

06/03/2026

Non-Statutory Consultation

Maritime Usage Licence Application - Reference MUL260002

University College Cork has submitted an application to the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) for a Maritime Usage Licence under Section 117 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (the MAP Act) to undertake Marine Environmental Surveys to investigate the effect of an electromagnetic field from a buried high voltage cable on a sensitive elasmobranch (sharks, skates & rays) species; the lesser spotted catshark *Scyliorhinus canicula*. Details of this Maritime Usage Licence application and associated documentation are available on the MARA website at [MUL260002 - MARA - Maritime Area Regulatory Authority](#)

Non-Statutory Consultation: The MAP Act does not provide a legislative basis for statutory consultation by MARA with public bodies upon receipt of maritime usage licence applications under Part 5 of the Act. However, to support the collaborative management of maritime usages, MARA invites your observations on the above referenced maritime usage licence application. It should be noted that, as this is not a statutory request, there is no obligation to furnish observations to MARA.

In the event that observations are submitted, MARA cannot guarantee that such observations will be taken into consideration and/or implemented with regard to the proposed maritime usage the subject of the application.

Submission of Observations to MARA

Where the public body intends to make observations to MARA regarding the above referenced maritime usage licence application, please note:

1. Observations must be submitted in writing to licence@mara.gov.ie
2. Observations must be submitted directly to MARA at the above email address and should not be directed through a parent Department or Organisation.
3. Observations must be submitted **as soon as possible** and no later than **08/04/2026** (30 days from the date of issue of this letter, includes Bank holidays). Observations received by MARA after this deadline may not be considered.
4. All public body observations received by MARA will be published on the MARA website.

Where the public body does not intend to make observations to MARA regarding the above referenced maritime usage licence application, no response is required to this notice.

Regards,

Joanne Staunton

Maritime Usage Licensing Team, MARA