



Maritime Parliamentary Bulletin

W/C 22 November 2021

The purpose of this bulletin is to update MPs and Peers on the latest developments in the UK maritime sector, and to provide a forward look to opportunities within parliamentary business for positive advocacy.

Export Strategy

On Wednesday 17 November, the Department for International Trade published their new Export Strategy entitled “Made in the UK, Sold to the World”, which builds on the previous 2018 Export Strategy. This refreshed strategy aims to help UK business to grow through exporting.

The document sets out plans for partnership between government and business, highlighting three main objectives, these are:

- Race to a Trillion - UK Exports are due to hit £1 trillion by mid-2030s, but this can be achieved faster through industry-government partnerships.
- UK Exporting is to be used as a force for levelling up all regions of the UK.
- The government will lend its weight to providing advice, expertise, and marketing, while business focuses on what they do best, selling its world class products and services.

This strategy plans to increase the exporting capability of critical sectors, such as tech and clean economy to support the government’s Innovation Strategy, Net Zero Strategy and Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution.

Maritime

In the foreword by Rt Hon. Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, the Secretary of State for International Trade, shipbuilding is explicitly mentioned as being a key driver in the UK becoming a “science and technology superpower and in the Net Zero transformation”.

Maritime and Shipbuilding are mentioned again in the document, with the strategy committing to:

- “Promote important technologies to improve the environmental performance of the global maritime fleet.”
- While also committing “to generate an innovative and internationally competitive UK maritime offer, leveraging major UK strengths such as defence and low carbon technologies.”
- Furthermore, “The National Shipbuilding Office and future DIT export and investment initiatives will galvanise and promote the UK’s shipbuilding enterprise.”

The “Made in the UK, Sold to the World” strategy comprises a 12-point plan which sets out the path that government will take to transform the UK’s offer and Build Back Better. Among other initiatives the plan includes a range of new support measures, including the new Export Support Service (ESS) and the UK Export Academy.

The “UK Export Academy will offer SMEs the chance to learn how to navigate the technicalities of exporting and how to find new opportunities in overseas markets.”

In the foreword Rt Hon. Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP announced that the Department for International Trade will “lend its weight to providing the advice, the expertise and the marketing. [While] business will do what it does best – selling its world-class products and services.”

The document sets out an ambition that the Department for International Trade (DIT) will “support exporters all throughout the UK” and will work closer with local communities to ensure they have the support needed to grow their business through exporting. Maritime UK welcomes the commitment to regional growth as one of its key priority areas.

The strategy has the potential to deliver against Maritime UK's priorities in this space (published ahead of the March 2021 Budget):

- To build upon the five-year plan for maritime exports and investment with a set of key campaign market plans, utilising industry expertise to support post. Each plan should set export win targets, establish effective sector communications, and provide for industrial support being deployed in-country.
- To work with industry to develop an SME Maritime Trade Fund or similar with KPIs to get more SMEs exporting, to market and securing export wins. We offer help to attract
- Set out a full-service industry-government marketing plan, to help support companies re-engaging in key markets. We will provide capacity to enable the swift development of GREAT collateral and its deployment through both government and industry channels.

Announced in the strategy is the launch of the “£37.8 million European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Internationalisation Fund, which provides 7,500 SMEs in England with financial assistance to build their capability to internationalise. Although this is not explicitly for Maritime, “this fund will support SME’s who can receive matched grant funding of up to £9,000 to support a range of export related business activities and overcome barriers to trade.”

In addition, the soon-to-be-launched Maritime Capability Campaign Office is expected to deliver increased support for maritime businesses through enhanced marketing, additional capacity in key international markets to provide opportunities for UK businesses and a compelling presence at the sector’s key international trade shows.

Net Zero Maritime Showcase

Maritime UK's #NetZeroMaritime Showcase promotes projects that are having a positive impact on the decarbonisation of the maritime sector. The showcase highlighting specific projects in relation to delivery of the government's ten-point plan for a green industrial revolution.

Transition to Hydrogen Powered Ocean-Going and Short-Sea Shipping with Enabling Retrofit Technologies. The TransShip project is evaluating the engineering and economic feasibility of a full repowering modification of an existing diesel-powered research vessel to enable it to run on pure hydrogen, a naturally carbon-free fuel which can be produced using renewable energy. This project represents an excellent starting point for demonstration of the technologies in a smaller, more technically challenging package, leading the way for future retrofits to be applied at higher economies of scale to the larger global marine cargo fleet. The project was selected as part of the UK's Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition. - [Read more](#)

Network and load growth modelling at Port of Tyne. As one of the UK's most innovative and efficient deep-sea ports, Port of Tyne has developed a decarbonisation roadmap, with an ambition to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2030 and to electrify the entire port by 2040. The modelling supports the use of Port of Tyne's fully electric mobile harbour crane, the first of its kind in the UK. The port's conversion of other legacy diesel-powered assets to electric has already eliminated 700 tonnes of CO2 emissions.— [Read more](#)

Opportunity Cromarty Firth (OCF), a collaborative partnership of private, public sector and academic bodies committed to ensuring the Cromarty Firth becomes a strategic renewable energy hub. Achieving this ambition would ensure that opportunities are maximised from a sustainable pipeline of multi-billion-pound offshore wind developments taking place in the North Sea. This would stimulate economic activity, attract inward investment, and generate significant supply chain and job opportunities, while supporting Scotland's target to become net-zero by 2045. One of OCF's first moves was launching The Power House, a centre of excellence in applied R&D

within the fields of floating offshore wind and green hydrogen. The centre will also act as a specialist educational hub to provide training for school children, students and workers interested in renewable energy. – [Read more](#)

Upcoming Parliamentary opportunities to promote maritime

Suggested questions, statements and briefing material can be provided on request.

House of Commons

We would be delighted if MPs would be willing to use any opportunities at PMQs and Business of the House Questions to promote the UK maritime industry (these questions are drafted to be suitable as either oral or written parliamentary questions):

- **PMQs – Wednesdays:** We would be delighted if MPs would be willing to raise maritime at PMQs if they are selected in the ballot, and are happy to support in drafting a question
- **29 Nov – Levelling Up, Housing and Communities:** To ask the Secretary of Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities what steps he is taking to support coastal communities.
- **02 Dec – International Trade:** To ask the Secretary of State for International Trade what support she is providing to UK businesses that are looking to increase maritime led exports.
- **06 Dec – Education:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education what support he is giving to students who wish to pursue a career in the maritime industry.
- **09 Dec – DEFRA:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs what discussions his department has held regarding the role decarbonising the maritime sector can play in improving air quality.
- **15 Dec – Scotland:** To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, what actions his department is taking to support the Scottish maritime industry to decarbonise.

- **16 Dec –Transport:** To ask the Secretary of State for Transport what support his department is providing to the maritime sector.

House of Lords

We would be delighted if parliamentarians would be willing to table requests for parliamentary debates on the UK maritime industry, and we can support them with suggestions for these.

Written Questions

We are also happy to support parliamentarians with ideas and production of additional written questions.

Events for Parliamentarians

- **Maritime UK Christmas Party:** Every year the Maritime UK Christmas Party is held to celebrate the achievements of the sector throughout the year. This year's party is being held at Norton Rose Fulbright on Thursday 16 December. If MPs would like to attend, please get in touch.

UK Maritime News

- Lord Mayor of the City of London visits Baltic Exchange - [Baltic Exchange](#)
- MDL and Maritime UK SW join forces for Green Tech Boat Show - [Maritime UK South West](#)
- Nautilus honours Merchant Navy seafarer sacrifices in global conflicts - [Nautilus International](#)
- Maritime cadets to receive further COVID-19 funding as SMarT scheme extended - [UK Chamber of Shipping](#)
- British Marine members take overall and category wins in the 30th anniversary DAME Awards held at METSTRADE 2021 – [British Marine](#)

Updates from Maritime UK

- [Blog: Clean propulsion challenge for marine vessels between 500 and 7,500 HP](#)
- [Blog: Supporting industry clusters across the UK](#)
- [Blog: Strengthening the link between academia and industry](#)
- [Interview: Maritime decarbonisation - now is the time to lead the field, says CMB](#)



New Maritime Careers website launched: www.maritimecareers.uk

The Maritime Sector - key messages

- Maritime contributes **£46.1bn to the UK economy and supports 1 million jobs** (more than air and rail combined).
- Maritime is **responsible for keeping the country supplied** (resilience): 95 percent of British imports and exports in goods are moved by sea, including 25 percent of the UK's energy supply and 48 percent of food supplies. Investment is essential for maintaining these resilient supply chains that every constituent relies upon.
- Ports **invest over £600m of private capital each year**, benefiting coastal economies through job creation and infrastructure investment.
- Maritime workers are **43% more productive** than UK average.
- Maritime is a source of **well-paid highly skilled roles**, which pay an average of £38,000 per year - £9,000 more than the national average.
- Globally, **the maritime sector will double to \$3trn by 2030**.
- Maritime makes a significant contribution to **all nations and regions of the United Kingdom**.

Maritime UK's 2021 Priorities

Over the coming year, Maritime UK intends to focus on the following priorities, both by engaging with the UK maritime industry, and by working constructively with the Government and other political stakeholders:

- **Supporting maritime businesses and the UK maritime industry through Brexit changes**, as well as maximising the opportunities that arise from the UK once again becoming an independent trading nation.
- **Boosting the export and international trade potential of UK maritime** and improving the competitiveness of the UK's business environment to attract maritime businesses.
- **Delivering regional growth** through Maritime UK's Regional Cluster Development Plans in a way that aligns with the Government's wider levelling-up agenda.
- **Demonstrating the benefits (both environmental and economic) of maritime decarbonisation** ahead of the COP26 UN Climate Conference taking place in the UK this year, with a particular focus on **innovation** – Maritime UK will be working with the Government to ensure that funding allocated for maritime decarbonisation is effectively utilised.
- **Supporting and growing the workforce** by continuing to develop our Diversity in Maritime Programme, our Careers and Outreach Programme, and our Maritime Skills Commission.

Please email barney.scholes@beyond2050.co.uk for further information.

You can follow our Maritime UK Twitter account [here](#), and our website is [here](#).