

**COM/2023/258 Proposal for a Regulation establishing the Union
Customs Code and the European Union Customs Authority, and
repealing Regulation (EU) No 952/2013**

Consultation Response – British Ports Association

Impact of EU Act

1 Does it appear likely that the proposed EU act would have a significant negative impact specific to everyday life of communities in Northern Ireland in a way that is liable to persist?

No

Tell us why:

Although it is certainly unhelpful and bureaucratic to have two separate systems for customs, the digital and remote nature of arrangements means the processes are manageable. Presumably therefore limited costs are passed on to consumers although ideally aligned systems would work better.

2 Does it appear likely that NOT APPLYING the proposed EU act would have a significant negative impact specific to everyday life of communities in Northern Ireland in a way that is liable to persist?

Unsure

Tell us why:

There is limited evidence of any impacts here but we would seek views from traders.

3 Are there any other matters regarding the proposed EU act that you wish to draw to the Committee's attention? Please note, any information provided should be of an evidential nature rather than a commentary.

Yes

Tell us why:

As mentioned it is certainly not favourable and indeed bureaucratic to have two separate systems for customs. However the digital and remote nature of arrangements means the processes are manageable, particularly at borders where the ports sector has the most interest. Interventions on trade need to be avoided where possible to keep goods flowing freely.