UK AEO Programme

Small & Medium Enterprises in the UK AEO Programme

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Head of Trusted Trader and Authorisations Policy





SMEs in the UK AEO Programme







The first UK AEO firm was an SME

C1200 AEO firms in the UK AEO scheme

2/3 UK AEO firms are SMEs



Borders and Trade

SME AEO authorisation trends





Borders and Trade

Organisational Structures that support SMEs



Borders and Trade

AEO Programme Delivery Teams

Customs Policy & Strategy Regime Owner **AEO Policy Team**

Customer Services Group Decision Makers AEO Central Site

Customer Compliance Group
Customer Compliance Group

Individuals and Small Business Compliance **Large Business** Compliance

Tax Specialists

Visiting Officers **AEO Auditors**

Forensic Accountants



Border Force Operations

Individuals and Small Business Compliance

- Processes tailored to the SME sector to ensure traders are not disproportionately impacted by mandatory checks and controls.
- 180 Visiting Officers (auditors) responsible for auditing new applications and AEO active monitoring.
- Specialised staff dealing with Security and Safety audits.
- Access to HMRC forensic accountants and HMRC solicitors.



AEO Central Site Decision Makers

- 18 AEO specialists, who work across SMEs and Large Business AEO applications to ensure that standards are consistently met
- Provide specialised support on challenging cases.

Case Study



Case Study

International freight forwarder specialising in the energy industry. The company is based in Scotland and has 2 sites. Small firm with 24 employees and turnover of £2.4m



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Thank you



