

Maritime Parliamentary Bulletin

W/C 14 February 2022

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.

Latest

UK government launches consultation on 'Shore Power'

Call for evidence launches as the government aims to accelerate maritime decarbonisation by switching to emissions-cutting shore power at UK ports. Last week the Maritime Minister, Robert Courts MP, launched a consultation on options to support the rollout of emissions-cutting shore power at UK ports.

Both industry and government believe that shore power will be vital to decarbonising the maritime sector and improving air quality for local communities around ports.

Currently, berthed vessels must run their onboard diesel engines to power lighting, galleys, air-conditioning and other amenities. With shore power, vessels can turn off their engines and plug into onshore power sources when berthed, reducing carbon emissions, noise, and air pollution.

Industry view: Maritime UK welcomes the consultation but believes that the issue of public co-investment for shore power cannot be off the table (not within the scope of the consultation). Maritime UK's decarbonisation snapshot, setting out the investment by comparative maritime nations on infrastructure (as well as propulsion) is attached.

Ground-breaking deal to establish two new Green Freeports in Scotland

A landmark deal has been agreed between the UK and Scottish governments to collaborate and deliver 2 Green Freeports in Scotland. The new hubs will support the regeneration of communities across Scotland, will bring jobs and prosperity, and support UK government work to level-up all 4 corners of the United Kingdom.

The Green Freeports will have net-zero targets at the heart as prospective bidders will have to make a pledge to reach Net Zero by 2045.

The bidding process will open in spring, closing in summer, after which the bids will be assessed, and successful locations announced. It's hoped that the new sites will be operational by spring 2023.

Industry view: Maritime UK welcomes the agreement between both governments. More broadly, the industry is keen to see the business environment provisions within the freeport package made available to ports across the whole of the UK. This sits at the heart of Maritime UK's [Coastal Powerhouse Manifesto](#), launched with the LGA, and forms the basis of the [sector's response](#) to the Levelling-Up White Paper.

Shortlist for 2022 Maritime UK Awards announces

On Monday Maritime UK announced the 32 finalists for the third annual Maritime UK Awards. The winners, across 14 different categories, will be announced at a glittering awards ceremony hosted by award-winning broadcaster, Jennifer Reoch, at the Glasgow Science Centre on 10 March.

The awards, which will be given to individuals as well as businesses, charities, colleges and universities, focus on a wide range of areas including business growth, innovation, sustainability and diversity. They recognise the very best of the UK's maritime sector, organised by industry, for the benefit of the industry. For the second time, the Department for Transport's Clean Maritime Awards are to be awarded as part of the ceremony.

Maritime UK is also announcing that the UK's Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade, Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, will be joining the ceremony in Glasgow next month. The Seafarers' Charity has been chosen as the Charity Partner for the 2022 awards.

[See the finalists](#)

Maritime UK publishes Careers and Outreach Programme Impact Report

Maritime UK has launched its Careers and Outreach Programme impact report [for the period 2020-21](#). The report sets out progress in delivering careers and outreach activity since Maritime UK received funding from the Department for Transport as part of the 'Maritime 2050' delivery programme.

The report shows success across several key areas, including:

- Engagement with 49,000 people across the strategy's target audience
- A new cross-sector industry ambassador programme that has delivered maritime careers information directly to over 23,000 school children
- A new UK-wide careers professionals' network with 404 members accessing resources, attending Continuing Professional Development (CPD) sessions, and now reflecting maritime within their career programmes and in guidance work
- A new public-facing website with new resources and videos showcasing the careers on offer across the maritime sector
- The programme is now recognised by local authorities and educators as a quality provider of information and support to those seeking to reflect the maritime sector within their activity

If Parliamentarians would like a briefing on the programme or discuss how Maritime UK can support activity in their constituencies, please do get in touch.

[Read more](#)

Second "Build Back Better" webinar on people shines a light on the progress made by the maritime sector

Last month, Maritime UK hosted the second webinar in the Build Back Better series, designed to look at the progress made on the [priorities set out in the Maritime 2050 report](#). The session focused on people, and how the sector can invest in those working in the industry, through upskilling and creating a culture that encourages personal development, diversity, and a safe working environment.

In its 2050 strategy, Maritime UK was clear to outline the importance of people in the maritime sector, offering recommendations to drive future ambitions forward, collaborate across the wider sector, and encourage a greater diversity of people to promote opportunities and inclusivity. The strategy was bolstered in October when Chancellor Rishi Sunak committed to the sector, vowing to use local skills to grow maritime capabilities in the UK. The move should see the UK invest in

19,000 jobs across Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, including major investments in Scottish shipyards.

[Read more](#)

UK Maritime News

- Registrations open for first UK Pride in Maritime Day - [Nautilus International](#)
- Solent Local Enterprise Partnership Welcomes Government Levelling-Up White Paper - [Solent LEP](#)
- Plymouth people from disadvantaged areas can connect with marine life for free – [Plymouth Herald](#)
- UK provides additional funding to boost port development in Montserrat - [HMG](#)
- Wight Shipyard Co announces merger with multinational shipbuilder securing island jobs – [Island Echo](#)
- UK and Scottish government agree deal on freeports in Scotland – [The Guardian](#)
- Associated British Ports launches apprenticeship programme – [Eastern Daily Press](#)
- We must build a new cruise terminal - [Mersey Maritime](#)

Events for Parliamentarians

- **How can the maritime industries help "level up" coastal towns and cities? [22 February]**
Maritime UK invites you to join its third webinar in the "Build Back Better" series, focused on Regional Growth. The discussion will focus on how the maritime industries can play a key role in growing investment, jobs and prosperity in coastal communities. Maritime UK has welcomed the government's mission to "level up", as set out within its white paper, but argues that government should put levelling-up coastal areas at the heart of its plans.
 - **Maritime UK Awards (Complimentary tickets for Parliamentarians) [10 March]**
Parliamentarians can access a free ticket using the code "HMSAlbion" [here](#).
 - **Maritime UK Week [10-16 October]**
Maritime UK has announced that its week-long national programme of events and activity to raise the profile of the sector and engage young people in the world of maritime will be held between 10 and 16 October 2022. More information soon.
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#NetZeroMaritime Showcase

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

Clean Tyne: The Northeast is home to a unique and comprehensive asset base that innovates, demonstrates, and delivers solutions to global energy challenges. The maritime and ports sector, crucially, lies at the heart of this vibrant regional ecosystem. Together with Siemens, Newcastle University, the North East LEP and the Connected Places Catapult, the Port of Tyne will lead an innovative project to support the transition to net zero for the maritime sector, delivering the digital foundations to an optimised, multi-vector approach to available renewable energy sources in the region. [Read more](#)

HyTime – Hydrogen Fuel Cells for Maritime Applications: E P Barrus has joined with Bramble Energy to form a strong, UK consortium to develop fuel cells for mass maritime decarbonisation. Barrus, the UK's leading leisure and light commercial marine engine supplier, will deliver the vital technical, commercial and legislative requirements of the marine market, plus provide the direct route to market exploitation. Bramble is a UK fuel cell manufacturer with highly innovative fuel cell technology based on printed circuit board (PCB) technology to achieve high-performance, low-cost and highly scalable fuel cell hardware. Bramble's disruptive fuel cell technology is capable of rapid ramp to gigawatt volumes, using existing UK manufacturing and supply chain. The project has secured funding from the DfT's CMDC for a design and planning study of the project and plans to build and test a commercialised, fully integrated system in a vessel. [Read more](#)

Reef Enhancement of Fisheries at Aquaculture Sites (REFAS): The REFAS project focused on deploying patented Reef Cubes® to protect and enhance local biodiversity at a key aquaculture site, facilitating enhancement in species numbers and proving the viability of artificial reefs for sustainable marine farming. They provide greater ecological opportunities using nature-inclusive designs, which facilitate ecosystem creation for numerous marine species. Initial results proved greater habitat complexity, a more diverse range of species and increase in species capacity due to the shelter from predation provided. [Read more](#)

The UK's #CoastalPowerhouse

Maritime UK, together with its partners, is responsible for the development and roll-out of an ambitious [Regional Cluster Development Programme](#), an initiative embedded in the priorities set out in 'Maritime 2050: Navigating the Future.' A new series of 'snapshot' videos, highlighting sector activity in coastal nations and regions has been produced. In this week's Bulletin, we focus on the **Northern Ireland:**



[Watch the video here](#)

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
- **22 Feb** – BEIS: To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy what support he will give to ports who are looking to invest in Shore-Power.
- **23 Feb** – Women and Equalities: To ask the Secretary of State for Women and Equalities what support she will give to women working in the maritime sector?
- **03 March** – International Trade: To ask the Secretary of State for International Trade what support her department is providing to the maritime industry to increase exports of UK maritime products and services.
- **07 March** – Levelling Up, Housing and Communities: To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up Housing and Communities what plans his Department has to support regional maritime clusters like Maritime UK Solent across the rest of the UK.
- **10 March** – Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: To ask the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what discussions his department has had about the role decarbonising the maritime sector can play in reaching Net Zero by 2050.
- **15 March** – Treasury: To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what discussions the Treasury has held with other departments about investing in the maritime industry to support decarbonisation.
- **17 March** – Transport: To ask the Secretary of State for Transport what discussions his Department has had regarding the role decarbonising the maritime sector can play in reaching Net Zero by 2050.
- **29 March** – BEIS: To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy what support he will give to ports who are looking to invest in Shore-Power.
- **21 April** – International Trade: To ask the Secretary of State for International Trade, what support is her department providing to maritime SMEs to enable their recovery and resumption of international business development.

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 the production of additional written questions.

Consultations and Inquiries:

Parliamentary

- International Trade Committee – Trade and the environment (28 February)

Government

- DEFRA – River basin planning: draft river basin management plans (22 April)
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Recently in Parliament

Questions were submitted on:

- [Regional Planning and Development: Shipping](#)
- [Shipping: Skilled Workers](#)
- [PPE equipment in ports](#)
- [Lifeboats](#)
- [Merchant Shipping: Pensions](#)
- [Passenger Ships: Coronavirus](#)
- [Tourism: Coastal Areas](#)
- [Shipping: Decarbonisation](#)

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**: 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.
- **2021 has been a year of significant activity for the maritime sector**, on Freeports, developing the National Shipbuilding Strategy Refresh, securing extension to the Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition, a successful London International Shipping Week, major contribution at COP26 and at October's Budget and Spending Review, where the Chancellor announced reforms to Tonnage Tax.
- As one of the primary sectors within the government's **ten-point plan for a green industrial revolution**, the UK maritime sector has an ambition to lead the world in developing, deploying, and exporting green maritime technologies.
- 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**.
- In **Maritime 2050**, the UK has a strategy to become the world's most competitive maritime centre by the middle of the century.

- Maritime makes a significant contribution to **all nations and regions of the United Kingdom**.

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

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