



Department
for Transport

From the Parliamentary
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Maritime Safety Week (9 – 13 July)

I am writing to you to announce the inaugural Maritime Safety Week and to ask for your active participation in promoting both the week and its purpose through any channels available to you.

I have been surprised by the sheer size and scope of the sector since my arrival at the Department for Transport. Safety is absolutely critical to underpinning success at every level and I want to raise awareness and highlight the excellent work which is already being done in this space by a diverse range of organisations and individuals. Maritime Safety Week has been created to do precisely that and provide a focal point to recognise your contributions and celebrate success.

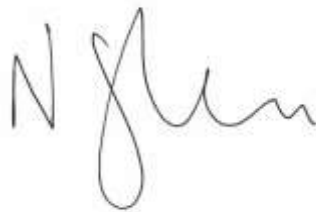
As an island nation we have always depended on the seafarers, shipping and the wider maritime industry for our prosperity but safety isn't just a concern for professional mariners who undertake their roles in what are often difficult and dangerous circumstances. All users of the maritime environment, from recreational mariners to casual beach goers, need to understand the risks. We recognise that these groups have very different safety needs and requirements and the scope of Maritime Safety Week is similarly broad.

To succeed, we need your help. Maritime Safety Week will provide an opportunity to share the wealth of knowledge, experience and best practice which you have and to increase understanding of what the sector is already doing to respond to the safety challenges it faces as well as plans for the future. We want to stimulate conversations and make connections under the banner of the Maritime Safety Week logo (attached for ease of use), [#martimesafetyweek](https://twitter.com/martimesafetyweek) and [#maritimesafetymatters](https://twitter.com/maritimesafetymatters).

I will be using these hash tags throughout the week whilst undertaking a series of visits and making a number of announcements. I want to know what you will be doing during the week and please let us know your plans via maritimesafety@dft.gsi.gov.uk to ensure we capture everything which is happening.

I know the Maritime Safety Week concept has already created a significant amount of interest but I want to be clear that this is also about creating real and lasting momentum to deliver a further step change in safety performance.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my personal thanks in advance for your assistance in making Maritime Safety Week, an event I hope will be repeated in future years, a success!

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'N Ghani', with a large loop at the end of the name.

NUSRAT GHANI