

# Health and Safety Legislation Consultation

## Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 2025

Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture

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**Closes 31 Mar 2026**

Opened 16 Dec 2025

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## Overview

The Isle of Man (IOM) has jurisdiction over its territorial waters but currently does not have a comprehensive offshore health, safety, and environmental framework to regulate work activities offshore.

To address this gap, the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture (DEFA) is reviewing and updating specific legislation to align with UK Health and Safety Executive (HSE) standards. This will enable offshore work to proceed under internationally recognised safety regulations, supporting future offshore energy developments.

To ensure consistent health and safety standards across both land and sea, the updated legislation will apply to work undertaken onshore and offshore within the Island and its territorial waters. This process has the added advantage of updating legislation in key areas to align with the latest UK legislation.

This consultation specifically relates to the following draft legislation:

- **Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 2026**

DEFA will implement a phased approach to the overall legislative update program, which is designed to give businesses sufficient time to prepare for compliance for the full suite of updated legislation. Following public consultation and incorporation of any necessary amendments, the Department aims to submit this particular proposed legislation to Tynwald in early 2026, with a target commencement date of 1 Oct 2026.

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

The end date for this consultation has been extended to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.

## What these Regulations do

The proposed IOM **Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) 2026** aim to modernize IOM health and safety law by introducing clear requirements for the safe use of lifting equipment. They set standards for strength, stability, marking, and positioning of equipment, require thorough examinations and inspections at defined intervals, and mandate proper planning and supervision of lifting operations. These regulations replace outdated provisions such as the IOM **Factories and Workshops Amendment Act 1939** and offshore lifting rules, aligning the Island with the UK's LOLER framework under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 as applied to the IOM. This alignment ensures a consistent, risk-based approach to lifting safety across workplaces and offshore activities.

## Practical implications of the proposed Regulations

The introduction of the proposed IOM **Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) 2026** will require employers and those in control of lifting equipment to adopt a more structured and proactive approach to lifting safety. Key implications include:

- Mandatory Planning and Supervision: Every lifting operation must be planned by a competent person and supervised to ensure safety.
- Regular Examinations and Inspections: Lifting equipment will need thorough examinations at prescribed intervals (every 6 or 12 months) and inspections between examinations, increasing the need for competent personnel and record-keeping.
- Clear Equipment Marking: Employers must ensure all lifting equipment and accessories are clearly marked with safe working loads and appropriate warnings.
- Enhanced Safety for Lifting Persons: Equipment used to lift people must meet strict design and operational standards, including fall prevention and emergency release measures.
- Record Retention and Compliance Evidence: Employers must maintain reports and declarations of conformity for inspection, creating an administrative responsibility.
- Alignment with UK Standards: Businesses operating across the Isle of Man and UK will benefit from consistent requirements, reducing confusion and improving compliance for offshore and onshore projects.

## Other legislation mentioned in the proposed legislation

- **Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (as applied to IoM)**
  - Mentioned in: Regulation 3 (Interpretation), Regulation 4 (Application)
  - Purpose: Provides enabling powers and defines scope for applying UK health and safety principles to the Isle of Man.
- **The IOM Health and Safety at Work Order 2024**
  - Mentioned in: Regulation 14 (Consequential amendment)
  - Purpose: Updates references and removes obsolete provisions to align with new regulations.

- **The IOM Factories and Workshops Amendment Act 1939**
  - Mentioned in: Regulation 13 (Repeals)
  - Purpose: Repealed because outdated hoist and lift provisions are replaced by modern requirements.
- **The IOM Offshore Installations (Operational Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations 1995**
  - Mentioned in: Regulation 15 (Revocations)
  - Purpose: Revoked as lifting appliance provisions are now covered by the new regulations.
- **The UK Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008**
  - Mentioned in: Regulation 3 (Interpretation – Declaration of Conformity)
  - Purpose: Sets standards for machinery safety and conformity declarations relevant to lifting equipment.
- **The UK Lifts Regulations 2016**
  - Mentioned in: Regulation 3 (Interpretation – Declaration of Conformity)
  - Purpose: Provides conformity requirements for lifts, ensuring safe lifting of persons.
- **Regulation (EU) 2016/425 on PPE (UK retained EU law)**
  - Mentioned in: Regulation 3 (Interpretation – Declaration of Conformity)
  - Purpose: Ensures lifting equipment meets PPE conformity standards where applicable.
- **The Merchant Shipping (Guarding of Machinery and Safety of Electrical Equipment) Regulations 1989 and Merchant Shipping (Hatches, Hold Access and Lifting Plant) Regulations 1989**
  - Mentioned in: Regulation 4 (Application – ships)
  - Purpose: Defines merchant shipping requirements for lifting plant and electrical safety when equipment is used on ships.
- **Visiting Forces Act 1952 (UK law applied to IoM)**
  - Mentioned in: Regulation 13 (Exemption for armed forces)
  - Purpose: Allows exemptions for home and visiting forces in the interests of national security.

## Consultation Objectives

The following are the objectives of this consultation:

1. **Legislative alignment:**  
Assess stakeholder support for aligning Manx health & safety legislation with UK standards, ensuring consistency and regulatory compatibility.
2. **Regulatory scope and clarity:**  
Identify specific areas within health & safety regulation that may require additional focus, clarification, or enhancement to meet industry needs and best practices.
3. **Industry impact and readiness:**  
Understand potential challenges for IOM-based businesses in adapting to the new framework, including operational, financial, or compliance-related concerns.
4. **Support mechanisms:**  
Identify the support needs of stakeholders (e.g., guidance, training, transitional arrangements) to facilitate effective implementation and compliance with the new regime.
5. **Feedback on draft legislation:**  
Collect stakeholder input on the draft legislative instruments for each stage of consultation.
6. **General feedback:**  
Provide an open channel for additional comments, concerns, or suggestions to inform the development of a robust and responsive health & safety framework.

## IOM Health & Safety at Work Inspectorate

When any new legislation is introduced the Department is conscious of the need to ensure that the best guidance documentation is available. The current [IOM HSWI website](#) states the following:

- *“UK legislation and their associated codes of practice is best viewed as an illustration of good practice which may be helpful in explaining the general duties imposed by the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974”.*

## Differences between UK HSE ACOPs and UK HSE Guidance

When referring to UK codes of practice, better known as “Approved Codes of Practice (ACOPs)” it is important to note and be aware of the differences between UK Health and Safety Executive (HSE) guidance and a UK HSE issued ACOP. UK HSE clarifies the differences here: [Legal status of HSE guidance and ACOPs](#).

When reading a UK HSE published ACOP, individuals and organisations should be aware of the presentation convention; which is normally explained within the documentation. A common standard is that ACOP text is set out in bold, accompanying guidance in normal type, with the text of the actual Regulations in italics.

It should also be noted that whilst certain UK Regulations have an associated ACOP, others only have guidance. As an example there is no longer an ACOP for the **UK Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (CDM) 2015**; it was replaced by guidance when the regulations were last updated.

## Using UK HSE Guidance Documents with IOM legislation

When referring to UK ACOPs and guidance to assist with compliance of IOM legislation, individuals and organisations must be aware that whilst the intent is to align with the UK best practice, there may still be specific elements of the IOM legislation that are different to UK legislation. Examples being different paragraph and section/article numbering or elements of the UK legislation being omitted (e.g. if UK is referring to legislation not currently in place or applicable on the IOM).

## Relevant UK ACOP or Guidance for COSHH

- [Safe Use of Lifting Equipment: Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 \(LOLER\)](#)
  - ACOP & Guidance - Provides practical steps to comply with LOLER and the UK **Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998** (PUWER 1998), clarifying roles of competent persons, equipment scope, examination requirements, and sector-specific examples.
- [HSE Overview – Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment \(LOLER\)](#)
  - Guidance web pages - Covers safe lifting by machine, planning operations, lifting persons, thorough examinations, passenger lifts, vacuum lifting, and magnetic devices.
- [Thorough Examinations and Inspections of Lifting Equipment](#)
  - Guidance web page - Explains requirements for pre-use checks, inspections, statutory thorough examinations, written reports, defect reporting, and the role of a ‘competent person’.
- [Safe Lifting by Machine](#)
  - Guidance web page - Offers advice on machine suitability, marking, safe limits, maintenance, and safe operational practices in compliance with LOLER and PUWER.

- [Lifting Equipment at Work \(INDG290, Rev 1, 2013\)](#)
  - HSE leaflet (guidance) - Description: Summarises legal requirements, planning, supervision, examination, and simple dos and don'ts for employers and self-employed users.

## Summary

The proposed IOM **Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 2026** are being introduced to replace outdated provisions and align Isle of Man law with modern UK standards under “LOLER”. They provide a clear, risk-based framework for the safe use of lifting equipment, ensuring proper planning, supervision, and regular examinations to prevent accidents and equipment failure. By adopting these regulations, the Island will improve workplace safety, reduce the risk of serious injuries, and create consistency with UK practices—benefiting employers, employees, and offshore operators through clearer duties and enhanced compliance.

## Why your views matter

This consultation gives stakeholders, industry, and the public the chance to provide feedback on the proposed “draft Regulations”. Your views will help ensure that the legislation is clear, practical, and effective in protecting workers’ health.

## Reasonable adjustments and alternative formats

The Department is committed to equal opportunities and our aim is to make our documents easy to use and accessible to all. The Department will take steps to accommodate any reasonable adjustments and provide such assistance as may reasonably be required to enable access or reply to this consultation. If this document is required in another format or assistance is required with accessing or replying to this consultation, please email [DEFAOffshore@gov.im](mailto:DEFAOffshore@gov.im).

## Responding to this consultation and questions

This consultation can be responded to by clicking on the 'Online Survey' link below. Alternatively you can download a paper version of this consultation from the links on the consultation hub and email it to [DEFAOffshore@gov.im](mailto:DEFAOffshore@gov.im) or post it to:

The Offshore Team  
Department of Environment Food and Agriculture,  
Regulation Directorate,  
Thie Slieau Whallian, Foxdale Road, St Johns, Isle of Man, IM4 3AS.

## About you

### 1. Which option best describes your interest in responding to this consultation?

- ☐ Member of public
- ☐ Isle of Man Government
- ☐ Business owner or Stakeholder
- ☐ Member of Tynwald
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Other:

### 2. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or industry?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Organisation / industry:

Number of people or organisations represented:

### 3. Are you happy for us to contact you regarding your response if we need to?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes then please add your name and contact email address.

Name:

Email:

### 4. May we publish your response?

Please read our Privacy Policy for more details and your rights.

More Information:

- **Publish in full** – your organisation name, or the industry you represent, along with full answers will be published on the hub (your email will not be published)
- **Publish anonymously** – only your responses will be published on the hub (your organisation name, or the industry you represent, and email will not be published)
- **Do not publish** – nothing will be published publically on the hub (your response will only be part of a larger summary response document)

(An answer is required)

- ☐ Yes, you can publish my response in full
- ☐ Yes, you may publish my response anonymously
- ☐ No, please do not publish my response



## 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 – Please tell us why you agree or disagree).*
2. Are there any parts of the legislation being consulted upon that require more clarity to aid understanding and assist with compliance?  
*(Yes/No – If yes, please tell us which areas and why).*
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?  
*(Yes/No – Please add any comments you may have).*
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 – If yes, please tell us what kind of support would be most helpful).*
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?  
*(Comment Box)*
6. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the proposed changes or the consultation process?  
*(Comment Box)*