



Maritime &  
Coastguard  
Agency

Safer lives,  
safer ships,  
cleaner seas

# Supporting the future

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# Port regulation

The image features a dark blue background with two prominent white curved lines that sweep from the bottom right towards the top right. The text 'Port regulation' is positioned in the upper left quadrant, rendered in a light teal color.

# The MCA's role in ports

## HM Coastguard

- Manages coastal search and rescue emergency service for entire UK
- Audits Port Disaster Response Plans

## Survey & Inspection

- Carries out the UK's 'Port State' functions, to implement and enforce the UK's obligations under international treaties such as Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)

## Technical Services Navigation

- Key role in Port Marine Safety Code & associated Guidance incl. Port Health Checks

## Regulation & Standards

- Key role in regulation of new alternative fuels & water-based safety

# Findings – *Supporting the ports ecosystem in decarb*

- Complex legislation & policy impacting governance, safety & moves towards decarbonisation.
- Need for more government direction on fuels & infrastructure
- Some ports not taking ownership
- Planning & port codes need to improve
- Communication across sector must improve
- International & academic engagement must improve



# Recommendations under consideration

## **Urgent govt policy needed**

A view on new fuels

Green energy infrastructure plan

An IMO led international carbon pricing

Well to wake guidance on new fuels

## **Full review of legislation**

Hazardous goods regulation

Port governance

Future template for enabling legislation

Planning & environmental

To reduce regulation and bureaucracy,  
allowing for more agility

## **Template approach to alternative fuels/shore power investment**

### **Increase civil service expertise in ports**

Establish 'Port Regulator Steering Group'

Merge codes of practice

Greater domestic & international engagement, communication & leadership incl. identifying & managing the alternative fuels risk to urban/suburban environments

# Maritime Autonomy



# Autonomous ships

“a ship which, to a varying degree can operate independent of human interaction”

*International Maritime Organization*

## Remotely Operated



Vessel operated from a location not on board the vessel

## Fully Autonomous



Vessel operated by a system without human intervention

## People

- valued experience to stay in maritime
- improve work-life balance
- “new” people into maritime

## Safety

- reduce errors
- decision support to improve performance and safety
- remove humans out of dangerous situations

## Environment

- improved fuel consumption
- smaller vessels = lower emissions

## Economy

- reduce costs
- part of broader technological shift





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# The United Kingdom

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- **Regulatory Developments**
  - Workboat Code – Remotely Operated Unmanned Vessel Annex
  - Future of Transport
  - Guidance for Innovative Technologies
- **Influence** international discussions
- **Government Research**
  - £1m MARLab
  - £416m R&D funding, e.g., Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition.
  -
- **Digital sector** £149 billion to the UK in 2018
- 40 -800 UK autonomous shipping companies within 10 years







# What do we need to do....

Safer lives,  
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Stable regulatory  
framework

Increase cyber security  
and safety

Build on the success of  
the Clean Maritime  
Demonstration  
Competition

Growth area in  
maritime with cross-  
cutting interests

Infrastructure  
development

Develop expertise in AI  
and Machine Learning

Collaboration

Support industry  
coming to the UK

# Seafarer skills

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# Decarbonisation and Seafarer training

- MCA review of the training syllabus for UK Seafarer qualifications under the Cadet training and Modernisation (CT&M) programme, started by MCA to progress the recommendations from the Maritime Skills Commission's (MSC) report on modernising Seafarer training.
- Training on future fuels is being included as part of the core training for a UK CoC and this will be in addition to the STCW CoC's.
- Working with other education providers to provide clearer career pathways for seafarers transitioning to shore based roles (decarbonisation skills key to that)





Questions?