



# Fisheries Act 2020

## 2020 CHAPTER 22

### *Fishing opportunities*

#### **25 Distribution of fishing opportunities**

- (1) When distributing catch quotas and effort quotas for use by fishing boats, the national fisheries authorities must use criteria that—
  - (a) are transparent and objective, and
  - (b) include criteria relating to environmental, social and economic factors.
- (2) The criteria may in particular relate to—
  - (a) the impact of fishing on the environment;
  - (b) the history of compliance with regulatory requirements relating to fishing;
  - (c) the contribution of fishing to the local economy;
  - (d) historic catch levels.
- (3) When distributing catch quotas and effort quotas for use by fishing boats, the national fisheries authorities must seek to incentivise—
  - (a) the use of selective fishing gear, and
  - (b) the use of fishing techniques that have a reduced impact on the environment (for example that use less energy or cause less damage to habitats).
- (4) In this section “the national fisheries authorities” means—
  - (a) the Secretary of State,
  - (b) the Marine Management Organisation,
  - (c) the Scottish Ministers,
  - (d) the Welsh Ministers, and
  - (e) the Northern Ireland department.