



Our ref: RD/JC/lmh

Wednesday 9 September 2009

Mr Robert Davies
Policy Adviser – European and Contingency Ports Division
Department of Transport
2/34 Great Minster House, 76 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DR

Dear Mr Davies

PORT OF LIVERPOOL – CITY CRUISE TERMINAL

The Southampton & Fareham Chamber of Commerce & Industry and its affiliates represent over 2,500 businesses in the Southampton and City Region.

We understand that you are currently consulting on an application by Liverpool City Council for a change of use of the Liverpool City Cruise Terminal.

The Liverpool City Cruise Terminal was awarded a development grant as a Port of call facility. Because of the limitation on the use of this facility this Chamber did not object to the development being subsidised by public funding.

However, the proposed change of use will allow this facility to unfairly compete with other turn round Ports who have had to develop their own facilities without public funding.

Turn round facilities in Southampton generate business not just for the Port but for the many small supply and support services in the City region and any reduction in the number of turn round calls would have a damaging impact on those businesses and the business community in general. It would be entirely unacceptable if this damage resulted in any way from the misuse of taxpayers' money.

On that basis, this Chamber strongly objects to the proposed change of use.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Chestnutt', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

James Chestnutt
Chief Executive/Director General