

Address

Allens Park, Moycullen,  
Co. Galway, Ireland

Mr. Michael Creed  
Minister for Agriculture  
Food and the Marine  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2.

6<sup>th</sup> February 2017

## **Re: INDEPENDENT AQUACULTURE LICENSING REVIEW GROUP**

Dear Minister Creed,

Thank you for appointing the above Review Group and for the opportunity to express my views as a key stakeholder in the Aquaculture business here in Ireland. I hope that the following submission and comments may help to inform the Review Group in formulating their recommendations and decision.

**O Toole Transport Ltd** is a family owned business established in Galway in 1996, The company has grown to become one of the leading food logistics and transport companies in Ireland, specialising in National and International distribution for the FMCG sector, with depots in Galway, Dublin, & Waterford.

### **International Seafood Logistics**

- Our company offers a complete range of logistics solutions to the seafood industry in Ireland. We have grown to become the largest provider of transportation services to this extremely valuable export sector - ***which contributes significant value to the Irish economy.***
- We have **BRC accredited** distribution centres - an award we are rightly proud of.

### **Member of the Seafoodways Network**

- O'Toole Transport is also a proud member of the **Seafoodways Network** [www.seafoodways.com](http://www.seafoodways.com) . We are now connected to over 44 depots throughout Europe & a fleet of 1000 vehicles.
- Our seafood customers enjoy the benefit of limitless logistics.

### **Local Community Support**

By providing 140 jobs, our return to the Irish exchequer is of significant value. We regularly sponsor local community efforts, hurling, football, basketball teams to ensure that families and community life can grow and thrive with a sustainable foundation and harness its full potential.



\* COLD STORAGE \* LOGISTICS \* SUPPLY CHAIN

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## Review of the Aquaculture Licence Process.

O'Toole Transport exports 95% of all farmed salmon in Ireland with 3 times weekly services from Ireland to the Continent. We have connections to every major market in Europe within 48 hours including:-

- Boulogne & Paris in France
- Breskens in Holland
- Irun In Spain
- Milan In Italy
- The aquaculture sector in this country supports 2,000 jobs and delivers €564 million in output. The timely decision making of the aquaculture licence process will enhance and improve this for all stakeholders.
- It is vital that the enormous potential the Irish aquaculture sector has to sustainably grow its production of seafood to meet the growing world demand for safe, sustainable seafood is achieved. The growth potential of our business in this area can only be achieved by a more streamlined licencing system for our customers.
- I believe there is an urgent need for a licencing system that is 'fit-for-purpose' to meet highest environmental standards and our customer requirements for greater supply of top quality Irish seafood.
- I am hopeful that the Review Group will establish a framework which will command the confidence of the sector and the broader community and clearly define the process by which aquaculture licences are issued.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks in advance for your interest in and attention to this submission.

Yours sincerely,



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LAURENCE O'TOOLE  
MANAGING DIRECTOR.  
O'TOOLE TRANSPORT.



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