MARITIME
PARLIAMENTARY
BULLETIN

W/C 12 April 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

- **Global Travel Taskforce and resumption of travel:** Last week saw the publication of the Global Travel Taskforce's report on the resumption of international travel, currently planned for 17 May. The report outlined the Government's approach to the resumption of travel, including news of the traffic light system that will be in place to categorise countries based on risk. The maritime sector has welcomed the clarity that the announcement provides, and the extensive industry-government collaboration it represents.

- **Launch of report on digital learning:** Last week also saw the publication of the first project report from the Maritime Skills Commission, which concerned digital learning and described some of the lessons learned with the transition to online delivery of education and training over the past 12 months. The report, titled 'Digital Learning: Captured Lessons' suggested that Covid-19 has forced training providers to re-think their working practices and capitalise on new opportunities. The report was written by Lars Lippuner, head of Warsash Maritime School at Solent University, and Dr Carole Davis, associate professor currently working as Assistant Director at the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. Read more about their findings here.

- **Maritime 2050: Where are we on the journey?** Maritime UK is currently undertaking an auditing process of the recommendations set out in the Maritime 2050 strategy, published by the Department for Transport in 2019. Approaching the half-way mark in the short-term recommendations for the maritime sector, Maritime UK is working with members and

government to understand current progress and identify gaps in delivery. The results of this process will form the basis of a report, as well as a Maritime 2050 conference, currently planned to take place on 25 June, Day of the Seafarer. Parliamentarians are invited to participate, and details will be shared shortly.

Save the date:

Maritime UK and members from across the sector are currently planning a range of upcoming events with opportunities for engagement, including:

- **Build Back Better Webinar Series (May – December):** A series of webinars looking at the role of the maritime sector in the recovery from Covid-19, both in the short and long term. The first event, currently scheduled to take place on 11 May (TBC) will look at immediate recovery, whereas subsequent events throughout the year will take a deeper look at priorities within key areas, linked to the government's Maritime 2050 strategy such as people, environment, innovation, competitiveness and regional growth. Registration information to follow.

- **Maritime 2050 conference (25 June):** Following the current audit looking at the progress of recommendations set out within the Maritime 2050 strategy and identifying gaps in delivery, Maritime UK will be organising a Maritime 2050 conference on 25 June, the Day of the Seafarer. Maritime UK Patron HRH The Princess Royal will be present. Registration details to follow.

- **London International Shipping Week 2021 (13 – 17 September):** It is once again time for the bi-annual London International Shipping Week, the largest event on the maritime calendar and Maritime UK is planning a range of activity across the week, including a

regional showcase, a parliamentary reception, a green technology showcase, career events aimed at children and young people, and high-level events such as a ministerial roundtable.

- **COP26 (1 -12 November):** The UN's climate conference is taking place in Glasgow this November, and Maritime UK is planning a series of fringe activity events at a central Maritime Hub in the city to highlight the role of maritime in the larger decarbonisation project.

If interested in participating at any of these events, please contact barney.scholes@beyond2050.co.uk

In case you missed it:

- **Maritime Skills Commission report launch event:** On 25 March, the Maritime Skills Commission launched its first project report, 'Digital Learning: Captured Lessons', which examines the ways in which digital learning has been adopted by learning and training providers from across the sector since the initial outbreak of Covid-19. The report findings were presented at a launch event which can now be seen as a recording here.

UK maritime news

- 'Ahead of COP26 the government must make waves with maritime' – Director Ben Murray for BusinessGreen

- Shifting the balance: Insights from the Maritime Skills Commission project on digital learning – Maritime UK

- Make the UK an international seafarer vaccination hub, urge Nautilus and UK Chamber of Shipping – Nautilus International

- CLIA response to Global Travel Taskforce report – [CLIA UK&Ireland](#)

- Global Travel Taskforce Report published – [UK Chamber of Shipping](#)

- UK Government announces new Business Rates Relief Fund – [British Marine](#)

- Recruiting for senior positions in the ports industry: The BPS examines how to avoid the pitfalls and perils – [British Ports Association](#)

- Workboat Association signs Maritime UK Mental Health Pledge – [Workboat Association](#)

- John Howie MBE announced as new SMI President – [Society of Maritime Industries](#)

- Regional variations threaten trade positivity – [The Baltic Exchange](#)

- New President for the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers - [Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers](#)

- Skills Action Plan and Local Skills Report for the Solent published - [SolentLEP](#)

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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

- **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.

- **27 April – Treasury questions** – To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what support Treasury is providing the maritime sector.

- **28 April – Scotland questions** – To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, what support their department is providing the Scottish maritime sector

- **29 April** – Transport questions – To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what support his department is providing to the maritime sector.

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

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**.

- 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 competitivness 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](#).