

Coastal Producer Organisation
c/o Co-operative Futures
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Dear member,

We have won c.£2,000,000 more quota

The fisheries Minister, George Eustice MP, has today announced that there will be increased quota from the UK's uplift for small scale fishermen that could be worth in the region of £2,000,000 to under tens & other small scale fishermen in the first year.

This is a great start in improving things for small scale fishermen and shows that 7 years hard work by NUTFA, with the baton now being picked up by the Coastal PO, is really starting to pay off, but we need to keep the pressure up.

DEFRA's statement explains, "...fishermen can expect to receive increased quotas from the European Commission to take account of the fact they will not be throwing away fish."

"In line with a manifesto commitment to support smaller fishing communities, the Government will be allocating the first 100 tonnes of any additional quota received—and 10% of anything more we receive on top of this 100 tonnes—to the UK's inshore fleet."

It's a win – and we thank the Minister for it – but it is only a start and we need your help to keep the pressure for change up.

The Coastal Producers Organisation now has 211 fishermen with 239 vessels in membership, which according to officially available figures makes the Coastal PO the biggest by number of fishermen in England. We are hoping you'll help us to recruit more fishermen.

We have been to some local fishermen's meetings where we have had great success. Over 90% of fishermen that come have signed up to join the PO. If you would like us to come and meet fishermen in your area get in touch. We have taken a stand at the Skipper Expo in Bournemouth and we hope to meet some of you there.

We are sorry that you haven't heard much from us but we are a very small team and you can see that we have been busy beavering away, fighting your corner in the halls of power.

Please hand out the enclosed forms & reply paid envelopes and help us recruit more fishermen as members.

More fishermen members means more influence with the powers that be.

Yours sincerely,

Dave Cuthbert
Secretary.

