

Non quota species working group minutes published

News story

Stakeholders with an interest in management planning for demersal non quota species in the Channel can now read the first minutes of a working group set up with fishermen.



The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and key stakeholders established the forum to support development the [Channel demersal non quota species Fisheries Management Plan](#) ('Channel NQS FMP').

Members from across commercial and recreational fishing industries working in ICES areas 7d and 7e contributed to a useful discussion on key topics, including which species could be prioritised for the plan and how MMO and stakeholders will work together.

You can read the minutes in full [here](#).

MMO is committed to making it simple for fishermen to keep up to date with the work of the group and will therefore publish the minutes of each meeting, which will be held monthly to begin with, online.

The working group is one of a number of ways MMO is engaging with stakeholders on the future management of demersal non quota species in the Channel.

We encourage fishermen and interested marine stakeholders to send us their views at fmp@marinemanagement.org.uk

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Rogue financial investment companies shut down in court

The Sentor group of companies, comprising Sentor Solutions Commercial Ltd, Fabcourt Developments Ltd, Sentor Solutions Advisory Ltd and Sentor Solutions Ltd have been wound up by the High Court. The Official Receiver has been appointed liquidator of the companies.

The latter two companies changed their names and most recently traded as Hall Contracting Services Ltd and Clarkson Murphy Partners Ltd respectively.

Promotional material provided by Fabcourt Developments to investors stated that Sentor Solutions Commercial and Clarkson Murphy Partners were the Security Trustee for the investment scheme, which promised fixed rate investment products known as 'convertible loan notes' with high monthly or quarterly interest rates for a duration of 2-3 years.

Fabcourt Developments was in fact the successor to Sampson Property Developments Ltd, previously known as Texmoore Limited, which had operated the same scam until it entered into compulsory liquidation on 23 March 2022 following a creditors petition.

Between them, the companies took over £2 million from investors, plus a further \$500,000.

Both Clarkson Murphy Partners and Hall Contracting Services had also been said to be Security Trustees for Sampson Property Developments scam.

In addition, the companies also told investors that the loan notes were "government-backed", and even that their investments were covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (which would have entitled them to compensation if the investment failed).

The Insolvency Service investigation into the companies established that the Sampson Property Developments and Fabcourt Developments schemes were part of an investment fraud collectively operated by the companies.

The investigation found that, having received funds from would-be investors in the Sampson Property Developments and Fabcourt Developments schemes, the companies would make a handful of monthly interest payments on their investments before going silent and leaving investors substantially out of pocket.

The properties set out in promotional materials were found to be owned by unrelated entities, and videos promoting the investment schemes had been cloned.

Edna Okhiria, Chief Investigator at the Insolvency Service, said:

It is undeniably in the public interest for these companies to be prevented from continuing to trade, which will enable the Official Receiver to carry out further investigations into the activities of the Companies to establish the extent of its liabilities, the position as regards any assets, the whereabouts and conduct of the directors and any other culpable parties.

These companies operated a fraudulent scheme whereby they mislead the public, falsely claiming that the Texmoore and Fabcourt investment schemes were regulated to provide the veneer that funds invested were protected when in fact they were not. These claims induced investors to invest substantial sums. The companies then failed to make more than a few monthly interest payments, leaving investors substantially out of pocket.

The Insolvency Service, alongside our partner agencies, continues to investigate schemes such as these and to pursue enforcement against those responsible for facilitating them.

Notes to editors

Sentor Solutions Commercial Ltd (company no. 12309797)

Hall Contracting Services Limited formerly known as Sentor Solutions Advisory Ltd (company no. 12139495)

Clarkson Murphy Partners Limited formerly known as Sentor Solutions Ltd (company no. 08327930)

Fabcourt Developments Limited (company no. 08890452)

The petitions were presented under s124A of the Insolvency Act 1986 on 20 and 22 June 2022 at the High Court of Justice.

All enquiries concerning the affairs of both the 4 companies and SPD should be made to:

- The Official Receiver, Public Interest Unit, 16th Floor, 1 Westfield Avenue, Stratford, London, E20 1HZ
- Email: piu.or@insolvency.gov.uk

Investors in both these and other schemes are being contacted by suspected fraudsters, falsely representing that recoveries may be made if an advance fee is paid. [Please note this general advice, which follows for any instance where an advance fee is requested](#)

Company Investigations, part of the Insolvency Service, uses powers under the Companies Act 1985 to conduct confidential fact-finding investigations into the activities of live limited companies in the UK on behalf of the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). [Further information about live company investigations is available here.](#)

[Further information about the work of the Insolvency Service, and how to complain about financial misconduct, is available here.](#)

You can also follow the Insolvency Service on:

Better assessment needed to get the most out of tutoring

The reviews find that most schools prioritised English and maths tuition, while further education providers offered English and maths alongside a range of other subjects. Teaching staff and pupils were positive about their tutoring programmes. However, the quality of tuition varied greatly depending on the school or provider, and most teachers did not know the extent to which tutoring was having an impact.

[Ofsted was commissioned by the Department of Education](#) to look at the overall quality of tutoring provided, how it was integrated into schools' curriculum planning and delivery, and the likelihood that it will help pupils catch up.

The reviews draw evidence from visits to 63 schools and 21 further education and skills providers.

Ofsted Chief Inspector, Amanda Spielman, said:

Tuition is an expensive intervention, but used well it can help pupils who fall behind. The government's tutoring programme is potentially an important part of helping pupils catch up after the pandemic. There is evidence of tuition working effectively, but most schools and colleges lack a system to assess it properly and so do not know if that's the case.

I hope these reviews help the government develop its tuition programme and help school leaders implement tutoring better.

Schools

Most leaders in the 63 schools visited had chosen to use existing staff to tutor pupils through a school-led route, rather than external tutors or academic mentors, because this gave them greater control and oversight of quality.

Schools that had strong tutoring in place used assessments, supplemented by teachers' knowledge, to identify the pupils who could benefit most from tuition. Ofsted found that sessions taught by qualified teachers tended to be

of higher quality than those taught by other types of tutors.

Nevertheless, inspectors saw that tutoring cannot really work without a well-considered and constructed curriculum in place. In the stronger schools, teachers and tutors were able to use the curriculum to identify the core knowledge that pupils had either missed, or did not fully understand, and made sure this could be covered in tutoring sessions. Tutors and class teachers collaborated to keep one another informed of a pupil's progress.

In a minority of schools, the tuition provided was haphazard and poorly planned. These schools had not understood the purpose of having small tutoring groups and frequent sessions. Most schools had not yet found a good way to assess pupils' progress and to decide when to stop tuition for individual pupils.

Some leaders found it difficult to extend the school day for tutoring, leading to many providing tutoring during school hours. Some schools had mitigations in place to minimise the impact of tuition on other lessons and extra-curricular activities. However, leaders in one fifth of the schools visited had not thought through the risks of disrupting children's learning by taking them out of regular classes.

Despite some of the issues, leaders, staff and pupils were positive about the tutoring provided, and overall, the national tutoring programme, particularly the school-led tutoring route, has been well received by schools.

Further education and skills

The review found that 16 to 19 providers used the funding differently and had interpreted 'tuition' activities in a variety of ways.

In the stronger examples, tutors used regular assessment to understand learners' progress and identify specific subject areas where they needed further assistance. Collaboration between teachers and tutors was strong.

Tutors were often recruited from existing teaching staff, which meant they already knew and taught the curriculum well. Sometimes there were challenges in recruiting specialist teachers, with some providers commissioning industry experts to deliver vocational tutoring sessions.

Learner groups were too large in some cases, which limited the ability of the tutor to tailor sessions to specific learners' needs.

In a minority of cases, tutors did not set clear goals for learners, there was poor collaboration between tutors and teachers, and tutors did not refer back to the core knowledge in the course curriculum. This meant they did not always address an individual's learning gaps.

Overall, leaders, staff and learners saw the value in the tutoring provided. Many suggested that tuition had re-engaged learners, increased their confidence and resilience, and changed their attitudes to learning. However, many providers acknowledged that they had not fully developed arrangements

for overseeing and monitoring tuition.

ForHousing Limited grading under review

Press release

Providers being investigated for an issue regarding their compliance with the Governance and Financial Viability Standard are added to the regulator's GUR list.



The Regulator of Social Housing reports that ForHousing Limited has been placed on its gradings under review list today (26 October 2022).

The provider's current published grades are G2/V1. The regulator notifies that a provider's grading is under review when its compliant grade (G1 and G2 for governance, V1 or V2 for viability) is being investigated in relation to an issue which may result in a downgrade to a non-compliant grade (G3 or G4 for governance, V3 or V4 for viability).

The regulator is currently investigating a matter which may impact on ForHousing's compliance with the governance element of the Governance and Financial Viability Standard. The outcome of the investigation will be confirmed in a regulatory judgement, once completed.

The regulator's [gradings under review list](#) is available on its website.

Notes to editors

1. The GUR lists providers where we are investigating a matter that might result in them being assessed as non-compliant in relation to the regulator's Governance and Financial Viability Standard.
2. The [regulatory standards](#) can be found on the RSH website.
3. For press office contact details, see our [Media enquiries page](#).

For general queries, please email enquiries@rsh.gov.uk or call 0300 124 5225.

4. The Regulator of Social Housing promotes a viable, efficient and well-governed social housing sector able to deliver and maintain homes of appropriate quality that meet a range of needs. It does this by undertaking robust economic regulation focusing on governance, financial viability and value for money that maintains lender confidence and protects the taxpayer. It also sets consumer standards and may take action if these standards are breached and there is a significant risk of serious detriment to tenants or potential tenants.

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RSH publishes regulatory notice for Great Yarmouth Borough Council

Press release

Great Yarmouth Borough Council has been issued with a regulatory notice by RSH following a breach of the consumer standards.



In a regulatory notice published today (Wednesday 26 October), the Regulator of Social Housing has concluded that Great Yarmouth Borough Council has breached the Home Standard and, as a result, there was potential for serious detriment to tenants.

Following a self-referral, RSH concluded that the council failed to meet statutory requirements for fire, gas, electrical, asbestos and water safety. The council has put in place a programme to rectify these issues.

Angela Holden, Assistant Director of Consumer Regulation at RSH, said:

We welcome Great Yarmouth Borough Council's self-referral to us,

which recognises that it failed to meet requirements for fire, gas, electrical, asbestos and water safety.

Our investigation confirms that the council breached our standards and put tenants at potential risk. We expect the council to correct these failings and we will monitor them closely as they put things right for tenants.

More information about the regulator's findings in this case are available in its [regulatory notice](#).

Notes to editors

1. RSH promotes a viable, efficient and well-governed social housing sector able to deliver and maintain homes of appropriate quality that meet a range of needs. It does this by undertaking robust economic regulation focusing on governance, financial viability and value for money that maintains lender confidence and protects the taxpayer. It also sets consumer standards and may take action if these standards are breached and there is a significant risk of serious detriment to tenants or potential tenants.
2. More information about how RSH regulates against its [standards](#) is available in [Regulating the Standards](#).
3. For press office contact details, see our [Media enquiries page](#). For general queries, please email enquiries@rsh.gov.uk or call 0300 124 5225.

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