**Issued on behalf of Stena Line**

**Date: 21st December 2018**

**Stena Line Sets New Freight Record on Dublin – Holyhead**

Leading ferry company Stena Line has set a new company record for freight on its Dublin – Holyhead service carrying a total of over 250 000 units in 2018. The milestone was achieved on 21st December when Patrick van der Vijver from Hannon completed the 08.10 hrs crossing from Dublin to Holyhead.

Ian Davies, Stena Line Trade Director (Irish Sea South) said: “Achieving over a quarter of a million freight units on our Dublin-Holyhead service is a major business achievement for our region. Dublin – Holyhead is a crucial trading link between Ireland and Britain as evidenced by this record volume of freight traffic in 2018. Stena Line has worked hard over the last number of years to develop this service. We have striven to improve service levels, reliability and punctuality, working with our valued freight customers to optimise our respective businesses. We are also investing in the future with the Dublin – Holyhead route being chosen by Stena Line as the first European route to take delivery of the first of its new generation ferries, current under construction, in early 2020. Crucially, the new vessel will offer over 3 000 lane meters of freight capacity, a 50% increase on the vessel it will take over from.”

Stena Line is the largest ferry operator on the Irish Sea, offering the biggest fleet and the widest choice of routes between Britain and Ireland and France including, Holyhead to Dublin, Fishguard to Rosslare, Rosslare to Cherbourg, Liverpool to Belfast, Heysham to Belfast, Cairnryan to Belfast a total of 238 weekly sailings.

**NOTE TO EDITOR: For further information please contact Lawrence Duffy of Duffy Rafferty Communications on Belfast 028 9073 0880.**