



Memorandum of Understanding and Authorisation between the Gangmasters Licensing Authority (GLA) and the North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NW-IFCA), for the use of some Fishery Officer powers by GLA Officers

1. The GLA and NWIFCA both recognise the necessity of close cooperation to ensure that illegal shellfish gathering is prevented and legal shell fishing is effectively controlled.
2. The NWIFCA aims to ensure that only those individuals who hold a current permit gather shellfish from beds in the District.
3. The GLA aims to ensure that where the individuals may be organised and controlled by Gangmasters, as defined by the Gangmasters (Licensing) Act 2004, the controlling Gangmaster is identified, a licence applied for, and compliance assessed. Such action requires contact with individual NWIFCA permit holders to identify the Gangmaster for whom they work.
4. GLA Officers' contact with NWIFCA permit holders assists the NWIFCA in determining whether an individual seeking access to shellfish beds is legally permitted to gather shellfish.
5. To facilitate the GLA's activity and assist the policing of the permit scheme the NWIFCA agrees to authorise GLA Officers to assist IFCA Officers in accordance with the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (Part 8 Para 260). This will enable GLA Officers to request sight of permits from those fishing or intending to fish shellfish beds, and confirm that they are on the list of current permit holders.
6. The NWIFCA authorises any GLA Enforcement and Compliance Officers (i.e. those staff who are authorised under section 15 of the Gangmasters (Licensing) Act 2004, and hold the appropriate GLA warrant) to assist IFCA Officers, in accordance with this agreement.
7. This agreement comes into force from the date below. It continues until it is withdrawn by the NWIFCA.

Signed:

Position *Head of Operations NWIFCA*
Gangmasters Licensing Authority

Position
NW Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

Date: 24 AUGUST 2011