



# Maritime Parliamentary Bulletin

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## W/C 12 July 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

- **Ministers told to halt cancellation of grants for businesses accessing foreign markets:** The Department for International Trade (DIT) is cancelling its Tradeshow Access Programme (TAP), which provides financial support for businesses to exhibit at international trade shows. These are crucial for access to new markets and for raising profiles overseas, particularly for SMEs. Maritime UK, British Marine and the Society of Maritime Industries, have written a joint letter to the Minister for Exports, Graham Stuart, urging DIT to keep this vital lifeline for businesses, or risk losing Britain's global leadership in maritime services, supply chains, marine science, technology and green innovation. [Read more.](#)
  - **Maritime Safety Week 2021:** Last week saw Maritime Safety Week 2021 organised across the maritime sector, with a range of events, campaigns and information sharing by both industry and government. Significant volumes of online engagement was garnered through the use of the hashtag #MaritimeSafetyWeek. Minister for Maritime Robert Courts MP saw first-hand the vital day-to-day operations which keep people safe on and around the water, and hosted a Drowning Prevention Roundtable where MPs and key stakeholders were invited to discuss the UK's response to the recently approved UN Resolution on global drowning prevention. Sunday 25 July marks the inaugural World Drowning Prevention Day, and parliamentarians are encouraged to share key messages on this day using the hashtag #DrowningPreventionDay.
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- **Maritime UK priorities for the Comprehensive Spending Review:** Maritime UK is waiting for the Chancellor to announce a 2021 Comprehensive Spending Review. Maritime sector priorities remain similar to those outlined in Maritime UK's representation for the 2020 Spending Review, primarily focused on maritime decarbonisation. Increasingly stringent environmental regulations and targets on the international stage, alongside the UK government's commitments and ambitions means significant support is required to kick-start the necessary transformations across maritime. We will be in touch with parliamentarians with briefing materials once further details are available.
  - **Maritime UK Parliamentary Cruise at London International Shipping Week 2021:** Parliamentarians are invited to attend Maritime UK's Parliamentary Cruise event at London International Shipping Week. Hosted on board City Cruises' Millennium Diamond, the event will take place on Tuesday 14 September, and launch Maritime UK's new economic impact study, identifying the value of the maritime sector to the UK economy. [Register for the event here.](#)
  - **Autumn 2021 party conference activity:** Maritime UK is currently planning engagement across the major party conferences this autumn. The Maritime UK fringe event at the Conservative Party Conference will take place on Sunday 3 October from 19:30, inside the secure zone. Information will follow about engagement events at other party conferences shortly. To register your interest, please email [barney.scholes@beyond2050.co.uk](mailto:barney.scholes@beyond2050.co.uk).
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### UK maritime news

- Ministers told to halt cancellation of grants for businesses accessing foreign markets – [Maritime UK](#)
  - Bridge or tunnel between Ireland and Great Britain likely to cost £40 billion – [British Ports Association](#)
  - Maritime Safety Week 2021 – [Department for Transport](#)
  - Maritime UK hosts first LGBT+ Industry Roundtable – [Maritime UK](#)
  - Spending time on the water can improve health and wellbeing – [British Marine](#)
  - Artemis Technologies and Belfast Met announce ‘once in a lifetime’ apprenticeship scheme – [Maritime UK](#)
  - UK Chamber of Shipping announces new Chief Executive – [UK Chamber of Shipping](#)
  - Shipping industry sustains Mission to Seafarers crew welfare campaign – [Nautilus International](#)
  - Finalists announced for the seventh Mersey Maritime Industry Awards – [Mersey Maritime](#)
  - Marine insurance: Lessons learnt from the pandemic – [Maritime London](#)
  - Solent LEP chooses representative for Solent Freeport – [Solent LEP](#)
  - Robert Hill FICS formally appointed as the new Institute Director – [Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers](#)
  - Decarbonisation winners and losers – [The Baltic Exchange](#)
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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
  - **19 July – Housing, Communities and Local Government questions** - To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what support his department is providing to UK coastal communities.
  - **21 July – Northern Ireland questions** – To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, what support his department is providing to the Northern Ireland maritime sector.
  - **22 July – DEFRA questions** – To ask the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what analysis his department has conducted of the impact maritime decarbonisation would have on improving air quality.
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### Lords

The following debates in the House of Lords represent opportunities for maritime to be raised:

- **19 July – Creating an office of the hydrogen economy in the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy**
- **22 July – Recommendation of the Climate Change Committee that all government policies should be subject to a ‘Net Zero Test’**

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.

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### 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**.
- 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.
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- **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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