

## 1. Introduction

The Department for Transport works with agencies and partners to plan and invest in the transport infrastructure that keeps the UK on the move. In the ports sector, DfT's role is central to the planning of the UK's diverse ports industry.

The UK needs ports to handle trade, and appropriate investment in these to sustain trade growth. DfT plays a crucial role in facilitating this via the National Policy Statement for Ports, and the UK Port Traffic Forecasts that support this.

DfT wishes to improve its modelling capability to develop new forecasts, and has appointed Fisher Associates to develop a UK Port Traffic Forecasting Model.

## 2. Our Approach

There are two stages:

1. Review of existing forecasts; Scoping the model functionality for future forecasts; Specifying the model methodology.
2. Building the model; Testing it; Handover.

The UK Port Traffic Forecasts are for the benefit of all stakeholders engaged in port development, including proposers of projects, Government agencies involved in the permissions process, and many others besides.

**We are keen to engage with key stakeholders in undertaking this task. We therefore invite you to respond to the questions below.**

We will revert to you in a few weeks to canvass your views further on how we intend to develop the model methodology.

## 3. Questions

A. How will you use UK Port Traffic Forecasts?



B. What are the strengths and weaknesses and usefulness of the current forecasts?



C. What type of outputs would you like to see?

## 4. How to Respond

Please respond by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February:

- Phone:** David Green on 01582 622 749
- Email:** david@fisher-maritime.net
- Mail:** Fisher Associates, April House, Rowes Lane, Lyminster, SO41 5SU

For more information on this commission see [www.fisherassoc.co.uk](http://www.fisherassoc.co.uk)

