

## Summary Report

# Post Implementation Review of the Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations 2012

1. The aim of the Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) is to improve marine safety by determining the causes of marine accidents and making recommendations to prevent recurrence. MAIB investigations are conducted in accordance with The Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations 2012 (“the Regulations”), which specify the purpose of investigations, make provision for their scope and conduct, define the accidents and incidents that may be investigated, and set out the requirements for reporting accidents and the publication of reports and summaries.
2. The Regulations replaced The Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations 2005 and implement the provisions of Directive 2009/18/EC. This Directive is an EU initiative designed to harmonise the reporting and investigation requirements for marine accidents, and the manner in which they are investigated, across the EU.
3. The Regulations apply to all accidents involving or occurring on board any United Kingdom ship, with exceptions for some categories of vessel; or any other ship within the United Kingdom or United Kingdom waters, with some exceptions; or any ship which in the opinion of the Chief Inspector involves substantial interests for the United Kingdom.
4. The Regulations contain a provision for a statutory review to be published within five years after they came into effect, on 31 July 2012. Officials carried out a light touch review of the regulations in the latter part of 2016 through a questionnaire sent to key stakeholders and a review of the MAIB’s work prior to and since the Regulations came into effect.
5. The evidence gathered for this review supports the view that the Regulations should remain as they are, in their current form, as they are effective and are viewed positively by the marine industry. A copy of the post implementation review (PIR) has been published alongside this summary.

6. In June 2016, the EU referendum took place and the people of the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union. Until exit negotiations are concluded, the UK remains a full member of the European Union and all the rights and obligations of EU membership remain in force. During this period the Government will continue to negotiate, implement and apply EU legislation. The outcome of these negotiations will determine what arrangements apply in relation to EU legislation in future once the UK has left the EU.

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