

Written Record of fisheries consultations on 14-24 May 2024 between the United Kingdom and the European Union on sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) in Divisions 7.d and 7.e (English Channel) from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

1. The Trade and Cooperation Agreement ('the TCA') between the United Kingdom (UK) and the European Union (EU) includes the objective of cooperating with a view to ensuring that fishing activities for shared stocks in their waters are environmentally sustainable in the long term and contribute to achieving economic and social benefits, and requires the Parties to hold consultations annually to agree the total allowable catches (TACs) for the following year for the stocks listed in Annex 35 to the TCA. English Channel sprat (SPR/7DE) is included in that Annex.
2. A Delegation from the United Kingdom, headed by Ms Imogen CESSFORD and a Delegation from the European Union, headed by Dr Norman GRAHAM, met in a virtual format between 14-24 May 2024 to consult on fishing opportunities for English Channel sprat (SPR/7DE) from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 in accordance with Article 498 (Fishing Opportunities) of the TCA. This Written Record documents the outcome of those consultations.
3. The Heads of Delegations agreed to recommend to their respective authorities the fishery arrangements for 2024-2025 outlined in this Written Record, including Annex 1. Accordingly, where this Written Record refers to the Delegations (or the Parties) having agreed on a matter, it should be read as an agreement to recommend to the Delegations' respective authorities to implement the arrangements in this Written Record, including Annex 1.
4. The Delegations considered the sprat stock listed in Annex 35 to the TCA and agreed to establish a total allowable catch (TAC) from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 of 5,250 tonnes. The TAC and respective Parties' quotas are shown in Annex 1.
5. The other relevant arrangements, including inter-annual quota flexibility, for jointly managed stocks in the Written Record of fisheries consultations between the United Kingdom and the European Union for 2024 signed on the 8th of December 2023 ("the Written Record of 8 December 2023") will continue to apply for English Channel sprat.
6. The Delegations reaffirm their commitment to implementing an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management as set out in the Parties' domestic legislation and in regional and international agreements. The Delegations note the ecological significance of forage fish species such as sprat, Norway pout, herring and sandeel as an important food source for seabirds, other fish species and marine mammals and that their function and role should be considered when setting fishing opportunities, guided by the best available scientific advice.

London

Brussels

For the United Kingdom

Imogen CESSFORD

For the European Union

Norman GRAHAM

Annex 1

Code	Common Name	ICES areas	Agreed Total Allowable Catch (tonnes)	UK allocation				EU allocation			
				TCA TAC share (%)	TCA quota (tonnes)	Transfer to/from EU (tonnes)	UK post-transfer quota (tonnes)	TCA TAC share (%)	TCA quota (tonnes)	Transfer to/from UK (tonnes)	EU post-transfer quota (tonnes)
SPR/7DE	Sprat (English Channel)	7d and 7e	5,250 ⁽¹⁾	81.48% ⁽²⁾ 84.00% ⁽³⁾	4,344		4,344	18.52% ⁽²⁾ 16.00% ⁽³⁾	906		906
	<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	<p>(1) TAC may only be fished from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. The TAC is split equally between the two 6 month periods (1st July 2024-31st December 2024 and 1st January 2025 -30th June 2025) and the relevant TCA TAC share is applied to each. The TCA quota represents the sum of the quota for those two periods.</p> <p>(2) TAC split for 2024 in the TCA</p> <p>(3) TAC split for 2025 in the TCA</p>									