

Meeting topic		Customs Consultative Committee
Attendees	<p> Florance Carey, Chair – Customs Division, Revenue Lynda Slattery – International Policy and Brexit – Customs Division, Revenue Declan O’Dalaigh – National Policy and Operations – Customs Division, Revenue Sean O’ Seaghdha – Legislation – Customs Division, Revenue Celine O’Neill – Brexit – Customs Division, Revenue John Browne – National Policy and Operations – Customs Division, Revenue Caroline Kennedy – E-Customs and Risk Mgt – Customs Division, Revenue Susan Evans – Dept. of Finance Eric Gargan – Dept. of Finance Barry Guihan – Dept. of Foreign Affairs Thomas Murray – Dept. of Business, Enterprise and Innovation Kevin Foley Friel – Dept. of Agriculture, Food and the Marine Noel Hand – Dept. of Employment Affairs and Social Protection Shane Hamill – Bord Bia Kathryn O’Donovan – Ibec Declan Ivory – ICT Ireland John P O’Loughlin – PwC Aidan Flynn – Freight Transport Association Simon McKeever – Irish Exporters Association Pascal Koenig – Irish Exporters Association Helen Pyke – Dept. Business, Enterprise & Innovation Paul Lynam – British Irish Chamber of Commerce Emma Kerins – The Chambers of Commerce Ireland CLG Derek Dunne – Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers David Putt – Irish Shipping Agent Association Adam Fitzsimons – Customs – IT Verona Murphy – Irish Road Hauliers Association John Nolan – Irish Road Hauliers Association Eimear Martin – Primark Alan Cleary – Primark Peter O’Reilly – Logistics & Freight Association of Ireland Seamus Kavanagh – Irish International Freight Association Tom Thornton – Irish International Freight Association John Dawson – Irish International Freight Association/Bell Transport & Logistics Tony Goodwin – Irish Road Hauliers Association Stephen Cummins – Irish Association of International Express Carriers </p>	
Apologies	<p> John O’Leary – eCustoms & Risk Management – Customs Division, Revenue Carol-Ann O’Keeffe – Brexit – Customs Division, Revenue Ray Ryan – Brexit – Customs Division, Revenue Eileen Hoey – Brexit - Customs Division, Revenue Pat Ivory – Ibec Malcolm Kirkby – Logistics & Freight Association of Ireland Emma Ormond – Primark Brian Cotter – American Chamber of Commerce Ireland Stephen Tracey – ICT Ireland Majella Fahy – Bord Bia David Brown – Customs – IT </p>	

Secretary	Rachel McKenna – Brexit – Customs Division, Revenue
Date of meeting	08/07/2019
Venue	Dublin Castle – Conference Room 2
Item 1: Introduction	Chair welcomed the group and noted that the intention of today was to provide an update on Brexit issues and also the usual Customs business, i.e. UCC IT Developments. Chair noted that the Government will be publishing the updated no-deal Brexit Contingency Action Plan tomorrow, which would reflect the intensifying of the no-deal preparations. Revenue will also intensify their Trader Engagement Programme and the group were advised that Revenue would like to hear the issues being experienced by them and their customers.
Item 2: UCC Systems IT Development	<p>John Browne and Caroline Kennedy provided an update on the UCC IT System Development.</p> <p>John gave an overview of the background of the UCC which came into effect on 01/05/2016, replacing the Community Customs Code. He noted that it aligns EU Customs Legislation with the requirements of the Lisbon Treaty and it aims to achieve simplicity, service and speed by harmonising customs formalities across all EU Member States. It is intended that projects will be completed by 2025.</p> <p>Caroline provided information on the implementation of the new Automated Import System (AIS), which will replace the current reporting system. The plan is to 'go live' in late 2020 with some transitional arrangements to be put in place. It is intended that the group will be invited back in the coming months for a more detailed information session.</p> <p>Caroline gave an overview of the features of the system and the timelines for completion.</p> <p>Caroline also covered the CLASS system and the fact that it was scheduled to go live on 01/07/2019. The CLASS system is effectively a single platform for all classification information. This system is now live and can be accessed at the following link: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/class-public-ui-web/#/search</p> <p>You will find a copy of the presentation given in Union Customs Code IT Implementation</p>
Item 3: Update on Brexit and related matters	<p>Representatives from DBEI and D/Taoiseach advised that they were exploring options with regard to training supports, ICT, company and agent's customs capability and the associated funding requirements for such supports. It was noted that there is active communication between relevant Government bodies and departments. The aim is to confirm details in the coming weeks for supports which would be in place for September/October. This item was discussed at length with some concerns raised that the benefits of the supports may not be fully realised as a result of the planned timeframe for the introduction of such supports.</p> <p>Chair noted the current supports available via the various state agencies.</p>

<p>Infrastructure</p>	<p>It was noted that some temporary infrastructure is in place with additional requirements currently being delivered in Dublin Airport, Dublin Port and Rosslare Europort. There are also additional Revenue staff in all three locations. DAFM advised that they would also have additional staff in place for 31 October. It was noted that some of the facilities are temporary but OPW are working to replace with permanent infrastructure.</p> <p>Maps and Signage were also discussed in the context of infrastructure. It was agreed that the Rosslare Europort map could be shared with the group, however, the Dublin Port map was currently under review and it was felt that to share at this time would not be beneficial. The intention is to use generic universal images in the signage.</p>
<p>Trader Preparedness</p>	<p>Eddie Wallace updated the group on Revenue’s next phase of engagement with the trade. Revenue have analysed 2018 VIES data and will shortly begin a phased approach to issuing approx. 92k businesses with personalised letters which will include reference to critical steps to be taken, information on government agencies for supports and notification that Revenue will initiate further contact and engagement with businesses via a follow-up telephone call.</p> <p>It was noted that Revenue continues to have intensive engagement with many businesses. The Revenue Brexit webpage shows information relevant to a business and an individual, enabling clear messages to be provided. Revenue are also developing information guides for customers, e.g. online shopping.</p>
<p>EORI Registrations</p>	<p>Revenue are committed to addressing the cohort of businesses which are not currently registered for an EORI number. The letters issued will advise of the crucial Brexit-preparation steps to be taken, one of which being that if a business wishes to continue to trade with or through the UK post Brexit, they will need to register for an EORI number.</p>
<p>Authorisations, Simplifications & Comprehensive Guarantees</p>	<p>Declan O’Dalaigh gave an update in relation to Authorisations, Simplifications & Comprehensive Guarantees. The message from Revenue is to apply for authorisations and simplifications as soon as possible so that they will be in place for 31 October. Any business that has experienced any issue with these requests being processed by Revenue are assured that we will address them and should engage with us in this regard, as required.</p> <p>In terms of AEO status, Revenue can provide advice to businesses once they have completed the self-assessment questionnaire which is available on the website. Revenue records indicate a reduction in queries and applications surrounding special procedures, it is imperative that businesses assess their supply chains and engage with Revenue.</p> <p>Where a special procedure is required, there is likely to be a requirement for a comprehensive guarantee. Businesses are encouraged to apply for these guarantees as soon as possible to avoid delays.</p>

<p>Item 3: Briefing by members on recent developments and current concerns</p>	<p>Clarity was sought on North-South movements. Members were advised that Revenue continue to engage in the whole of Government approach. When there is further information this will be communicated, as soon as it becomes available.</p> <p>Members highlighted the requirement of financial state support to enable businesses to prepare adequately for Brexit.</p> <p>There was a request by some members to have two 'products' in place: one to deliver on requirements for a 31 Oct scenario and a second, which would come into play if an agreement was reached.</p>
<p>Item 4: AOB</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Item 5: Date of next meeting</p>	<p>It was suggested to have a further meeting in the next few weeks when there would be information available regarding supports. Chair noted that the next meeting may be notified to the group at short notice. Members were thanked for their attendance and participation.</p>
<p>Action 1:</p> <p>Action 2:</p> <p>Action 3:</p> <p>Action 4:</p>	<p>Workshops for all stakeholders – to be discussed and arranged with the Irish Chamber of Shipping members at Revenue’s upcoming meeting with them.</p> <p>Members were advised to use the brexitqueries@revenue.ie mailbox for any Brexit-related queries that arise.</p> <p>Members were requested to encourage businesses to assess their supply chains, particularly with regard to assessing whether the need for a special procedure or comprehensive guarantee would be necessary. It was noted that businesses should apply in advance to avoid delays.</p> <p>Revenue to share Rosslare Europort map and the Dublin Port map, when confirmed.</p>