

REPLACEMENT VESSEL POLICY – ARTICLE 502 OF THE UK-EU TRADE AND COOPERATION AGREEMENT (TCA)

Approved by the Committee for Economic Development on 12 January 2023

The Bailiwick of Guernsey's approach to licensing direct replacement vessels is based on ensuring that a replacement vessel is the same as, or not significantly dissimilar to, the original qualifying vessel it is replacing.

This approach maintains the stability of the fisheries and also provides a limited but necessary degree of flexibility, while ensuring that no additional capacity is added to the fisheries beyond the level in place during the reference period.

The principles for the Bailiwick's approach to direct replacement vessels are outlined below:

1. Replacements are made on a one for one basis.
2. Replacements may only be made once a year per licence, except in exceptional circumstances to be considered on a case-by-case basis (e.g. linked to a licensed vessel sinking or sustaining significant damage).
3. The replacement vessel must use the same gear type(s) as the original qualifying vessel.
The gear types are:
 - a) Mobile gear (trawls / pair trawls / dredges).
 - b) Static / passive gear (pots / nets / longlines).
4. The replacement vessel can only operate in the same zone(s) as the vessel it is replacing.
5. The replacement vessel must be of the same length overall (LOA) category. There are two LOA categories:
 - a) Under 12m.
 - b) 12m and over.
6. Replacement vessels must be less than 25m in LOA.
7. A global ceiling on vessel numbers, gross tonnage (GT) and engine power (kW) is established based on the qualifying vessels as at the end of the reference period – or their replacements put forward in 2022 and accepted as valid replacement vessels – inclusive of the individual vessel allowances, as described in paragraphs 9 and 10.

8. The global ceilings are:
 - a) Number of vessels: 44 vessels, of which:
 - i) 3 x under 12 metres in LOA; and
 - ii) 41 x 12 metres and over in LOA.
 - b) Gross tonnage: 6,522.
 - c) Engine power: 20,814 kW.
9. A replacement vessel may only increase in capacity by up to: 10% in engine power (kW) and 20% in gross tonnage (GT) compared to the original qualifying vessel it is replacing (but see paragraph 10). (These capacity limits also apply to licensed vessels being re-engined or modified in any way that increases kW and/or GT.)
10. Any increase in kW or GT on replacement is always assessed by reference to the original qualifying vessel, not a previous replacement vessel.
11. This policy will take effect from 1st February 2023 and may be reviewed in the future; for example to take into account any evolution in the industry standard specification of fishing vessels due to, for example, new safety standards or the transition to alternative engine technology (e.g. hybrid / electric / hydrogen powered engines).