

3. Maritime Usage Licence – Determination Case Worker Report	
To	Dr. Karen Creed, Director of Maritime Authorisations
From	Joanne Staunton, Licensing Caseworker
Reviewed by	Jacinta Ponzi, Head of MUL Unit
Date	30/06/2025
Maritime Usage Licence Application:	
Applicant Name	MaresConnect Ltd
Applicant Address	The Victorians, 15-18 Earlsfort Terrace Dublin 2, D02 YX28
Application Received	28/06/2024
MUL Reference Number	MUL240008
Decision sought	<p>Approval sought for issuance of a maritime usage licence to this Applicant.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Following consideration of supplementary material submitted by the applicant in accordance with Section 119(6)(b) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 as amended, or</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO supplementary material submitted</p>
<i>Minded to Determine Notice Issued</i>	25/06/2025
Period Specified to Applicant in <i>Minded to Determine Notice</i>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 21 days</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p>
Supplementary Information Submitted	
Supplementary material received from applicant (if applicable)	<p>Date received: 27/06/2025</p> <p>MaresConnect Ltd submitted the following response on 27/06/2025 further to the Minded To Determine Notice issued on 25/06/2025 in respect of MUL240008.</p> <p>The supplementary material was submitted in the form of tracked annotations on the proposed licence rather than providing supplementary material relating to the reasons for the conditions.</p>
Supplementary material forwarded to ARD	30/06/2025

Details of Supplementary Information and Recommendation from Assessment, Research & Data (ARD) Team:	
<p>Specific Condition 25: The Holder shall not damage or interfere with any third party's property, infrastructure or fishing gear while carrying out the Permitted Maritime Usage.</p> <p>Reason: To minimise impact on other users of the marine environment.</p>	<p>Applicant's response: The Applicant notes that it has separate obligations under law not to damage the property of third parties and it will endeavour to avoid doing so at all costs. The Applicant considers that it does not seem fair or appropriate that such damage, even accidental damage, could result in a breach of a condition of the MUL.</p> <p>MARA Response: MARA notes that the operation of the specific conditions is set out in Section 6.2 of the proposed licence, and that this places obligations on the Applicant to notify MARA and to take reasonable and timely steps to rectify the non-compliance. Where such non-compliance arises from damage to third party property, MARA considers that the obligations are reasonable and necessary.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to condition 25</p>
<p>Specific Condition 34: At least two weeks prior to the commencement, and for the duration, of the Permitted Maritime Usage the Holder shall engage a Fisheries Liaison Officer to consult with and fully inform relevant fishers in order that interactions with ongoing fishing activities in the area are minimised during the course of the Permitted Maritime Usage.</p> <p>Reason: To minimise impact on other users of the marine environment</p>	<p>Applicant's response: The Applicant has proposed rewording the condition to the following:</p> <p><i>At least two weeks prior to the commencement, and for the duration, of the Permitted Maritime Usage the Holder shall engage a Fisheries Liaison Officer to consult with relevant fishers and/or fisher's representative in order that interactions with ongoing fishing activities in the area are minimised during the course of the Permitted Maritime Usage.</i></p> <p>MARA Response: No specific reason for the proposed wording change is given by the Applicant. MARA consider that a Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO) is an appropriate mechanism to fully inform relevant fishers in order to minimise interactions with fishing activities.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to condition 34</p>

Change(s) made by Case Worker following supplementary information (in addition to ARD recommendation):	
Condition 1 Definitions	<p>Applicant Comments: (d) <i>“Dumping” as defined within the meaning of the Dumping at Sea Act, 1996</i> Comment: <i>We have deleted this term as it is not used in the licence.</i></p> <p>Caseworker Response & Recommendation: This is a specific defined term, and its inclusion has no negative impact on the licence interpretation. No change recommended.</p> <p>Applicant Comments: (e) <i>“Pre-commencement Conditions” means any Condition which requires the Grantor Holder to carry out an obligation under that Condition before commencing the Permitted Maritime Usage</i> Comment: <i>Applicant has reworded the term to replace the word Grantor with Holder.</i></p> <p>Caseworker Response & Recommendation: Rewording of this definition is recommended.</p> <p>Applicant Comments: (f) <i>“Solid Waste” means any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material or items discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment, as defined in the OSPAR Guidelines for the Management of Dredged Material at Sea</i> Comment: <i>We have deleted this term as it is not used in the licence.</i></p> <p>Caseworker Response & Recommendation: This is a specific defined term, and its inclusion has no negative impact on the licence interpretation. No change recommended.</p>

	<p>Applicant Comments: <i>6.2. If the Holder becomes aware that the Permitted Maritime Usage authorised by this Licence does not comply with the Specific Conditions the Holder shall immediately at the earliest possible opportunity :</i> Comment: <i>We request that “immediately is changed to the “earliest possible opportunity” to reflect that immediate action can be difficult and/or unsafe offshore</i></p> <p>Caseworker Response & Recommendation: This is standard phrasing. No change recommended.</p> <p>Applicant Comments: Condition 18 Automatic Termination <i>Without prejudice to any other remedies available pursuant to this Licence and at law, this Licence shall terminate immediately upon the occurrence of any of the events provided for in section 144(1) of the Act.</i> Comment: <i>Please note that this sentence is incomplete. Based on other licences, we have added wording which we believe to be correct</i></p> <p>Caseworker Response & Recommendation: Insertion of wording omitted in Condition 18 is recommended.</p>
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Determination of Licence Application:	
Caseworker Recommendation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GRANT <input type="checkbox"/> PART GRANT <input type="checkbox"/> REFUSE

Signed by (Caseworker)

Joanne Staunton

Date

30/06/2025

Annex 1 – List of Accompanying Documents:		
Tab 01	Supplementary Information, if applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tab 02	ARD Recommendation, if applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tab 03	FINAL Licence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>