

By: Assistant Chief IFCO

To: Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Subject: Report to parliament about the conduct and operation of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities

Classification Unrestricted

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**Summary:**

This report provides Members with the background and a copy of the proposed report to be submitted to Parliament detailing the work undertaken by the IFCA since 2014 against the IFCA Vision and Success Criteria.

**Recommendations:**

This report is for noting, discussion and comment.

**Background**

Every four years, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs must prepare a statutory report into the conduct and operation of IFCAs. The report is required to be laid before Parliament and meets the requirements of s.183(1) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. The first Report to Parliament on the IFCAs' conduct and operation can be viewed here: <http://www.association-ifca.org.uk/about-us/ifcas-conduct-and-operations-2010-2014>.

The second report will cover the period from September 2014 to the end of September 2018 and is intended to assess the IFCAs against their five high level objectives set out in the IFCA Vision and Success Criteria document. Evidence gathered during a public consultation will be used to prepare the report, which DEFRA aims to publish in early 2019.

**Public consultation and IFCA self-assessment**

On the 24<sup>th</sup> July all the 10 IFCAs were contacted by DEFRA and asked to complete a self-assessment report (Appendix A). In addition, DEFRA also started a wider public consultation which ran from the 24<sup>th</sup> July until the 4<sup>th</sup> September (Appendix B). KEIFCA officers have completed the self-assessment

report to meet the 4<sup>th</sup> September DEFRA deadline, but feel that the reply should be really be discussed and approved by the full Authority.

The Authority is asked to **NOTE** the actions listed above, **DISCUSS** and provide **COMMENT**.