

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

Committee	River Hamble Harbour Board
Date:	15 January 2016
Title:	Environmental Update
Reference:	7143
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

Contact name: Alison Fowler

Tel: 01489 576387

Email: Alison.fowler@hants.gov.uk

1. Summary

- 1.1. This report summarises activities relating to the River Hamble Harbour Authority's (RHHA) environmental management of the Hamble Estuary from August to October 2015.

2. Updates

- 2.1. Maintenance consents have been granted under the Harbour Master's delegated powers for routine maintenance dredging this winter at Mercury Yacht Harbour, Port Hamble Marina and Hamble Point Marina. These are scheduled for late 2015 and early 2016. Notices to River Users will be issued in advance of each site's dredge.
- 2.2. AHTI Limited is now underway with conducting the desktop study investigating the viability of using sediment management measures to safeguard the River's saltmarsh and mudflat habitats. Liaison between AHTI and RHHA is ongoing and the report is due by April 2016.
- 2.3. The Environment & Development Manager (EDM) attended the annual meeting of the Solent European Marine Sites (SEMS) Management Group. RHHA is one of many 'relevant authorities' required to attend this group because it has powers or functions which have, or could have, an impact on a European marine site. Relevant authorities reviewed their management of the activities under their control posing the greatest potential threat to the favourable condition of interest features in the SEMS e.g. water sports, landside recreation, commercial shell fishing. Actions resulting from this annual review were then given to the Solent Forum's Natural Environment Group (NEG) to take forward. The EDM also attended the NEG meeting and will form part of a subgroup looking specifically at risks to the SEMS posed by water sport activities. Attendance at all the above meetings ensures that RHHA's environmental legal obligations continue to be met, and also that RHHA staff remain up to date on emerging issues.

- 2.4. RHHA, along with other local harbours and marinas in the Solent area, is working in partnership with The Green Blue and Environment Agency's 'Love Where You Sail' initiative. An online survey is being promoted to help understand current behaviours and attitudes of boaters towards the disposal of black water or sewage from boats. The short survey is at <https://www.research.net/r/LWYS15> (and includes the chance to win four tickets to Southampton Boat Show 2016).
- 2.5. The EDM has delivered several briefing sessions to the new Marine Director regarding RHHA's consents programme, consents process, the wider planning context, and also on the wide range of environmental responsibilities held by RHHA and how these relate to those of other authorities.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 **It is recommended that this report be noted.**

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:
Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equality Duty

1.1. The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- a) The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- c) Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

1.2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

A full Equalities Impact Assessment for the River Hamble Harbour Authority's compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code (including environmental responsibilities) has been carried out and this report does not raise any issues not previously covered by that Assessment.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. This report does not deal with any issues relating to crime and disorder.

3. Climate Change:

3.1. How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? The contents of this report have no impact on carbon footprint or energy consumption

3.2. How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? Not applicable to this report.