



## **FISHERIES WORKING GROUP – 16 MAY 2018**

### **BULLETIN REPORT: SCOTTISH SKIPPER EXPO**

#### **1 Recommendation**

**1.1 It is recommended that the Group notes the content of this bulletin.**

#### **2 Discussion**

- 2.1 The Scottish Skipper Expo returns to Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre on Friday 25 May and Saturday 26 May 2018. The Expo is firmly established as a key event for the local, national and international fisheries sector and recent Brexit-related developments are likely to see increased interest and footfall this year, particularly when leading politicians address the gathering or are in attendance. Aberdeenshire Council has taken a stand at the Expo since it started in 2013.
- 2.2 Over the years the council has utilised its stand to promote its support for the wider fisheries sector through the Economic Development and Harbours services, to highlight European Structural Fund programmes, to promote specific projects such as the Introduction to Commercial Fishing and to provide floor space for partner organisations such as the Scottish Maritime Academy (part of NESCoL) and KIMO, the international environmental organisation for local authorities which operates Fishing for Litter.
- 2.3 The council stand will again be manned by officers from Economic Development and the council's Harbours Service, and will feature the NESFLAG programme (the Community Led Local Development element of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund). The Scottish Maritime Academy will also be represented on the stand. Over the years the size and international significance of the event has grown steadily and in excess of 180 stands have been booked in 2018, many from overseas, showcasing a very wide range of fisheries-related equipment and service provision.
- 2.4 A popular feature of the event is the seafood bar which provides complementary, high quality, freshly landed and cooked seafood taster portions throughout both days of the show, typically including scallops, whitefish goujons and Cullen Skink. Entrance to the Expo is free of charge. Visitors can pre-register beforehand at <http://www.maramedia.ie/aberdeen-home> by clicking the link for the visitor registration page. Members of Fisheries Working Group are encouraged to attend the Expo to meet key industry figures, learn more about the latest technology (including fishing gear) and visit the council stand (no 52).

#### **3 Scheme of Governance**

Fisheries Working Group is able to consider this item in terms of its remit to provide a focus to enable issues and concerns across the wider fisheries sector in Aberdeenshire to be addressed.

#### **4 Implications and Risk**

- 4.1 There are no equality impact implications arising from this report
- 4.2 There are no staffing and financial implications for the council arising from this report.
- 4.3 No risks arising from this report have been identified for the council at Corporate Level
- 4.4 No issues have been identified in relation to the Town Centre First Principle

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