

Update on Fisheries Response Fund, Monday 20 April 2020.

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) has launched the government's new £10m Fisheries Response Fund for England's fishing and aquaculture businesses.

From Monday 20 April 2020 eligible fishing vessel owners will be contacted directly, by email, in stages. Further information for Aquaculture businesses will be provided from next week.

The Fisheries Response Fund (FRF) will directly contribute towards the fixed business costs of over 1000 catching and aquaculture businesses that have been adversely impacted by the downturn of export and domestic markets for fish and shellfish.

For information on the fund criteria and eligibility, please see our [guidance](#).

Tom McCormack, Chief Executive of the Marine Management Organisation, said:

"We've continued to stay closely engaged with the fishing industry and are very much aware of the difficulties many fishing businesses have been facing with the downturn in markets for fish and shellfish. We absolutely acknowledge the importance of our fishing industries and share concerns about these current impacts – it is our problem too.

The data we collect from the fishing industry has proved timely and incredibly valuable in helping to quickly evidence the current situation and to target where financial support is most needed.

We will be reviewing as we go, and will continue to engage with and listen to industry to ensure we're supporting our fishing industry in the right ways."

The seafood and fisheries sectors are encouraged to apply for the [existing support available](#) for businesses, including the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme and the Coronavirus Jobs Retention Scheme.