

I-VMS for England's under-12m fishing vessels takes a step forward

Suppliers have been invited to submit their products and technologies for assessment so fishers will have a range of I-VMS devices to choose from before it becomes a legal requirement for them to carry a functioning monitoring unit onboard.

To support fishers in selecting a device that is suitable for their vessel, the MMO's 'type approval' process is intended to bring as many suppliers into the marketplace as possible so that there's a broad choice of products at a range of prices for fishers to choose from.

In the under-12m fishing fleet, specifications for vessels – for example, in terms of powering and housing the devices – are diverse so vessel owners are best placed, with the right support from suppliers, to decide which device and service package suits them.

Fishers will be able to start researching devices once assessments are complete and a list of approved products is published in November 2021.

Once the approved list is published and the installation timetable is confirmed, fishers will be asked to organise installation of a device on their vessel in phases, based on vessel size, to make it easier for fishers, suppliers and engineers to plan and organise installing the devices.

The MMO will work with fishers to develop and publish detailed guidance that sets out the actions they need to take from November, alongside the approved list of devices and information from each supplier on the after-sales services they offer.

The expected timetable for the roll-out of I-VMS devices next year is:

Vessel size	Expected dates
10 to 11.99m	17 Jan – 14 Feb 2022
8 to 9.99m	15 Feb to 13 April 2022
6 to 7.99m	14 April to 18 July 2022
Below 6m	19 July to 14 November 2022

The MMO has already engaged with fishers on their main requirements for I-VMS devices and has communicated these expectations to the companies seeking approval for their products.

Engagement this summer and a survey of fishers demonstrated that they want a choice of devices and prices; reliable equipment with support if it develops a fault; clear explanations of how each device might be suitable for their particular vessel; and dependable processes for installation.

The MMO is committed to providing a grant contribution towards the initial

cost of devices and is assessing how they will be supported to carry on fishing if their device fails and requires repair or replacement.

Sponsorship roadmap to make it easier to attract global talent

News story

Reforms will allow businesses to access skilled talent from abroad quicker and easier.



The government has set out a series of ambitious reforms that build on the launch of the points-based immigration system at the end of last year, allowing businesses to access skilled talent from abroad quicker and easier.

Significant improvements have already been made to the employer sponsorship system, including a reduction on processing times and making the sponsor licence application fully paperless.

Reforms outlined in the [sponsorship roadmap](#) will continue to ease burdensome administrative processes, which organisations sponsoring workers must go through.

Through a range of technological and system improvements, the visa sponsor system will:

- further reduce processing times to enable UK businesses and educational institutions to become sponsors and attract global talent faster
- re-use information the government already has on a sponsor, where possible, to make it easier for sponsors to use the system
- improve accessibility of the system through creation of an online dashboard for sponsors; making it easier for them to understand the status of their sponsorship licence and the actions they need to take

The sponsorship roadmap comes as statistics released today show the UK continues to attract talent around the world through our points-based immigration system.

Statistics show that the UK has so far in 2021 received 205,919 work visa applications, up 40% on this time last year. A further 291,243 visa applications on study routes have also been received, up 14% on last year.

Minister for Future Borders and Immigration Kevin Foster said:

Our points-based system is delivering our pledge to attract the best and brightest to the UK while ensuring businesses focus on our domestic workforce.

By making these significant changes to the sponsorship process, the UK will become global leaders in bringing talent to start work and study here faster than any other G20 country.

The changes build on commitments to attract the best and brightest from across the globe, a key component of the government's wider 'Build Back Better' agenda.

The government will work collaboratively with new and prospective sponsors to make the modernised system a success, as well as work with other partners to identify abuse through greater use of technology.

It is the latest in a series of reforms to attract the best and brightest to the UK and revolutionise the way people come into the UK, via a fully digital immigration system.

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[Plumber's bankruptcy restrictions extended for abusing finance](#)

Lee John Palmer (41), a plumber from Knapton, was declared bankrupt on 28 January 2021 before the Official Receiver was appointed as Trustee.

While reviewing Lee Palmer's assets, the Official Receiver uncovered that Lee Palmer had bought a van on hire purchase but sold the vehicle without the

permission of the hire purchase finance company.

The hire purchase meant the van wasn't his property to sell and the finance company suffered a loss of over £16,000.

The Official Receiver sought to extend Lee Palmer's bankruptcy restrictions further because of the risk he posed to creditors.

Lee Palmer's bankruptcy undertaking extends his restrictions for 6 years. This means he is limited to what credit he can access and cannot act as a company director without the permission of the court.

Kevin Read, the Official Receiver, said:

It is illegal to sell a vehicle with an outstanding finance agreement. Not only does the finance company lose out but the new owner could unknowingly be at risk of having their vehicle repossessed and losing money.

Lee Palmer's actions posed a risk to creditors and his 6-year ban should act as a deterrent to others considering abusing their creditors.

Lee John Palmer is of Knapton, Herefordshire and his date of birth is 11 October 1979.

Details of Lee John Palmer's Bankruptcy Restrictions Undertaking are available on the [Individual Insolvency Register](#)

Bankruptcy restrictions are wide ranging. The effects are the same whether you are subject to a bankruptcy restrictions order or to an undertaking. Guidance on the main statutory consequences flowing from a [bankruptcy restrictions order or undertaking](#).

[Information about the work of the Insolvency Service, and how to complain about financial misconduct.](#)

You can also follow the Insolvency Service on:

[Harry Dunn: Foreign Secretary's statement, 27 August 2021](#)

Press release

Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab's statement on the second anniversary of the death of Harry Dunn.



Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab said:

My deepest condolences are with Harry Dunn's family on the second anniversary of Harry's tragic death. I will continue to support the family in their search for justice.

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[British Embassy Mogadishu bids farewell to Chevening 2021 group](#)

On 26 August 2021, British Embassy Mogadishu hosted a pre-departure event to congratulate eight talented Somalis who were awarded Chevening scholarships and are heading off to study for their Master's in the UK.

The farewell is an opportunity to wish the scholars well before they travel to the UK for their studies. This year a total of 13 scholars will be going to the UK, eight from Somalia and five from Somaliland.

The 2021 cohort will study a variety of subjects, such as information security, public health, conflict resolution, environmental policy, aviation and development finance, equipping them with the skills to make a difference in Somalia once they return.

Speaking at the event, British Ambassador to Somalia, Kate Foster, said:

I'm delighted to have virtually met brilliant and passionate young Somalis heading off to the UK as Chevening scholars, and wish them well for the year ahead. I look forward to welcoming them back and

hearing about all their adventures and successes, and how they will contribute to the development of Somalia.

One of the 2021 scholars, Information Security specialist Zainab Raadsato, who is heading to Royal Holloway, University of London, said:

I'm very excited to get the award and being part of the Chevening network. The award will give me and other scholars an opportunity to advance our careers when we come back and I'm looking back to helping rebuild my country.

At the virtual event, the scholars also got a chance to hear from some of the current scholars and Chevening alumni about their experiences, and exchanged top tips for how to make the most of their time in the UK.

Chevening Scholarships offer full financial support for scholars to study for any eligible Master's degree at any UK university, and are awarded to individuals who can demonstrate that they have the commitment and skills required to create positive change. The scholarship application window is still open until 2 November 2021 and applications can be submitted at www.chevening.org/scholarship

The UK is committed to supporting Somalia's education system by empowering Somalia's future leaders. Since 2016, over 60 Somalis have benefitted from this programme. Many of our scholars are now working at senior levels in government, private sector and international organisations.

The UK has also supported over 100,000 girls in Somalia access quality education through the Girls' Education Challenge Programme.

Through the UK Aid's Adolescent Girls Education in Somalia (AGES) programme, over 42,000 marginalised adolescent girls to access primary school, accelerated basic education, and a non-formal course tailored to their needs helping them engage in income-generating activities and civic education.