



**St Helena
Government**

ST HELENA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE 1

**RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER
FISHERIES-A CROSS FUNCTION REVIEW
JANUARY 2026**

LAID UPON THE TABLE 17 JULY 2026

Select Committee 1 - Recommendations Tracker

Fisheries - A Cross Function Review - January 2026

Recommendation	Portfolio	Current Status Aug 2024	Previous Progress Report	Current Status	RAG	Verification of Implementation	Verification Date
Recommendation 1.a There must be clarity over whether there should be separate arrangements for local and international sales of fish products.	H&SC	Aug 2024 - H&SC - Policy options paper complete in readiness for ExCo to decide if there is a requirement for separate arrangements for local and international sales of fish products.	April 2025 - H&SC - Policy options paper complete and due to be reviewed at the portfolio advisory board on the 19 June 2025. The complexity of the competing policy areas in respect of fishing, fish licenses, fish processing, landing, selling across all areas of governmental responsibility and as such an individual recommendation from the board will impact all other areas. The recommendation will be presented to ExCo in regard to the next steps.		Amber - Started		
Recommendation 1.b We recommend that the interim arrangement is formally brought to an end and replaced by two policies: o One for selling fish and fish products in the local market o Another for the export market	H&SC	Aug 2024 - H&SC - This will be subject to the outcome of the policy options paper.	April 2025 - H&SC - This will be subject to the outcome of the policy options paper.		Amber - Started		
Recommendation 1.c Ministers should consult the public and the fish and fish processing industries throughout to form these policies to ensure they are fit for purpose both now and in the future.	H&SC	Aug 2024 - H&SC - Public consultation can only be undertaken once the policy direction is agreed by ExCo.	April 2025 - H&SC - Public consultation can only be undertaken once the policy direction is agreed by ExCo.		Red - Not Started		
Recommendation 1.d This should be undertaken, thus taking account of known developments that are in progress, namely the development of a fish canning facility. The policies should be in place by September 2024.	H&SC	Aug 2024 - H&SC - The deadline of September 2024 will be achieved.	April 2025 - H&SC - The deadline of September 2024, was not achieved due to the complex nature of the differing policy areas, which will not result in a simple single policy option in regards to fishing, fishing licenses, fishing, fish processing and fish sales.		Red - Not Started		
Recommendation 1.e Once the policies are in place, we recommend that the Fish and Fish Products Ordinance 2010, together with the regulations, are updated to take the new policies into account. This should be included in the government's legislative programme for this session.	H&SC				Red - Not Started		
Recommendation 2 Ministers should ensure that the Environment, Natural Resources and Planning and Health and Social Care portfolios run a public awareness campaign, so everyone is confident of what practices are compliant with the local and export policies when developed. We also recommend that the complaints policy is reviewed alongside this so the public know how to raise concerns over a non-compliance issue.	ENRP & HSC	Aug 2024 - ENRP have been making fishermen aware of the Marine Enforcement Section's roles and Public Health roles through our Marine Enforcement Section (MES). An updated infographic to assist awareness raising has just been developed to be shared with fishermen to support verbal and written awareness raising activities. SHG complaints procedure (part 1) is current and suitable for raising issues of non-compliance. However, the issue of which non-compliance area (fishing issues / fish sales issues) should be reported to MES has been the issue. Marine Enforcement has been working with fishermen to help to ensure increased awareness of the non-compliance issues that should be addressed to MES.	April 2025 - ENRP - Complaints are raised currently with the Marine Enforcement Officer or Head of Nature Conservation when required. This is escalated to the Chief Fisheries Officer if necessary.	Current process remain in operation	Amber - Started		

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Recommendation 3 We recommend that the implementation of fixed penalty notices for marine offences is introduced as planned, along with the public information campaign by the end of 2023.	ENRP	Aug 2024 - ENRP has completed its part for the use of FPNs through having a schedule of offences for FPNs included in the current version of FPN Regulations already approved by ExCo, and have developed a Policy Guideline for the use of FPN's for ENRP's requirements. The current impediment to this progress for SHG is that the Regs should state how officers, other than police officers, are appointed to be empowered to administer FPN's. SHG is currently awaiting a change to the FPN Regulations to be undertaken by AG Chambers before ExCo approval for FPN's to be given green light for implementation.	April 2025 - ENRP awaits approval of the 2025 Regulations (proposed for May 2025) after the 2022 Regulations required additional provisions to be added and will be repealed following approval and commencement of the 2025 Regulations. The Chief Fisheries Officer, Fisheries Protection Officers and the Chief Environmental Officer are now proposed for appointment as officers able to issue FPN's. The Police Service, SS&HA Portfolio and ENRP proposed and ExCo agreed for a three month period for public briefing and education to take place before the implementation date of our areas of fixed penalty. This will enable to community to understand why each offence has been selected for this approach and the benefits that proper enforcement will bring. Bespoke publicity campaigns will be designed for each group of offences.	Fixed Penalty Notice Regs have been approved by ExCo. All relevant Portfolio's currently awaiting a corporate finance system to be established to accommodate FPN process. Discussions currently underway with Finance Department	Amber - Started		
Recommendation 4 We recommend that vessels licenced to sell fish commercially, and fish processing units are inspected with the same regularity in the interest of fairness and public health. We also recommend that fishing licenses include wording to alert fishermen that their boats can be inspected periodically and without notice.	H&SC				Red - Not Started		
Recommendation 5 Throughout our inquiry we have heard that there is a lack of resourcing in both Environment, Natural Resources and Planning as well as Health and Social Care which hinders effective monitoring and enforcement of the current ordinances.	ENRP & HSC						

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Recommendation	Portfolio	Current Status Aug 2024	Previous Progress Report	Current Status	RAO	Verification of Implementation Verification Date
Recommendation 6 We recommend that the Ministers for Environment, Natural Resources and Planning and Health and Social Care instruct their portfolios to investigate and identify where they are unable to deliver on their responsibilities under the Fish and Fish Products and the Fisheries Ordinances. We ask that the Ministers write to the Select Committee with their plan of action of how they will address the gaps in their portfolios ahead of the next budget cycle. We wish to note that the lack of an individual post should not be allowed to impact on the establishment of a statutory advisory board.	ENRP	Aug 2024 - ENRP - The key gap has been that a suitable person has not been able to be recruited to the Head of Nature Conservation role which has oversight and responsibility for marine and fisheries conservation and science. The FO has provision for a Fisheries Science Advisory Board which has not been established so far. However, the above post has now been filled since 1 September 2024 and the post-holder will be establishing the fisheries science needs to be discussed by the Board as well as the formation of the Board itself in the next few months, providing interest exists to enable suitable persons to be appointed to the Board by the Governor. An update will be provided in the first quarter of 2025 on progress. Progress has been made on drafting instructions for these Regulations, however due to other legislative prioritised by ENRP for the Portfolio for 2024-25, these Regs were not given priority 1 status for the last 6 months of the year. However, they have been included as priority 2 for this new year. Progress has been made on readiness for the establishment of the Advisory Board which we hope to have established by end of June 2025.	April 2025 - ENRP - We have identified areas of where we can better deliver on our responsibilities under the Fisheries Ordinance. These include through establishment of Regulations for some areas of the Ordinance and also through establishment of an Advisory Board (as mentioned already).	Terms of Reference and Operational Procedure for a Scientific Advisory Board has been developed. Consideration of options for board member invitations was about to begin, however this will be paused until the Fisheries Reviews are completed.	Amber - Started	
Recommendation 7 We recommend that the licence condition for yacht moorings is changed to reflect the reality that the moorings are less than 110m apart, prior to commencement of this year's yachting season.	ENRP	Aug 2024 - ENRP This has been completed.			Green - Completed	
Recommendation 8 We recommend that the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Planning explore the ways in which pelagic species can be removed from the closed season for spear fishing. We recommend this is completed ahead of the next closed season - January 2024. This could boost tourism on the island and in turn help to grow our economy.	ENRP	Aug 2024 - ENRP - This recommendation required a change to the Fisheries Ordinance (FO). Work has started to reform the Fishing Licensing Policy which includes a recommendation to remove the close season for pelagic species. A paper will be presented to the ENRP Advisory Board shortly to recommend a change to the closed season requirements to enable this change through policy and to propose a change to the FO to enable this for the new Jan - March closed season.	April 2025 - ENRP - The Advisory Board has approved the recommended change to the closed season for spearfishing, but full implementation of the recommendation requires a change to the Fisheries Ordinance as mentioned already. However, this change will be included with the Fisheries Regs work and was not able to be completed for the spearfishing season for 2024-25.	Proposals for Fisheries Regulations will be continued through the Fisheries Review work stream	Amber - Started	

