



Maritime Parliamentary Bulletin

June 2023

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

Parliamentary Drop In Session

On 16 May, Maritime UK organised a drop-in session for MPs and Peers in Portcullis House to update parliamentarians on key policy priorities for the maritime sector such as the upcoming Clean Maritime Plan Refresh. This event was sponsored by Shadow Armed Forces Minister Luke Pollard, MP for Plymouth, Sutton and Devonport.

Clean Maritime Plan Refresh

Introduced in July 2019, the Clean Maritime Plan (CMP) provided a Route Map to clean growth for the maritime sectors as part of the wider Maritime 2050 strategy. Four years on, the Government announced that it will be refreshing the CMP by the end of 2023, following calls to that effect from Maritime UK and the Commons Transport Select Committee.

The Department for Transport (DfT) is continuing to work with Maritime UK to develop the outline of the CMP, as well as gathering feedback from maritime sector stakeholders within our membership on the maritime emissions model that will underpin the sector decarbonisation targets within the CMP Refresh.

Industry view: The maritime sector made a number of recommendations for inclusion in the CMP Refresh to DfT, focusing specifically on targets, partnership, money, policy frameworks, and international influencing.

Following an industry workshop on the maritime emissions model that will underpin the sector decarbonisation targets within the CMP Refresh, Maritime UK urged DfT to explain whether the Plan covers both domestic and international shipping, include a good range of scenarios involving the uptake of clean fuels over the coming decades, ensure the accuracy of baseline data, and incorporate industry suggestions about the specific emissions measured by the model.

We would be grateful if parliamentarians would consider submitting one or more of the following suggested written questions:

- “To ask the Secretary of State for Transport whether his Department is engaging with other departments across Whitehall to understand the impacts of the Clean Maritime Plan Refresh.”
- “To ask the Secretary of State for Transport if he has had discussions with the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs whether her Department’s work on end-of-life considerations for recreational vessels will be included in the Clean Maritime Plan Refresh.”

Home Shipbuilding Credit Guarantee Scheme

Published in March 2022, the National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSbS) Refresh included a commitment to introduce a Home Shipbuilding Credit Guarantee Scheme. The scheme would support UK vessel builders through a UK Government-backed guarantee at a market-oriented price to finance the purchase of UK ships by UK buyers and aims to help UK vessel owner/operators and prospective buyers to access finance when commissioning new vessels or undertaking vessel refits and repairs.

The Government committed to introducing the scheme in the Summer of 2022 but – fifteen months from the launch of the NSbS Refresh – it has not yet done so.

Industry view: Maritime UK is very concerned that the Home Shipbuilding Credit Guarantee Scheme has not been launched and believes its introduction to be a key enabler of a renaissance in UK shipbuilding. Failure to introduce the scheme is hitting the order books of domestic yards and threatens the success of the National Shipbuilding Strategy as a whole.

We would be grateful if parliamentarians would consider submitting the following suggested written question:

- “To ask the Secretary of State for Business and Trade for an update on progress on the introduction of a Home Shipbuilding Credit Guarantee Scheme.”

New Maritime UK CEO

Maritime UK has appointed Chris Shirling-Rooke MBE as its new Chief Executive Officer. Chris is currently CEO of Mersey Maritime – the maritime cluster organisation for the Liverpool City Region – where he has championed the role of the maritime sector in driving economic in coastal communities across the UK and driving the Maritime 2050 Agenda.

Chris has been CEO of Mersey Maritime since 2013 and has led a small professional team whose role is to support members business growth, highlight the breadth and diversity of the sector and strengthen local supply chains by building relationships across companies of all sizes – from ports

and global shipping lines to engineering firms and innovative start-ups. He was appointed MBE in 2021 for services to maritime.

Commenting, Chris Shirling-Rooke said: “It is an incredible honour for me to take on this new position and to build on the fantastic work already delivered by the Maritime UK team on behalf of its members, stakeholders and the industry as whole. Major overarching challenges face our sector which supports over 1 million jobs, contributes over £46bn to our economy and is responsible for facilitating 95% of UK global trade.”

Chris will join Maritime UK in the Summer.

Recent Updates from Maritime UK

- [UK's new free trade deals with Australia and New Zealand – British Marine](#)
 - [Two-speed marine consenting will undermine UK ports' competitiveness – British Ports Association](#)
 - [CLIA announces host of trade initiatives and activities at largest-ever annual conference – CLIA UK & Ireland](#)
 - [UK Club announces financial results for year ended 20 February 2023 – Maritime London](#)
 - [Maersk relationship renewed as company moves towards renewables – Nautilus International](#)
 - [Call for International Businesses to take part in Maritime UK Solent Awards 2023 – MUK Solent](#)
 - [Falmouth Docks secures funding to inform potential redevelopment – MUK South West](#)
 - [LISW23 Headline Conference Set to deep dive into Shipping's challenges – London International Shipping Week](#)
 - [Maritime minister officially launches 2023 Maritime Safety Week – Port Skills and Safety](#)
 - [ACUA Ocean and HydroSurv announce intention to merge – Society of Maritime Industries](#)
 - [Trinity House Vessel Replacement Project update – Trinity House](#)
 - [Chamber speaks to MPs on refreshed Clean Maritime Plan – UK Chamber of Shipping](#)
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Events for Parliamentarians

Maritime UK Reception at Conservative Party Conference [1 October]

Maritime UK is planning a maritime sector drinks reception on 1 October, focusing on the Coastal Powerhouse Manifesto, which will be followed by a private dinner with ministerial guests.

Maritime UK Reception at Labour Party Conference [8 October]

Maritime UK is planning a maritime sector drinks reception on 8 October, raising awareness about the vital economic role of the sector in supporting decarbonisation and achieving net zero. This will be followed by a private dinner with guests from the shadow cabinet.

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 provide support in drafting a question.
- **14 June – Science, Innovation and Technology (Oral Questions):** To ask the Minister for Science, Research and Innovation whether he will meet with Maritime UK to discuss how industry and government can work together to develop an R&D strategy for the maritime sector. *[Deadline for submissions: 8 June]*
- **29 June – Business and Trade (Oral Questions):** To ask the Secretary of State for an update on progress on the introduction of a Home Shipbuilding Credit Guarantee Scheme. *[Deadline for submissions: 22 June]*
- **4 July – Energy Security and Net Zero (Oral Questions):** To ask the Secretary of State if he will meet with Maritime UK to discuss recommendations within its Offshore Wind Plan, which outlines ways the maritime sector can grow the offshore wind sector and play a key role in achieving net zero by the middle of the century. *[Deadline for submissions: 28 June]*
- **6 July – Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Oral Questions):** To ask the Secretary of State whether her Department is engaging with the Department for Transport to ensure that

ongoing work on end-of-life considerations for recreational vessels will be included in the Clean Maritime Plan Refresh. *[Deadline for submissions: 29 June]*

- **10 July** – Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (Oral Questions): To ask the Minister of State for Housing and Planning if she will meet with Maritime UK to discuss proposals within its Coastal Powerhouse Manifesto regarding the need for planning reform. *[Deadline for submissions: 4 July]*
- **13 July** – Transport (Oral Questions): To ask the Secretary of State whether his Department is engaging with other departments across Whitehall to understand the impacts of the Clean Maritime Plan Refresh. *[Deadline for submissions: 6 July]*

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

Government

- Department for Energy Security and Net Zero: [Planning for new energy infrastructure: revisions to National Policy Statements](#) (Deadline: 23 June)
- Department for Energy Security and Net Zero: [Price-based competitive allocation for low carbon hydrogen: call for evidence](#) (Deadline: 2 August)

Maritime UK and its members will be responding to the above consultations and inquiries. To discuss these, please contact gbuttironi@maritimeuk.org

The Maritime Sector - Key Messages

- Maritime **contributed a total of £116.0 billion in turnover** and **supported over 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.
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- **The past 18 months have seen significant developments 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 publicaffairs@maritimeuk.email for further information.

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