Bailiwick of Guernsey Young Entrants Support Scheme

Guidance Notes for Applicants

1. The size of the vessel eligible to be licensed under this scheme is limited to an engine power not exceeding 60hp (45kW) and tonnage not exceeding 3.0 tonnes (GRT). These capacity figures are determined by the Registrar of Shipping.

2. The license will not normally be issued to a person over the age of 25 as the scheme is designed for young fishermen leaving school with a desire to pursue a career in fishing. Applications received from those under the age of 16 will need an authorised signatory from a parent or guardian.

3. Licenses will not be issued for a period of more than three years and applicants will need to ensure that they are preparing to licence their vessel at their own expense at least 6 months prior to the end of the three year period.

4. The vessel to be licensed must be registered with the States of Guernsey Harbour Authority Ships Registry. The process of registering a fishing vessel can be time consuming so applicants are encouraged to contact the Registrar of Shipping at an early stage.

5. The fishing vessel on which the licence is applied must have passed the relevant safety codes for fishing vessels which are enforced by the States of Guernsey and Alderney’s Harbour Authorities. The code of practice is in the Small Fishing Vessels (Safety Regulations), 2007. For further information on these requirements please call the Registrar of Shipping on 720229.

6. All applicants and crew will be required to have attended and completed the relevant fishermen’s safety training courses prior to the issue of the licence. Evidence of being
booked on a course may be acceptable in certain cases. Further advice on training requirements can be obtained from the Registrar of Shipping.

7. The vessel being licensed is to be insured as a commercial fishing vessel and a certificate of insurance will need to be submitted prior to the licence being issued.

8. The licences will be issued to fishermen new to the industry, insofar as prior to application they have not previously owned a commercial fishing vessel.

9. All applicants will need to be resident in the Bailiwick and be able to comply with the economical link requirements under the terms of the Bailiwick Fishing Vessel Licensing Scheme. If there is any doubt that an applicant is not resident then they will need to provide evidence to establish this beyond doubt.

10. Under the terms of the scheme, there are approximately 10 licences available depending on the size of the vessels. Once the pool has been exhausted no new licences can be issued unless one becomes available e.g. if it is relinquished by another applicant.

Additional Clauses

1. The licence remains the property of the States of Guernsey Committee for Economic Development.

2. All licences issued will be reviewed annually by the BFMC to confirm compliance. Any discrepancies will be referred to the relevant Island’s governing Committee or Department.

3. Any licence issued may contain separate Bailiwick Fishing Vessel Licence Conditions to which are applied to other Bailiwick fishing vessels.

4. The licence may be withdrawn should there be a breach of any conditions applied to the licence (including safety and insurance). Notification will be given in writing 28 days before the date of revocation by the Committee.

5. The licence is transferrable to another vessel owned by the applicant only if the vessel tonnage and kilowatt capacity limits are not exceeded. The replacement vessel must meet the Committee’s application criteria and will not extend the issuance period of three years.
6. The licensee must be the sole operator of the vessel and the vessel and licence cannot be chartered or leased.

7. Licences may be revoked should a licence holder be found guilty of a fisheries related offence.

8. There will be no transferrable historical track record gained on this licence, such as Marine Management Organisation (MMO) Fisheries Quota Allocations (FQAs) or any other transferrable track record of catch caught.

Handling of Applications and Decision Making Process

All applications will be presented to the Bailiwick Fisheries Management Commission and relevant Island’s Fisheries Association for approval. Fishermen from each Island will be appointed by the Commission and consulted with as part of the Application process.

Depending on the home port of the applicant, the application will be presented to and consultation (including the terms and conditions) will be made with; The States of Alderney General Services Committee, The Sark Chief Pleas Sea Fisheries Committee or the States of Guernsey Committee for Economic Development.

All applicants will receive a decision letter.

Further Information

Further information can be obtained by contacting Sea Fisheries Officer David Wilkinson on 234567 or email david.wilkinson@gov.gg