



## Marine Safety Plan 2021 - 2023



Approved by the Harbour Board: 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

# Introduction

Argyll & Bute Council own and manage a number of ports 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) is published by the Department for Transport and sets out a national standard for port marine safety. The Code applies to all Harbour Authorities and other marine facilities, berth owners and terminals operators in the UK.

As part of its compliance with the requirements of the PMSC, Argyll & Bute Council is publishing the following 'Safety Plan for Marine Operations' for a period of three years, covering 2021 to 2023. This Marine Safety Plan is one component of a comprehensive (strategic level) Marine Safety Management System (MSMS) and serves to support the continuing improvement of marine safety performance.

This Marine Safety Plan commits Argyll & Bute Council to undertaking the proper management and regulation of marine operations within the scope of its powers and authority, and in line with its stated marine policies.

## Marine Policies

Argyll & Bute Council has several policies in support of the management and regulation of marine operations. These strategic policies are embedded in the MSMS and are approved by the Harbour Board and the Duty Holder under the PMSC. These are:

- Management of Navigational Safety Policy
- Enforcement and Prosecution Policy
- Safety Planning Policy
- Risk Assessment Policy
- Pilotage Policy
- Hydrographic Policy
- Environment Policy
- Training Policy
- Consultation Policy

## The Management of Marine Operations

A comprehensive overview of Argyll & Bute Council's structure, management, and documentation is maintained in the MSMS which supports the delivery of this Plan. External audits of the MSMS are undertaken on an annual basis, in the form of a rolling programme across the Council's ports and harbours.

Argyll & Bute Council is committed to ensuring a positive safety culture and to enhancing its risk-based MSMS. All locations consistently and proactively review their risk assessments for all identified marine hazards and when required, identify control measures to mitigate those risks to an acceptable level of ALARP (As Low as Reasonably Practicable).

Argyll & Bute Council has responsibilities to provide vessel traffic management and, as far as its powers allow, to facilitate the safe transit of vessels using its ports and harbours.

## Plan Period

This plan covers the period 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2023.

## Management Objectives for the Safety Plan for Marine Operations

Argyll & Bute Council has split its objectives into two sets, the first addresses 'Standing Objectives' the second set addresses 'Period Objectives'.

## Standing Objectives

The PMSC requires that the previous plan's review is to be published and this is shown below.

## 2017 -2020 Marine Safety Plan

Number	Service Provision	Activity Target	Progress % Completed
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.	100% Completed
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.	100% Completed

<b>Number</b>	<b>Service Provision</b>	<b>Activity Target</b>	<b>Progress % Completed</b>
<b>3</b>	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.	100% Completed
<b>4</b>	Pilotage services	No major incident due to Pilot/PEC holder error.	100% Completed
<b>5</b>	Liaison and consultation with stakeholders	Ensure good communication on marine safety matters for new and existing activities with Harbour Users Groups.	100% Completed
<b>6</b>	Training of marine personnel	Ensure continuous professional development	100% Completed

The 2021 – 2023 objectives support the ongoing improvement plan for Argyll & Bute Council Ports and Harbours. This plan is owned by the Marine Operations Manager, on behalf of the Duty Holder, and aims to address high level improvement targets which will benefit all port and harbour locations and fulfils the requirement of the PMSC for the Duty Holder to maintain a 'Marine Safety Plan'

## 2021 – 2023 Marine Safety Plan

Number	Provision / Activity	Objective	Measure	Year 1 - '21	Year 2 - '22*	Year 3 - '23
1	Duty Holder	Duty Holders to have received training on their role and responsibility under the Code in the last three years	100% of Duty Holders trained	100%	100% of new Harbour Board	
		Duty Holders to have undertaken an operational tour of a Council Port or Harbour in the last three years	100% of Duty Holders undertaken an awareness tour	Working day at Oban and invitation to Exercise Morby in Campbeltown		
2	Designated Person	External Audit completed at one Port or Harbour per year	Annual	Dunoon, Kilcreggan & Helensburgh	Oban & Mull	
		Report to the Duty Holder at least once per year	Annual	Report to Harbour Board and Duty Holder	Report to Harbour Board and Duty Holder	
3	Legislation	Review legal duties and powers at least once every three years	Three years	Ongoing review in relation to the Consolidation Harbour Order	Ongoing review in relation to the Consolidation Harbour Order. HRO process for Oban Harbour	
4	Duties and Powers	MAIB Reportable Incidents: make all reports to the MAIB within 24hrs, with investigation follow up	24hrs initial report, investigation sent at incident close	No Reportable Incidents	No Reportable Incidents	
		Incident investigation: close out all incidents on MarNIS in accordance with defined procedures and closed out within an agreed timeframe,	Close out Incidents on according to nature and severity of Incident: 1 week for minor incidents and 1 month for more serious	All incidents closed out in date	All incidents closed out in date	

Number	Provision / Activity	Objective	Measure	Year 1 - '21	Year 2 - '22*	Year 3 - '23
			incidents that may involve other parties			
		Hydrographic Survey set out in a survey plan	Surveys conducted to planned dates	Surveys in date	Surveys in date	
		Hydrographic Survey publish within target timescale	Within one month of survey date	Published within date	Published within date	
5	Risk Assessment	All Marine Risk Assessments to be in- date	100% in-date	All in date	All in date and Dynamic Risk Assessment template in use	
6	MSMS	The Marine Management Team will undertake a formal review of all marine policies on a three-yearly basis	Three years	Reviewed with no changes	Reviewed with changes for approval	
		The Marine Safety Management System will be reviewed annually (or following any significant industry changes)	Annual	Reviewed with no changes	Reviewed with changes for approval	
7	Review and Audit	Review SMS on an annual basis. Complete internal audits to the three-yearly schedule	Complete scheduled Review of SMS in accordance with timeframe as stated in Section 14.7 of SMS	Dunoon, Kilcreggan & Helensburgh	Oban, Mull & Iona	
8	Competence	Ensure staff with marine safety responsibilities are trained to undertake their duties	100% of mandatory training completed	All required marine training completed	All required marine training completed	
9	Plan	Publish a three yearly 'Marine Safety Plan' (this plan)	Published and in-date	Published		
		Publish an assessment of the organisation's performance against the last period plan	Published review	Review not published	Review published	
10	Aids to Navigation	Aids to Navigation: Three-year performance meets or exceed IALA performance threshold	Cat 1 = 99.9% Cat 2 = 99.0% Cat 3 = 97.0%	Cat 1 = N/A, Cat 2 = 99.84%, Cat 3 = 100%		Reported in 2025

