

Appendix 2

Recommendations to be submitted to Cabinet on 9 March 2021 -

The committee agreed to recommend the following recommendations for approval by the Cabinet -

- (1) regulatory changes the UK can make independently to facilitate trade and ensure a level playing field for UK fishermen;
 - for example the regulation of fishing within the 6 – 12 mile limit;
- (2) regulatory flexibility that could realistically be negotiated with the EU through the mechanisms afforded in the Trade and Cooperation Agreement;
 - for example the regulations governing the depurification of bivalves;
- (3) where regulatory barriers cannot be changed but apply an additional burden to UK fishermen to provide an effective subsidy arrangements that ensure a level playing field with their EU counterparts;
 - for example around the costs of compliance with the need for Export Health Certificates and Catch Certificates; this might be supported by an EFRA select committee enquiry into the impact of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement and the potential for this to be mitigated by the implementation of the Fisheries Act;
- (4) ask that the UK government could support the industry -
 - (a) through measures to stimulate the UK market -
 - the role of the crown procurement service is supporting initiatives like Fish on Fridays in UK schools;
 - requiring UK supermarkets to ensure that the fish they sell is as fresh as possible eg sourced locally where this is possible;

- (b) by ensuring that the voice of the UK fishing industry is heard
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 - secure a role for local authorities in agreeing statutory fisheries management plans envisaged by the fisheries and a corresponding duty to consult with the local industry;

- (c) considering the future of the fishing industry -
 - securing the workforce of the future and establish suitable apprenticeship schemes;
 - upgrading the infrastructure the industry depends on, the quays and auctions;
 - the potential for electronic auction technology to be integrated with customs to reduce the administrative burden on the export industry;

- (5) measures that Plymouth City Council can take independently -
 - working with Brittany Ferries and AB Ports and the French customs authorities to secure the Plymouth/Roscoff route;
 - continue to support the industry across the South West peninsula and beyond through measures like Call4fish;
 - work with Sutton Harbour Holding and other partners to upgrade the fish quay;
 - explore how the Council can work with large retailers locally to improve the opportunities for selling local fish;
 - review the opportunities area available within the city to improve training and apprenticeships within the fishing industry.

Officers were asked to review these recommendations with the expert panel members and industry witnesses present at the scrutiny meeting.