

FISHING SAFETY PROMOTION: SUMMARY REPORT FOR SAFETY ON THE SEA GROUP

Issue

1. To inform the Group of the work in progress of the Fishing Safety Promotions Group. The Group last met on 7 September 2005.

Background

2. This paper updates the Group on the progress of each item identified in the Strategy up until 26 September 2005.
3. There are a number of areas the Group has tackled and is looking at.

3.1 Safe Fishing Guide

The Guide inserts have been developed and are with the printers.

3.2 FISG Xmas Card

Designs are being considered

3.3 Safety Checklist

The checklist was been agreed by the Small Fishing Vessel Code Group and has been sent to the printers. A checklist will be sent out in December to all registered owners of Small Fishing Vessels, together with the Safe Fishing Guide inserts and an Xmas Card.

3.4 MCA Publications

The Group expressed the opinion that Industry should be consulted at an earlier stage to assist with the development of Guidance Notes that would better inform fishermen and also help in drafting Impact Assessments.

Regular liaison within MCA will take place to identify Notices in development that cover fishing issues with a view to engaging the Industry in developing Guidance Notes that are relevant and accurate documentation.

3.5 Continue to analyse trends in statistics and data and consider underlying reasons

Ongoing. As a result of the ScotNi prevention project, a questionnaire on attitudes and behaviours has been developed. This is a nationwide survey, with analysis being undertaken by ScotNI. This will establish areas that the Promotions Group may need to address and a benchmark for assessing the future effects of campaigns. The questionnaire has recently commenced.

3.6 Potential Flooding campaign in 2004/5

It has been agreed by the Group that the development of the video will proceed with a view to launch in early 2006.

3.7 Skippers Mate Diary

The Group decided now to continue with the Skippers Mate Diary in 2006. It was considered that the Diary was no longer an effective tool for changing safety behaviour and that resources could be utilised more effectively.

3.8 Study into factors affecting fishing vessel incidents

The MCA is currently developing a project which is assessing the various factors which affect fishing vessel safety, both internal to the MCA, such as promotional campaigns and legislation, to external factors, such as economics. The project's primary aim to identify the most effective methods of conveying safety information and how these may be affected by other factors.