# WRITTEN STATEMENT

# BY

# THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

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| **TITLE** | **Consultation of Wales’ first Fisheries Management Plans** |
| **DATE** | **17 July 2023** |
| **BY** | **Lesley Griffiths, Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd** |

Today I have published Public Consultations on two joint Wales and England Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs).

The two plans focus on king scallops and seabass and are included in the first group of FMPs in the UK to be consulted on.

FMPs will set out the policies and strategic direction for the management of fisheries to ensure fish stocks are restored and maintained at sustainable levels.

Each FMP will specify the fish stock, type of fishing, area covered, authority responsible and the indicators to be used for monitoring the effectiveness of the plan.

Taken together, the creation of the Fisheries Act, the Joint Fisheries Statement and FMPs will create a step change in fisheries management in the UK.

The FMPs published today are the first of 43 to be published over the next six years in the UK.

The consultation, running from 17 July to 1 October 2023, will welcome views from all those interested and affected by the proposed policies.

The King scallop consultation can be found here: [King Scallop Fisheries Management Plan](https://www.gov.wales/king-scallop-fisheries-management-plan)

The Seabass consultation can be accessed here: [Bass Fisheries Management Plan](https://www.gov.wales/bass-fisheries-management-plan)

This statement is being issued during recess in order to keep members informed. Should members wish me to make a further statement or answer questions on this when the Senedd returns, I would be happy to do so.