

# The government is going for freeports - without any leg...

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Earlier this year Rishi Sunak undertook a consultation on freeports. I [submitted extensive evidence](#). So did others. I could not see an objective observer who could see any reason for freeports. But in [October the government said it was going to push ahead](#).

Today the government has [announced that bidding to run freeports is open](#).

I tweeted this in response:

<https://twitter.com/RichardJMurphy/status/1328322321900253184>

How, I wonder, can you bid for something that has not been legislated for as yet? Isn't that ultra vires spending, and potential contracting, by the government? How can it do this?

I then added this:

<https://twitter.com/RichardJMurphy/status/1328323044901793794>

Could there be a more candid admission that these places attract criminality? I doubt it. But they're going ahead, coupled with 'light touch' regulation (call it 'turning a blind eye') nonetheless.

So we have a government acting without legislative back up to contract for arrangements so far not legal that are known to be hubs for illegal activity.

You really could not make it up.

*PS And not a mask in sight*