

The French ports are ready for Brexit: we havenâ€™™ ...

Published: January 14, 2026, 10:52 am

As [Computer Weekly](#) reports:

The Goods Vehicle Movement Service (GVMS) is intended to allow trucks to declare goods ahead of reaching the border, allowing for smoother traffic flow, particularly at busier ports such as Dover.

But as they note:

However, the government has yet to begin the build of the IT system, MPs on the Future Relationship with the European Union Committee were told.

In contrast, they note that Tim Reardon, head of EU Exit at the Port of Dover, has said:

“We’re still at the stage of making sure the definition and the specification of the system is correct so it’s built with a fighting chance of doing what it’s needed to do.”

But as he noted the French already have a working system:

“The French customs have tested their system. They’ve done it a couple of times and established that the data flow worked. The challenge is to make sure the lorries go where they’re told to go, but there are ways of achieving that. I am certain that the GVMS system will similarly be tested, but it needs to be built before it can be tested,” he said.

The sting was in the tail:

However, Reardon added that if “HMRC were to buy a licence for the French system, that would be a very simple thing to do and traders would like it”.

Dammit, we can’t even do Brexit without EU support.....