

**Tyne Port Health Authority
Report to the Joint Board
Date: Tuesday 7 June 2016**

Reporting Officer: Frances McClen
Chief Port Health Officer

Contact Details: Tel: 0191 6436640
Email:- frances.mcclen@northtyneside.gov.uk

Subject: Operational Summary 01/01/16 - 31/03/16

PART 1

1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to inform the Joint Board of activity during the period 01/01/16 – 31/03/16

1.2 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Joint Board note the report.

2.0 Information

2.1 Operational Summary

Ship Arrivals and Inspections

Cargo ship arrivals and cruise traffic at the port remains stable and a breakdown of shipping trends over the last 10 years is set out in **Appendix 1**.

The port of Tyne have advised that that between Jan to Dec 2015 there were a total of 3517 arrivals consisting of 2675 foreign arrivals of which 365 are Isle of Man flag) and 842 UK Flag .

Shipping is inspected either on request (usually due to impending expiry of ship sanitation certification) or in accordance with the authorities policy of prioritising inspections using a risk based approach as set out in the annual service plan.

Inspection activity for the period is set out in the tables below.

Ship Sanitation Inspections

Inspections	Ship Sanitation Control Exemption Certificates issued	Ship Sanitation Control Certificates issued
11 (27)	11 (27)	0 (0)

* figures for the period November to March the previous year shown in brackets.

Other Inspection of Ships – Routine Boardings Period Jan to March 2016

	Arrivals	Inspections	Major Defects found	Minor Defects found	Revisits/Referrals
Total	274 (508)	40(117)	0 (4)	8(0)	1(0)

* figures for the period November to March the previous year shown in brackets.

Water Supply

74 Samples of drinking water were taken from 20 vessels for bacteriological analysis by the Health Protection Agency laboratories. No samples of drinking water were taken from sites and hydrants in the port area during the period.

	Vessels sampled	Total samples from vessels	Hydrants sampled	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
British Flag	3 (3)	12 (7)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Foreign Flag	17 (9)	62 (42)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Total	20 (12)	74 (49)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

* figures for the same period the previous year shown in brackets.

There were no unsatisfactory samples taken during the period.

Imported Food

5360 tonnes of food from outside the EU (third country Imports) were landed at the port during the January to March, which is similar to previous period last year.

Official controls, which involves documentary checks and 10% sampling, is carried out on all third country imports of certain specified foods and plastics entering the port

Summary of official controls on imported food and plastics **January to March 2016**

	Number of Consignments	Document Checks	ID Checks	Samples Physical Checks	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tea from China (669)	5 (5)	5 (5)	1(1)	1 (1)	1 (1)	0 (0)
Other Tea	170 (290)	0 (6)	0(6)	0(6)	0(6)	0 (0)
Organic Tea	1 (0)	1 (0)	1 (0)	1 (0)	1 (0)	0 (0)
Other Food	24(15)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Plastics	1 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

* figures for the same period the previous year shown in brackets.

An investigation was carried out to determine how pesticides were identified in tea labelled organic tea during routine sampling. DEFRA discussed the issue with the organics certification body. It was considered that Pesticide level found in the tea was trace only and suggested post contamination during transportation rather than from suppliers. The suppliers were therefore permitted to still classify tea as organic.

Infectious Disease Control

One isolated case of Norovirus on board was reported this year. The outbreak procedures of the cruise ship were followed to isolate the passenger, and to ensure good hygiene used by staff visiting passenger to contain spread. The ship satisfactory followed the Norovirus Outbreak Control on a Cruise Vessel. Officers visited the ship on arrival to ensure proper infection control procedures were being fully implemented.

Visit made on the 21 May 2015 to the Balmoral to review the disinfection procedures and controls due to Norovirus outbreak in May. The last cases disembarked in Southampton and additional cleaning staff engaged for fogging and cleaning procedures .

Issues have been raised by border control staff with regard to animal welfare. This is a

statutory duty of each local authority. Boarder control notified port health with regard to a wagon of horses bordering DFDS ferry and concerns over welfare of horses. A check was made of horse passport liability insurance and the travel log kept during journey of food and water and exercise. An advice leaflet has now been produced to advise DFDS what they should expect if they accept such cargo.

Snakes on a Ferry

In May a National Intelligence Report was received via Northumbria Police regarding an individual who had regularly been using the DFDS ferry route from North Shields to Netherlands and the P&O ferry route from Hull to Rotterdam to allegedly smuggle in venomous reptiles. Following intelligence received by Scottish Prevention to Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) a raid on a property in Motherwell uncovered several highly venomous snakes including; Boomslang, King Cobra, Spitting Cobra, Rattle Snakes, White lipped Vipers and a Saw Scale Viper along with several species of the most venomous scorpions. The animals were smuggled into the country by motorcycle utilising the DFDS and P&O Ferries and represents the largest seizure of highly poisonous and non poisonous snakes in the UK.

Following discussions with DFDS Ferries this person is no longer welcome to use their services and I believe that P&O (Hull) have adopted a similar attitude.

Income from official controls and other chargeable activity

Table Showing Income from 01/01/2016 to 31/03/2016

Ship Sanitation Inspection	Food & Plastics Imports - Official Controls	Water Sampling Requests	Total
£3,332.00 (£4,119.00)	£1190.00 (£52.00)	£248.00 (£301.52)	£4770 (£4,472.52)

* figures for the same period the previous year shown in brackets.

Excluding interest on income of 283.30

The table of charges for 2016/17, approved by the Joint Board is set out in **Appendix 2**.

Other Activity

Mobile devices are now in use and data stored on combination of uniform software system to enable the generation of certificates. All other port health work has migrated to new EDRMS system.

An officer attended the NPLaN meeting in Leeds on 12 May This included training on water sampling and pest control to improve standardisation and competency of staff.

The Port of Tyne annual review was held on the 19 May and officers attended. There has been a drop in bulk cargo revenue due mainly to a 43% drop in coal and pellets imports over 2015. There is a general increase in passenger numbers with Fred Olsen utilising the port of Tyne as a destination starting point.

Port of Tyne Dredging Activities has been discussed with the harbour master. The Port of Tyne Authority has a duty to survey and reports depths, but not to maintain depths.

They review the depths on the basis of need, and have powers to levy charges to cover the costs of dredging on those ships that use the river. Dredging is limited to the needs of the Port and the necessity to protect the ecology of the Tyne by limiting the dredging to the current demands.

Decision Options

This is an information only report.

4.0 Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Shipping trends at the Port of Tyne

Appendix 2 – Table of Charges

5.0 Contact Officers:

Frances McClen, Chief Port Health Officer – Tel: 0191 643 6640

6.0 Background Information:

There are no background papers to this report.

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

1.0 Finance and Other Resources:

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

2.0 Legal:

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

SHIPPING TRENDS SINCE YEAR 2006

YEAR	ARRIVALS	INSPECTIONS	DEFECTS
2006	2048	316	24
2007	1940	303	30
2008	1772	310	52
2009	1479	195	24
2010	1669	269	13
2011	1928	284	17
2012	1850	357	22
2013	1548	234	2
2014	1466	233	10
2015	3517		

CRUISE SHIP ARRIVALS

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
8	19	19	23	29	23	20	38	33	31

Ship Inspection Charges – for Ship Sanitation Control Certificates

The Tyne Port Health Authority has adopted the table of charges set by the Association of Port Health Authorities for Ship Sanitation Control Certificates and Ship Sanitation Control Exemption Certificates.

SHIP INSPECTION CHARGES – 2016/17

Gross Tonnage	Charge
Up to 1,000	£80
1,0001 to 3,000	£115
3,001 – 10,000	£175
10,001 – 20,000	£230
20,001 – 30,000	£295
Over 30,000	£350
Vessels with the capacity to carry between 50 and 1,000 persons	£350
Vessels with the capacity to carry more than 1,000 persons	£600
Extensions	£50

The table of charges does not include extra charges which may be applied for additional costs incurred by the Authority such as launch hire or sampling and analytical fees.

Water Sampling

There is no charge for water samples taken as part of official controls including ship sanitation inspection or as part of routine water quality monitoring.

Water sampling carried out on request will be subject to the following charges

Water Sample	Pro rata £26.00 per hour* plus analysts fees where applicable**
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*includes travel time to and from courier dispatch point.

**analyst fees are not always incurred and will vary depending on type of analysis requested.

Plastic Kitchenware

The following charges will apply to consignments subject to official controls, that is, imports of polyamide and melamine kitchenware falling within CN code 3924 10 00 originating or consigned from China or Hong Kong.

Check, Countersign and Issue of Common Entry Document (CED)	£46.00*
Formal Sample (10%)	Pro rata £26.00 per hour** plus analysts fees***

*discount will be applied to multiple CEDs in a single consignment.

**excludes any port handling fees charged direct by Port of Tyne.

***analysts fees currently approx £420.

Imported Food Sampling

The following charges will apply to consignments of imported food subject to an enhanced level of official controls (under Commission Regulation 669/2009)

Check, Countersign and Issue of CED	£46.00*
Formal Sample (10%)	Pro rata £26.00 per hour** plus analysts fees***

*discount will be applied to multiple CEDs in a single consignment

**excludes any port handling fees charged direct by Port of Tyne

***analysts fees will vary depending on type of analysis