



MARITIME  
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# MARITIME PARLIAMMENTARY BULLETIN

## W/C 22 March 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.*

### Recent developments and events

- **Launch of £20m Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition:** On Monday 22 March, Government launched its £20 million Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition intended to help green maritime ideas a reality. The fund will be used to support the development of prototype vessels and port infrastructure that could then be rolled out more widely, propelling the sector towards net zero as the UK prepares to host the COP26 climate change summit in November. The Government is encouraging scientists and academics to collaborate with UK shipping, ports and shipbuilders to enter ambitious proposals into the competition, driving economic growth, revitalising coastal communities, creating thousands of jobs and positioning the UK as a leader in the international field. Decarbonising the maritime sector is essential to meeting the UK's net zero targets. [Read more here.](#)
  - **The Integrated Review - Britain as a trading maritime nation:** Tuesday 16 March saw the publication of the Government's Integrated Review of security, defence, development and foreign policy. The document makes significant reference to priorities shared with the UK maritime sector, including securing Britain's place as a science superpower and hub of innovation and research, levelling up across the country and ensuring global competitiveness and resilience. The document makes significance reference to maritime and naval aspects of government policy, including shipbuilding and the development of a new class of frigates for the Royal Navy. Prime Minister Boris Johnson also made specific reference to the deployment of HMS Queen Elizabeth to the Indo-Pacific in his statement in
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Parliament, highlighting “(...) the importance that we attach to the freedom of the seas.”

[Read more here.](#)

- **Call for parity of Freeports process:** The British Ports Association has called for a four-nation approach to ensure ports in the devolved administrations are not disadvantaged by a significant delay behind the English Freeports. The call comes following a letter sent to industry stakeholders that has raised concern over the delay in development of Scottish Freeports, and uncertainty over the progress of this process. Principles of fairness and inclusivity are critical to the success of the freeports policy and a level playing-field for ports across the administrations in the industry-led market also critical. Unless timescales are aligned, there could be a risk of economic displacement away from areas waiting for a freeports desingation. [Read more.](#)
- **Invite: Road to Net Zero, North West of England event:** Maritime UK are pleased to be hosting the second in a series of national ‘Road to Net Zero Roadshow’ events in partnership with Mersey Maritime, to give a specific focus on the North West of England. Mersey Maritime, the regional cluster organisation based in the Liverpool City Region, Maritime UK and national trade association members will draw together a range of industry presentations to brief key stakeholders on projects relation to maritime decarbonisation in this part of the country specifically. The event will showcase existing opportunities amongst world-class businesses and technological entrepreneurs on offer in the North West and put the national focus on maritime decarbonisation into a local context.

Parliamentarians are invited and encouraged to attend the event, which will be taking place on 29 March at 4pm. Please get in touch with Regional Cluster Development Manager at Maritime UK, Simon Eardley directly at [seardley@maritimeuk.org](mailto:seardley@maritimeuk.org) to indicate interest.

- **London International Shipping Week as physical event:** Following the Prime Minister’s announcement of the roadmap out of the current Covid-19 restrictions, Shipping
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Innovation, organisers of London International Shipping Week 2021 have confirmed that the event will go ahead as an in-person event later this year. While LISW 2021 will have virtual elements, the week-long showcase supported by domestic and international maritime industries as well as the UK government, will take place from 13-17 September this year. [Read more.](#)

### In case you missed it:

- **Road to Net Zero – South West of England:** Maritime UK are hosting a series of events to highlight opportunities and existing innovations in relation to maritime decarbonisation in and around the different regions and nations of the United Kingdom. The first event in the series focused on the South West of England, and can now be seen as a recorded webinar [here](#).
- **South West Floating Offshore Wind Accelerator:** The Celtic Sea is one of the main sites for the deployment of floating offshore wind in the UK, where wind turbines on floating platforms at depths are put out where traditional fixed turbines are not viable. Analysis shows that the Celtic Sea wind resource is 100GW+, surpassing the needs of the British grid. The Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership (CIOSLEP) is leading on a regional initiative to deploy floating offshore wind in the Celtic Sea, with a target of 3GW installed capacity by 2030. Four different pipeline projects are currently being conducted, and together, these could establish the South West as a world-leader within offshore floating wind, attract large inward investment with associated jobs, help deliver the Offshore Wind Sector Deal's target of increasing UK offshore wind work content to 60%, and grow exports.

Maritime UK would be delighted to set up meetings to discuss further how this project can benefit the whole South West of England through the creation of green jobs, and how best to support its progress. The initiative aligns with the Government's Ten Point Plan for a Green

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Industrial Revolution and with the South West's wider net zero ambitions.

- **National Skills Academy for Maritime:** Earlier this year, the Second Sea Lord, who is a Commissioner on the Maritime Skills Commission, presented the idea of a National Skills Academy for Maritime. Government funding has now been made available for the initial phases of the project, which will include feasibility testing. A bid pitch was developed by Captain Allan Youp at the Solent Maritime Enterprise Zone to focus on a feasibility study to trial a National Skills Academy for Maritime (Shipbuilding), which would align with the Prime Minister's focus on shipbuilding. Maritime UK and the Maritime Skills Commission have both issued letters of support for the study.

### UK maritime news

- Government launches £20m Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition – [Maritime UK](#)
  - Ports call for parity of Freeports processes across the UK – [British Ports Association](#)
  - 'Practical Guidance for Shipping Companies on Improving Mental Wellbeing' launched – [UK Chamber of Shipping](#)
  - Britain as a trading maritime nation – the publication of the Government's Integrated Review – [Maritime UK](#)
  - London International Shipping Week to be held in-person this September – [Maritime UK](#)
  - Union reminds EU to prioritise key workers for vaccines – [Nautilus International](#)
  - Surge in zero emission pilots and projects – [The Baltic Exchange](#)
  - Southampton International Boat Show reveals new show plans – [British Marine](#)
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## Upcoming Parliamentary opportunities to promote maritime

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

### 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 happy to support in drafting a question
- **14 April – COP26** – To ask the COP26 President, what discussions he has held regarding the role maritime decarbonisation will play at COP26.
- **15 April - International Trade** – To ask the Secretary of State for International Trade, what support her department is providing to the UK maritime industries to increase their international exports.
- **21 April – Northern Ireland questions** – To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, what support his department is providing to the Northern Irish maritime industries.

Additionally, we are looking to arrange a Backbench Business debate and/or Westminster Hall debate on maritime – if you are able to help support this, please contact

[barney.scholes@beyond2050.co.uk](mailto:barney.scholes@beyond2050.co.uk)

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### Lords

The following debate in the House of Lords represents an opportunity for maritime to be raised:

- **19 April – Revising planning rules to ensure all decisions are aligned with the UK's net zero emissions targets**

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

### Written Questions

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

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

## Maritime UK's priorities for the year ahead

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](mailto:barney.scholes@beyond2050.co.uk) for further information.

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

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