

## **Ports industry to launch 'People in Ports' campaign as part of new Government Maritime Skills Route Map**

**The British Ports Association (BPA) and Port Skills and Safety (PSS) have welcomed the publication of the Government's new skills route map.**

The BPA and PSS have been closely involved in the development of the People Route Map which includes a set of short-term, medium-term and long-term actions and commitments from Government to support maritime skills. To support this route map and Government's Maritime 2050 Strategy, the BPA are in the process of developing a 'People in Ports' campaign which aims to raise awareness of the ports sector and its importance to local communities and the broader economy.

The route map recommendations include short-term goals of tasking a single industry body to promote maritime careers and raise awareness in schools, which is something we support. The single industry body will be Maritime UK who will have a dedicated Careers Promotion and Outreach Manager responsible for developing activity through support for regional clusters.

We also welcome the increased focus on ensuring greater harmonisation of certification standards within the UK for different maritime sectors over the medium term and are pleased to see that the Maritime Skills Commission will, working with maritime training bodies, consider how to ensure professional development plans are built into training programmes.

Welcoming the route map, Sara Walsh, Corporate Services Manager at the British Ports Association, said:

“

We very much welcome the Government's People Route Map, published by the Department for Transport, which expands on the Maritime 2050 Strategy launched earlier in the year. It's important we continue to support the sector to encourage more young people to see the immense value in maritime careers. We will be doing this by working closely with Maritime UK's new Careers and Promotion and Outreach Manager who will be tasked with coordinating and delivering this enhanced careers promotion programme.

To further support the strategy and route map, we are developing a 'People in Ports' campaign which aims to raise awareness of the ports sector and its importance to local communities and the broader economy. This campaign, which will be the first of its kind for the ports sector, will also aim to attract the next generation to think about a career in ports and the broader maritime sector.

We are also pleased to see some overlap with our own Port Futures programme which looks to examine global emerging trends and key issues in the ports and shipping industries including technology, infrastructure and skills. We look forward to working with Government, Maritime UK and other industry bodies to implement the recommendations put forward.

”

The route map also notes that it is becoming increasingly apparent that traditional sea going experience is not always required for those who wish to pursue a career in the ports sector, including those in the business services side. There is also now an increased focus on the language and images used in job description, company websites and collateral to ensure the sector is able to appeal to wide audience. It is hoped this in turn, will start to both address the skills shortages and attract those who may not have otherwise thought about a career in the industry.

Apprenticeships are one particular approach that the industry has invested in to enhance routes into port careers. The sector has developed apprenticeships for port operatives, marine operatives, marine pilots and harbour masters. These are bringing new diverse talent that ports will need to continue to succeed and grow.

At an individual organisation level, employers are working in partnership with providers to deliver enhanced learning and skills. One such example is the Maritime Leadership and Development apprenticeship pioneered by Bristol Port and Weston College. Employers are also providing practical and vocational training. For example Port of Blyth delivers high quality skills across the port & marine, warehousing & logistics, heavy industry, subsea and offshore energy sectors.

Port employers are working with their local communities both to give something back and let people new to the industry see the opportunities for quality careers in ports. The Port of Tilbury's award-winning Logistics Training Academy in partnership with the Tilbury on the Thames Trust (TTT) has introduced state of the art, 'fully immersive' training simulators. These are part of their 'Attention to Logistics' training programme and bursary scheme which was created to help ex-

service men and women and their families back into work through the ports and logistics sector.

Richard Steele, Chief Executive of Port Skills and Safety, said:

“

We are wholly committed to the Maritime 2050 principle, that people are at the heart of the strategy. Ports and maritime will continue to provide rewarding and enriching careers.

We need to ensure that we encourage new talent into our sector, improve diversity and embed qualifications and skills now and in the future. We look forward to working with Government and all the stakeholders to deliver the ambitious plans of Maritime 2050 and the People Route Map.

”

[Click here to download Maritime 2050 'People' Route Map \(PDF\)](#)

## Notes

### British Ports Association (BPA)

1. The BPA represents the interests of over 100 port members, covering more than 350 ports, terminal operators and port facilities.
2. The BPA recently produced a video which highlights the importance of ports to the UK's economy. It can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

### Port Skills and Safety (PSS)

1. PSS is the UK's professional ports health and safety membership organisation. We exist to promote continuous improvement in health, safety and skills in ports. PSS is recognised by

Government departments and agencies, including the Department for Transport, Health and Safety Executive and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency.

2. PSS works with the ports industry, HSE and trade unions to jointly develop Safety in Ports user guidance. This suite of over twenty documents is directly linked to the Safety in Docks Approved Code of Practice (L148) and promotes health and safety in the workplace. The suite covers topics such as: general cargo, timber, container handling and mooring as well as health and safety culture including leadership and workforce engagement.
3. PSS are the standards setting body for the ports sector and work with employers and other key stakeholders to maintain a suite of National Occupational Standards for port Operatives, Harbour Masters, Marine Pilots and VTS. We have developed port qualifications and apprenticeships for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. PSS operates a series of work and advisory groups including the long established Port skills and Safety Group which provides the industry with a forum for health and safety practitioners (and others interested in health and safety) to learn about, discuss current industry issues and to share information through partnership and consultation.
4. We take common action on behalf of members, collaboratively devise industry appropriate standards, and support the development of fit for purpose regulation, policy and guidance. We make the case for industry, campaign on issues and producing industry relevant outcomes. We support and connect our members with resources, guidance, events and training.
5. Port Skills and Safety LTD is a private company limited by guarantee. Registered Company Number: 10131855

#### The UK ports sector

1. The Maritime 2050 Strategy can be found [here](#).
2. The UK ports industry plays a key role in the country's economy as 95% of the UK's international trade – imports and exports – is carried through British ports.
3. UK ports also handle more than 60 million international and domestic passenger journeys each year.
4. The UK port industry is the second largest in Europe, handling around 500 million tonnes of freight each year.
5. UK ports directly employ around 101,000 people.

#### **Contact**

Mark Simmonds | [mark.simmonds@britishports.org.uk](mailto:mark.simmonds@britishports.org.uk) | 020 7260 1780

#### **Media / Photos**

Photos are available for publication in connection with this

story: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/hpmvwcu8o3dm2lp/AChVILzRrXI1s5As8uj2Zm2a?dl=0>



---

*Copyright © 2019 British Ports Association, All rights reserved.*

British Ports Association

**Our mailing address is:**

British Ports Association

1st Floor, 30 Park Street

London, SE1 9EQ

United Kingdom

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).