

Published 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

"Determination of Aquaculture Licensing application –T05/522A

Atlantic Shellfish Ltd, Rossmore, Carrigtwohill, Co Cork has applied for authorisation to cultivate bottom culture mussels on the sub-tidal foreshore on a 110-hectare site (T05/522A) in Cork Harbour, Co Cork.

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine has determined that it is not in the public interest to grant the licence sought. In making his determination the Minister considered those matters which by virtue of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997, and other relevant legislation, he was required to have regard. Such matters include any submissions and observations received in accordance with the statutory provisions. The following are the reasons and considerations for the Minister's determination to refuse the licences sought: -

- This area can contain up to 2000 pots at any one time owned by several local fishing vessels fishing out of Cobh, Aghada and Crosshaven. There is also a very successful Shrimp fishery in recent years and is also a good fishing ground for Lobster, Velvet Crab and with some Brown Crab and Whelks also being fished.
- Sea Fisheries Protection Authority also stated that the dredging activity would be detrimental to the local pot fishery in this area due to the disturbance and damage the dredge will cause the seabed."