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Tilbury keeps N-subs at bay

David Fairhall

THE Thames-side borough of Thurrock has rebuffed an approach from the Royal Navy to add Tilbury to the list of ports prepared to accept visits from nuclear-powered submarines.

The Labour borough with a "nuclear-free zone" policy said it was unaware of the plans until they were mentioned in the Commons by Mr Archie Hamilton, the Armed Forces Minister.

The Port of Tilbury said that the Ministry of Defence made a low key approach about bringing nuclear-powered hunter-killer submarines into its enclosed docks. "Our decision is that it would not be appropriate," said a spokesman.

Twenty five ports and anchorages, including Cardiff, Liverpool and Southampton, that already receive the submarines.

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