

Consultation Response

Towing guidance for offshore
floating structures

February 2026



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Introduction

The Law Society of Scotland is the professional body for over 13,000 Scottish solicitors.

We are a regulator that sets and enforces standards for the solicitor profession which helps people in need and supports business in Scotland, the UK and overseas. We support solicitors and drive change to ensure Scotland has a strong, successful and diverse legal profession. We represent our members and wider society when speaking out on human rights and the rule of law. We also seek to influence changes to legislation and the operation of our justice system as part of our work towards a fairer and more just society.

Our Marine law sub-committee welcomes the opportunity to consider and respond to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency consultation: *Towing guidance for offshore floating structures*¹. The sub-committee has the following comments to put forward for consideration.

General comments

We consider that there are a few areas of the guidance note that could be further clarified.

In section 4.1, where the document says “24 meters or more” in reference to the size of a ship, we suggest that the Maritime and Coastguard Agency consider inserting “in length” following the word “more” to ensure maximum clarity.

In section 4.2.1, we suggest that a naval architect is perhaps a more appropriate example in place of a structural engineer in terms of a “marine surveying consultant of appropriate professional standing”. However, this is a minor point and we consider the example given as acceptable.

¹ [Second consultation on towing guidance for offshore floating structures - GOV.UK](#)



For further information, please contact:

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