

Sarah Newton MP
House of Commons
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

Tel 03000 544 855

Email ruth.stanier@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

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Internet www.gov.uk/hmrc

Dear Mrs Newton,

CUSTOMS DECLARATION SERVICE AND ROLL ON/ROLL OFF TRAFFIC

Thank you for your email of 12 October about your constituent Mr Roger Wright-Morris of Salem Chapel, Chacewater, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 8NA. I am replying as the Director with responsibility for Customs and Indirect Tax Policy in HMRC.

The current Customs Handling of Import and Export Freight (CHIEF) system will be replaced by the Customs Declaration Service (CDS). We remain on target to deliver CDS by January 2019. We are actively managing delivery plans in partnership with stakeholders, including industry representatives.

The Future Customs Arrangements: Future Partnership Paper, published on 15 August, and the Customs Bill White Paper, published on 9 October, reaffirmed the commitment to facilitating the flow of traffic. This includes exploring options to reduce the risk of delays at ports, and negotiating with the European Union to simplify the movement of goods across borders. For example, this could mean bilateral implementation of a technology-based solution for roll-on, roll-off ports. This could consist of pre-arrival notification of consignments on a port IT system, linked to customs declarations and vehicle registration numbers so that vehicles were not required to stop at the border, enabling traffic to flow smoothly.

Thank you for passing on Mr Wright-Morris' invitation to address the upcoming Campaign for an Independent Britain's conference. I am sorry that we cannot accommodate that invitation at this point. However, much more information about our plans is available in the Customs Bill White Paper.

I hope this helps you reply to Mr Wright-Morris.

Information is available in large print, audio tape and Braille formats.
Type Talk service prefix number – 18001

Yours sincerely

Ruth Stanier

Ruth Stanier
Director

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