

Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 2026 Consultation Report

PUBLIC CONSULTATION RESULTS

Health and Safety Inspectorate

Version Control

1	Health and Safety Inspectorate (HSWI)	08/05/2026	Initial
2	HSWI	01/06/2026	Review

Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 2026 Health and Safety Legislation Consultation

<https://consult.gov.im/environment-food-and-agriculture/lifting-operations-and-lifting-equipment-regs>

This report was created on Friday 08 May 2026 at 11:36

The activity ran from 15/12/2025 to 31/03/2026

Responses to this survey: **6**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF RESPONDENT COMMENTS:

Respondents were strongly supportive of the IOM continuing to align its health and safety legislation with UK standards, viewing this as best practice that would provide clarity, consistency, and confidence for duty holders and industry.

While the draft Regulations were generally considered clear and appropriate, some respondents highlighted the need for greater certainty around the application of UK guidance and Approved Codes of Practice (ACOPs), and for consistency in regulation structure and numbering.

Most respondents felt the proposed implementation strategy was reasonable, although concerns were raised about industry readiness given training capacity, concurrent legislative reforms, and potential impacts on smaller businesses. Overall, respondents welcomed the modernisation of health and safety legislation and emphasised the importance of clear guidance, proportionate implementation, and ongoing stakeholder engagement to support effective compliance.

We asked:

The Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture (DEFA) has been reviewing specific UK Health and Safety legislation to form a judgment on whether the Island would benefit from greater alignment with UK Health and Safety Executive (HSE) standards. As part of that process, consideration has also been given to whether this UK HSE legislation would enhance public and worker safety for offshore energy developments. This process has culminated in public consultation of specific draft legislation, with the starting point for most of the legislation being existing UK legislation.

DEFA has welcomed stakeholder and public feedback on the proposed health and safety legislation, and where appropriate any associated guidance documentation, through this public consultation process.

You Said:

Respondents strongly supported the IOM continuing to follow UK health and safety standards and processes, viewing alignment as best practice and beneficial for clarity, consistency, and organisations operating across both jurisdictions. Several respondents emphasised the importance of mirroring UK regulation structure and numbering to improve understanding and reduce the risk of misinterpretation for duty holders, training providers, and practitioners.

While many respondents felt the draft legislation was broadly clear, some identified a need for greater certainty around which UK guidance documents and Approved Codes of Practice should apply on the Island. Most respondents considered the proposed implementation strategy and timescale to be appropriate, although some raised concerns about industry readiness, particularly in light of concurrent legislative reforms, training capacity, and the potential cumulative impact on smaller businesses. The majority highlighted the importance of supporting measures such as clear and practical guidance, targeted communication, training provision, transitional arrangements, and proportionate implementation.

Overall, respondents welcomed the direction of travel and the continued modernisation of IOM health and safety legislation, while stressing the importance of practicality, proportionality, and continued engagement with stakeholders.

We did:

The DEFA Health and Safety at Work Inspectorate (HSWI) is grateful to all those who took the time to consider and respond to this consultation.

Due to the December 2025 holiday period and the limited number of initial responses received, it was decided to extend the closing date of the outstanding health and safety legislation consultations to 31 March 2026.

The consultation process and responses received informed the Department's assessment of the benefits of the proposed legislation. All consultation responses were considered in detail, alongside direct engagement with relevant Manx businesses. The consultation process has therefore informed the Department's decision making. Having considered all available information, the Department has decided to pause the introduction of this tranche of legislation until further notice.

Further engagement between DEFA HSWI and the UK Health and Safety Executive (HSE) will take place in June 2026. Should the Department subsequently decide to proceed with the introduction of any of the draft legislation, this will first be reviewed against the latest position of the relevant UK legislation and updated where necessary. If any substantive changes are made as a result, a further public consultation exercise may be undertaken.

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CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Question Number	Title	Total Responses
1	Do you agree that the Isle of Man should follow UK standards and processes for health and safety laws and its regulation?	6 (100.00%)
2	Are there any parts of the legislation being consulted upon that require more clarity to aid understanding and assist with compliance?	6 (100.00%)
3	Is the proposed implementation strategy and timescale for the introduction of the IOM Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 2026 appropriate for industry readiness?	6 (100.00%)
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?	6 (100.00%)
5	Do you have any other comments on the draft IOM Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 2026 legislation at this stage of the overall consultation process?	2 (33.33%)
6	Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the proposed changes or the consultation process?	2 (33.33%)

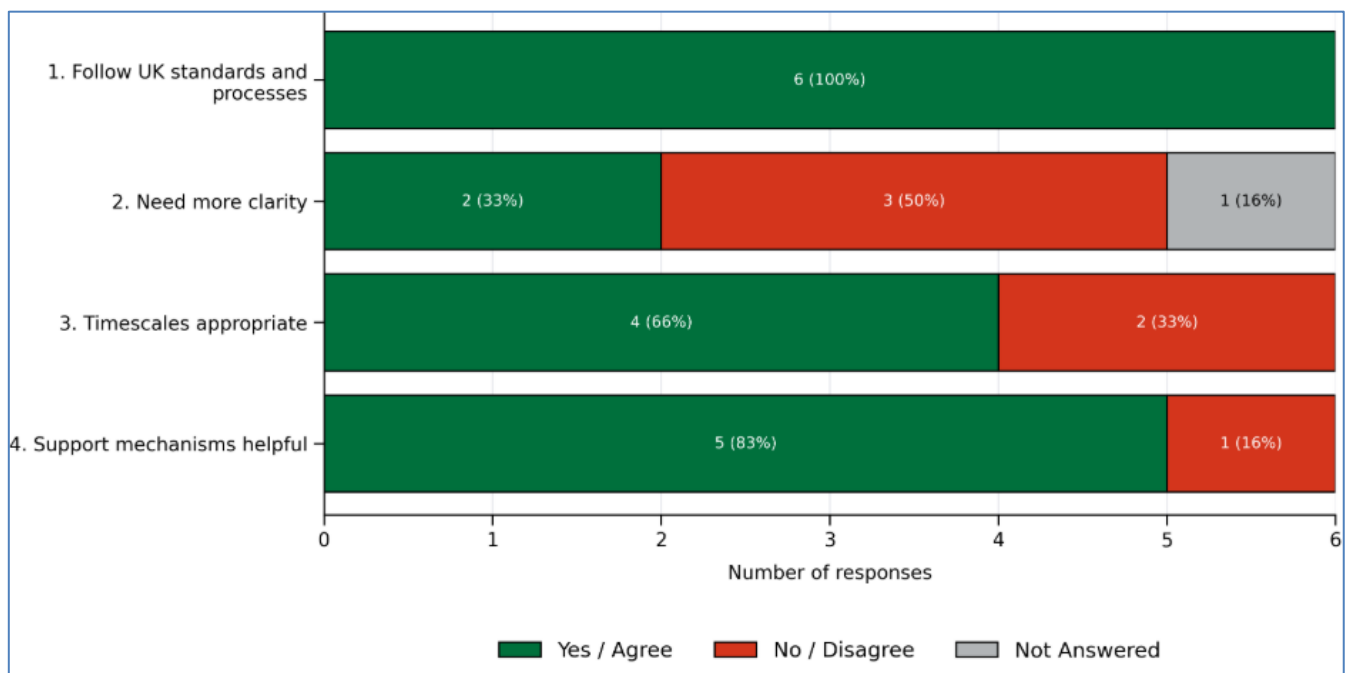


Fig 1:
Question (Q1–Q4) - Percentage of Responses (Yes/Agree, No/Disagree, Not Answered)

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS – INDIVIDUAL SUMMARY OF RESPONSES BY QUESTION

Question 1

Do you agree that the IOM should follow UK standards and processes for health and safety laws and its regulation?

All respondents agreed that the IOM should follow UK standards and processes for health and safety legislation and its regulation. Respondents consistently viewed UK alignment as representing recognised best practice, providing clarity and confidence for duty holders, regulators, and practitioners. Several responses highlighted the benefits of consistency for organisations operating across both the IOM and the UK, including clearer compliance expectations and reduced risk of misinterpretation. Some respondents noted that while alignment with UK standards is welcomed, the Island should retain flexibility to apply requirements proportionately to local scale and resources.

Question 2

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

Responses were mixed on the need for additional clarity. While a number of respondents indicated that the draft legislation was broadly clear, others identified specific areas where further clarification would assist compliance. Common themes included the need for clearer alignment of regulation numbering and structure with UK legislation, and greater certainty about which UK guidance documents, Approved Codes of Practice, and standards are intended to apply on the Island. Some respondents also highlighted sector-specific clarity gaps, particularly for specialist activities, where clearer references would help duty holders understand how the regulations apply in practice.

Question 3

Is the proposed implementation strategy and timescale for the introduction of the Regulations appropriate for industry readiness?

Most respondents considered the proposed implementation strategy and timescale to be appropriate, particularly for organisations already operating in line with UK LOLER requirements. However, a minority expressed concern that the proposed timeframe may be challenging, especially when considered alongside other concurrent legislative changes and existing capacity constraints. Key issues raised included the availability of training, inspection, and competent advice on the Island, and the cumulative burden on small businesses. Several responses noted that effective implementation would depend on adequate preparation time and supporting measures to ensure industry readiness.

Question 4

Are there any specific support mechanisms that would help you or your organisation prepare for the new legislation?

The majority of respondents identified a clear need for support mechanisms to assist with implementation. Frequently cited measures included the provision of clear, practical guidance tailored to the IOM context, targeted communication and awareness campaigns, and access to relevant training. Respondents also highlighted the importance of supporting local training capacity, consideration of transitional arrangements, and phased or proportionate implementation where appropriate. Additional support for small and higher-risk sectors was commonly identified as a key factor in achieving effective compliance.

Question 5

Do you have any other comments on the draft legislation at this stage of the consultation process?

Additional comments generally expressed broad support for the draft regulations and for the continued modernisation of IOM health and safety legislation. Respondents welcomed the direction of travel and the formalisation of standards already regarded as best practice. Some responses reiterated the importance of clarity around applicable guidance and proportional application, while emphasising that the regulations should remain a priority within the wider programme of health and safety reform.

Question 6

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

Further comments were limited but constructive. Respondents emphasised the importance of ongoing engagement with industry and stakeholders, including opportunities for briefings, workshops, or working groups to support implementation. There was also recognition that effective delivery would depend on continued collaboration between government, regulators, training providers, and businesses to ensure the regulations are implemented consistently and pragmatically.