

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY FORUM

c/o Society for the Environment

IC1.14a Technology Centre, Coventry Technology Park, Coventry CV1 2TT

The Right. Hon. Michael Gove,
Secretary of State for the Environment,
c/o Fisheries Consultation Team,
DEFRA,
First Floor, Seacole Block,
2, Marsham Street,
London
SW1P 4DF

12th September, 2018

Dear Secretary of State

Re: White Paper on Sustainable Fisheries for Future Generations

The Environmental Policy Forum (EPF) is a network of UK environmental professional bodies promoting environmental sustainability and resilience for the public benefit. The EPF's member bodies have a collective membership of around 70,000 environmental professionals, many of whom are individually chartered in environmental practice, science and engineering disciplines.

We are writing with regards to the Fisheries White Paper consultation.

We are particularly pleased to see the emphasis on sustainability and sound science. In this regard the linkage of the Fisheries Bill with the Environment Act, the 25 Year Environment Plan and the proposed Environmental Governance Body is vital.

The importance of sustainable fisheries to the UK's Food Security Policy cannot be understated. It is also refreshing to see the relationship of fisheries management and the wider UK Marine Strategy being recognised.

In the attached response we have tried to support and embellish answers to the questions posed where we are in agreement. Where we have differences we have endeavoured to provide constructive alternative solutions.

Aside from the difficult issues of quotas, allocations, access and so on, it does seem to us that the departure from the EU gives the UK a unique opportunity to undertake a thorough, fundamental review of funding, partnerships and holistic fisheries management, covering the inter-connectivity of marine, transitional and freshwater environments.

We have been encouraged to see the breadth and scope of the questions being raised in the White Paper and are keen to see the UK progress to become a world leader in sustainable fisheries management.

The EPF stands ready to advise or otherwise assist. Our organisations are committed to working with parliamentarians to achieve our mutual goal of an improved environment for future generations. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss our concerns with you further and to explore how we can best work with you, by accessing the collective expertise of our members.

Yours

Dr Peter Spillett

President, Institute of Fisheries Management

Professor Will Pope

Chair, Environmental Policy Forum

Chair, Society for the Environment

Sally Hayns
CEO, Chartered Institute of Ecology and
Environmental Management



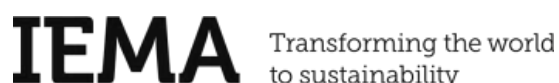
Terry Fuller
CEO, Chartered Institution of Water and
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Dr Colin Church
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Martin Baxter
Chief Policy Advisor, IEMA



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Dr Peter Spillett
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Management



Dr Emma Wilcox
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Notes

1. The Environmental Policy Forum (EPF) is a network of UK environmental professional bodies promoting environmental sustainability and resilience for the public benefit. The EPF's member bodies have a collective membership of around 70,000 environmental professionals, many of whom are individually chartered in environmental practice, science and engineering disciplines. www.socenv.org.uk/EPF

2. The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) is the leading professional membership body representing and supporting 5,000 ecologists and environmental managers in the UK, Ireland and abroad. Our Vision is of a society which values the natural environment and recognises the contribution of professional ecologists and environmental managers to its conservation. www.cieem.net

3. CIWEM (the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management), is the leading independent Chartered professional body for water and environment professionals, promoting excellence within the sector. www.ciwem.org

4. CIWM (the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management) is the leading professional body for the waste management sector representing around 6,000 individuals in the UK. Established in 1898, CIWM is a non-profit making organisation,

dedicated to the promotion of professional competence amongst waste managers. CIWM seeks to raise standards for those working in and with the sector by producing best practice guidance, developing educational and training initiatives, and providing information on key waste-related issues. www.ciwm.co.uk

5. IEMA is the membership body for more than 14,000 environment and sustainability professionals worldwide. We support individuals and organisations in setting and achieving globally recognised standards for sustainable practice, in turn driving the development and uptake of sustainability skills. We add value for our members by providing the knowledge, connections and recognition necessary to lead change within organisations at all levels. We are independent and international. We apply the combined expertise of our members to provide evidence and influence decision-making, working towards our vision of transforming the world to sustainability. www.iema.net

6. The Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES) is a membership organisation that represents professionals from fields as diverse as air quality, land contamination and education - wherever you find environmental work underpinned by science. A visionary organisation leading debate, dissemination and promotion of environmental science and sustainability, the IES promotes an evidence-based approach to decision and policy making. www.the-ies.org

7. The Institute of Fisheries Management (IFM) is an international organisation of people sharing a common interest in the modern management of recreational and commercial fisheries. www.ifm.org.uk

8. The Landscape Institute is the chartered body for the landscape profession. It is an educational charity working to promote the art and science of landscape practice. The LI's aim, through the work of its members, is to protect, conserve and enhance the natural and built environment for the public benefit. The Landscape Institute provides a professional home for all landscape practitioners including landscape scientists, landscape planners, landscape architects, landscape managers and urban designers. www.landscapeinstitute.org

9. The Society for the Environment is comprised of 25 Licenced Bodies, with over 500,000 members between them. It received a Royal Charter in 2004, which empowers it to regulate the Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) and Registered Environmental Technician (REnvTech) registration in the UK. There are now over 7,000 environmental professionals currently registered who share a common vision of delivering sustainability through environmental professionalism. www.socenv.org.uk