at a Technical Panel meeting in October 2018. The aim would be, if all went well, to bring the byelaw and impact assessment to the November 2018 Authority meeting for approval.

Recommendations:

Members are asked to **DISCUSS** the draft consultation paper and **AGREE** to the consultation process laid out in the paper.