

Friday, 6 September 2024

RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

A meeting of the River Tees Port Health Authority was held on Friday, 6 September 2024 at the Civic Centre, Ridley Street, Redcar TS10 1TD.

PRESENT Councillor Grogan (In the Chair)
Councillors P Gavigan, T Gray, P Grogan, L Hall,
I Hart and S Hussain.

OFFICIALS D Dobson, L Evans, S Fenwick, E Grunert and S
Ziolkowski

MINUTES SILENCE

Members and Officers stood for a minutes silence as a mark of respect for Middlesbrough Councillor Jeanette Walker, who sadly passed away recently. Councillor Walker was a long standing member on the River Tees Port Health Authority.

41 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Coupe, W Davies (Chair), M Dodds, T Furness, B Harrison, L Hurst, E Johnson, J Neal and P Rowling.

42 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

43 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 JUNE 2024**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2024 be confirmed as a correct record subject Councillor Gavigan and Rowlings name being removed from the list of those present.

44 **PERFORMANCE SUMMARY FOR RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY MAY 2024 TO JULY 2024**

The Executive Director for Growth, Enterprise and Environment presented a report which gave a summary of the performance of the River Tees Port Health Authority from May to July 2024: - **NOTED**.

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45 **BORDER TARGET OPERATING MODEL**

The Executive Director for Growth, Enterprise and Environment presented a report which updated Members on the implementation of the Border Target Operating Model (BTOM) on the River Tees Port Health Authority (RTPHA) following Britain's exit from the European Union.

The Border Target Operating Model was published in August 2023. This report therefore gave details of the timelines and checks to be introduced to protect the UK borders from sanitary and phytosanitary risks.

Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures were quarantine and biosecurity measures which were applied to protect human, animal or plant life or health from risks arising from the introduction, establishment and spread of pests and diseases and from risks arising from additives, toxins and contaminants in food and feed.

Members were advised of the final milestone in the BTOM; which would take place on 31 October 2024 was the Safety and Security declarations for EU imports that were due come into force. Alongside this, the UK would introduce a reduced dataset for imports and use of the UK Single Trade Window would remove duplication where possible across different pre-arrival datasets. Members were advised that there would be no impact to the River Tees Port Health Authority for the implementation of these checks.

RESOLVED that the information in the report be noted.

46 **REVIEW OF CURRENT FEES AND CHARGES**

The Executive Director of Growth, Enterprise and Environment presented proposed amendments to the fees and charges for Quarters 3 and 4 of 2024/25.

Members were reminded that fees and charges were reviewed annually to reflect the actual cost of the service. The last time the fees were reviewed was in March 2024. The charges applied to products of animal origin were calculated using estimated timescales; timings to carry out checks have since been re-evaluated and calculated according to actual timescales, now that the new checks have been implemented since 30 April 2024.

The report also highlighted a new charge proposed for imports of Products of Animal Origin (POAO); a late notification fee.

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1013 on prior notification of consignments of certain categories of animals and goods entering Great Britain states that the operator responsible for a

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consignment shall give prior notification, to the competent authority of the border control post of first arrival, at least one working day before the expected arrival of the consignment.

Many importers were not complying with this legal requirement and research has shown that many of the major ports have implemented a late notification fee.

This fee would be charged for all imports that were not notified one working day prior to arrival.

Imports into Tees have a minimum of a 16 hour crossing time from the EU, therefore allowing ample time for compliance with prenotification requirements.

Members were also advised that where logistical constraints prevent compliance with the time limit set out above, the PHA may apply a period of prior notification of at least four hours before the expected arrival of the consignment. Tees does not have any derogations in place but would consider any applications made by importers or their agents.

RESOLVED that the changes to the current fees and charges be approved.

47 **2024/25 FINANCIAL POSITION UPDATE**

The Treasurer presented a report which updated Members on the financial position of the Authority at the end of July 2024 (Period 04) and highlighted any variances against the 2024/25 approved budget.

RESOLVED the information in the report be approved and noted.

48 **ANY ITEMS THAT THE CHAIR CERTIFIES AS URGENT**

There were no urgent items.