

# Open consultation: Fishing quota allocation: additional fishing quota in England

Seeking evidence to help inform the development of a new approach for the allocation of additional fishing quota in England after Brexit.

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## Better Care Fund renewed for 2019 to 2020

Ministers have confirmed that the Better Care Fund will be renewed for 2019 to 2020, bringing the pooled funding to over £6.4 billion.

The [planning requirements published on 18 July](#) will reduce the overall reporting burden on local partnerships while improving the measurement and effectiveness of the Better Care Fund.

The fund provides financial support for councils and NHS organisations to jointly plan and deliver local services. It enables people to leave hospital sooner to get the care they need at home.

Social care related delays to patients being sent home from hospital have been nearly halved since February 2017 following multi-billion government investment in integrating health and social care, the equivalent to freeing up almost 1,200 NHS beds.

The fund has been effective in:

- helping to keep people living independently at home
- providing joined-up reablement services
- reducing delayed discharges across the system
- achieving closer working between the NHS and social care services

This builds on the [NHS Long Term Plan](#)'s aims to create a more integrated and collaborative health and care system.

Minister for Care Caroline Dinenage said:

No one should be stuck in hospital when their treatment has ended – it's not fair to patients or their families and places huge pressure on our hardworking NHS staff. The Better Care Fund is an important part of ending these unnecessary waits in hospital,

joining up councils and the health service for the benefit of patients.

Thanks to this government's multi-billion pound investment the fund has significantly reduced delays to discharging patients. We must continue to work together to improve services and give people the best possible experiences of care, a crucial part of the NHS Long Term Plan.

Local Government Minister, Rishi Sunak MP, said:

We're determined to improve the way social care services and the NHS work together to help society's most vulnerable people.

The Better Care Fund has made a real difference by enabling more people to be cared for at home sooner after treatment, freeing up much-needed hospital beds. This is testament to the hard work of local authorities, the NHS and social care providers working together.

We remain committed to supporting local collaboration so that health and care services continue to improve.

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## **Dstl Acquires First Satellite Ground Control Station**

The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) has acquired its first satellite ground control station to support future space research activities for the Ministry of Defence (MOD).

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## **Dstl Acquires First Satellite Ground Control Station**

Based at Portsdown West, Hampshire, the ground station will use its 6.3m diameter antenna to direct satellites in both low-Earth and geosynchronous orbits, and will form a core part of the Dstl Space Science & Technology (S&T) programme.

Scientists from Dstl's Space Group will develop and test software for

satellite operations, and train civilian and military personnel in satellite mission operations. Towards the end of 2019, the ground station will task its first satellites, before progressing to control multiple satellite missions and other ground assets by 2021.

This ground station represents the first of a number of significant steps in conducting in-orbit research and concept demonstrator missions for the benefit of the MOD to better understand the space domain to enable freedom of action for future UK operations. This includes the protection of UK operations against emerging space-based threats.

Dstl Chief Executive, Gary Aitkenhead, said:

Dstl is building world-class expertise in developing systems for the space environment. Creating a ground infrastructure for future Space S&T missions is a key milestone in the continued rapid growth in our Space programme, supporting both Dstl, our colleagues across the MOD, and our other national and international partners.

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## **An electric partnership: UK e-mobility delegation visits India**

A delegation of UK e-mobility experts is visiting India 15 to 19 July, as part of a UK-India knowledge exchange programme on electric mobility.