



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

From **George Eustice MP**
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James Gray MP & David Hanson MP
Chairs, Public Bill Committee on the Fisheries Bill
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

10th December 2018

Dear James & David

I am writing to let you know that today the Government has tabled an amendment to the Fisheries Bill and committed to extra funding for the fishing industry.

The Government has tabled an amendment to the Bill today which will enshrine its commitment to secure a fairer share of fishing opportunities for UK fishermen. The amendment would place a legal obligation on the government, when negotiating a fisheries agreement with the EU, to pursue a fairer share of fishing opportunities than the UK currently receives under the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). This will give legal weight to our commitment to take back control of our waters and to secure a fairer share of fishing opportunities for the whole of the UK fishing industry.

The Government has also announced that it has committed £37.2 million of extra funding to boost the UK fishing industry during the Implementation Period. Indicatively, £37.2 million would be split with £14.6 million for England, £16.4 million for Scotland, £2.4 million for Wales and £3.6 million for Northern Ireland. This is in addition to the existing European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF), which at €243m over seven years is broadly equivalent to £32m a year. The new funding will boost the industry as we become an independent coastal state, preparing the UK to receive a greater share of future fishing opportunities.

In addition to this I will announce that the Government will put in place new, domestic, long-term arrangements to support the UK's fishing industry from 2021, through the creation of four new schemes comparable to EMFF to deliver funding for each nation of the UK. The Devolved Administrations will lead their own schemes and details will be agreed at the 2019 Spending Review.

I am copying this letter to Fisheries Bill Committee members.

George Eustice

GEORGE EUSTICE MP