



AN t-ÚDARÁS UM
CHOSAINT
IASCAIGH MHARA

SEA-FISHERIES
PROTECTION
AUTHORITY

Press Release

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Minister McConalogue Launches Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority's Statement of Strategy 2024 – 2026

Minister for Agriculture Food & the Marine, Charlie McConalogue T.D. today, Wednesday 25th September 2024, welcomed the publication of the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority's (SFPA) Statement of Strategy 2024-2026.

Commenting on the launch of the SFPA's new Strategy, the Minister said; *"The long-term development and reputation of the fisheries sector requires a strong and effective regulatory authority. This Plan presents an ambitious work programme for the SFPA, that will underpin this vital sector over the next three years. It will ensure effective regulation of the Irish sea-fisheries and seafood production sectors, including fishing activity in Ireland's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).*

The Authority has gone through a period of significant change, I am satisfied that this Plan maps a positive vision for operational excellence that will serve the sector well over the next three years."

Paschal Hayes, Executive Chairperson of the SFPA said: *"Our new strategy provides an opportunity to express our Vision, Mission and Values as a Public Body and the competent Authority responsible for a wide range of important activities underpinning the sustainability of fish stocks and providing assurance to seafood consumers.*

In line with wider Government and Public Service Strategy we will advance organisational efficiency through best-in-class support for staff, and the development of processes, systems and data management and data utilisation. Central to this will be an ambitious programme of digitalisation which aims to enable the SFPA to optimally deliver on its mandate as a regulator.

This strategy seeks to enhance the SFPA's position as an effective regulator, an employer of choice, an active participant in Ireland's climate action journey and an important stakeholder in our global food producing ecosystem. I look forward to working with our staff, our colleagues in the Department of Agriculture Food &

Marine and in other State Bodies and all stakeholders involved in the seafood sector in the fulfilment of our ambitions.”

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Note to Editor

Photo Caption

Pictured at the launch of the SFPA’s Statement of Strategy 2024-2026 at Killybegs, Co Donegal, on Wednesday the 25th September are, (from l – r): Minister for Agriculture Food & the Marine, Charlie McConalogue T.D; Paschal Hayes, Executive Chairperson, SFPA and Sean Daly, Executive Manager, Operations, SFPA.

The Strategic Plan 2024 – 2026 can be accessed here <https://www.sfpa.ie/Who-We-Are/About-Us/Our-Strategy>

About the SFPA

The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) is the independent statutory body responsible for the regulation of the sea-fisheries and the sea-food production sectors. It promotes compliance with the EU Common Fisheries Policy, sea-fisheries law and food safety law relating to fish and fish products, verifies compliance and, where necessary, enforces it. Its mandate covers all fishing vessels operating within Ireland’s 200-mile limit, over 2,000 Irish registered fishing vessels wherever they operate, and all seafood produced in Ireland’s seafood processing companies. The SFPA operates through a network of regional port offices situated at Ireland’s main fishery harbours. For further information visit: www.sfpa.ie