

[News story: Chair of the Pensions Regulator re-appointed](#)

His renewed term will commence from 1 April 2018 for a 3 year period up to 31 March 2021.

Mark Boyle became Non-Executive Chair of [The Pensions Regulator](#) in April 2014. To date, his career has spanned the banking, FTSE corporate and central government sectors.

From 2011 until March 2016, he was also the independent Non-Executive Chair of HM Land Registry. Previous to this he was Director and Chief Operating Officer at the Shareholder Executive, the specialist team based in the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (formerly the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills) that looked after a portfolio of government-owned businesses ranging from the Royal Mail to Ordnance Survey.

Before this he spent 12 years in senior commercial and corporate development roles with 2 major FTSE companies, Compass Group and Rentokil Initial. The first 15 years of his career were spent in banking with Lloyds Bank International and Kleinwort Benson.

The Pensions Regulator is the regulator of work-based pension schemes in the UK. It is an executive non-departmental public body of the Department for Work and Pensions.

[Press release: Work starts on increased flood protection for Starcross and Cockwood](#)

At Starcross the Environment Agency will install 2 new floodgates at Church Road and Generals Lane slipway. They will also raise the car park levels at the Fishing and Cruising Club.

In Cockwood the harbour wall will be improved with a raised level along Dawlish Road in line with predicted sea level rises. Work is expected to take around 6 months and be finished by summer.

An Environment Agency spokesperson said:

The storms hitting our coast in the past week demonstrate the importance of tidal defences. We are making a number of improvements to increase the level of flood protection in this area. Across England we are investing £2.6 billion in over 1,500 flood and coastal schemes to help protect homes and businesses at risk. This important scheme has been designed to reduce the risk of tidal flooding to more than 660 residential and commercial properties.

From 8 January the road around Cockwood harbour, including Church Road and Dawlish Warren road, will be closed to traffic to allow work to be carried out and to ensure public safety. Pedestrians will continue to have access.

Works and road closures have been timed to avoid school holidays and the summer season but we apologise for any inconvenience the closures cause.

Construction of the Starcross and Cockwood tidal defence scheme begins just a few weeks after the £12m Dawlish Warren beach management scheme was opened by Michael Gove. The Dawlish Warren scheme provides increased flood protection to around 2,800 properties in the Exe estuary. Once complete, the Starcross and Cockwood tidal defence scheme is expected to further reduce flood risk for over 660 properties.

Notes to editors

The Environment Agency builds, maintains and improves sea defences to reduce the risk of coastal flooding. About 1.8 million homes are at risk of coastal flooding and erosion in England.

Between 2015 and 2021 the Environment Agency is investing in over 1,500 flood and coastal schemes to help protect homes and businesses at risk.

From 2015 to 2021, the Environment Agency is investing £2.5 billion in flood and coastal erosion risk management projects.

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News story: Border Force seize more than a million cigarettes in Manchester

Officers discovered the cigarettes in 6 separate seizures between 23 December 2017 and 2 January 2018.

Each consignment was listed as foot stools, but when officers examined the furniture they found hundreds of packets of cigarettes, branded as Lambert and Butler but suspected counterfeit, hidden in the void beneath the cushions.

In total, 1,012,800 cigarettes were detected.

Had the smuggling attempts proved successful it could have cost the Treasury approximately £375,000 in unpaid duty and VAT.

All of the consignments came from China.

Paul Airlie, Deputy Director of Border Force North, said:

These significant seizures, 1,012,800 cigarettes in total, are testament to the expertise of Border Force officers who are working every day to prevent illegal importations, no matter how well they are concealed.

The black market cheats honest traders and it is effectively stealing from the public purse. By stopping the consignments Border Force has starved those responsible of the proceeds of their criminality.

Border Force officers use hi-tech search equipment to combat immigration crime and detect banned and restricted goods that smugglers attempt to bring into the country. They use an array of search techniques to find illegal drugs, firearms and tobacco which would otherwise end up causing harm to local people, businesses and communities.

Anyone with information about activity they suspect may be linked to smuggling can call our hotline on 0800 59 5000.

[News story: Safety Bulletin published](#)

The MAIB has today issued a safety bulletin to highlight an urgent safety lesson that has arisen following a fatal man overboard from the sailing yacht CV30 in the Indian Ocean on 18 November 2017.

The bulletin contains details on the background and events leading up to the accident, initial findings and the safety lesson, [read more](#).

A full report will be published when the investigation is complete.

Press enquiries

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