

## **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**

### **The Sea Fish Licensing (Revocation) Order (Northern Ireland) 2020**

#### **SR 2020 No. 20**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (the Department) to accompany the Statutory Rule (details above) which is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.
- 1.2. The Statutory Rule is made under powers conferred by sections 4(1) and (2), and 20(1) of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967.

#### **2. Purpose**

- 2.1. The principal purpose of this Rule is to revoke the Sea Fish Licensing Order (Northern Ireland) 2019 (S.R. 2019 No. 61).

#### **3. Background**

- 3.1. The Sea Fish Licensing Order (Northern Ireland) 2019 (S.R. 2019 No. 61) was made on 28 March 2019 and was due to come into operation on exit day. This provided that in the event of the UK exiting the EU without a deal, a foreign fishing vessel would be prohibited from fishing in the NI zone without a licence to do so.
- 3.2. The Fisheries Bill introduced at Westminster on 29 January 2020 provides new powers for future access to British fisheries and the regulation and licensing of foreign fishing vessels. The Fisheries Bill repeals the powers under which S.R. 2019 No. 61 was made will be enacted before exit day, and S.R 2019 No. 61 will not therefore come into operation.

#### **4. Consultation**

- 4.1. Following consultation with the Assembly's Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee, the Department has agreed to revoke the Sea Fish Licensing Order (Northern Ireland) 2019 (S.R. 2019 No.61).

#### **5. Equality Impact**

- 5.1. There are no equality issues associated with this Statutory Rule.

## **6. Regulatory Impact**

- 6.1. This Statutory Rule does not have any material impact on small businesses nor the community or voluntary sector in Northern Ireland.

## **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1. There are no financial implications associated with the making of this Statutory Rule.

## **8. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998**

- 8.1. This Statutory Rule complies with the provisions set out in Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

## **9. EU Implications**

- 9.1. None.

## **10. Parity or Replicatory Measure**

- 10.1. Equivalent legislation in England, Scotland and Wales will be revoked when the Fisheries Bill is enacted.

## **11. Additional Information**

- 11.1. For further information contact Paddy Campbell (02844618007) or Patrick Smith (Tel. 028448618111) at the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs or e-mail [patrick.smith@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:patrick.smith@daera-ni.gov.uk) or [seafisheries@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:seafisheries@daera-ni.gov.uk).