

# Press release: MMO and BSAC to review rules for lost, abandoned and discarded fishing gear removal

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) is pleased to announce that it will be working with the British Sub Aqua Club (BSAC) on behalf of UK recreational divers to further review and clarify the guidance and licence requirements associated with the removal of lost, abandoned and discarded fishing gear from the sea bed.

[On 17 August](#) the MMO provided an update to the existing rules for recreational divers that are on the BSAC website and this update is also available on the MMO website. In response to public feedback the [MMO also published a blog post](#) which provided additional explanation on the latest update to the rules.

In both news releases the MMO set out its intention to work with stakeholders to further review the licensing requirements for recreational divers, specifically around the removal of marine litter and fishing equipment, in order to make the licensing process as clear and simple as possible. This engagement has now started and initial discussions between the MMO and BSAC have taken place.

Commenting on the matter Trudi Wakelin, MMO Director of Marine Licensing, said:

We appreciate the work of the diving community and other stakeholders in their efforts to remove lost, abandoned and discarded fishing gear from the sea bed. These people volunteer their time and expertise because they share our passion to protect our seas.

We want to support these activities where possible, but need to ensure that they are carried out in a way that minimises the risk of any unintentional damage to the marine environment. This is why we are delighted to announce that we have already started discussions with BSAC as the UK's leading dive club and the sport's National Governing Body.

The initial discussions have been extremely useful and we look forward to building on this, to find a route that is beneficial to all parties going forward.

Endorsing the collaborative approach Maria Harwood, BSAC Vice Chair, said:

The diving community sees at first hand the damage that marine

litter and abandoned fishing gear can cause to the marine environment, and we want to encourage recreational divers to help to clean our seas, without financial penalties.

We welcome the MMO's willingness to engage and to refine this process, and look forward to some constructive discussions.

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## **[News story: Personal applicants can now apply for probate online](#)**

HMCTS details how personal applicants can now apply for probate using new online service.

The Probate Service is now accepting online applications from personal applicants based on the criteria below:

1. Only one executor is applying
2. There is an original will available and the person who died did not leave an update to the will (codicil)
3. The person who has died classed England and Wales as their permanent home or intended to return to England and Wales to live permanently

The online application form will continue to be developed to cover a broader range of probate applications in the future.

### **What the new online application provides**

The new online application form includes:

- a new statement of truth for you to declare that the information provided is correct, which removes the need for you to swear an oath in person
- The function to pay the fee online removing the need to post a cheque to

the Probate Service

- A 'save and return' function allows you to save and revisit an application if you need to find further information. This allows a part finished application to be saved and completed later.

Online applications will be extended for solicitors and other professionals to apply later in 2017.

### **What is required in order to submit an online application?**

The online application form is easier to understand but you will still be required to provide supporting documents as per the current process. These are:

- The original will and two photocopies
- The death certificate
- The associated inheritance tax forms and figures
- Any other supporting documents relevant to the case (e.g. a renunciation form)

We are looking to enhance this in the future, potentially through links with other departments to gather this information automatically as part of the process.

If you meet the criteria and would like to apply online please contact the [HMRC helpline](#) who can provide you with the details to apply online.

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## **Notice: W3 0JN, S Walsh & Son Limited: environmental permit refused**

The decision taken by the Environment Agency to refuse a permit application for a SR2009 No 5 inert and excavation waste transfer station below 250kte facility Acton, London.

This decision includes the refusal notice and decision document for:

- Operator name: S Walsh & Son Limited
  - Facility name: S Walsh & Son Limited
  - Permit number: EPR/EB3700KU/A001
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# **Notice: LA14 4QR, Shanks Waste Management Limited: environmental permit issued**

The Environment Agency publish permits that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit and decision document for:

- Operator name: Shanks Waste Management Limited
- Installation name: Sowerby Woods Resource Park
- Permit number: EPR/XP3839FJ/V003