

2026

## Health and Safety Legislation Consultations Diving at Work Regulations

### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION RESULTS**

Health and Safety Inspectorate

Department of Environment Food and Agriculture of the Isle of Man Government  
Diving at Work Regulations

Version Control

1	Health and Safety Inspectorate	26/11/2025	Initial Draft
2	Health and Safety Inspectorate	26/11/2025	Updated Document
3	Health and Safety Inspectorate	10/03/2026	Annex Added
4			

## Health and Safety Legislation Consultations

### Diving at Work Regulations

<https://consult.gov.im/environment-food-and-agriculture/diving-regs-2025-health-and-safety-legislation>

This report was created on Wednesday 26 November 2025 at 08:29

The activity ran from 29/09/2025 to 24/11/2025

Responses to this survey: **4**

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Diving at Work Regulations 2025 consultation ran from 29 September to 24 November 2025, seeking views on introducing formal diving safety regulations aligned with UK standards, attracting 4 responses from IOM Government departments and the Irish Sea Diving and Marine Services.

Whilst there were only 4 responses received, this was not unduly surprising considering the limited number of affected organisations that the updated regulations will affect. Importantly key individuals involved in diving activities on the island responded.

All respondents agreed that the IOM should adopt UK standards, reflecting strong support for alignment with established best practices. While only one respondent indicated that parts of the legislation require greater clarity, several comments highlighted the importance of clearly identifying Approved Codes of Practice (ACOPs) and associated guidance.

Three respondents requested specific support mechanisms, including training, gap analysis, and access to HSE diving medical provision. Additional feedback emphasized the need to consider exemptions for IOM Government diving teams and to ensure volunteer scientific diving projects are not inadvertently affected by the new regulations. There was an indicated need to delay the enactment of this legislation by 3 years to allow industry time to react and prepare for its introduction.

#### POST CONSULTATION - COMMENTS RECEIVED

Nil

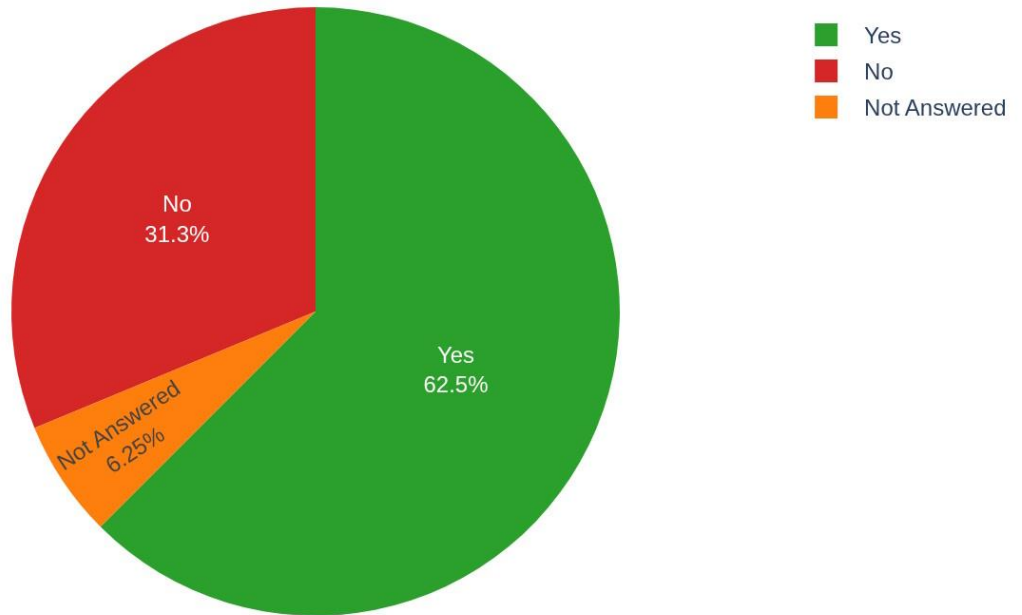
#### SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Question	Yes %	No %	Not Answered %
Do you agree that the Isle of Man should follow UK standards and processes for health and safety laws and its regulation?	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Are there any parts of the legislation being consulted upon that require more clarity to aid understanding and assist with compliance?	25.0%	75.0%	0.0%

Is the proposed implementation strategy and timescale for the introduction of the Diving at Work Regulations 2025 appropriate for industry readiness?	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%
Are there any specific support mechanisms (e.g. guidance, training, transitional arrangements) that would help you or your organisation prepare for the new legislation?	75.0%	0.0%	25.0%
Do you have any other comments on the draft Diving at Work Regulations 2025 legislation attached to this stage of the overall consultation process? - Comments box	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%
Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the proposed changes or the consultation process? - Comments box	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%

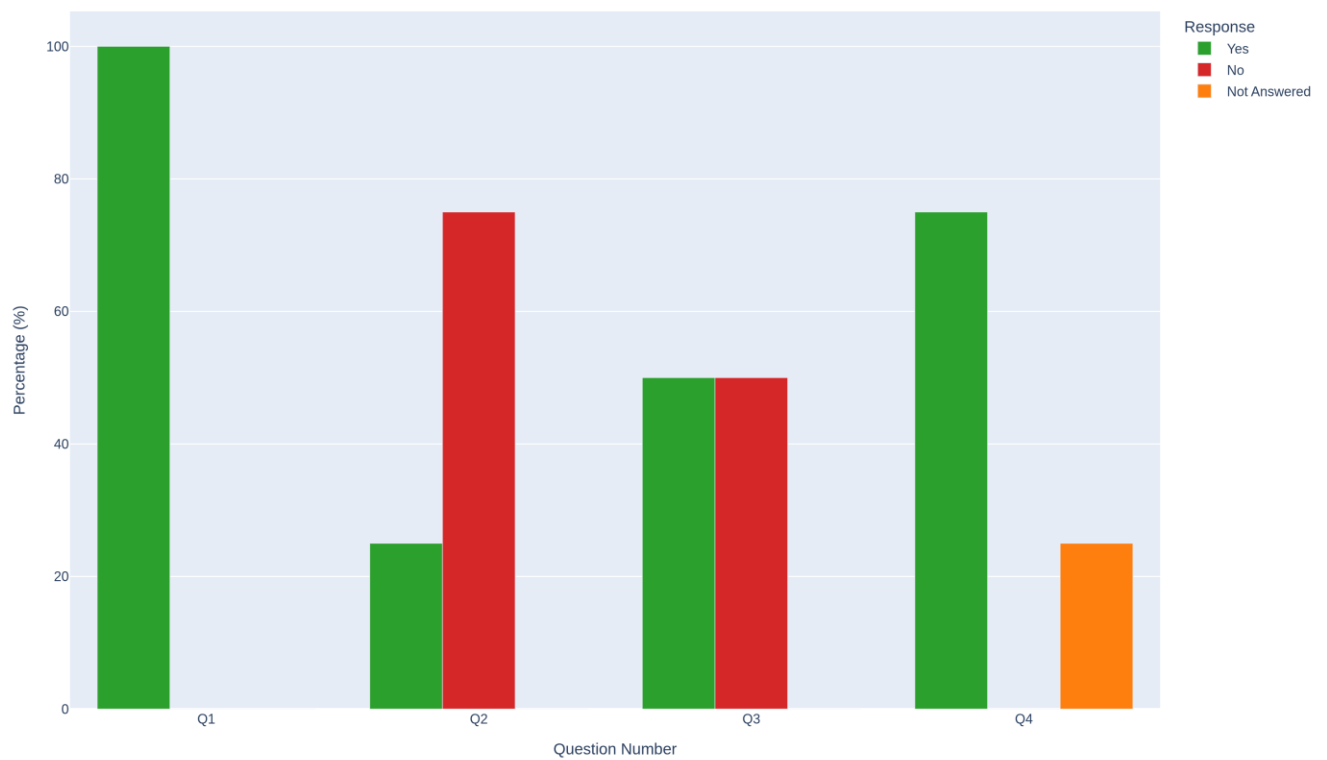
**Table 1: Response to Question Summary Table**

Figure 1: Overall Response Distribution



**Fig 1: Overall Response Distribution**

Figure 2: Breakdown by Question (Diving at Work Regulations)



**Figure 2: Breakdown by Question**

Note: Q5 and Q6 were excluded because they are “comments-only” questions in the consultation document.

**We asked:**

The Isle of Man (IOM) holds jurisdiction over its territorial waters but currently lacks a comprehensive offshore health, safety, and environmental framework. To address this, the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture (DEFA) is reviewing and updating legislation to align with UK offshore Health and Safety Executive (HSE) legislation and standards, ensuring internationally recognised safety regulations for future offshore energy developments are in place.

DEFA welcomed stakeholder and public feedback on updated and proposed health and safety legislation through a series of public consultations to support future offshore renewable energy operations and provide clarity on the health and safety standards for onshore work.

**You Said:**

The Diving at Work Regulations 2025 consultation ran from 29 September to 24 November 2025, seeking views on introducing formal diving safety regulations aligned with UK standards, attracting 4 responses from IOM Government departments and the Irish Sea Diving and Marine Services.

Whilst there were only 4 responses received, this was not unduly surprising considering the limited number of affected organisations that the updated regulations will affect. Importantly key individuals involved in diving activities on the island responded.

All respondents agreed that the IOM should adopt UK standards, reflecting strong support for alignment with established best practices. While only one respondent indicated that parts of the legislation require greater clarity, several comments highlighted the importance of clearly identifying Approved Codes of Practice (ACOPs) and associated guidance.

Three respondents requested specific support mechanisms, including training, gap analysis, and access to HSE diving medical provision. Additional feedback emphasized the need to consider exemptions for IOM Government diving teams and to ensure volunteer scientific diving projects are not inadvertently affected by the new regulations.

**We did:**

DEFA HSWI are grateful to everyone who took the time to respond to this consultation.

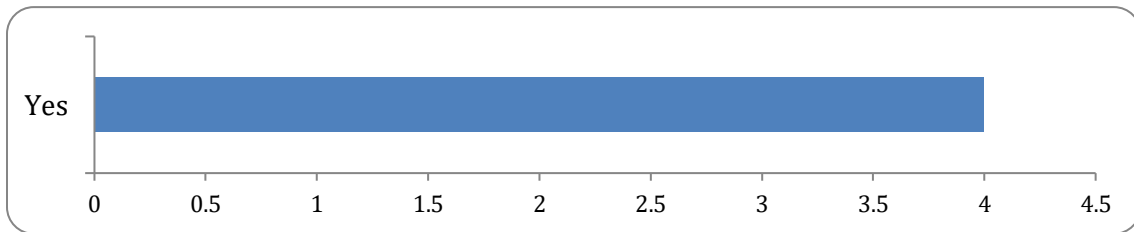
The public consultation for the Diving at Work Regulations 2026 indicated industry would require a 3-year delay to their introduction to enable industry to prepare post any approval. Therefore, DEFA have approved submission to the CoMin, but following approval, the enactment date for the Diving at Work Regulations 2026 would be planned to be Jul 2029.

## CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

**1: Do you agree that the Isle of Man should follow UK standards and processes for health and safety laws and its regulation?**

**Yes/no**

There were 4 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	4	100.00%
No	0	0.00%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

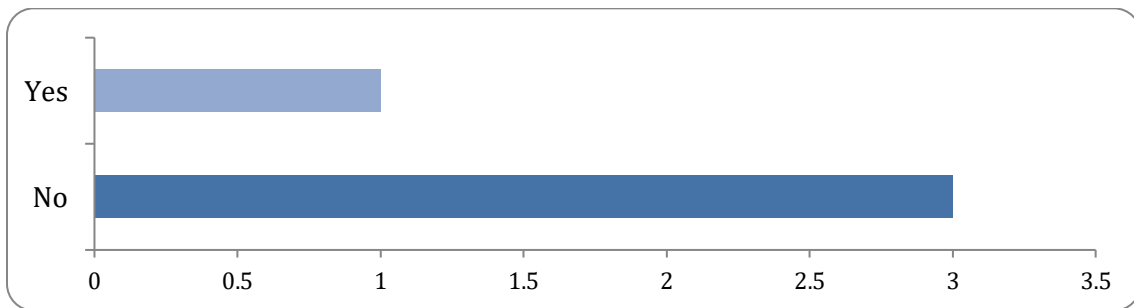
### Comments box

There were 4 responses to this part of the question.

**2: Are there any parts of the legislation being consulted upon that require more clarity to aid understanding and assist with compliance?**

**Yes/no**

There were 4 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	1	25.00%
No	3	75.00%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

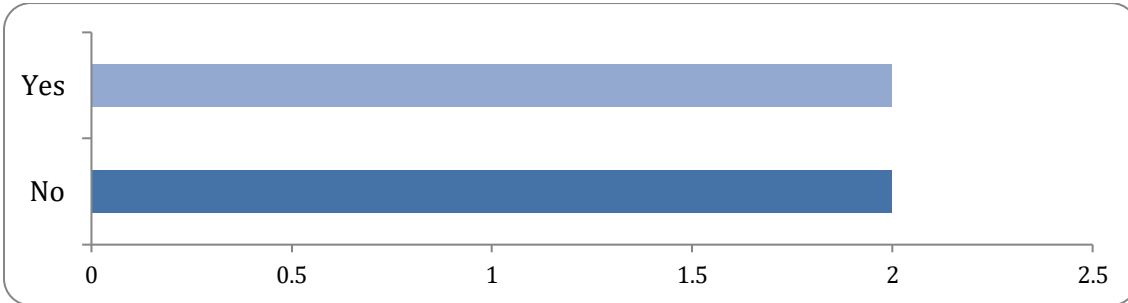
### Comments box

There were 2 responses to this part of the question.

**3: Is the proposed implementation strategy and timescale for the introduction of the Diving at Work Regulations 2025 appropriate for industry readiness?**

**Yes/no**

There were 4 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	2	50.00%
No	2	50.00%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

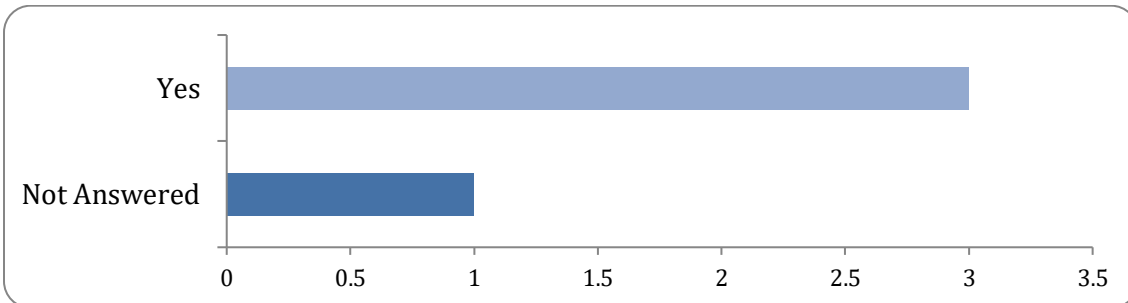
**Comments box**

There were 4 responses to this part of the question.

**4: Are there any specific support mechanisms (e.g. guidance, training, transitional arrangements) that would help you or your organisation prepare for the new legislation?**

**Yes/no**

There were 3 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	3	75.00%
No	0	0.00%
Not Answered	1	25.00%

**Comments box**

There were 3 responses to this part of the question.

**5: Do you have any other comments on the draft Diving at Work Regulations 2025 legislation attached to this stage of the overall consultation process?**

**Comments box**

There were 3 responses to this part of the question, captured in the executive summary.

**6: Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the proposed changes or the consultation process?**

**Comments box**

There were 2 responses to this part of the question, both captured in the executive summary.