

[News story: CMA set to remove bus undertakings in Bristol](#)

The undertakings had been put in place following the 1989 merger of local bus companies Badgerline and Midland Red West which was investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC). The MMC ruled that the merger would remove competition for bus services contracted by the former Avon County Council. Local authorities tender for – and subsidise – unprofitable bus services to maintain important transport links for residents.

Badgerline was subsequently renamed FirstGroup Holdings Limited (a subsidiary of FirstGroup plc), which then became subject to the restrictions, including a cap on the amount they could receive from the local authority for running a tendered service – and a requirement to return any excess profit from such services.

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) has been [reviewing the undertakings since January](#) to see if there has been any change of circumstances which justifies their removal or variation.

The CMA has found that FirstGroup's share of tendered bus services in the region has reduced significantly since the MMC report and that in the most recent tender rounds, FirstGroup did not win any contracts at three of the four Local Transport Authorities. The CMA engaged with local stakeholders and no party that we spoke to argued that the undertakings were having a beneficial effect and should be retained.

Given these changes and the increased level of competition between operators when the relevant local authorities contract bus services, the CMA has provisionally decided that there is no longer any need for the protection given by the undertakings.

The CMA is now consulting on this provisional decision and invites responses via the review [case page](#), where all information relating to the review including the provisional decision is available.

[Speech: PM statement: General election 2017](#)

I have just been to see Her Majesty the Queen, and I will now form a government – a government that can provide certainty and lead Britain forward at this critical time for our country.

This government will guide the country through the crucial Brexit talks that begin in just 10 days, and deliver on the will of the British people by taking the United Kingdom out of the European Union.

It will work to keep our nation safe and secure by delivering the change that I set out following the appalling attacks in Manchester and London – cracking down on the ideology of Islamist extremism and all those who support it. And giving the police and the authorities the powers they need to keep our country safe.

The government I lead will put fairness and opportunity at the heart of everything we do, so that we fulfil the promise of Brexit together and – over the next 5 years – build a country in which no one and no community is left behind.

A country in which prosperity and opportunity are shared right across this United Kingdom.

What the country needs more than ever is certainty, and having secured the largest number of votes and the greatest number of seats in the general election, it is clear that only the Conservative & Unionist Party has the legitimacy and ability to provide that certainty by commanding a majority in the House of Commons.

As we do, we will continue to work with our friends and allies in the Democratic Unionist Party in particular. Our 2 parties have enjoyed a strong relationship over many years, and this gives me the confidence to believe that we will be able to work together in the interests of the whole United Kingdom.

This will allow us to come together as a country and channel our energies towards a successful Brexit deal that works for everyone in this country – securing a new partnership with the EU which guarantees our long-term prosperity.

That's what people voted for last June.

That's what we will deliver.

Now let's get to work.

[News story: CMA will clear fostering services merger after sales](#)

The National Fostering Agency Group (NFA) and Acorn Care and Education Group (Acorn) are 2 of the largest national providers of independent fostering

placement services to local authorities across Scotland, England and Wales, helping them match vulnerable children with foster carers.

In January 2017, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) [stated that the deal would face an in-depth investigation](#) unless NFA could address concerns over a reduction in competition in 3 areas in the UK in which the companies overlap within the framework agreements put in place by groups of local authorities – Wales, Norfolk and Luton (including the wider Central Bedfordshire/Bedford area).

The CMA had found that less competition would make it more difficult for the local authorities involved to ensure value for money in framework tenders.

To avoid being referred for an in-depth phase 2 investigation, NFA proposed selling Acorn businesses in Wales, Norfolk and Luton (including the wider Central Bedfordshire/Bedford area) to another provider, BSN Social Care. This would include transferring all relevant carers and associated staff to enable BSN Social Care to replicate the competitive constraint provided by Acorn prior to its purchase by NFA.

After consulting on these undertakings, the CMA is satisfied that the sales will protect competition in the affected areas and the ability of the local authorities concerned to obtain good value when tendering for fostering services.

All information on this merger can be found on the [case page](#).

Press release: FOREIGN FLAGGED SHIPS UNDER DETENTION IN THE UK DURING MAY 2017

During May, there were three new detentions of foreign flagged vessels in a UK port. Three vessels remained under detention from previous months. A total of four vessels remain under detention at the end of May.

1. In response to one of the recommendations of Lord Donaldson's inquiry into the prevention of pollution from merchant shipping, and in compliance with the EU Directive on Port State Control (2009/16/EC as amended), the Maritime and Coastguard agency (MCA) publishes details of the foreign flagged vessels detained in UK ports each month.
2. The UK is part of a regional agreement on port state control known as the Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Paris MOU)

and information on all ships that are inspected is held centrally in an electronic database known as THETIS. This allows the ships with a high risk rating and poor detention records to be targeted for future inspection.

3. Inspections of foreign flagged ships in UK ports are undertaken by surveyors from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. When a ship is found to be not in compliance with applicable convention requirements, a deficiency may be raised. If any of their deficiencies are so serious they have to be rectified before departure, then the ship will be detained.
4. All deficiencies should be rectified before departure if at all possible.
5. When applicable, the list includes those passenger craft prevented from operating under the provisions of the EU Directive on Mandatory Surveys for the safe operation of regular Ro-Ro ferry and high speed passenger craft services (1999/35/EU).

Notes on the list of detentions

- Full details of the ship. The accompanying detention list shows ship's International Maritime Organization (IMO) number which is unchanging throughout the ship's life and uniquely identifies it. It also shows the ship's name and flag state at the time of its inspection.
- Company. The company shown in the vessel's Safety Management Certificate (SMC) or if there is no SMC, then the party otherwise believed to be responsible for the safety of the ship at the time of inspection.
- Classification Society. The list shows the Classification Society responsible for classing the ship only.
- Recognised Organisation. Responsible for conducting the statutory surveys: and issuing statutory certificates on behalf of the Flag State
- White (WL), Grey (GL) and Black lists (BL) are issued by the Paris MoU on 01 July each year and shows the performance of flag State.

SHIPS DETAINED IN MAY 2017

Vessel Name: OCEAN NOVA

GT: 2183

IMO: 8913916

Flag: Bahamas (White list)

Company: Cruise Management International Inc

Classification Society: BV

Recognised Organisation: BV

Recognised Organisation for ISM Doc: BV

Recognised Organisation for ISM SMC: BV

Date and Place of Detention: 1st May 2017 at Portsmouth

Summary: Seven deficiencies with one ground for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
11118 – Lifejackets incl. provisions and disposition	Not as required	No
11112 – Launching arrangements for survival craft	Improperly fitted	No
01199 – Other (certificates)	Other	No
03108 – Ventilators, air pipes, casing	Corroded	No
07106 – Fire detection and alarm system	Inoperative	No
15150 – ISM	Not as required	No
02101 – Closing devices/watertight doors	Inoperative	Yes

This vessel was released from detention on 2nd May 2017

Vessel Name: GANN

GT: 6257

IMO: 8019344

Flag: Norway (White list)

Company: Unge Sjomenns Kristelige Forening

Classification Society: DNV GL

Recognised Organisation: DNV GL

Recognised Organisation for ISM Doc: N/A

Recognised Organisation for ISM SMC: N/A

Date and Place of Detention: 8th May at Sunderland

Summary: Fourteen deficiencies with one ground for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
04108 – Muster list	Incomplete	No
10117 – Echo sounder	Inoperative	No
02105 – Steering gear	Not as required	No

11117 – Lifebuoys incl. provision and dispositions	Not properly marked	No
11101 – Lifeboats	Not properly maintained	No
01333 – Ship specific plans for the recovery of persons from the water	Missing	No
10114 – Voyage data recorder (VDR) / Simplified Voyage data recorder (S-VDR)	Not as required	No
01220 – Seafarers’ employment agreement (SEA)	Not as required	No
02114 – Bulkhead – corrosion	Corroded	No
18304 – Lighting (Accommodation)	Incomplete	No
07103 – Division – decks, bulkheads and penetrations	Not as required	No
07109 – Fixed fire extinguishing installation	Not as required	No
07125 – Evaluation of crew performance (fire drills)	Lack of familiarity	No
15150 – ISM	Not as required	Yes

This vessel was released from detention on 9th May 2017

Vessel Name: ANA M

GT: 16270

IMO: 928154

Flag: Liberia (White list)

Company: Zigana Gemi Isletmeleri AS

Classification Society: BV

Recognised Organisation: BV

Recognised Organisation for ISM Doc: N/A

Recognised Organisation for ISM SMC: N/A

Date and Place of Detention: 30th May at Avonmouth

Summary: Nine deficiencies with four grounds for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
10107 – Automatic radar plotting aid (ARPA)	Inoperative	Yes
01109 – Fire drills	Lack of training	Yes
04110 – Abandon ship drills	Lack of training	Yes
11102 – Lifeboat inventory	Not as required	No
01311 – Survey report file	Not updated	No

01307 – Maximum hours of work or minimum hours of rest	Not as required	No
01220 – Seafarers’ employment agreement (SEA)	Invalid	No
06105 – Atmosphere testing instrument	Missing	No
15150 – ISM	Not as required	Yes

This vessel was still detained on 31st May 2017

DETENTIONS CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS MONTHS

Vessel Name: MALAVIYA SEVEN

GT: 3001

IMO: 9087312

Flag: India (Grey List)

Company: GOL Offshore Ltd

Classification Society: IRS

Recognised Organisation: IRS

Recognised Organisation for ISM Doc: IRS

Recognised Organisation for ISM SMC: IRS

Date and Place of Detention: 5th October 2016 at Aberdeen

Summary: Five deficiencies with five grounds for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
07105 – Fire doors/openings in fire resisting divisions	Not as required	Yes
07113 – Fire pumps and its pipes	Not as required	Yes
18203 – Wages	Missing	Yes
01220 – Seafarers employment agreement (SEA)	Invalid	Yes
18204 – Calculation and payment of wages	No records	Yes

This vessel was still detained on 31st May 2017

Vessel Name: SEA TRIDENT

GT: 964.

IMO No: 7393169.

Flag: PANAMA (white list)

Company:

Classification Society: Expired

Recognised Organisation: Expired

Recognised Organisation for ISM DOC:

Recognised Organisation for ISM SMC:

Date and Place of Detention: 17 June 2016, West Cowes

Summary: Seventeen deficiencies with seventeen grounds for detentions

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
01101 – Cargo ship safety equipment cert	Expired	Yes
01102 – Cargo Ship safety construction cert	Expired	Yes
01104 – Cargo ship safety radio cert	Expired	Yes
01108 – Loadline cert	Expired	Yes
01117 – IOPP (International Oil Pollution Prevention cert	Expired	Yes
01119 – International Sewage Pollution Prevention cert	Expired	Yes
01124 – International Air Pollution Prevention cert	Expired	Yes
01137 – Civil liability for bunker oil pollution damage cert	Expired	Yes
01199 – Other certs (Certificate of class)	Expired	Yes
01201 – Certificates for master and officers	Missing	Yes
10111 – Charts	Not updated	Yes
10116 – Publications Nautical	Not updated	Yes
11108 – Inflatable liferafts	Expired	Yes
11116 – Distress flares	Missing	Yes
07109 – Fixed fire fighting extinguishing installation	Not as required	Yes
07110 – Fire fighting equipment & appliances	Not as required	Yes
01140 – Declaration of Maritime Labour Compliance	Missing	Yes

This vessel was still detained on 31st May 2017

Vessel Name: CIEN PORCIENTO (General Cargo)

GT: 106.

IMO No: 8944446.

Flag: Unregistered.

Company: Open Window Inc.

Classification Society: Unclassed.

Recognised Organisation: Not applicable.

Recognised Organisation for ISM DOC: Not applicable.

Recognised Organisation for ISM SMC: Not applicable

Date and Place of detention: 4 March 2010, Lowestoft

Summary: Thirty deficiencies including seven grounds for detention

This vessel was still detained on 31st May 2017

Notes to Editors

- The MCA is a partner in the Sea Vision UK campaign to raise awareness and understanding of the sea and maritime activities. Sea Vision promotes the importance and economic value of the sector and works to highlight the exciting range of activities and career opportunities available to young people within the UK growing maritime sector at www.seavision.org.uk
- Follow us on Twitter: @MCA_media

For further information please contact Maritime and Coastguard Agency Press Office, on: +44 (0) 2380 329 401 Press releases and further information about the agency is available [here](#).

[News story: New Crowded Places Guidance launched](#)

This new guidance is primarily aimed at those with a responsibility for security at crowded places and those who own or run businesses, organisations, amenities or utilities. Some of the terminology may be unfamiliar to some readers. However, we hope the advice can also be of use to anyone who wishes to improve their own security.

The new [Crowded Places guidance for the UK](#) has been written by NaCTSO with the support of The Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI) and over 100 subject matter and academic experts. It covers the key areas of protective security including physical, personnel, personal and cyber. It provides guidance on how different sectors can act to help make their business, institutions or organisations safer. Its purpose to support those who are charged with security at crowded places mitigate the threat and help make the UK less vulnerable to an attack. The guidance is interactive and designed to assist crowded place sectors assess the risk and build a security plan to help mitigate that risk and recover more quickly should

there be a terrorist attack.

As the terrorist threat evolves the guidance has been designed to be a living document taking the best advice from some of the UK's leading experts and organisations. There are many links within the guidance directing you to websites providing support in your planning.

The foundation for the ability to manage during a crisis lies in the preparations we make. It is important that we all recognise the risks, develop security plans, train our staff, carry out rehearsal exercises and understand our roles and responsibilities. Leadership will come from all levels within an organisation during an incident but must come from the top to change the security culture.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Lucy D'Orsi said:

Terrorist attacks are rare in the UK, but recent events have shown that an attack could happen anywhere and without warning. Those locations either public or private where large groups of people gather, for reasons such as entertainment, business, transportation, sporting or social occasions, have always been preferential targets for terrorists. Terrorism has evolved in recent times, with many conflicts overseas influencing terrorist acts in the UK. Social media in particular is being manipulated to incite, inspire and enable groups and individuals to target these crowded places.

The UK Threat level from International Terrorism is 'SEVERE', which means that an attack is highly likely. Such an attack can come in many forms, not just a physical but it can include interference with vital information or communication systems, causing disruption and economic damage. Against this background there is a need to make our crowded places as accessible as possible and to minimise the threat. However there is a balance to be achieved where we must all take responsibility for security to mitigate the threat and impact of terrorism.

This new and updated guidance is intended to give protective security advice to those responsible for managing the security of crowded places. Every location is different and I would urge those of you who hold this responsibility to review your security using the information in this guidance to reassure yourselves around your Security Plan.

Guidance within this booklet is intended to not only make the UK more resilient to a terrorist attack but also to support our fight against other crimes. If you have any information about suspicious behaviour or activity you can report it in confidence, either by calling the police or making an online report. Thank you once again for the contributions that I know you are making already.

You play a key role in preventing and protecting communities against terrorism.