



Law Society
of Scotland

Consultation response

Consultation on MGN 630 Amendment 2

December 2020



Introduction

The Law Society of Scotland is the professional body for over 12,000 Scottish solicitors. With our overarching objective of leading legal excellence, we strive to excel and to be a world-class professional body, understanding and serving the needs of our members and the public. We set and uphold standards to ensure the provision of excellent legal services and ensure the public can have confidence in Scotland's solicitor profession.

We have a statutory duty to work in the public interest, a duty which we are strongly committed to achieving through our work to promote a strong, varied and effective solicitor profession working in the interests of the public and protecting and promoting the rule of law. We seek to influence the creation of a fairer and more just society through our active engagement with the Scottish and United Kingdom Governments, Parliaments, wider stakeholders and our membership.

Our Marine Law Sub-committee welcomes the opportunity to respond to Maritime and Coastguard Agency's *Consultation on MGN 630 Amendment 2*¹. We have the following comments to put forward for consideration.

General comments

While we have no comment on the contents of the notice, we note that the notice is numbered "MGN 630 (M+F)" which, as defined by the MCA, means it relates to both merchant ships and fishing vessels. The MCA describes the suffixes to M-Notices as follows:

"The letter suffix after the M-notice number tells you if it relates to merchant ships and/or fishing vessels:

- (M) for merchant ship
- (F) for fishing vessels
- (M+F) for both merchant ships and fishing vessels"²

However, the subject matter of MGN 630 appears to apply solely to fishing vessels, and therefore, in the interests of clarity, we consider that the numbering of the notice should be MGN 630 (F).

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-mgn-630-amendment-2>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/merchant-shipping-notices-msns>



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