

by clicking on 'Brexit'.

However, it was Lorcáin Ó Cinnéide of the IFPEA who summarised neatly, and pointedly, the serious threat that Brexit poses to Irish fisheries. While other sectors of the economy, such as finance, might have some opportunities, Ó Cinnéide stated that "there is nothing in Brexit that will benefit Irish fisheries".

And this is unfortunately the case.

Take for example PM Theresa May's announcement in January that Britain will not be part of the EU's Single Market, the setup which allows for the free movement of goods, EU citizens, services and capital to move freely between Member States without barriers, such as tariffs.

As Britain will no longer be within the Single Market, serious questions now arise over seafood regulation regimes between the EU and Britain, that is with respect to hygiene and consumer safety. Will Britain continue to apply the same framework, or will Brexit negotiations see divergences in regulatory standards, throwing up more challenges to the movement of trade?

And there is of course the issue of what levels of tariffs will be applied to one of Ireland's most valuable seafood market.

Britain is our second largest export market after France, accounting for 19% of all Irish seafood exports, valued at some €89 million in 2016, in addition Britain is Ireland's largest source for imports totally 38% and valued at some €41 million. (Figures from the EUMOFA)

There is also the case Britain in 2016 exported 71% of its seafood to the EU, to which Ireland accounts for 12%, and Britain obtained 40% of its imports from the EU, with Ireland 3.7% of this. Despite Britain depending on EU markets for its seafood exports, with it pulling out of the Single Market, it can only be expected that this level of trade will be affected negatively post-Brexit. But to what extent, we still as yet do not know.

In the twined issues of quotas

and access to territorial waters, fishermen should be aware of the serious barriers Brexit brings here. Post-Brexit, Britain will no longer be bound to allow Irish vessels to fish as freely as they once did under the CFP, and the extent to which Britain will want to limit access by the EU fleet to its waters, remains to be seen.

Beamish produced data showing that some 36% of Ireland's landed TACs between 2012 - 2014 were taken from British territorial waters. Other figures from the Department show that 64% of mackerel and 52% of cod that Ireland catches is in British waters, as well as a host of other stocks that will be impacted.

For my own perspective, my sense is that with fisheries touching on the point sharp bits of statehood (territory, borders and maps), and where the EU referendum was all about controlling EU immigration and the border, Brexit is going to come very hard down on fisheries.

With so much political symbolism involved here, and where Britain will want to score a 'win' in Brexit negotiations, "taking back control of our seas and quotas" might prove too hard a prize to resist for the Conservatives, who will be looking to 2020 the next general election.

Irish fishermen do not like the Common Fisheries Policy, but by trying to appease Eurosceptic Conservative party's backbenchers and to stem the tide of UKIP, which never materialised in the 2015 general election, Britain, through Brexit, will bring considerable instability to how Irish quotas will be set, on continued annual access to stocks and how trade in seafood will be conducted.

And these are all long term policy planning implications facing fisheries that will not be decided by 2019 when Britain is expected to leave the EU. This is the start of a long and uncertain route, and the negotiations that will commence this year will just be the beginning of many more to come.

Ciarán O' Driscoll is a researcher with NUIG's Socio-Economic Marine Research Unit.

## PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FORESHORE APPROVAL

Schull Community Harbour Development Company Ltd. FS005852

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 19A of the Foreshore Act 1933 (as amended), that Schull Community Harbour Development Company Ltd, 48 Main Street, Schull, Co. Cork has applied for approval under the Foreshore Acts, ref no. FS005852, to occupy an area of foreshore for the purpose of carrying out harbour development works consisting of the construction of a 270m rock armour breakwater, a 220m reinforced concrete floating breakwater, a 178m commercial berthing pontoon, a 235 berth marina, 0.55 hectares of reclamation, a 10m wide leisure craft slipway and landside amenities including public promenade, 95 space car park, dinghy park area and a small utilities building.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been prepared in respect of this proposal. The foreshore application, EIS, associated documents, all relevant maps, site plans and drawings may be inspected at the following locations:

- **Bantry Garda Station**, Bantry, Co. Cork (24 Hours)
- **Schull Public Library**, Main Street, Schull, Co. Cork - Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 14.30 to 17.30 Hours, Wednesdays from 09.30 to 13.00 hours and 14.00 to 17.30 hours, Saturdays 09.30 to 13.30 hours (the library is closed on Mondays, Sundays and Public/bank Holidays)
- **Cork County Council Area Office**, Ardnamanagh, Schull, Co. Cork. Monday to Friday from 09.00 to 13.00 Hours and 14.00 to 17.00 hours

A hard copy of the Environmental Impact Statement may be purchased from the applicant at 48 Main Street, Schull, Co. Cork at €145.00 per copy. A Non-Technical Summary may be obtained free of charge.

CDs that include the Environmental Impact Statement, maps, site plans and drawings, and a copy of the foreshore application are available free of charge from the applicant at the address stated above or by emailing [info@schullharbour.ie](mailto:info@schullharbour.ie). The application may also be viewed on the following dedicated website: <http://www.schullforeshore.com> and on the Department's website at: <http://www.housing.gov.ie/schull-community-harbour-development-company-ltd>.

The Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government is responsible for making a decision on this application and he may either grant, approve or consent to the application with or without covenants, conditions or agreements, where applicable, or refuse the application.

Section 19C of the Foreshore Act does not apply to this application.

Submissions, comments in relation to the proposal may be made in writing within 8 weeks from the publication of this notice to the Minister for Housing, Planning Community and Local Government at Foreshore Unit, Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Newtown Road, Wexford Y35 AP90 or by e-mail to [foreshore@housing.gov.ie](mailto:foreshore@housing.gov.ie) (Quoting Ref: MS FS 005852). The closing date for the receipt of written submissions, comments or questions is therefore 17:30 on 24/04/2017.

Within 8 weeks from the publication of this notice, a copy of the application, the environmental impact statement and any other relevant report or information (including copies of any submissions, comments, or questions received by the appropriate Minister) may be inspected free of charge at Foreshore Unit, Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Newtown Road, Wexford Y35 AP90 during the hours 10:00 to 13:00 and 14:00 to 17:00 Monday to Friday. All of this material, including submissions from the public, will also be published on the website of the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, <http://www.housing.gov.ie/schull-community-harbour-development-company-ltd>.

Dated this day of 16th February 2017

Schull Community Harbour Development Company Ltd.