



Seaports Forum – 27 February 2019

Venue: 5th Floor, Globe House, 89 Eccleston Square, London, SW1V 1PN

Forum members:

Tim Morris (TM) UK Major Ports Group
 Mark Simmonds (MS) British Ports Association

ICIBI:

David Bolt (DB) Independent Chief Inspector
 Paul Sherratt (PS) Inspector
 Chris Thompson (CT) Inspector

Apologies:

Tim Reardon Port of Dover
 Gavin Simmonds UK Chamber of Shipping

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Action point</u>
ICIBI welcome and introduction	DB explained that his main aim from the meeting was to discuss ideas for the 2019-20 Inspection Plan ahead of meetings with Home Office ministers and officials.	Members to write to DB with any suggestions by the middle of March.
Updates and discussion	<p>DB referred to recent relevant inspection reports, specifically the 'South Coast seaports' report published at the end of 2018 and the "Charging for Services" report that was with the Home Secretary awaiting publication.</p> <p>DB confirmed it was his intention to follow up the inspections of east and south coast seaports and, if possible (subject to Brexit and resources), to look at west coast ports. DB also intended to look at Border Force freight operations during 2019-20, including use of technology, risk profiling, data gathering etc.</p> <p>There was a discussion about public/private partnerships and Border Force's and HMG's engagement with the industry. Forum members said that there were various groups that met, for example two port security groups, one for port security officers and the other a joint DFT-industry group. Other groups included a Brexit delivery group. Some of these sat with the Home Office, some sit with DFT</p>	

<p>Forum membership and other stakeholder engagement</p>	<p>and there were many overlaps, which made it difficult for the industry to understand HMG’s overall strategy. In general, the industry found dealing with DFT more straightforward than dealing with the Home Office as the relationship was better defined. However, relationships with Border Force at port level were typically good, notwithstanding general resourcing problems.</p> <p>On resourcing, it was reported that some ports were concerned that Border Force would be moving resources from freight to passenger ports in preparation for Brexit. As well as public/private partnership working, the industry recognised that technology was part of the solution and looked forward to discussing the options with Border Force.</p> <p>DB indicated that ICIBI would be looking at clandestine entry at some point during 2019-20. This was another concern for ports, and not just those in the south east.</p> <p>DB reiterated that he was keen to ensure that anyone who would like to take part in the Seaports Forum was able to do so. He also wanted to engage more widely with stakeholders to ensure that the inspection programme captured all relevant interests.</p> <p>TM referred to two industry groups. One solely industry and one with DFT. He suggested that ICIBI might extend an invitation to the chairs of these two groups. GM suggested that an invitation might also be extended to the ferry ports group chair. It meets twice a year with Border Force.</p> <p>GM repeated the invitation DB to attend the next Ports Security Expert Group on 11 April 2019 and DB confirmed that he would be attending.</p>	<p>CT: to share current membership list with BPA and UKMPG, updating accordingly</p>
<p>AOB</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>Date of next meeting:</p>	<p>TBA</p>	