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Summary and Government Responses to the Consultation on Inshore Fisheries and Conservation District Boundaries

28 January 2009 to 22 April 2009

July 2009

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Introduction

Inshore fisheries management in England and Wales is currently the responsibility of Sea Fisheries Committees (SFCs). The Marine and Coastal Access Bill (the Marine Bill) includes measures to reform inshore fisheries management. The Marine Bill proposes replacing SFCs in England with newly created Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFC authorities). In Wales the management of inshore fisheries will become the responsibility of the Welsh Assembly Government.

The aim of this consultation was to seek views on the establishment of inshore fisheries and conservation district (IFC district) boundaries, the number of IFC districts to be established and which upper tier and unitary local authorities would be included within each IFC district.

The two options consulted upon for establishing IFC district boundaries were:

- Option 1: Do nothing to implement IFCA as set out in the Marine Bill
- Option 2: Establishment of ten IFC districts aligned local authority boundaries; and
- Option 3: Establishment of six IFC districts aligned to local authority boundaries.

A total of 74 responses were received during the consultation period of 28 January 2009 to 22 April 2009. A list of organisations, who responded to the consultation, including their corresponding respondent category, may be found in Annex A.

Figure 1 below illustrates the percentage of responses received per respondent category.

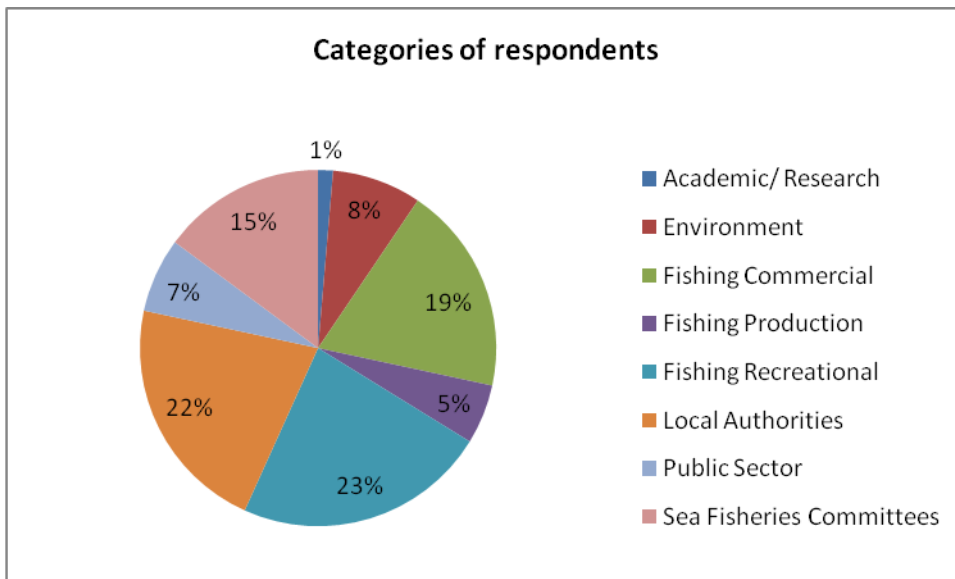


Figure 1: Categories of respondents

Summaries of responses

The following are summaries of the consultation responses along with the Government's response. The full set of consultation questions, along with more detailed information on responses to each one, is set out at Annex B

Boundaries

Responses to the district boundary options were categorised as follows:

- Option 2: respondents who support Option 2;
- Option 3: respondents who support Option 3;
- No response: respondents did not state which option they support;
- No impact: respondents feel that the establishment of either Option 2 or Option 3 would have no impact on their activities; and
- Other: respondents that suggested alternative boundary alignments.

Figure 2 and Figure 3 below illustrate the breakdown of the responses.

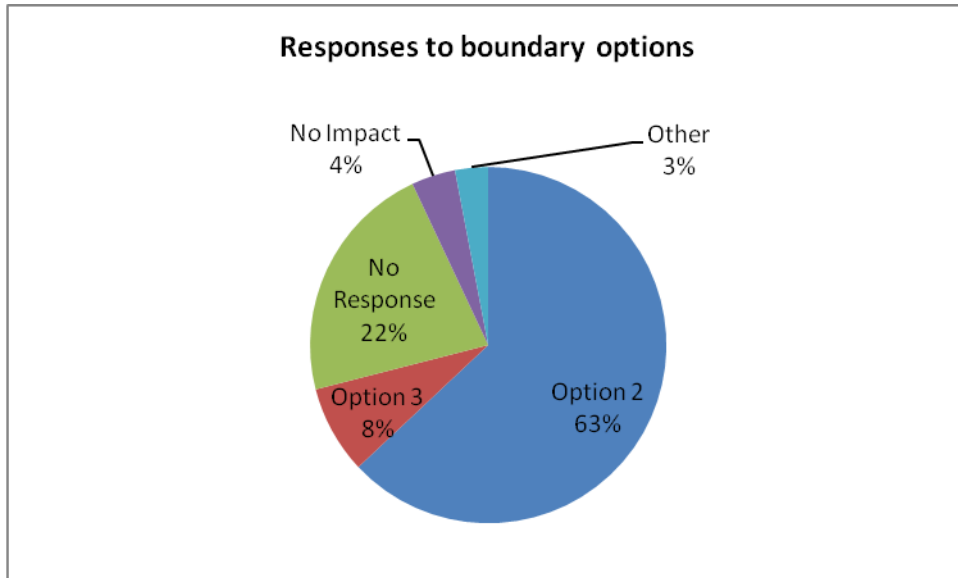


Figure 2: Response to IFC district boundary options

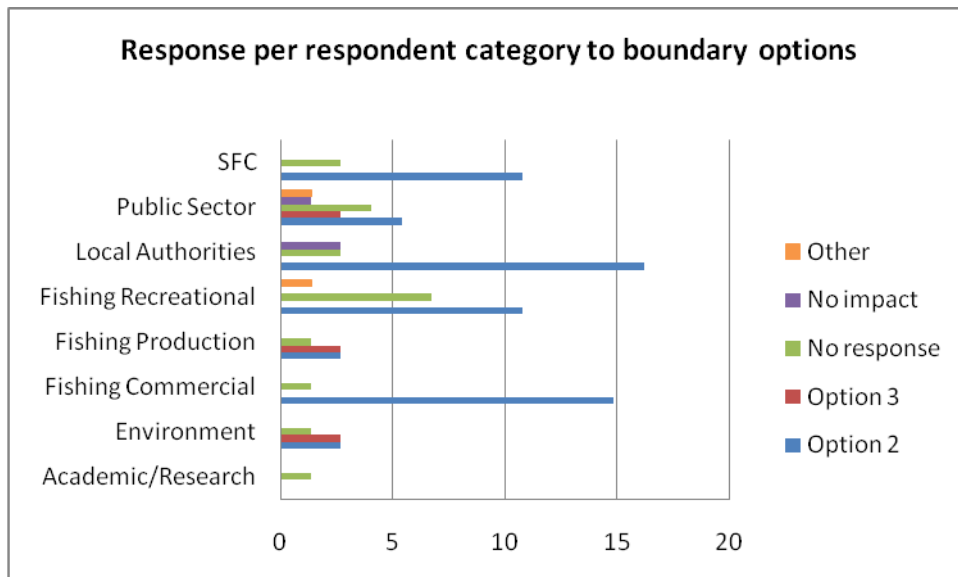


Figure 3: Response to IFC district boundary options per respondent category

The clear majority (63%) of respondents support the establishment of ten IFC districts aligned to local authority boundaries (Option 2).

The majority of respondents (90%) feel that the establishment of ten IFC districts, would ensure that local knowledge is retained and that long-standing

local relationships between stakeholders remains intact. Respondents (90%) also feel that the financial costs of establishing and managing larger districts would outweigh the benefits to management regimes and resources.

Respondents (71%) also indicated that the proposed IFC district boundary alignments (Option 2 and Option 3) would successfully address the existing gaps in inshore fisheries management along the English coastline.

The majority of respondents feel that the establishment of larger district would negatively impact enforcement activities (87%) and the environment (75%). Reasons provided by respondents include; larger districts would result in a greater district area to patrol, monitor and enforce and a weakened presence of officers would provide offenders with greater opportunity to commit offences; furthermore larger districts would result in greater distances for IFC authority staff and committee members to travel, therefore resulting in greater emissions of CO₂ which would negatively impact the environment.

Respondents in favour of Option 3 (10%) feel that larger districts would result in a positive cultural change from SFCs to IFC authorities and that larger districts would allow for financial savings and more effective use of resources. They also suggested aligning IFC district boundaries with natural ones; for example, those currently set for river basin or shoreline management, as opposed to local authority boundaries.

Consultation questions which relate to IFC district boundaries are:

- Question 4;
- Question 5;
- Question 6;
- Question 7;
- Question 8;
- Question 9; and
- Question 10.

Government response

In July 2008 an internal project was undertaken to help shape Defra's consultation on possible IFC district boundaries, its aims were to review the existing SFC districts and provide an options-analysis on the number of

districts, boundary alignments and staffing structure. The Defra report mirrors the findings of the boundaries consultation in so far as uncovering little substantive evidence that would call for radical restructuring of existing boundaries.

The landward boundaries of each IFC district will be aligned with the local authority's that compose district. The Government recognises the points made in relation to ensuring strong local links with the new authorities are maintained; and that this would be best served by establishing smaller IFC authority committees where each contributing local authority is represented on the IFC authority committee, if it so desires. Balancing this with the other points mentioned above and the need to maintain IFC authority committee sizes at a manageable number; would indicate that it is sensible to adopt Option 2, namely establishing ten IFC districts aligned to local authority boundaries. A list of local authorities to be included within each IFC district is included in Annex C.

In addition the Government considers that the modernisation of inshore fisheries management is in no way exclusively connected with the size of IFC districts. Inshore fisheries management will be enhanced through ensuring that IFC authority committees contain a broad range of knowledge, skills and experience relating to commercial and recreational fishing and environmental and conservation interests. Through open and transparent working practices and clearly communicated inshore fishery-management goals, IFC authorities and stakeholders will have a clear route to raise awareness and trigger the need for a new byelaw or targeted, preventative enforcement action.

Four years post vesting, IFC authorities will be reviewed by the Secretary of State; as part of this evaluation the effectiveness of the IFC district boundary in delivering IFC authority objectives alignments will be reviewed.

IFC authority committee membership

54% of respondents feel that the membership of the IFC authority committees must contain a balance between local authorities, fishing industry (recreational and commercial) and environmental interests. I.e. ideally aim for around a one-third local authority membership, with the remaining membership being allocated to statutory seats and stakeholders with fishing (commercial and recreational) and environmental interests.

Respondents varied in their response to the number of members that would make up the IFC authority committee. Suggested committee sizes varied between 15-21 as per the Marine Bill White Paper and the Marine and Coastal Access Bill documentation, and 30 members as per many of the existing SFC Committee sizes. Respondents also suggested that the committee's size should not be capped as each IFC district is different (in terms of district size, environment and fishing level); and therefore committees should be appointed on a case-by-case basis ensuring that there is a balance between representations. Annex C outlines which local authorities would be included within the respective IFC district.

Consultation questions which relate to IFC authority committee membership are:

- Question 1;
- Question 2;
- Question 3; and
- Question 4.

Government response

Although there are theoretical views upon what the optimal size of an IFC authority committee should be, what matters is that a committee is staffed by members with the relevant knowledge, skills and experience to achieve the outcomes the IFC authority seeks to attain. The composition of IFC authority committees must therefore represent a balance between local authorities, fishing industry (recreational and commercial) and environmental interests. Statutory seats on the committee will be allocated to the Environment Agency,

Natural England and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO); these seats will bring a broad perspective to the IFC authority committee's decision making processes.

The Government agrees that that the maximum Committee size should not exceed 30 members, with around one -third local authority representation. The draft Orders on which we will consult on will provide more detail on the constitution of each individual IFC authority committee.

Funding

A majority of respondents (68%) agreed that upper tier and unitary local authorities included within an IFC district should contribute to the funding of IFC authorities. Some respondents provided suggested methods to calculate local authority contributions; for example, length of coastline, population size, and level of fishing industry. In turn, it was suggested that the level of financial contribution by local authorities would determine their voting right on the IFC authority committee.

Consultation questions which relate to funding of IFC authorities are:

- Question 1;
- Question 3;
- Question 6; and
- Question 11.

Government response

SFCs are currently funded by constituent local authorities with whom a voluntary levy is negotiated. On occasions, these arrangements have resulted in insufficient funding for the full ranges of services expected of SFC(s) and some local authorities have opted out of contributing to their local SFC(s) altogether.

To strengthen funding, upper tier and unitary local authorities included within an IFC district will contribute to the funding of the relevant IFC authority. The

Government intends to estimate new burden costs; this funding, subject to annual government funding review, we anticipate this will be made available through Area Based Grant. In addition, as part of the new funding arrangements IFC authorities will be able to recover a proportion of their costs of operating permit schemes from those who directly benefit. The costs would include set up, monitoring and general management costs associated with operating permit schemes as well as costs of completing appropriate assessments required under nature conservation legislation. IFC authorities, as SFCs do now, will also be able to charge for services undertaken on behalf of other organisations.

As part of the consultation on the orders to establish the new IFC districts, the Government will set out a detailed approach to determining the proportion of expenditure to be levied by each contributing local authority.

Estuaries

Several respondents expressed concerns regarding the management of estuaries where proposed IFC district boundaries divide estuaries in two. Suggestions were made as to how IFC district boundaries may be realigned to ensure that estuaries are not split between IFC authorities; these examples included aligning IFC district boundaries with different local authority boundaries or existing management boundaries such as river basin boundaries or shoreline management boundaries.

Government response

As managers of inshore fisheries, IFC authorities will be responsible for managing estuaries in England. Certain estuaries are presently divided by SFC district boundaries and local authority boundaries; in these cases joined-up management approaches have been, and will remain, essential to estuary

management. There is currently little or no management difficulties associated with split estuaries.

Under the Government's proposals, a few estuaries will come under a single IFC authority's management for the first time. And several estuaries, such as the Tamar estuary will be split between two IFC districts; however, this should not prevent suitable management arrangements being put in place. For example the use of cross warranting, as happens at present, to continue to manage those bodies of water as a single entity. In addition Clause 165 of the Marine Bill places a duty to cooperate on IFC authorities, not only between neighbouring IFC districts, but also with other organisations, such as the MMO and the Environment Agency, to cooperate in the management of districts.

Next Steps

Defra is grateful to those who responded to the consultation and the information has been used to assist in determining the number of IFCA districts to be established, aligning the IFC district boundaries and determining which upper tier and unitary local authorities will lie within IFC district boundaries.

Our next step will be to consult on the draft Orders that shall outline the exact landward and seaward boundaries, estuaries boundaries, membership and financial contribution of constituent local authorities.

Annex A – List of organisation who responded

Category	Sub-Category	Organisation who responded
Academic/ Research	Academic /Research Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marine Environmental Data and Information Network
	Coast Development,	
	Environmental and Fishery Consultancies	
	Fish Science Unit	
	General Maritime Management	
	Mapping	
	Recruitment Consultants For Resource Conservation/Sustainability	
Environment	Archaeological Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO:UK) UK Maritime Committee
	Countryside Lobby	
	Environmental NGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North West Regional Fisheries, Ecology and Recreation Advisory Committee RFERAC, Anglian Region South West Regional Fisheries, Ecology and Recreation Advisory Committee Wildlife and Countryside Link
	National Parks authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Fishing Commercial	Aquaculture Organisations	
	Aquatic Trade	

Category	Sub-Category	Organisation who responded
	Commercial Fishing Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridport & West Bay Commercial Fishermans Association • Cadgwith Helford and district Fishermans Society • Cullercoats Fishermen's Association • Mudeford & district Fishermans Association Ltd • National Federation of Fishermen's Organisation • Newbiggin Fishermen's Association • Scottish Fishermen's Association • Shellfish Association of Great Britain • South Coast Fishermans Council • South Coast Fishermans Council • South Devon and Channel Shell fishermen's • Southern Head Fishing Co Ltd • Thorpe Bay Fisheries Ltd
	Licensed Fishing Vessels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scott Trawlers
Fishing	Baits/Tackle	
Production	Shops/Manufactories	
	Fish Processors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grimsby Fish Merchant • Leach Fishing Enterprises
	Ports and Harbours'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British Ports Association • Chichester Harbour Conservancy
	Producers	
	Organisations/Merchants	
	Regional Seafood	
	Promotional Groups	
Fishing	Anglers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angling School • Armfield & Ringwood Sea Fishing Club
Recreational		

Category	Sub-Category	Organisation who responded
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brixham Sea Angling Club • Broadstairs and St Peters Sea Angling Society
	Marine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Boatman's Association
	Leisure/Commercial	
	Workboats/Hire Boats	
	Recreational Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armfield & Ringwood Sea Fishing Club • Ex-SSFDC • Private X 8 • Secretary South Cumbria Sea Sports Association Ltd and Secretary Millom & district Angling • Vice Chairman Dungeness Angling Association and Chairman of the Varne Boat Club
Local Government	Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeen City Council (Economic & Environmental Sustainability Strategic Leadership) • Cumbria County Council • Devon County Council • East Riding of Yorkshire Council • East Riding of Yorkshire Council • East Sussex County Council • Falkirk Council Development Services • Falkirk Council Development Services • Kent County Council • Lincolnshire County Council • North East Lincolnshire Council • North Lincolnshire Council • North Yorkshire County Council • Shepway District Council • Sunderland City Council • West Sussex County Council

Category	Sub-Category	Organisation who responded
Public Sector	Coastal Manager	
	Crown Dependencies	
	Development Agencies	
	Devolved Administration	
	PR/Lobbyists	
	Press Office	
	Several And Regulating	
	Order Distribution	
	Statutory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Heritage
	Bodies/Government Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Agency • Natural England • Sea fish Industry Authority
UK Government		
Departments		
Water Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bristol Water 	
Sea Fisheries Committees	Sea Fisheries Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association of Sea Fisheries Committees • Cornwall SFC • Devon SFC • Eastern SFC • Isle of Scilly SFC • Kent and Essex SFC • North Eastern SFC • North West North Western SFC • Northumberland SFC • Southern SFC • Sussex SFC

Annex B – Detailed overview of responses to consultation questions

Question 1: Do you have any comments on how representation of local authorities should work where there are many local authorities feeding into one IFC district?

With regards to local authority membership, 68% of respondents feel that local authorities within an IFC district and which will contribute funding should be represented on the IFC authority committee.

With regards to the number of local authority members, the following comments were made:

- As a minimum each local authority should have one seat on the IFC authority committee;
- Local authority membership should be based upon financial contribution;
- Local authority financial contribution should be calculated using factors such as coastline length, population, and/or level of commercial fishing industry;
- Respondents agreed that local authority membership should be a third and balanced with representation from the fishing industry (commercial and recreational) and environmental interests; and
- Agree with inclusion of only upper tier and unitary local authorities.

Reasons to support local authority membership:

- A reduction in local authority representation could weaken IFC authority relationships with local authorities within their district;
- Local authorities are able to provide information on local issues; and
- Local authority membership is essential to secure local engagement and control on issues.

Reasons against local authority membership:

- Local authorities lack knowledge of the fishing industry;
- Local authorities are only concerned with budgetary issues; and
- Local authorities do not grasp the real issues and the knowledge of fishing and environment representatives on the committee are swamped by those of local authority members.

Question 2: Do you have comments on what the maximum number of committee members sitting on any one IFCA should be? It would be helpful if your views could be given on a district-by-district basis

The following IFC authority committee sizes were suggested by respondents:

- 23% of respondents feel that a committee size of 15-20 members would be suitable and function correctly.
- 10% of respondents feel that a committee size of 21 members would be suitable.
- 15% of respondents feel that a committee size of 30 members would be suitable. This would allow for each local authority to be properly represented and committees larger than 30 are impractical to manage.
- 18% of respondents feel that the status quo should remain for IFC authorities are present in SFCs.
- 7% of respondents feel that there should be no cap on the number of members, as each IFC authority is different.
- A further 5% of respondents feel that there should be no cap on committee membership.

Other comments in relation to the number of committee members:

- 54% of respondents would like to see a balance between local authority membership, fishing (recreational and commercial) and environmental interest on the committee.
- Respondents feel that should Option 3 be selected, committee size may need to be larger than the suggested 21 members.

Question 3: Do you have any comments on how representation of local authorities should work where there are more than seven local authorities within one IFC district?

As mentioned in Question 1, 68% of respondents feel that each local authority contributing funding to the IFC authority should be represented on the committee. Therefore in the situation where there are more than seven local authorities in one district 54% of respondents feel that each local authority contributing to funding should have at least one seat on the committee.

IFC districts which would include more than seven local authorities within a district are:

- Option 2: North West IFC authority, North Eastern IFC authority, Southern IFC authority, and Devon IFC authority.
- Option 3: North Western IFC authority, North Eastern IFC authority, South Eastern IFC authority, and Southern and Western IFC authority.

The majority of respondents feel that IFC authority committee membership should not be capped at 21 members; the reason being that each IFC district is different (district size, number of local authorities within the district, fishing industry). Respondents also suggested that local authority voting rights should be calculated on the amount of funding they contribute. 11% of respondents feel that the committees need to be balanced between local authority membership, fishing (recreational and commercial) and environmental interests.

Other comments which were made:

- Respondents suggested that local authority voting rights should be calculated on the amount of funding they contribute;
- A reduction in local authority representation may weaken the existing strong relationships between IFC authority and local authorities;

- The following were suggested as benefits which local authorities provide; recognise contribution the IFC authority board members, attract only suitable applicants, Nolan principles, and provide further accountability; and
- Three respondents feel that should Option 3 be selected, that the number of local authorities within the districts coupled with the need to balance fishing and environment representation would make the committees too large to handle.

Question 4: Do you have comments on any proposed boundary changes or changes to local authority structure that could affect the proposed IFC districts?

45% of respondents agreed with the proposal to align IFC district boundaries with local authority boundaries. Other comments which were made in relation to aligning IFC district boundaries with local authority boundaries are:

- 7% of respondents supported the alignment of IFC district boundaries with local authority boundaries and in the case where estuaries and harbours are split; they feel that cross warranting and harmonised byelaws would work effectively to manage the bodies.
- 38% of respondents feel that it would not be suitable to split the management of estuaries and harbours between two IFC authorities and suggested that the district boundaries be realigned so that only one IFC authority manages the estuary. It was suggested to either realign the IFC district boundaries with other local authority boundaries or align boundaries with natural boundaries such as shoreline management or river basin management.

Changes to local authority boundaries which were raised in the responses:

- Devon is currently consulting on the boundary alignments so as to become a unitary local authority.

Other comments:

- 3% of respondents raised the concern that certain IFC authorities would be funded by only one local authority and others would receive funding from as many as ten local authorities. This difference would put more financial stress on poor local authorities which are required to wholly fund and IFC authority.
- Comments in relation to Option 2: smaller IFC authority committees would allow for local management and standardised management.
- Comments in relation to Option 3: larger IFC districts would allow for a greater flow of information around and between districts

Question 5: How well do you think our current proposals for aligning IFC district boundaries with those of local authorities would tackle existing gaps in inshore fisheries management?

71% of respondents feel that the IFC district boundary Option 2 and 3 covered the existing gaps in management successfully.

29% of respondents commented that by altering the existing SFC district boundaries to create IFC district's you may disturb long standing relationships between IFC authorities and local authorities, this may therefore impact on the knowledge and skills available to that specific SFC/ IFC authority and would create gaps in knowledge.

Question 6: Do you have any comments on the impacts of establishing six IFC districts?

10% of respondents support Option 3, establishment of six IFC districts aligned to local authority boundaries. Reasons for support of Options 3:

- 6% of respondents feel that six districts would allow for the positive cultural change from SFC to IFC authorities;
- 6% of respondents feel that there would be cost benefits; and
- 2% of respondent feel that larger committees would result in a more democratic decisions making process.

90% of respondents do not support Option 3. Reasons for not supporting Option 3:

- 41% of respondents feel that the size of the IFC districts would be too large to manage and may result in weaken enforcement and environmental protection;
- 22% of respondents feel that local knowledge and skills would be lost if larger IFC districts were created;
- 4% of respondents feel that larger IFC districts would mean larger committees which would be unmanageable and issues would not be dealt with properly;
- 9% of respondents feel that the merger of SFC districts which each have very different marine environments and needs, may result in issues not adequately be dealt with by a larger committee;
- 13% of respondents feel that by establishing six IFC districts the proposed financial benefits of larger districts would not be reached and any financial benefit would be outweighed by the negative impact of increased travel and weakened managed and enforcement and loss of local knowledge; and
- 13% of respondents feel that local stakeholders would have reduced accessibility to larger committees and would feel disenfranchised.

Question 7: If larger districts are created, are those suggested here the best configuration?

- 44% of respondents do not support the creation of six IFC districts;

- 22% of respondents responded that if six IFC districts were established, that they would support those district boundary alignments proposed in the consultation document; and
- 34% of respondents responded that if six IFC districts were established they would prefer alternative IFC district boundary alignments.

Question 8: Do you have any comments on the impact on inshore fisheries enforcement of establishing six IFC districts?

Of those consultees which responded to the Question, 12% of respondents' support the establishment of larger districts; and 88% of respondents do not support the establishment of larger districts.

Reasons to support the establishment of larger districts:

- Respondents feel that if sufficient resources were provided, then there should be no impact on enforcement.

Reasons against the establishment of larger districts:

- Larger districts would weaken enforcement due to the larger area which officers would need to cover and hence provide greater opportunities for offenders to commit offences;
- Larger districts would result weekend relationships between stakeholders and a loss of local knowledge;
- Respondents feel that where estuaries are split between two IFC districts, the management and protection of estuaries would be negatively impacted.

Question 9: Do you have any comments on the environmental impact of establishing the proposed IFC districts?

- 35% of respondents feel that the establishment of six districts would result in an increase in CO₂ emissions due to increased travel;
- 3% of respondent feel that by altering the district boundaries, that it would have a negative impact on byelaws and the environmental protection of the district;
- 3% of respondents feel that there would be no impact upon the environment;
- 3% of respondents raised concern over the environmental protection of estuaries and harbours which would be split between two IFC authorities;
- 16% of respondents feel that the structure of the IFC authority committee needs a balanced representation between local authorities, fishing industry (commercial and recreational) and environmental stakeholders, to ensure that the environment is managed correctly;
- 3% of respondents feel that environmental issues should be nationalised; and
- 37% of respondents feel that the English coastline has numerous unique marine environments and therefore by establishing larger districts the protection of these environments would be weekend.

Question 10: Do you have any comments on the social impact of establishing IFC districts as proposed?

- 68% of respondents feel that the creation of larger districts would result in a loss of local knowledge and skills and therefore the creation of smaller districts would be better suited;
- 26% of respondents feel that the committee membership needs to be balanced between local authority membership, fishing industry (commercial

and recreational) and environmental interests (either Option 2 or 3) so as to ensure that the needs of the community are met;

- 6% of respondents feel that there would be no social impact when IFC authorities are vested.

Question 11: Do you have any comments on the economic costs and benefits of establishing IFC districts as proposed?

13% of respondents made comments related to the economic impact of Option 1:

- 8% of respondents feel that long term financial benefits could be achieved through smaller IFC authorities committees with proper management.
- 5% of respondents feel that Option 2 would provide the least costs associated with change and establishing the IFC authorities.

26% of respondents made comments related to the economic impact of Option 3:

- 21% of respondents feel that the financial costs of establishing larger IFCA districts would outweigh the benefits. For example; costs associated with greater travel distances, greater time away from home, costs associated with amending byelaws, loss of local knowledge, and in-turn impact on environment and social.
- 5% of respondents feel that the establishment of larger districts would result in the largest economic benefits and better use of resources (assets and staff).

34% of respondents made comments in general, these include:

- 5% of respondents feel that economic benefits would be achieved through proper management. Therefore IFC authorities will need to be adequately staffed and resourced to achieve this. There is no evidence to suggest that this can/cannot be achieved through either IFC district model.

- 5% of respondents feel that if the costs of new burdens are accounted for, there should be no economic impact on IFC authorities; however local authorities will be impacted financially in the future.
- Respondents suggested that better public awareness will increase tourism in coastal regions, thus financially benefiting the community. Furthermore sharing of duties between IFC authorities will result in cost saving. For example, management of estuaries.
- Respondents feel that the financial burdens of establishing IFC districts should not be placed on the fishing industry.
- Respondents feel that all local authorities, regardless of whether or not they have a coastline should contribute to funding of IFC authorities.
- Respondents feel government restructure often results in unnecessary costs.
- Respondents hope the future IFC authorities will be adequately funded so that they can perform their duties appropriately.
- One respondents raised concern that funding provided to local authorities for IFC authorities through Revenue Support Grants will not reach IFC authorities; and therefore together with the new burdens some IFC authorities may not be able to perform their duties due to lack of funding.
- One respondent feel that either Option would result in no economic impacts.
- One respondent raised concern that provisions needs to be made available to ensure that IFC authorities receive sufficient funding to carry out their duties, should they not receive sufficient funding from their local authorities.
- One respondent stated the 13 million people bought for fishing licenses last year (325 per licence) and this number is expected to increase in 2009.
- With regards to Cornwall only. The Cornwall County Council is the only district funding the Cornwall SFC & therefore a large financial burden to the local authority. Need to ensure that adequate funding and resources are available to undertake responsibilities. Also suggest that Cornwall not be merged with Isle of Scilly due to financial burden on Cornwall.

22% of respondents provided examples of the economic impact of establishing IFC authorities.

Annex C - Proposed local authorities to be included within IFC district

Suggested name of IFC authority	Proposals on local authorities to be included within IFC district
North West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackpool BC (Unitary) • Cheshire East Council (Unitary) • Cheshire West and Chester Council (Unitary) • Cumbria County Council • Halton BC (Unitary) • Lancashire County Council • Knowsley MBC, • Liverpool City Council • St Helens MBC, • Sefton MBC • Warrington BC (Unitary) • Wirral MBC
Northumberland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northumberland County Council • North Tyneside Council
North Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Durham Unitary authority • East Riding of Yorkshire Council • Hartlepool district Council (Unitary) • Hull City Council (Unitary) • North Yorkshire County Council • North East Lincolnshire Council • North Lincolnshire Council • Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council (Unitary) • South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council (Unitary) • Sunderland City Council (Unitary)
Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lincolnshire County Council • Norfolk County Council • Suffolk County Council
Kent and Essex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essex County Council • Kent County Council • Medway Council (Unitary) • Southend-on-Sea BC (Unitary)

Suggested name of IFC authority	Proposals on local authorities to be included within IFC district
Sussex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thurrock Council (Unitary) • Brighton & Hove City Council (Unitary) • East Sussex County Council • West Sussex County Council
Southern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borough of Poole (Unitary) • Bournemouth BC (Unitary) • Dorset County Council • Hampshire County Council • Isle of Wight Council • Portsmouth City Council (Unitary) • Southampton City Council (Unitary)
Devon and Severn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bath & North East Somerset Council (Unitary) • Bristol City Council • Devon County Council • Gloucestershire County Council • North Somerset Council (Unitary) • Plymouth City Council (Unitary) • Somerset County Council • South Gloucestershire Council (Unitary) • Torbay BC (Unitary)
Cornwall IFC authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cornwall Unitary authority
Isles of Scilly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council of the Isles of Scilly