PORTLAND HARBOUR AUTHORITY LIMITED



PORT MARINE SAFETY CODE

MARINE SAFETY PLAN

2023 - 2025

Ver 4 Jan 2023

INTRODUCTION

Portland Harbour Authority Limited (PHAL) is the Statutory Harbour Authority (SHA) and competent Harbour Authority (CHA) for the port of Portland. Portland Harbour Authority Limited is committed to complying with the requirements of the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC) and in compliance publishes the following Marine Safety Plan for the period January 2023 – December 2025. This Port Marine Safety Plan will illustrate how PHALs policies and procedures are developed and maintained, ensuring they safeguard the harbour, its users, the public and the environment.

MARINE POLICIES

Portland harbour authority has published the following Marine Policies in support of the management and regulation of marine operations:

- Safety Plan for Marine Operations
- Enforcement Policy
- Mission Statement
- Environmental & Sustainability Policy
- Prosecution Policy
- Training Policy
- Navigational Safety Policy
- Conservancy Policy

These Policies form the backbone of Marine Safety Management System (MSMS) and are contained within the Port Marine Safety Code Compliance Manual.

PROCEDURES

The SHA has expanded these Marine Policies into individual Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS), individually designed to act as a standalone guide to the completion of a task. These SOPS are divided into 12 sections which make up the Marine Departments Operations Manual. They undergo formal reviews regularly and following any operational changes or following any recommendations from incident investigations.

RISK ASSESSMENTS

It is a requirement of the Port Marine Safety Code to ensure that Navigational marine risks are formally assessed and are eliminated or reduced to the lowest possible level, so far as is reasonably practicable, in accordance with good practice. Where risks cannot be eliminated, they will be reduced to ‘As Low As Reasonably Practical’ (ALARP). All Incidents reported are inputted into the database to provide ongoing data collection to aid with risk assessment reviews and creation. Where it is found that additional or enhanced control measures are required to keep the risk ALARP, these measures will be integrated into the Marine Safety Management System through an updated or new SOP or Marine Policy. All Risk Assessments (RA’s) are reviewed annually. Risks will also be reviewed following any relevant incident or near miss, any lessons learnt will be applied as a control measure and integrated into the SOPS.

INCIDENT REPORTING

Navigational Incidents

To investigate all navigational and pollution incidents and complete reports within one month.

To identify opportunities for improvement and ensure MSMS and RA's are reviewed where applicable, to ensure they are appropriate to prevent any major navigation or pollution incident

MANAGEMENT OF MARINE OPERATIONS AND COMMERCIAL PRESSURE

Portland Harbour Authority Limited make a commitment to not allow commercial pressures to compromise marine and navigation safety and the safe provision of its services and the efficient discharge of its duties it commits to ensuring that any marine services it provides will be done so in an efficient manner using trained, qualified and competent crew.

PHAL will always keep the safety of its personnel, harbour users and vessels as a priority. At times this may mean that services and therefore vessel movements or activities are subject to delay. However, the safety of life and of Navigation remains a priority for PHAL.

COMMUNICATION

Communication consultation and feedback is a fundamental requirement in ensuring the safety, management, maintenance and improvement of the harbour and its navigation. The Established management activities outlined below ensure the maintenance of an effective MSMS and support compliance with the requirements of the PMSC:

- Daily liaison between Duty Harbourmaster and Harbour Control
- Weekly Management Meetings (Engineering and Leisure)
- Monthly Marine/ Harbour Master Meetings
- Monthly Harbour Authority Board meetings
- Bimonthly Local Port Service (LPS) meetings
- Quarterly Harbour Consultative Committee meetings
- Quarterly Hamm Beach Users Group meetings
- Four Monthly Marine operations safety meetings
- Annual internal audit of the SMS, its functions and procedures
- Annual independent external audits of the SMS

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Portland Harbour Authority, as the Statutory Harbour Authority, is required to have a range of Response plans in order to cover the actions required in the event of an incident or accident.

Portland Port Emergency Plan: Sets out the measures to be taken by Portland Port and other agencies when dealing with incidents and emergencies arising within the Portland Port area.

Portland Harbour Authority Oil Spill & Marine Pollution Contingency Plan: Sets out Portland Harbour Authority's Oil Spill & Marine Pollution Contingency Plan. The 'Plan' details the contingency arrangements for responding to actual or threatened marine pollution incidents within the Portland Harbour area.

AUDITING AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING

The Harbour Authority has appointed an independent Designated Person (DP) who will audit the Harbour Authority's compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code, annually, and will report directly to the Board of Directors. The DP shall assess in his reports the Harbour Authority's performance against its plan of complying with all the requirements of the Port Marine Safety Code and the accompanying Guide to Good Practice on Port Marine Operations.

The reports of the designated person will be published on the Harbour Authority's website.

REPORTING OF PERFORMANCE AGAINST THIS PLAN

Report on performance against this plan annually, via the Harbour Masters Newsletter, in January each year.

STANDING OBJECTIVES

- Provide an effective Local Port Service (LPS) to maintain port safety and co-ordination of port services within the port community by dissemination of port information to vessels.
- Investigate and analyse all marine incidents and ensure all risk assessments, procedures and guidelines are appropriate to prevent any major navigation or pollution incident.
- Maintain a Pilotage Service for vessels subject to compulsory pilotage without any serious or very serious incidents.
- Maintain relevant harbour equipment to appropriate industry standards.
- Recruit and train operational staff to nationally agreed competence levels.
- Ensure that staff are properly trained for enforcement, emergencies, and contingencies.
- Carry out functions as Local Lighthouse Authority (LLA)
- Maintain and review Oil Spill Contingency Plan (OSP)
- Issue Local Notices to Mariners (LNTM) relating to navigational safety
- Issue General Directions (GD's) when necessary

TEMPORARY OBJECTIVES (2024)

- Take delivery of and implement training and integration of new pilot vessel.
- Source a new towage unit summer 2024
- Tidal flow study
- Implement a more streamlined vehicle for the reporting of leisure related incidents, accidents, defects, near- misses, and any events from which a safety lesson can be derived.
- Increase the reporting of leisure incidents by 25% over the period.
- Produce a guide for leisure users of the harbour (online pamphlet) as an effective way to easily disseminate information to leisure users.
- Further develop the Harbour Masters Newsletter.
- Produce a Q&A, with regard to typical Leisure questions, and make available on the Harbour Authorities website.