

Response received 01 March 2005 from Mr Julian Neal:

Consultation questions

Question 1: Do you agree with the proposal to introduce a lighter, electronic licensing process? If not, please explain why. [Yes](#)

Question 2: Do you agree with the proposal to issue licences which remain valid for the life of the vessel? If not, please explain why. [Yes](#)

Question 3: Do you agree with the proposal to issue electronic ship radio licences free of charge? If not, please explain why? [Yes](#)

Question 4: Do you agree with the proposal to apply an administrative charge when processing postal applications for ship radio licences? If not, please explain why. [Yes](#)

Question 5: Do you agree that the transfer of licensing to the MCA would not offer any significant advantage over the existing licensing system? [Yes](#)

Question 6: Do you agree that WT Act licence exemption for vessels that remain within UK territorial waters is not currently practical? [No. I don't think that the paper makes the case for this being impractical.](#)

Question 7: Do you agree that WT Act licence exemption remains a worthwhile long term objective? If not, please explain why. [Yes](#)

Question 8: Do you believe that WT Act licence exemption would have an impact on maritime safety? If so, please explain why. [Arguably it would improve safety on balance if it encouraged more inshore boaters to fit and use VHF. This may also require removing/modifying type approval regulations which unnecessarily increase the cost of equipment in the UK/EU market. I find it hard to believe that the information collected through the licensing process has real value in maritime safety activities other than on the most exceptional basis, and this value must be miniscule compared with the cost of collecting and administering the data.](#)

Question 9: Would you prefer to see the current licensing system maintained without change? If so, please explain why. [No](#)