



Marine Safety Plan 2017 - 2020

Draft Feb 2017

1. Introduction

Argyll & Bute Council own and manage a number of piers and harbours and as a Statutory Harbour Authority (SHA) has responsibilities and duties under health and safety, environmental and maritime legislation and guidance.

The Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC), published in March 2000 by Department of Transport, with further revisions in 2009, 2012 and 2016, is a Department for Transport document, written in consultation with the Port's Industry to produce a code that has been developed to improve safety in UK ports and to enable harbour authorities to manage their marine operations to nationally agreed standards.

As part of its compliance with the requirements of the PMSC, Argyll and Bute Council is publishing the following Safety Plan for Marine Operations for a period of 3 years (2017-2020).

A more comprehensive overview of the structure, management and maintenance of the Safety Management System (SMS) and Argyll and Bute Councils` compliance with the PMSC in support of this Plan, is contained in the Argyll and Bute Council Marine Safety Management System Document.

2. Marine Procedures

Argyll and Bute Council have several procedures in place in support of the management and regulation of marine operations in its area. These procedures are embedded in the SMS document which has been approved by the Harbour Board.

The Marine Management Team will undertake a formal review of all marine procedures on a 3-yearly basis or as circumstances dictate.

Marine procedures are in place (and can be found in the SMS document) for the following main subjects:-

Consultation Procedure -	Section 4
Management of Navigational Safety Procedure -	Section 4.3
Training Procedure -	Section 5
Safety Planning Procedure (Management of Risks) –	Section 6
Risk Assessment Procedure -	Section 7
Hydrographic Survey Procedure –	Section 9.3
Enforcement Procedure -	section 9.11
Environment Procedure –	Section 10
Pilotage Procedure –	Section 11

3.0 The Management of Marine Operations

This Marine Safety Plan commits Argyll and Bute Council to undertaking the management and regulation of marine operations within the scope of its powers and authority in a way that safeguards its ports, ports users, the public and the environment.

Argyll and Bute Council is committed to ensuring a positive safety culture and to enhancing its risk-based Safety Management System as the basis for continuous improvement of safety performance.

Argyll and Bute Council will undertake its role and responsibilities to provide effective regulation and the safe transit of vessels using its ports and harbours.

4.0 Marine Safety Plan Objectives:

The following specific objectives are set for the period ending 31 December 2019.

Argyll and Bute Council will keep under review its powers and duties in order to ensure it can best regulate and conserve safe navigation within its areas of jurisdiction;

The Safety Management System will be maintained on the basis of a comprehensive risk analysis process and a framework for continuous improvement of safety performance;

Annual audits by the Designated Person (DP) of the Safety Management System, its functions and procedures will be maintained;

The monitoring, inspection and review requirements documented in the Safety Management System, will be implemented as appropriate;

Argyll and Bute Council will implement in a timely manner any deficiencies or safety enhancements identified through the audit process;

The proactive and reactive review of identified hazards to navigation and the associated risk control measures that mitigate those risks to an acceptable level (As Low as Reasonably Practicable);

Dedicated risk assessments of new and existing marine operations and services, as required;

All aids to navigation will be maintained to meet the International Association Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) standards;

Argyll and Bute Council shall continue to liaise with, and seek the input from all stakeholders with the mutual aim of providing effective marine safety at the Harbours in its jurisdiction;

Comprehensive training and continuing professional development for marine department personnel will be maintained;

The maintenance and exercising of the Argyll and Bute Council marine emergency plans and procedures, including Oil spill contingency plans;

The investigation of all reported marine incidents;

5.0 Management Targets for the Safety Plan for Marine Operations

Standing Targets:

Number	Service Provision	Activity Target
1	Navigational Incidents	No major incidents, serious injuries or serious pollution as a result of a failure of the Councils Marine Safety Management System. All incidents investigated in accordance with defined procedures and closed out within an agreed timeframe.
2	Conservancy and Hydrographic Surveys	Aids to Navigation Meet the availability targets of IALA Hydrographic Surveys Ensure that the Ports and Harbours have an adequate plan of hydrographic surveys and that these are undertaken in line with the agreed schedule and that the results are published within the target timescales.
3	Audit of SMS	Ensure that the audit is carried out on annual basis by the Designated Person and any deficiencies are corrected in a timely manner. SMS to reflect lessons learnt from other ports and incorporate the recommendations and conclusions of any port related MAIB investigation as appropriate.
4	Pilotage services	No major incident due to Pilot/PEC holder error.
5	Liaison and consultation with stakeholders	Ensure good communication on marine safety matters for new and existing activities with Harbour Users Groups.
6	Training of marine personnel	Ensure continuous professional development