

<b>Meeting topic</b>	
<b>Customs Consultative Committee</b>	
<b>Attendees</b>	Revenue Commissioners American Chamber of Commerce Ireland BIM Bord Bia Chambers Ireland Customs-IT Dept of Agriculture, Food and the Marine Dept of Finance Dept of Foreign Affairs Dept of Taoiseach Dept of Transport Dept. of Business, Enterprise and Innovation Enterprise Ireland Freight Transport Association Hardware Association Ireland. Ibec ICT Ireland Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers Ireland (ICS) Intel IRHA Irish Road Haulage Association Irish Exporters Association (IEA) Irish Grain & Feed Association (IGFA) Irish International Freight Association Irish Ship Agents Assoc. Primark
<b>Secretary</b>	David O Mahony – Brexit – Customs Division, Revenue
<b>Date of meeting</b>	11 Dec 2020
<b>Venue</b>	Virtual Meeting via Skype for Business Dublin Castle – Conference Room 2
<b>Item 1: Introduction</b>	The Chair welcomed the group and gave a brief outline of the Brexit negotiations, highlighting the significant differences that existed at the time. Revenue's Automated Import System (AIS) is now live but business concerns have continued so there will be dual running of AIS & AEP for imports until 31 March 2021. The Chair encouraged all businesses to transition to AIS before this end date.
<b>Item 2: Adoption of minutes</b>	The previous minutes were adopted
<b>Item 3: Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) Update</b>	Louise Byrne (DAFM) gave an update on recent developments. DAFM have been very active with their communications and outreach programmes, including a number of webinars which are available to view on their website. Louise encouraged all business to engage with them regarding requirements.  Tom Thornton (IIFA) asked about seal checks on the South Bank Quay where and how they would be done for LOLO. DAFM and HSE are reviewing this.

	<p>John Nolan (IRHA) brought up the issue of DAFM opening times in Rosslare particularly the 12-2 gap. Louise said DAFM are reviewing this.</p>
<p><b>Item 4: Brexit Update Future Relationship Negotiations – state of play (Celine O Neill)</b></p>	<p>Celine O Neill gave an overview of the current Future Relationship negotiations. She said Revenue IT systems are ready to go. She went through the proposed 6-month EU contingency measures for air/road transport and fisheries, highlighting that good progress had been made on the IRL/NI Protocol and that this was important particularly regarding ‘goods at risk’.</p> <p>Pat Ivory (Ibec) welcomed the extension of AIS/AEP dual running. He asked about working hours and contact points across the Christmas/New Year period. The Chair said these would be sent out to the group.</p> <p><b>Update: Details of holiday times and contact details were circulated to the group.</b></p> <p>IIFA asked about goods in transit across the end of the Transition Period. Revenue said this was covered in an EU guidance notice and advised to keep as much paperwork as possible to show the movement started before end of TP, including commercial invoices. The UCC will apply as of the end of the TP but Revenue will take a pragmatic approach on a case by case basis obviously backed by the paperwork.</p> <p>Ibec said they had written to the EU Commission saying there was a need for a pragmatic and flexible approach to unintended errors and infringements which may occur due to the large volume of declarations. The Chair said that Revenue will also take such an approach.</p> <p>Eddie Burke (Dept of Transport) went through the 6-month EU contingency measures including ones covering aviation and road transport. There was some discussion on this with Eddie emphasising that the proposed measures were not yet finalised.</p>
<p><b>Revenue Customs IT Systems (Carol-Ann O Keefe)</b></p>	<p>Carol-Ann updated the group on progress with the new Customs Roll-on Roll-off (RoRo) Service including the PBN test system which had been successful. Internal end to end testing and testing with other agencies had also all been completed successfully.</p> <p>The group had some questions regarding multiple PBN creation/PBN data exchange – API. The Chair said this will be a priority for Q1 2021 and that we will come back with API information.</p> <p>IRHA had a suggestion regarding the use of text messaging when creating a PBN. Revenue said the system as it is now is going live on 1 Jan but that it will be considered in Q1. The Chair added that Revenue will ask for feedback/input regarding the systems in 2021.</p>
<p><b>Infrastructure (Lynda Slattery)</b></p>	<p>Lynda outlined the final stages of the development of the new facilities. She said that although the test simulations in Rosslare didn’t get the level of</p>

<p><b>AIS Update (John O Leary)</b></p>	<p>participation as was hoped, that they provided a lot of really useful information.</p> <p>There were communication issues but it was emphasised that this was a test environment involving certain steps that won't be required in live.</p> <p>IRHA brought up the issue of driver's hours and how time sitting waiting for a load check could be a problem. They said that it might be the case that drivers can't move out of yards if they have exceeded their statutory driving hours. Department of Transport said that this had already been raised a number of times at their Stakeholders meetings and that the Department are looking at Article 14 derogations in conjunction with the Road Safety Authority and a decision would be made closer to 1 January 2021.</p> <p>Revenue pointed out that the majority of checks are done in advance. DAFM added that a load sealed by an official vet in UK will allow for quicker checks at the Irish ports</p> <p>A number of issues on foot of the port simulations were discussed including signage and traffic management.</p> <p>As part of the new infrastructure there will be full high standard facilities at the ports including showers for drivers and provisions to allow the maintenance of cold and heat chain cycle.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>John O Leary said there were some minor AIS issues but the system is running, in use and that at the time the volume of AIS declarations exceeded that of AEP. Most find that change is the issue and not the mechanics of the system. At the time the majority of software providers products were AIS compatible.</p> <p>In response to members' questions John said that if companies were having any issues to please email the eCustoms Helpdesk but also added that all the information required is out there - documents and codes.</p> <p>Specifically, John said that when declarations were rejected there is a rejection code and this can be referenced in the published documents and the software houses will also be aware of this.</p> <p>Regarding message size John said that this is something Revenue is working on. He said that information on postponed accounting for VAT at point of entry would be sent on to the group when available.</p> <p><b>Update: The eCustoms Helpdesk Notification on 'Postponed accounting for VAT at the point of entry' was sent to the group.</b></p> <p>IIFA thanked Helen Brennan for her beneficial AIS engagements.</p> <p>IRHA asked about TRACES requirements in France. Revenue said FR will be looking at their systems in 2021. The FR system is already built and that the EU legislation has been requested.</p>
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	IIFA asked about creating a small workgroup to meet weekly with Customs post-Brexit to work on issues. Chair said that all feedback is appreciated.
<b>Item 5: Briefing by members on recent developments and current concerns</b>	
<b>Item 6: AOB</b>	Ibec asked about the excise duty situation where a new system is to be introduced. Ibec said Revenue's revised arrangements offered a more workable solution than previous but still meant substantial additional workload. The lead time is short to introduce a permanent solution in Q1 but Ibec would like to be consulted. Ibec members want a robust, workable system and asked for this development to be done in full consultation with industry.
<b>Item 7: Date of next meeting</b>	Chair proposed that we wait until after the first week in January before selecting a date for the next CCC meeting
<b>Action 1</b>	Revenue to send to the group details of working hours and contact points across the Christmas/New Year period. <b>Update: Details of holiday times and contact details were circulated to the group.</b>
<b>Action 2</b>	The Chair to come back with API information Q1 2021.
<b>Action 3</b>	Revenue to send to the group information on postponed accounting for VAT at point of entry when available. <b>Update: The eCustoms Helpdesk Notification on 'Postponed accounting for VAT at the point of entry' was sent to the group.</b>