1. Mr. Danny O'Brien
2. Mr. Padraic Dempsey
3. Mr. George Burke

Approval of Foreshore Licence Application

Approval Sought

Approval is sought to grant a 5 year licence under Section 3(3) of the Foreshore Act, 1933 (as amended) to Séamus Ó'Grady, Fahamore, Castlegregory, Co Kerry for the purpose of harvesting seaweed as outlined below.

Consideration of the Application

The application (Annexe I) for the hand-harvesting and removal of storm-cast seaweed from an area of foreshore at Corralougha Strand, Brandon Bay as outlined on Drg. No. SOG-SW-001 Rev.: A (Annexe II), was considered by the Department's specialist advisors (Annexe III).

The observations of the following were considered:

1. Benthos Ecology Unit of The Marine Institute
2. Water Services Advisors
3. Nature Conservation of the DAU
4. Marine Survey Office
5. The Underwater Archaeological Unit
6. Sea Fisheries Protection Authority
7. Kerry County Council

The applicant was asked for clarification on a number of matters, including access points and impacts on Conservation Objectives. This was provided to the satisfaction of the specialist advisors.

Licence Fee

A standard annual fee of €127 applies in this case. The applicant has requested that a Licence be issued for a 5 year term. The total fee due for the Licence term must be paid prior to the Licence being issued.

Basis for Recommendation

The hand harvesting of storm-cast seaweed in the area is unlikely to have any significant impact on the environment. The issue of a Licence not exceeding a 5 year term is therefore recommended by Mr. Terry McMahon, Chair, Marine Licence Vetting Committee (Annexe IV).

Next Steps

If approval is granted, a draft Foreshore Licence and cover letter is attached in the pouch opposite.

Peter Connaughton
Planning Policy & Legislation
18th February 2011