

## PORT MARINE SAFETY CODE

# MARINE SAFETY PLAN 2017 - 2020

### **Introduction**

Article 2.26 of the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC), revised in November 2016, requires that the River Hamble Harbour Authority (RHHA) publishes its Marine Safety Plan for the conduct of marine operations in the River Hamble every three years. This plan covers the period 2017 – 2020.

A more comprehensive overview of the structure, management and maintenance of the port's Marine Safety Management System (SMS) and the RHHA's compliance with the PMSC in support of this Plan, is contained in the RHHA Marine SMS Manual.

Powers, policies, plans, regulations and procedures are based upon formal risk assessment in order that risks are either eliminated or controlled and kept 'as low as reasonably practical' (ALARP).

### **1. Marine Policies**

The RHHA has published several marine policies in support of the management and regulation of marine operations on the River Hamble, and maintenance of the River's Marine SMS. These are all included in the SMS Manual. All marine policies and policy statements were reviewed in October 2017. The next scheduled review is due after 3 years in 2020.

### **2. Marine Procedures**

Regulations, Operational procedures, processes and guidance governing the provision of the RHHA's navigational services and marine operations are developed and maintained by the Harbour Master; drawing on the navigational policies as required. All are reviewed routinely at three yearly intervals and as necessary, driven by events and the round of quarterly Operational and Safety Meetings.

### **3. The Management of Marine Operations**

This Marine Safety Plan commits the RHHA to undertaking the proper management and regulation of marine operations within the scope of its powers and authority, in a way that

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manages the safety of navigation within the River, including protecting the environment, so that the River and its users are all safeguarded.

The RHHA will undertake its role and responsibilities in order to enable all vessels, commercial or recreational, large or small to navigate safely on the River Hamble.

In managing the safety of navigation and the provision of services, the RHHA always has the safety of life and vessels as its highest priority. At times this may require that services and vessel movements or activities are subject necessarily to delay or other inconvenience.

**4. Established Management Activities**

A number of key functions underpin the operation and maintenance of the RHHA's Marine SMS. In addition to the core services provided by the Harbour Authority, the following processes ensure the maintenance of an effective regime and support compliance with the requirements of the PMSC:

- Quarterly Operational and Safety Meetings to oversee, manage and review the safety of navigation, reporting upwards as required;
- Specific risk assessments of new and existing marine operations, infrastructure projects, events (sporting and cultural) and services as required;
- Formal, regular engagement with relevant practitioners, operators, River users and interested parties to, for example, review navigational incidents, undertake ad-hoc risk assessments and to develop or review relevant guidance and procedures;
- Informal, regular engagement with and support to the River community to inculcate a common understanding of navigational safety best practice and embed a positive and open safety culture;
- The proactive and reactive review of identified hazards to navigation and the associated risk control measures that mitigate those risks to an acceptable (As Low As Reasonably Practicable) level;
- The investigation of all reported navigational incidents to ascertain their cause and reduce the likelihood of recurrence and the maintenance of a comprehensive incident management system;
- Regular, wide-ranging liaison with River users, practitioners and other interested parties through formal and informal public consultations, River User consultative fora, specialist users groups, ad-hoc review groups and public meetings;

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- Annual, publicly transparent audits of the Marine SMS, its functions and procedures by the independent Designated Person;
- The recruitment of competent and qualified people to manage the safety of navigation, thereafter to maintain comprehensive training and professional development programmes for RHHA staff; and
- The maintenance and exercising of RHHA marine emergency plans and procedures, including oil spill management and business continuity plans.

**5. Ongoing Management Targets for the period of the Plan**

The following standing objectives are set for the period ending 31 December 2020.

<p>Navigational Incidents</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through a risk-based Marine Safety Management System, to manage all navigational risks within the River to a level that is ALARP.</li> <li>• To monitor trends and incidents both within and external to the River in order to learn lessons relevant to River Users' safety and apply those to improve the SMS in a manner that is formally recorded.</li> <li>• To disseminate that information to River Users in a manner that takes account in technological development, in order to reduce the frequency of incidents year on year.</li> </ul>
<p>Aids to Navigation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To maintain and, where necessary improve Aids to Navigation in consultation with River Users and Trinity House.</li> <li>• To sustain the RHHA Category C status as a Local Lighthouse Authority.</li> </ul>
<p>Hydrographic Survey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To survey the River in accordance with the latest UKHO/UKHMA MOU (May 2016).</li> <li>• To ensure that each section of the River is surveyed at a maximum of 3 yearly intervals.</li> </ul>
<p>PMSC Compliance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conduct a SMS policy review at a minimum of 3 yearly intervals.</li> <li>• To conduct at least annual independent and transparent inspection of the Marine SMS.</li> <li>• To deliver three-yearly certification by the Duty Holder to the Maritime and Coast Guard Agency of RHHA compliance with the PMSC.</li> </ul>

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Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (and subsequent) legislation.</li> </ul>
Sustainment of Operational Supporting Pillars of the Safety Management System through prudent financial planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To survey at 5-yearly intervals and husband supporting operational infrastructure to plan up to 50 years ahead and inform Board decision-making about any year-on-year need to increase Harbour Dues.</li> </ul>
Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governance: To give transparency and Accountability for decision-making through the annual round of RHHB, RH Management Committee and Annual Forum meetings</li> <li>• Support for, approval for and facilitation of River Events, driven by a pro-active River community.</li> <li>• Membership of and support to formal and informal groups of River Users</li> <li>• Maintenance and promotion of an Event Code of Conduct document to foster best-practice.</li> <li>• Funding and delivery of up-to-date and relevant information, signage and documentary material to promote safety.</li> <li>• To issue advance notice of a week (or where necessary longer) for significant River events through a programme of Local Notices to Mariners (Notice To River Users (NTRU)).</li> <li>• Engagement with and sustainment of RHHA knowledge of Government and other agencies' policy and developing policy in order to educate and inform decision making.</li> </ul>
Environment and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The maintenance of an Oil Spill Management Plan and training regime to meet the threat and comply with legislative requirements.</li> <li>• The maintenance of a Port Waste Management plan, reviewed at 3 yearly intervals or as modified by legislation.</li> <li>• The provision of advice to prospective planners in advance of application to inform viability</li> </ul>