<u>Diamond D report and safety flyer</u> <u>published</u>

News story

Flooding and sinking of a fishing vessel north-east of Tynemouth, England.



Our accident investigation report into the flooding, capsize and foundering of the wooden-hulled prawn trawler Diamond D (SN100) after suffering hull damage while the crew were trying to uncross its towing wires on 16 August 2020, is now published.

The report contains details of what happened and subsequent actions taken: read more.

A <u>safety flyer</u> to the fishing industry summarising the accident and detailing the safety lessons learned, has also been produced.

Published 9 February 2022

Home Secretary meeting with 'Five Countries' counterparts

News story

Home Secretary discusses issues relating to Afghanistan with counterparts from the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.



Home Secretary Priti Patel yesterday evening discussed a variety of issues in her portfolio relating to Afghanistan in a virtual meeting with counterparts from the 'Five Countries' alliance comprising the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Chaired by US Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security John Tien, the meeting focused on Afghanistan-related security, migration and serious organised crime issues on which the Five Countries can continue to coordinate their approach.

The interior and security ministers resolved to continue their invaluable collaboration and intelligence sharing, and agreed that a coordinated approach to wider engagement on these matters would usefully complement international efforts.

Home Secretary Priti Patel said:

The Afghanistan crisis last summer prompted an international evacuation effort from Kabul and it is vital now that we continue to work with our closest allies to address the various threats emanating from the region.

Collaborating and sharing intelligence with our trusted Five Countries partners to protect national security is vital, as is working together to reduce the risk of increased irregular migration and provide safe and legal resettlement for vulnerable people.

Joining the Home Secretary on the call were:

- Karen Andrews, Minister for Home Affairs (Australia)
- Sean Fraser, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship (Canada)
- Robert Stewart, Deputy Minister of Public Safety (Canada)
- Kris Faafoi, Minister of Justice and Minister of Immigration (New Zealand)
- John Tien, Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security (USA)

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Dstl announces 2022 satellite launch

The satellites demonstrate further progress towards the government's ambition that by 2030 the UK will have the ability to monitor, protect and defend our interests in and through space.

The two Prometheus 2 CubeSats will operate in low Earth Orbit, 550km above the Earth.

Built by In-Space Missions Ltd in Alton and designed with Airbus Defence and Space, the 2 tiny satellites (just 30cm x 20cm x 10cm), comparable to the size of a shoebox, will provide a test platform for monitoring radio signals including GPS, and sophisticated imaging, paving the way for a more collaborative and connected space communication system with our combat allies.

The mission is a collaborative project with Dstl's international partners and Airbus Defence and Space UK who will share the satellite's operations, with additional ground stations being provided by Dstl's international partners and Airbus.

These satellites will support MOD's science and technology activities both in orbit and on the ground through the development of ground systems focused at Dstl's site near Portsmouth.

The satellites will host a wide array of payloads including a hyperspectral imager, Global Positioning System receivers, a wide-field-of-view imager and multiple software-defined radios.

Lessons learnt from this demonstration will be used to de-risk key technologies, generate the next wave of collaborative science and technology experiments, enhance international collaboration and Dstl's own satellite operations capability as it looks to lead a growing number of space and ground demonstrator missions.

Mike O'Callaghan, Dstl's Space Programme Manager, said:

Over the next decade the UK will spend an additional £1.4 billion on space to enhance our space domain awareness, develop a UK-built intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance satellite constellation and a supporting digital backbone in space, underpinned by Dstl science and technology research.

Prometheus 2 will be the first directly-owned Dstl satellites and shows the power of collaboration with both commercial and our international partners. The Prometheus 2 satellites will also provide an exciting new opportunity to further develop our new

ground station in Portsmouth.

Richard Franklin, Managing Director of Airbus Defence and Space UK, said:

Investing in, developing and proving new technologies and services, with our customers, is a key part of our strategy.

On this occasion the opportunity to engage and promote SME capabilities is even more rewarding and demonstrates that we partner to solve real problems.

The Prometheus 2 CubeSats will help us further improve what we can offer our customers and is tangible proof that our active engagement with SMEs is delivering results for the future UK space sector as a whole.

Tony Holt, Chief Technology Officer, In-Space Missions, said:

We are thrilled to be building and operating the spacecraft for this ground-breaking Dstl mission and honoured to be collaborating with such high calibre UK and international partners.

This is an exciting time for the space industry in the UK and we are delighted to be part of the team delivering Prometheus 2.

Find out more about <u>Dstl's space science and technology capability</u> and <u>how to work with us</u>.

7 out of 10 people have experienced potential rip-offs online, worrying new CMA research reveals

In a poll of over 2,000 UK adults:

- 7 out of 10 had experienced misleading online practices
- 85% believed businesses using them were being dishonest with their customers
- And 83% were less likely to buy from them in the future

The CMA has today launched a brand-new campaign "The Online Rip-Off Tip-Off" to help shoppers spot and avoid misleading online practices that could result

in them being ripped off.

With almost one-third of all retail purchases now taking place online, after the pandemic fuelled a surge in internet shopping, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) has become increasingly concerned about the impact of these "sneaky" sales tactics on consumers.

Research commissioned by the CMA shows that these practices, which are carefully designed to manipulate shoppers, can lead to wasted time and money, as well as anxiety and stress, and so cause significant financial and emotional harm. It revealed that 71% of people shopping online had encountered these tactics, and 61% described their experience as negative. This is exacerbated by the fact they are often hard to spot and people don't know how to avoid them.

The survey also revealed that, of those who had experienced misleading online practices, the biggest concern was about hidden charges (85% of respondents), followed by subscription traps (83%), fake reviews (80%) and pressure selling (50%).

To tackle this, and further support its enforcement work, the CMA is today launching its "The Online Rip-Off Tip-Off" campaign, fronted by TV presenter and consumer champion Angellica Bell.

Andrea Coscelli, the CMA's Chief Executive, explained:

As online shopping grows and grows, we're increasingly concerned about businesses using misleading sales tactics, like pressure selling or hidden charges, to dupe people into parting with their cash.

He added:

None of us would accept these tactics in the real world. But we might not realise how much they influence what we buy online. So, we've launched "The Online Rip-Off Tip-Off" to help hand the power back to shoppers.

We continue to crack down on practices that could break the law, such as fake reviews. But to tackle this problem from all angles, it's vital shoppers are armed with the tools they need too. It's only when we all know what these tricks are, and how they are designed to manipulate and mislead, that we are better equipped to avoid them.

According to the UK-wide survey, many respondents reported that they had wasted money on a disappointing product or experience, spent cash they couldn't afford to or wasted time trying to undo the harm caused. 85% of those questioned believed that businesses using such practices are being

dishonest with their customers, with 83% being less likely to buy from them in the future.

Angellica Bell, co-presenter of The Martin Lewis Money Show, sets out why it's so important to know what you might be up against when shopping online:

Sometimes we feel under pressure when buying online or often doubt whether a deal is too good to be true. Through the CMA's 'Online Rip-off Tip-off' campaign, we want to help people, let them know the signs to look out for and how best to report a sneaky sales move. Just because you're online and not on the high street, you can still take a moment to think about the purchase before you pay. Don't feel pressured into anything, and make sure you shop around.

The campaign also has the support of Citizens Advice, to whom consumers can report problems with misleading practices that they have encountered online.

Matthew Upton, Director of Policy at Citizens Advice, said:

While many firms play fair, too often we hear of online shoppers being duped by fake reviews, time-pressured claims or seriously dressed-up deals.

We hope 'The Online Rip-off Tip-off' campaign helps shoppers spot underhand sales tactics — like offers that seem too good to be true or any pressure to buy now, and report them.

By doing this we can help to bring unscrupulous traders to book, and all shop safer online.

Paul Scully, UK Government Consumer Minister, said:

I urge shoppers to take heed of the CMA's campaign to stay savvy online and to report problems to Citizens Advice.

This Government is working to build back fairer from the pandemic by clamping down on misleading tactics, subscription traps and fake reviews. This means we're shoulder-to-shoulder with consumers and the vast majority of businesses doing the right thing.

Case Study

Londoner Jo Robinson, 46, shares her experience: "When I was buying Christmas gifts for my girls, I spent time online researching the latest gadgets, clothing and event tickets, and spent over £800 on presents alone.

It's frustrating to know that many of the deals I went for weren't

the last chance to buy that I believed at the time. And some of the items when they arrived didn't match the description or live up to the reviews. It makes you distrust buying off the internet. Lots of the deals are too good to be true and when they turn up it's not the quality you expected so it makes you feel ripped off.

The aim of the Online Rip-off Tip-Off campaign is to make consumers aware of these misleading online practices and provide tips on how to avoid them. Find out more at www.gov.uk/ripoff-tipoff

If people in England and Wales want further advice or wish to report a concern they should contact <u>Citizens Advice</u>. Consumers in Scotland should contact <u>Advice Direct Scotland</u>, and shoppers in Northern Ireland should contact <u>The Consumer Council</u>.

Notes to Editors

- 1. For more information or to request an interview please contact CMA@23red.com or call 07455 518530.
- 2. Link to Rip Off Road video: https://youtu.be/c6hcM6Jn90c
- 3. ONS <u>survey</u>: How the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the shift to online spending
- 4. A description of the 4 common misleading online practices referenced in the press release are:
 - Subscription traps misleading a customer into signing up to, and paying for, an unwanted subscription that can be difficult to cancel
 - Hidden charges unexpected compulsory fees, charges or taxes being added when someone tries to make an online purchase
 - Pressure selling a tactic used to give a false impression of the limited availability or popularity of a product or service
 - Fake reviews reviews which do not reflect an actual customer's genuine opinion or experience of a product or service

About the YouGov research

- All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc.
- This survey was conducted using an online interview (administered between 10-11 January 2022) to members of the YouGov Plc UK panel (800,000+ individuals who have agreed to take part in surveys).
- The total sample size was 2087 adults. The figures have been weighted to reflect the profile of the UK adult population
- YouGov plc make every effort to provide representative information

<u>Anti-Discrimination: Lived Experience</u> <u>and Lessons Learned</u>

Good evening everyone. Thank you to the organisers of tonight's event and to my fellow speakers. I'm particularly grateful to Representative Park, whose leadership and determination on this crucial issue has been inspiring. I hope that he has found it energising to step away for an evening from what looks like a long and exhausting election campaign.

It's a pleasure to be here to talk about the challenges of discrimination and to share the impact of the UK's Equality Act.

As we sit here in this beautiful ballroom, in this luxurious hotel, in the centre of one of the world's safest and most dynamic cities, you might be forgiven for asking yourself: why are we bothering with this? Or as a CEO of a big company recently remarked: why is this even important when Korea has so few minorities?

I hope by the end of this short speech, I have helped to explain why this really matters. But to do this, I want us to move beyond the words in a piece of legislation to understand how discrimination affects real people's lives.

To illustrate this, I want to share with you my personal experience of discrimination and hate.

I am the son of a political refugee and an economic migrant. My mother was raised in Uganda, in East Africa. In the early 1970s, she and other Ugandan Asians were expelled from the country by Idi Amin's forces. In my mum's case, soldiers came to her house, put a gun against her head, demanded all of the

family's valuables, and ordered the family to leave in a few days.

The British government, as the former colonial power, agreed to provide refuge for the family.

Life for non-white migrants in the UK in the 1970s was tough. My parents were mimicked, harassed, and racially abused. Many landlords refused to take them in. They lived in fear.

But alongside these episodes, my parents also found a compassionate country recovering from its own economic trials after the Second World War. They found people who were willing to embrace their differences, were curious about their culture, and keen to accept them as part of the community.

Of course, the issue of racial discrimination didn't end in the 1960s and 70s. It was there during my own upbringing in London. I can distinctly remember being racially abused for the first time. The feeling never leaves you. Even now it sends shivers down my spine. I remember when my father took me to watch England play football when right-wing nationalism and hooligan culture was rife. My father urged me to be as quiet and as inconspicuous as possible. I was terrified.

I wanted to tell you about these experiences because I think it's important that when we talk about discrimination and hate, we understand people's lived experience. No society is immune from these issues. But in some societies it is hidden better than in others.

Even in Korea, I have been surprised and disappointed by the occasional acts of intolerance. I saw how the LGBT+ community was targeted during the first Covid wave and how ethnic minorities have been ostracised by mainstream society.

After Rep Jang Hye-young and I did an interview for KBS on anti-discrimination I was shocked at the number of homophobic comments that were posted online. And more recently, I have been disturbed by the growing anti-feminist movement amongst young men. It was deeply saddening to hear the outcome of Dawoom's survey of LGBT+ issues in Korea. The percentage of LGBT+ who have attempted suicide is almost 16 times higher than the majority.

So, going back to the UK.

First a bit of honesty. As recently as 1967, people like the war hero Alan Turing were prosecuted for homosexual acts between consenting adults. As recently as 1968 it was legal to refuse housing, employment or public services to people because of their ethnic background. And as recently as 1975 it was legal to pay women less than men for exactly the same work.

And even in my own profession, diplomacy, it wasn't until 1987 that the UK posted a married, female ambassador overseas.

Discrimination has been a long-standing challenge for the UK. And despite the progress that we've made, it remains a work in progress.

So how did the UK's Equality Act in 2010 come about?

Race provides quite a useful case study. Following the end of the Second World War, the UK encouraged migration from across the Commonwealth. During the 1960s and 70s, the UK Government introduced race relations legislation in order to protect minority groups in the UK population, banning racial discrimination and the promotion of racial hatred. But this didn't solve the problems of race or other forms of discrimination.

The growing demand for a change to UK laws for the better protection of our citizens led to the introduction of the UK's Equality Act. The Equality Act became law on 1 October 2010, after completing a parliamentary process of approximately eighteen months.

The Equality Act 2010 consolidated over 160 pieces of legislation that formed the basis of anti-discrimination law in Great Britain.

The Act protects people against discrimination, harassment or victimisation in employment, and as users of private and public services based on nine protected characteristics

It is not a perfect form of legislation but it provides a framework for recording all reports of discrimination, harassment and victimisation and it holds public bodies accountable for ensuring that their decisions and policies consider all people who come under its protection. Infringements of this legislation can be prosecuted under civil law.

Legal protections are only one step, though a very important one, in reducing discrimination and hate in society. It's really important that the government, civil society, and minority groups work closely together to acknowledge that everyone has a role to play in society; raise awareness of issues and tackle them at grassroots level; and to ensure that all the population are respected and protected from discrimination, harassment and victimisation.

One of the common complaints that I've heard from people who oppose antidiscrimination legislation in Korea is that these issues don't exist or are blown out of proportion. There are no structural issues. These issues do not affect productivity.

I am here to tell you that the evidence suggests the opposite. An equal and equitable society is far more productive. Let me give you some examples.

McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) finds that if women were to participate in the economy identically to men, they could add as much as \$28 trillion or 26 percent to annual global GDP in 2025. This is roughly the combined size of the economies of the United States and China today. McKinsey also found that companies with more gender-diverse executive teams are more likely to outperform median profitability in their national industry.

OECD estimates that on average a 50% reduction in the gender gap in labour force participation would lead to an additional gain in GDP of about 6% by 2030, with a further 6% gain (12% in total) if complete convergence occurred.

Analysis of 132 countries between 1997-2015 finds that an additional point on the 8-point GILRHO scale of legal rights for LGBT persons is associated with an increase in real GDP per capita of approximately \$2000.

The global response to the killing of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter movement and the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on minority groups has reminded us of the challenges that all societies continue to face.

The war against prejudice, discrimination and hate is far from over.

It is important that we can share our experience and best practice to learn from each other, tackle these issues together and support our governments and society in introducing legislation that not only protects citizens from discrimination, harassment, and victimisation but recognises that everyone has a role to play in a secure and stable society.

I want to end this speech going back to where I started. When I joined the British Foreign Office, many members of my family questioned my decision. They asked: how could you work for these people? Do you not remember what they did, referring to Britain's colonial history.

My answer then is the same as it is now. It is important that we acknowledge the mistakes of our past and educate the next generation.

But the Britain I see now is one that embraces its diversity and recognises it as a strength. It's by no means perfect — the Black community remains marginalised — but our progress is a real source of pride.

I would not be standing before you giving this speech had it not been for the progress that we've made and the legislation that underpins it.

Thank you.