

**Tyne Port Health Authority  
Report to the Joint Board  
Date: Tuesday 4 October 2016**

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**Subject:** Operational Summary 01/05/16 - 31/08/16

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**PART 1**

**1.1 Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to inform the Joint Board of activity during the period 01/05/16 – 31/08/16.

**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**.

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.

**Summary of ship sanitation inspections between 01 May 2016 and 31 August 2016**

<b>Inspections</b>	<b>Ship Sanitation Control Exemption Certificates issued</b>	<b>Ship Sanitation Control Certificates issued</b>
12(11)	12(11)	0(0)

\* figures for the previous year shown in brackets.

## Summary of Other Inspections/ boardings of Ships between 1 May 2016 and 31 August 2016

	<b>Arrivals</b>	<b>Inspections</b>	<b>Major Defects found</b>	<b>Minor Defects found</b>	<b>Revisits/Referrals</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>514(532)</b>	<b>54(45)</b>	<b>0(9)</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2(9)</b>

\* figures for the previous year shown in brackets.

\* last 2 columns not previously reported.

The harbour master has advised that there were 515 arrivals over the period of May to August inclusive. The arrivals consisted of 97 British Flag and 417 Foreign flag ships. All major and minor defects were remedied in port and no matters required referral to the Maritime & Coastguard Agency or the next port of call for follow up action.

### Water Supply

88 Samples of drinking water were taken from 29 vessels for bacteriological analysis. Samples are taken routinely as part of some ship sanitation and other ship inspection, and also on request or in response to concerns.

46 samples of drinking water were taken from sites and hydrants in the port area during the period.

### Summary of water sampling activity between 1 May 2016 and 31 August 2016

	<b>Vessels sampled</b>	<b>Total samples from vessels</b>	<b>Hydrants sampled</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Unsatisfactory</b>
British Flag	11(17)	30(27)	46(44)	60(63)	16(8)
Foreign Flag	18(18)	58(38)	N/A	50(32)	8(6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>29(35)</b>	<b>88(65)</b>	<b>46(45)</b>	<b>110(95)</b>	<b>24(14)</b>

\* figures reported the previous year shown in brackets.

There were a number of unsatisfactory samples taken during the period but all follow up samples were found to be satisfactory and no remedial actions were necessary.

### Imported Food

Official controls are carried out as Tyne Port Health are a designated first entry point for high risk foods not of animal origin. The list of high risk foods known as 669/2009 is updated quarterly and reviewed by Tyne Port Health. The authority is also an introduction

point for plastics. Imported foods listed on 669 register require a minimum documentary check. A physical sample check is carried out on 10 percent of all consignments third country import consignments of certain specified foods and plastics entering the port. This information is specific to the European legislation

### Summary of official controls on imported food and plastics between 01 May 2016 and 31 August 2016

	Number of Consignments	Document Checks	ID Checks	Samples Physical Checks	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
<b>Tea from China (669)</b>	10(9)	10(9)	1(0)	1(0)	1(0)	0 (0)
<b>Organic Tea</b>	4(1)	4(1)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0 (0)
<b>Other Food</b>	0(26)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0 (0)
<b>Plastics</b>	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0 (0)

\* figures for the previous year shown in brackets.

No samples were required to be taken during the period.

#### Infectious Disease Control

#### Fatality on board MV Balmoral

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August, Tyne Port Health were notified the Medical Officer on board the cruise ship MV Balmoral via the Emergency on-call contact of the death of a passenger whilst the vessel was sailing towards the Tyne. Discussions with the Officer determined that the individual became unwell and suffered a cardiac arrest whilst in the ships hospital. Further investigations confirmed that the individual was not suffering from any illness associated with his voyage and was aware that he was approaching end of life.

#### Low Level gastro-Intestinal outbreaks

Port Health Officers visited three vessels who were or had experienced low level outbreaks of gastro-intestinal illness in passengers and crew.

The majority of vessels operate a traffic light system with amber being triggered by a given

percentage of passengers and or crew exhibiting a range of key symptoms through to red, resulting in isolation of all symptomatic persons.

In all circumstances, the vessels were found to be employing all available procedures to prevent further spread of the illness. Port Health Officers boarded the vessel and confirmed appropriate actions had been undertaken and made recommendations to the Medical Staff regarding the prevention of spread and cross-contamination.

#### Income from official controls and other chargeable activity between 1 May 201 and 31 August 2016

Greater income was raised from ship sanitation inspections and official controls than over the same period last year. The increase in ship sanitation inspection is due in part to the large cruise ships that required the 6 monthly ship sanitation inspection.

Ship Sanitation Inspection	Food & Plastics Imports - Official Controls	Water Sampling Requests	<b>Total</b>
£3235(£2714)	£852(nil)	£302(£102)	£4,389 (£2816)

\* figures for the previous year shown in brackets. No figure indicates not previously reported.

#### Other Activity

##### Illegal consignment of cigarettes

An illegal shipment of cigarettes with a resale value of over 1 million pounds was discovered in a container hidden behind a consignment of bread by borderforce. The container was on board a DFDS ferry. Working alongside Border Force, Tyne Port Health Officers detained the container and the contraband was seized. Investigations in to the origin of the consignment are ongoing.

### **3.0 Decision Options**

This is an information only report.

### **4.0 Appendices:**

Appendix 1 – Shipping trends at the Port of Tyne

### **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 2005

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>ARRIVALS</b>	<b>INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>DEFECTS</b>
<b>2005</b>	2214	406	32
<b>2006</b>	2048	316	24
<b>2007</b>	1940	303	30
<b>2008</b>	1772	310	52
<b>2009</b>	1479	195	24
<b>2010</b>	1669	269	13
<b>2011</b>	1928	284	17
<b>2012</b>	1850	357	22
<b>2013</b>	1548	234	2
<b>2014</b>	1466	233	10
<b>2015</b>	3517		

## CRUISE SHIP ARRIVALS

<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
19	19	23	29	23	20	38	33	31	31

