

## FISHERIES BILL

### AMENDMENT TO BE MOVED AT COMMITTEE STAGE

Clause 3, page 4, line 12

Add at end –

“( ) If, in the light of a review, the fisheries policy authorities conclude that changes are not required to the JFS they must prepare and publish, as soon as reasonably practicable, a statement setting out the reasons for that conclusion.”

#### Effect

The amendment would require the fisheries policy authorities to provide reasoning for concluding that the joint fisheries statement (JFS) does not require to be amended or replaced.

#### Reason

We consider that such an amendment would enhance the accountability requirements upon the fisheries policy authorities by requiring them to publish the reasons for concluding that the JFS does not require to be amended or replaced.

**FISHERIES BILL**  
**AMENDMENT TO BE MOVED AT COMMITTEE STAGE**

Clause 24, page 16, line 17

Leave out “and”

Effect

This is a paving amendment.

Reason

This is a paving amendment.

**FISHERIES BILL**  
**AMENDMENT TO BE MOVED AT COMMITTEE STAGE**

Clause 24, page 16, line 18

At end insert —

“and

( ) such persons as the Secretary of State thinks appropriate”

Effect

This amendment would impose a duty on the Secretary of State to consult relevant stakeholders when making or withdrawing a determination under clause 23.

Reason

Consultation provides for scrutiny by stakeholders. A requirement on the Secretary of State to consult will help to ensure openness and transparency of the Secretary of State’s actions. Similar requirements are found within clauses 27 and 34 of the Bill in connection with consultation.

**FISHERIES BILL**

**AMENDMENT TO BE MOVED AT COMMITTEE STAGE**

Clause 24, page 16, line 23

At end insert —

“and the reasons for making the determination  
or withdrawal”

Effect

This amendment would impose a duty on the Secretary of State to include within a notice reasons for making or withdrawing a determination under clause 23.

Reason

A requirement to publish reasons for making or withdrawing a determination in connection with fishing opportunities provides for additional scrutiny of the Secretary of State’s actions by stakeholders.

## FISHERIES BILL

### AMENDMENT TO BE MOVED AT COMMITTEE STAGE

Schedule 1, page 36, line 30

After first “period” insert— “of not less than 28 days”

#### Effect

This amendment would impose a minimum scrutiny period of 28 days.

#### Reason

The Bill currently provides a requirement for each of the fisheries policy authorities to specify a period for scrutiny of the consultation draft of a joint fisheries statement. This amendment would impose a minimum period for scrutiny of 28 days. This will help to ensure that there is a sufficient period of scrutiny of the draft document.

## FISHERIES BILL

### AMENDMENT TO BE MOVED AT COMMITTEE STAGE

Schedule 1, page 38, line 21

After first “period” insert— “of not less than 28 days”

#### Effect

This amendment would impose a minimum scrutiny period of 28 days.

#### Reason

The Bill currently provides a requirement for the Secretary of State to specify a period for scrutiny of the consultation draft of a Secretary of State fisheries statement. This amendment would impose a minimum period for scrutiny of 28 days. This will help to ensure that there is a sufficient period of scrutiny of the draft document.

## FISHERIES BILL

### AMENDMENT TO BE MOVED AT COMMITTEE STAGE

Schedule 3, page 50, line 38

After “information” insert— “as the authority may reasonably require for the exercise of their functions”

#### Effect

This amendment would restrict the information which can be sought by a sea fish licensing authority.

#### Reason

Schedule 3, paragraph 3 provides certain powers for a sea fishing licensing authority to direct the master, owner and charterer (if any) of the fishing boat named in a sea fishing licence to provide information. At present, there is no limit on the information which can be sought by an authority. This amendment provides greater specification by limiting the information which can be sought to that which the authority may reasonably require for the exercise of their functions.

Paragraph 3(2) provides that a person who fails without reasonable excuse to comply with such a requirement is guilty of an offence. Given a criminal offence relates to the provision of information, it is important that there is sufficient specificity in the requirements to provide information.