



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Stephen Atkins, Chief Officer
North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
by e-mail

Date: 7 January 2017

Dear Stephen

**NORTH WESTERN FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY EMERGENCY
BYELAW: RESTRICTIONS ON FISHING FOR BIVALVE MOLLUSCAN SHELLFISH
2016 EXTENSION REQUEST**

Thank you for your communication of 6 January 2017 requesting an extension to the above byelaw and the supporting evidence provided therein.

As you know section 157 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act states that an IFCA may extend an emergency byelaw with the written approval of the Secretary of State. That approval is given on the basis that she is satisfied that:

- (a) during the period for which the emergency byelaw has been in force, the IFC authority has used its best endeavours to make a byelaw that will make the emergency byelaw unnecessary, and
- (b) there would be a significant and adverse effect on the marine environment if the approval was not given.

I have considered the supporting information in relation to your request and I am satisfied both points (a) and (b) have been met under the qualifying criteria. Therefore, on behalf of the Secretary of State, I can confirm your request for an extension to the Restrictions On Fishing for Bivalve Molluscan Shellfish 2016 Emergency Byelaw until 1 August 2017 has been **approved**.

Should you require anything further, please contact the byelaw approval team directly.
(emma.boyd@defra.gsi.gov.uk or James.towns@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Yours Sincerely

Anne Freeman
Deputy Director
Domestic Fisheries and Reform

