

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

Committee	River Hamble Harbour Board
Date:	8 April 2016
Title:	Environmental Update
Reference:	7381
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. Summary

- 1.1. This report summarises activities relating to the River Hamble Harbour Authority's (RHHA) environmental management of the Hamble Estuary from November 2015 to February 2016.

2. Updates

- 2.1. The Environment & Development Manager (EDM) achieved a renewed certificate in oil spill management in January 2016. Holders of this qualification are required to repeat the training every 3 years in line with the Maritime & Coastguard Agency's (MCA) requirements for oil spill response and preparedness. The Harbour Master and new Deputy Harbour Master are due to undertake oil spill training in Spring 2016.
- 2.2. The EDM conducted an oil spill notification exercise in December with Adler & Allan (RHHA's Tier 2 response contractor) as required by the MCA. A test of call out procedures and potential for staff deployment was undertaken. Adler & Allan have relocated to a depot based in Hamble and as such deployment can now be within an hour from callout.
- 2.3. The EDM's role extends to that of Officer of the Hamble Estuary Partnership (HEP). As such, the EDM and Chairman of the HEP attended the national Coastal Partnership Network conference in November. This was a valuable opportunity for all coastal partnerships to network, receive updates from government organisations, share best practice and to feed a national voice for coastal issues to government ministers via the CPN Chair. Presentations should be available soon on the CPN website <http://www.coastalpartnershipnetwork.org.uk/>

2.4. A meeting of the Hamble Estuary Partnership was held on 8th December 2015:

- A presentation was given on two related projects aimed at mitigating the impacts of both human recreation and of coastal defence projects upon internationally important bird populations in the Solent.
- The Marine Management Organisation provided an update on progress of the South Marine Plan, and demonstrated some of the useful planning tools available online. A public consultation on the draft plan will be held over Spring/Summer 2016 and Plan adoption is due early 2017.
- Each HEP member gave an update on their organisation's work that is relevant to the Hamble Estuary.

Members are encouraged to view the minutes and presentations at <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/hambleestuarypartnership/hep-members.htm>

2.5. The EDM held an interim meeting in January with consultancy AHTI regarding progress of the Hamble sediment management project. AHTI consultants, the EDM and Marine Director also attended site meetings with landowners of three privately owned saltmarsh areas in the River to gain further understanding of site features, function and history. The landowners remain fully engaged and supportive of the objectives of the project. The project is on track to deliver its report in early May 2016.

3. Recommendations

3.1. It is recommended that River Hamble Harbour Board note this report.

**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.