

Health and Safety Legislation Consultation

Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2026

Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture

Rheynn Chymmyltaght, Bee as Eirinys,



Closes 31 Mar 2026

Opened 15 Dec 2025

Contact

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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:

- **Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2026**

Recognising the potential impact on IOM businesses, DEFA will implement a phased approach designed to give businesses sufficient time to prepare for compliance. Following public consultation and incorporation of any necessary amendments, the Department aims to submit the proposed legislation to Tynwald in early 2026, with a target commencement date of 1 Aug 2028.

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 31st March 2026.

What these Regulations do

The Isle of Man currently relies on the **Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974** (as applied to the Island) and the outdated IOM **Boiler Act 1934** for pressure system safety, leaving gaps in modern requirements for design, inspection, and maintenance.

The proposed IOM **Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2026** will repeal the Boiler Act and introduce a comprehensive framework aligned with UK standards, covering design, construction, installation, safe operating limits, written examination schemes and record-keeping. They aim to secure the safety of pressure systems and vessels used at work and set out duties for designers, manufacturers, suppliers, users, and owners to prevent danger from system failure.

The draft mirrors UK provisions covered in the UK **Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000**, which is the main UK framework for pressure systems.

Practical Implications of the Proposed legislation

The proposed IOM **Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2026** aim to secure the safety of pressure systems and vessels used at work. They set out duties for designers, manufacturers, suppliers, users, and owners to prevent danger from system failure. Key provisions include:

- Design & Construction: Systems must be properly designed, constructed from suitable materials, and fitted with protective devices (Reg. 6).
- Information and Marking: Manufacturers and suppliers must provide written information and mark vessels with essential details (Reg. 7 & Schedule 3).
- Installation and Operation: Systems must be installed safely and operated within established safe limits (Regs. 8–9).
- Written Scheme of Examination: Users/owners must maintain a scheme for periodic inspection by a competent person (Reg. 10).
- Examination & Reporting: Mandatory inspections and reporting requirements (Reg. 11).
- Action in Imminent Danger: Immediate reporting and shutdown if danger is identified (Reg. 12).
- Maintenance & Modification: Systems must be maintained and repaired safely (Regs. 14–15).
- Record Keeping: Reports and instructions must be retained (Reg. 16).
- Precautions for Certain Vessels: Prevent accidental pressurisation (Reg. 17).
- Miscellaneous: Defence provisions, power to grant exemptions, and repeal of the Boiler Act 1934 (Regs. 18–20).

Exclusions: Schedule 1 lists systems not covered (e.g., ship equipment, vehicle braking systems, tyres, certain refrigeration systems).

Other legislation mentioned in the Legislation

Legislation	Jurisdiction	Where in Draft	Reason for Inclusion
Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974	UK (applied to IoM)	Regulation 1, 5	Provides enabling powers; core health & safety framework
Health and Safety at Work Act 1977	IOM	Regulation 1	Allows the 1974 Act to be applied to the Isle of Man via Regulations
Boiler Act 1934	IOM	Regulation 20	Repealed by these Regulations
Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2007 (CDG 2007)	UK	Regulation 3 & 4	Defines transportable pressure equipment and links to ADR
ADR (European Agreement on International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road)	International	Regulation 3 & 4	Sets standards for transportable pressure equipment
Pressure Equipment (Safety) Regulations 2016	UK	Regulation 16 & Schedule 1 Part 2	Provides technical standards for pressure equipment
Medical Devices Regulations 2002	UK	Schedule 1 Part 2	Excludes medical pressure systems regulated under medical device law
Work in Compressed Air Regulations 1996	UK	Schedule 1 Part 1	Excludes compressed air chambers already covered by specialist rules
Diving at Work Regulations (IoM draft)	IOM	Schedule 1 Part 1	Excludes diving equipment regulated under separate IoM diving safety rules
Road Traffic Act 1985	IOM	Schedule 1 Part 1	Excludes gas propulsion/heating systems fitted to vehicles
International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code	International	Schedule 1 Part 1	Ensures compliance for goods in maritime transport

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

Approved Code of Practice (ACOP)

- **ACOP: [Safety of pressure systems – Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 \(L122\)](#)**
 - Published by HSE in 2014, L122 combines both an Approved Code of Practice and accompanying guidance for dutyholders under the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000. It offers technical clarity on legal requirements, including definitions of pressure systems, safe design, installation, operation, and written examination schemes.

HSE Guidance Documents

- **[INDG261: Pressure systems at work – A brief guide to safety](#)**
 - A guidance leaflet (revised 2012) providing practical advice to employers and users on risk reduction measures—safe workplace practices, systems of examination, maintenance, and operator competence.
- **[INDG178 \(rev 2\): Written schemes of examination: Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000](#)**

- A guidance leaflet offering a straightforward explanation of how to develop and maintain a written scheme of examination (WSE) for pressure systems.

Summary

The proposed IOM **Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2026** are being introduced to replace the outdated IOM **Boiler Act 1934** and address gaps in current IOM legislation. They provide a modern, comprehensive framework for the safe design, installation, operation, and maintenance of pressure systems, ensuring clear responsibilities for all parties and mandatory inspection schemes to prevent accidents. By aligning with UK standards and international transport codes, these regulations improve workplace safety, support compliance, and give businesses confidence that they are meeting best practice requirements. Overall, they modernise Manx law, reduce risk, and protect both workers and the public.

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.

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 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 **Pressure Systems Safety 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 **Pressure Systems Safety 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)