

Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

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Ms Sandie Wilson
Environment Dept
Portland Port
Dorset
DT5 1PP

26th March 2019

Dear Sandie,

I am writing to confirm that the Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority supports the application by Portland Harbour Authority for a Several Order in Portland Port.

Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority is responsible for inshore fisheries management in the coastal waters off Hampshire, Dorset and the Isle of Wight. Southern IFCA has extensive experience of developing and managing aquaculture and successfully manages the largest pacific oyster production area in England.

We welcome the close collaboration we have had with Portland Harbour Authority in the development of the proposals for a several order. Southern IFCA is a member of the Portland Harbour Consultative Committee and has been involved throughout in the development of the proposals. I am pleased to confirm, to whom it concerns, that we have shared our experience in the development of the Several Order in Poole Harbour. IFCA's work in Poole Harbour, under the Poole Harbour Fishery Order 2015, has been successful and we consider that the good practice developed in Poole has been followed in your application.

We consider that there are a number of benefits to your application; these include;

- The order establishes a plan led approach to development. In contrast to a development led approach, a plan led approach is more likely to result in sustainable development which meets the needs of both the aquaculture sector and other users.
- Portland Harbour Authority as a statutory authority is well placed to balance the needs of aquaculture development with the management and protection of the marine environment more generally.
- The development of the several order reduces the set up risks to aquaculture developers, enabling space to be managed successfully in an otherwise busy area.
- The extensive knowledge and experience of Portland Harbour Authority in engaging with stakeholders and users of the site has identified suitable areas for aquaculture development which minimise conflict and maximise the development potential.

Southern IFCA is committed to supporting the Portland Harbour Authority through the Consultative Committee and through sharing advice and experience.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information or support for your application for the order.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Gehring Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Robert Clark
Chief Officer
Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority