

REPORT OF LEAD LICENSING OFFICER
To: LICENSING COMMITTEE
Subject: SMALL COMMERCIAL VESSEL LICENSING POLICY
Date: 26 JANUARY 2022 **Reference:**

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To review and update the Authority's current licensing policy for small commercial vessels in use for sport or pleasure

1. INTRODUCTION

The Authority's current Licensing Policy for Small Commercial Vessels was last updated and approved by Licensing Committee in February 2019. The policy is now due for review.

2. REPORT

The Council operates a scheme for the licensing of pleasure boats and their skippers operating in the River Torridge.

The purpose of the policy is to provide applicants, licence holders and other interested parties with advice and information on the Authority's requirements for licensing small commercial vessels and skippers of such vessels. It is also intended to ensure that the licensing authority applies consistent standards when determining licence applications.

It is proposed that the Authority reviews the existing policy and then consults with relevant organisations and individuals over a 4 week period in the new year.

The current policy is attached in Appendix B.

The results of the consultation will be reported to a future Licensing Committee.

3. IMPLICATIONS

Legal Implications

The proposed changes bring the policy up to date with current legislation and good practice.

Financial Implications

None

Human Resources Implications

None

Sustainability/Biodiversity Implications

None

Equality/Diversity

None

Risk Management

There are legal, reputational and possible financial risks if the Council does not maintain a Policy which reflects current legislation and the latest guidance.



Compliance with Policies and Strategies

All regulatory activity is carried out in accordance with current policy and procedures.

Data Protection (GDPR) Implications

None

Climate Change

None

Lead Member Views

None

4. CONCLUSIONS

The Policy sets out the Authority's approach to the regulation of small commercial vessels in the River Torridge and the standards it will apply in relation to licensed vessels and persons. The proposed revisions to the current Policy are designed to keep it up to date, relevant and robust.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended:

1. that Members approve the consultation process;
2. that consultation on the draft policy be carried out over a 4 week period and the responses reported back to this committee at a future date.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Consultations: In accordance with the agreed schedule
Contact: Chris Parkhouse
Supporting papers: Licensing data area/files

