**FIPS Steering Group – Meeting # 8 – Minutes**

Meeting Date: 21st November 2024

Meeting Venue: MS Teams

Meeting Agenda:

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| **Agenda Item** |
| Welcome and agreement of minutes of meeting no 7 |
| Review of action points from previous meeting |
| FIP update |
| Social Risk Assessment update |
| Bord Bia Standard |
| Next Steps & Action List |
| AOB & Next Meeting Date |

**Minutes**

* **Welcome and agreement of minutes of meeting no 7**
  + Members agreed on minutes from meeting 7
* **FIPs update**
  + Verifact presented a draft FIP newsletter, and it was discussed by the group
  + Suggestion that the newsletter could cover clarification and provide awareness of important social issues such as contracts
  + It was agreed that the newsletter would issue twice per year
  + Haddock and Coley FIPS upgraded on Fishery Progress to a B rating
  + Annual report for Prawn FIP due to be submitted at the end of December
  + 1st Whiting FIP report due also at end of December
  + Update on brown crab working group was provided by Rory Campbell
    - 2 workshops have been carried out, Sept and Oct 2024
    - Proposals will be submitted to the Minister by the end of the year
    - Continued work into a fisheries management plan which will be incorporated into the Brown Crab FIP workplan
  + Key actions for the Q1 and Q2 of 2025 were presented
  + Constructive discussion on ghost gear. Industry rep noted the FIP vessels participate in the Clean Oceans initiatives which includes the bringing ashore of ghost gear.
  + BIM have figures on quantities of ghost gear taken out of the marine environment.
  + Action: Newsletter to be developed and sent to FIP members
  + Action: BIM to bring figures of ghost gear to next meeting for further discussion
* **Social Update** 
  + One page summary developed on the role of FIPs in social issues and presented to the group. This was adopted by the meeting members.
  + 1st social risk assessment update due at end of December to Fishery Progress
  + Social sub-group has been set up and meeting held. Focus of meeting was to work with the fleet to facilitate the risk assessment.
  + An issue arising from the meeting was a lack of consistent knowledge across stakeholder groups on contracts. This is an area that can be addressed under the social workplan.
  + First tranche of interviews with fishers and vessel owners have been carried out
  + 14 interviews were conducted in Castletownbere and Kinsale
  + Suggestion from an industry rep of an annual social survey/review to ensure the results reflect conditions within the fleet. The group agreed that this is a good approach.
  + Action: Labour force study to be circulated to group
  + Action: The draft social workplan should be reviewed annually based on social survey updates
* **AOB & Next Meeting Date**
  + Action: Doodle poll to be circulated for next meeting in January 2025