



The Northern Ireland Fish Producers Organisation

The Northern Ireland Fish Producers Organisation Ltd (NIFPO) was formed in 1975. Their headquarters is located in the old Coastguard Cottages in Portavogie and here Dick James, the Chief Executive, has an office overlooking the harbour. NIFPO today has approximately 150 member vessels predominately based in Northern Ireland's fishing ports of Portavogie, Ardglass, Annalong and Kilkeel as well as at other ports throughout the UK and Ireland.



Members' vessels range in size from 7m potters targeting crab and lobster to vessels of over 24m in length who circumnavigate the island of Ireland in their seasonal hunt for oily fish such as mackerel and herring. The mainstay of the Northern Irish fleet are the trawlers which target *Nephrops* (also known as prawns, scampi and langoustine) and a range of other species including round-fish like haddock and cod, flatfish such as turbot and brill and other less well-known species like gurnard and John Dory.

NIFPO is a diverse business providing a range of services to members, the most important service of which is managing fish quota for 120 member vessels.





These traditional stores are a natural meeting place for fishermen and stock a dazzling array of paints, shackles, waterproof clothing and a myriad of other useful things. A visit is a must on a day out in one of our fishing ports!

Dick James (pictured below) has has wonderful stories about his 10 years on the South Seas, and in his spare time he collects old postcards showing Northern Ireland's fishing ports, but his passion remains the fishing industry and through his role in NIFPO and ownership of fishing boats in Ardglass he is a committed advocate for local fishermen.

NIFPO is one of the few Producers Organisations in the UK that still operates a 'Pool' quota management system for most of their members. This means that they own quota and this enables NIFPO to set monthly catch limits allowing vessels to operate in the main without the need for leasing in additional quota at significant cost to the vessel.

Other services NIFPO provide for members includes assistance with Vessel Registration and Licensing, Grant Funding Applications and Fisheries Management representation at Local, National and European level.

NIFPO also provide Guard Vessels and Fishery Liaison Officers to the offshore sector through their Offshore Services division.

Members and non-members of NIFPO as well as the general public all avail of the services provided by the NIFPO Marine Chandlery Stores located on the quaysides of Portavogie, Ardglass and Kilkeel.



For more information about NIFPO:

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*Supporting a profitable, sustainable
and socially responsible future for
the seafood industry.*