



# 'Making a Mark'

## Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

### The National Lobster Hatchery

The National Lobster Hatchery is a pioneering marine conservation, research and education charity. Our primary aim is to help conserve the vulnerable lobster populations and preserve coastal marine biodiversity. In doing so we will be safeguarding the livelihoods of small coastal communities and preserve our rich coastal heritage.

We are best known for our lobster stock enhancement programme where we grow on baby lobsters from egg through their most vulnerable stage of their life cycle and release them back into the wild around Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, with the help of local fishermen and dive groups.



The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to provide 'social impact statements', which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives.

Below are examples of how **The National Lobster Hatchery** is Making a Mark, striving to make a difference to the environment:

### Social inputs – conservation, education & research

We have three key activities, supported by income raised through our visitor centre, partnerships and through grants:

- **Conservation:** We operate a stocking programme for the European Lobster within our inshore waters

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- **Research:** We conduct pioneering research that aims to assess the impact of our stocking programme and further develop stocking and culture techniques
- **Education:** Our education programme seeks to raise awareness about fisheries sustainability issues and their potential solutions

## Social outputs – key statistics

In 2014/15:

- **Conservation** - We released over **54,000** juvenile lobsters around the coastline of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly
- **Education** – We attracted over **44,000** visitors to our visitor centre, 85% of customers rated the value for money as excellent/good
- **Research** – We published 6 papers and presented research through a range of forums both nationally and internationally

## Social outcomes of activities

European Lobster is worth a huge amount in terms of both its economic and social importance. This one species alone is worth **£30m each year** without it, the small coastal communities would have very little, other than tourism, to create jobs and keep the harbour alive.

A female lobster can carry in the region of 20,000 eggs, however only one of these is expected to survive in the wild. With skilful and careful application of modern technology, we can improve this survival rate by about 1,000 times!

As a result of our work, the UK's lobster fishery will be able to benefit from improved long term sustainability.



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