

Water Council Meeting Tuesday 06 June 10.30 – 12.00

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Hermes House
St John's Road
Tunbridge Wells
Kent TN4 9UZ

Attendees:

Emma Leam-Saville

Lee Wilshire

Pamela Mounter

Robert Constant

Sally Dixon

George Finch

DFDS

Wood Hall & Heward

GPS Marine

The Company of Waterman & Lightermen

Manston Airport

British Ports Association

Logistics UK staff: Ellis Shelton (Temp Secretary), Ben Garratt, Jonas Keat

Speaker: Gyula Törzsök, Thames Estuary Growth Board

Note of Meeting

1. Welcome and Housekeeping (see annex for conduct of meetings)

The Chair welcomed members and reminded all of Logistics UK's conduct of meetings.

2. Introductions

All members and staff introduced themselves.

3. Updates since last meeting and on Logistics UK's wider activities

Ellis Shelton, Policy Advisor updated members on recent policy and public affairs activities. Topics included:

- a. Updates on the Modal Councils
 - i. Air Council met at the end of March. The Council discussed the 'Future of Flight' after Logistics UK joined DfT's new Future of Flight Industry Group. Logistics UK submitted consultation responses to the '2040 Zero Emission Airport Target' and 'Night-Flights' call for evidence. Logistics UK will be submitting a consultation response to the 'Second SAF Mandate' call for evidence in the near future.
 - ii. Rail Council met at the end of April. The Council intends to invite potential customers of rail freight to future meetings to help understand the difficulties and complications around the modal shift from road to rail. Logistics UK submitted a consultation response to the 'Minimum Service Levels' enquiry call for evidence.
- b. Attendance at Coastlink Conference
 - i. Michelle Gardner, Deputy Director – Policy attended and presented at Coastlink Conference, highlighting the opportunities in the supply chain for innovation and modal shift to benefit the environment and consumers as well as operators throughout the supply chain.
- c. Attendance at the All-Party Parliamentary Maritime and Ports Group
 - i. Baroness Vere, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Aviation and Maritime), announced the formation of a Maritime Council, a refresh of the Clean Maritime Plan including a call for evidence for 'Zero Emission Ports' and a review of the National Policy Statement for Ports.
- d. Attendance at DfT's Maritime and Decarbonisation Mapping Workshop
 - i. In line with DfT's 'Clean Maritime Plan', DfT ran a workshop with multiple companies and organisations in the maritime sector to improve their understanding of the actors in the maritime sector, and what influence they have on the environmental impact of shipping.

4. Border Target Operating Model

Ellis Shelton, Policy Advisor updated members on their attendance at Target Operating Model (TOM) stakeholder events hosted by the Cabinet Office and fed back on Logistics UK's response to the TOM consultation. Logistics UK consulted members before feeding back that serious concerns were raised surrounding the lack of detail,

cumulative impact of change and challenging timescales and the meaningful engagement with the logistics industry.

- a. If members have any questions on the TOM or Logistics UK's response to the TOM consultation, please contact Ellis Shelton.

5. Logistics UK's Policy Position Statement

Ellis Shelton presented the revised Policy Position Statement to the Council. The key policy asks were agreed upon. The Council stressed the importance of Logistics UK pushing government to set a growth target for water freight and increase awareness around the protection of wharves. The Council suggested the following actions to Logistics UK to assist with these asks:

- a. Growth target – Logistics UK to look into publishing a report, highlighting the advantages of modal shift to maritime
- b. Protection of wharves – Logistics UK to look into putting a campaign together to highlight and raise awareness amongst planning authorities of the logistics sector, and for planning officials to gain better understanding of the needs of the water freight industry when considering planning applications

6. Identifying the Skills Gap in the Maritime Sector

Jonas Keat, Policy Advisor outlined Logistics UK's objectives to develop our skills asks for the Maritime sector. They also highlighted our progress in the area of non-academic roles – lifelong learning an example. When the floor was opened up to discussion, members fed back the following:

- a. There is a lack of interest and knowledge amongst job seekers for roles within the logistics sector. This is in part due to the minimal focus on logistics roles in schools and lack of investment in training facilities. This is a cause for concern as there is a noticeably aging demographic, particularly for operational roles.
- b. Concerns were raised about there being a lack of individuals possessing the necessary green skills to maintain and develop future technologies – an example being the maintenance of electric vessels.

7. Guest Speaker from the Thames Estuary Growth Board

Gyula Törzsök, Portfolio Director at Thames Estuary Growth Board provided an update on the purpose of the organisation, documenting the Thames' untapped potential for handling light freight. They announced that the Growth Board will soon bring together broader stakeholders to help develop an ecosystem approach to assessing the three supply chains: small parcels – e-commerce, perishables and retrofitting of London's housing market. This is to move beyond feasibility studies and ensure appropriate action is taken.

Gyula's presentation slides and contact details have been sent separately. If not received, please contact Ellis Shelton.

8. AOB

The Council alluded to resurrecting and refreshing web-based information that explains the intricacies of modal shift to maritime, to encourage operators that don't use maritime to consider it. As well, the Council stressed that there is no safeguarding for canal wharfs and that developers are refusing access to wharfs for maritime operators. It is thought that developers are refusing to let maritime operators lease the wharfs as they plan to use the available land for housing.

GUIDANCE FOR CONDUCT OF LOGISTICS UK MEETINGS INVOLVING MEMBERS

Logistics UK provides a broad range of valuable services for members and represents them on a range of issues. It is vital however that Logistics UK staff and members remember that certain meetings are composed of a group of competitors and therefore special care is required to ensure that there can never be any suggestion of any form of anti-competitive behaviour – business practices which prevent or reduce competition in the market. In order to protect Logistics UK and its members, there are therefore matters that should not be discussed and certain precautions that should be taken.

In particular, members must not discuss competitively sensitive information. **Competitively sensitive information covers any non-public strategic information about a business's commercial policy that could lead to a competitive advantage.** Competitively sensitive material includes (but is not limited to): individual company costs; individual company prices; sales volumes, revenues, volumes, capacity, utilisation, stock levels or supplies; confidential plans about the future; and, matters relating to individual suppliers or customers.

These following guidelines must be kept in mind when attending meetings involving members:

1. The Logistics UK and its members are committed to adhering to applicable competition laws in all their activities. It is the responsibility of each participating member of each meeting, to ensure that its activity in connection with the Logistics UK meeting complies with applicable competition laws.
2. A named member of Logistics UK staff shall be designated as the **Secretary** of a meeting and be responsible for adherence to these guidelines.
3. A written **Agenda** of meetings will be circulated in advance and be held on file by the Secretary.
4. Detailed and accurate **Minutes** will be circulated to all attendees, after the meeting and held on file by the Secretary. Those minutes will include an accurate list of all members present at the meeting.
5. Membership of Logistics UK, its Councils and Working Groups will be open to representatives of **all relevant organisations** active in the UK, as defined in the Articles of Association and By-Laws.
6. A complete **list of members' names and affiliations** of each Council and Working Group will be held on file by the Secretary, such information being extracted from the Logistics UK membership database.
7. Members will be **formally reminded**, by the **Secretary**, at the **start of every meeting** that they must not discuss competitively sensitive information.
8. There will be **no discussion of competitively sensitive information** (that is not publicly available) either in the formal meeting or otherwise outside of the meeting during breaks.
9. There will be **no coordination of commercially sensitive activity** through the Logistics UK meeting.
10. Should meetings depart from this guidance or if an exchange of competitively sensitive information appears to be taking place or be about to take place, the Secretary or the individual attendee noticing the breach, shall be responsible for notifying the Secretary. The Secretary should draw members' attention to this guidance and prevent further exchanges occurring. This shall be accurately minuted.
11. Any member of a meeting who believes that a meeting is departing from these guidelines should follow the steps in 10 above and be **entitled to leave** the meeting and have their comments and the time of departure minuted.
12. Where any activity of the Logistics UK may involve the passing of commercially / competitively sensitive information that is not publicly available, then such activity may only be carried out after **specific legal advice** has been taken to ensure that the activity is consistent with applicable competition laws.

Logistics UK September 2022

Contact: Kate Jennings – kmjennings@logistics.org.uk