

RFS Revision - Agreed Terms Of Reference (TOR) Objectives

This document outlines the agreed TOR for the new Responsible Fishing Scheme to be re-launched during 2015:

A- Overall

- A badge of international best practice for UK fishermen to demonstrate the application of due diligence on the vessel thereby promoting improvement, both by skippers and to the reputation of the fishing industry, while delivering credible assurance to food supply chain.

B- Social & ethical

- Reduce fishing fatalities by 20% over 5 years
- [Review working conditions with view to adopting min standards]

C- Environmental responsibility

- Demonstrate commitment to discard mitigation (e.g. adopt policy in portfolio appropriate to individual vessel, relevant sector, gear etc.)
- Demonstrate compliance with spatial management (e.g. by means of 24/7 remote tracking capability with data aiding certification process)
- Demonstrate responsible behaviour (collection of auditable by-catch records; use questionnaires/cameras re interactions cetaceans, birds)
- Demonstrate commitment to energy saving (e.g. use of flow meters)

D- Provenance & traceability

- Demonstrate commitment to traceability (e.g. verify origin of catch at first sale in terms of individual vessel, fishing area, and date of catch)
- Commitment to extend traceability from point of catch to point of first sale (and beyond via chain of custody?)

E- Care of catch

- Demonstrate commitment to quality via greater care of catch (e.g. verify use of ice on day boats and use of temperature probes on trip boats to track temperature of fish from catch till landing)

F- Governance

- Achieve full accreditation (e.g. stakeholders take standard ownership)