



# Marine Safety Plan 2021 - 2023



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

## **1. 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.

## **2. 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

## **3. 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.

#### 4. Plan Period

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

#### 5.0 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'.

#### 5.1 Standing Objectives

The 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'.

Number	Provision / Activity	Objective	Measure
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
		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
2	Designated Person	External Audit completed at one Port or Harbour per year	Annual
		Report to the Duty Holder at least once per year	Annual
3	Legislation	Review legal duties and powers at least once every three years	Three years
4	Duties and Powers	MAIB Reportable Incidents: make all reports to the MAIB within 24 hrs, with investigation followed up.	24 hrs initial report, investigation sent at incident close

Number	Provision / Activity	Objective	Measure
		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  1 month for more serious Incidents which may involve other Parties
		Hydrographic Survey set out in a survey plan	Surveys conducted to planned dates
		Hydrographic Survey publish within target timescale	Within one month of survey date
5	Risk Assessment	All Marine Risk Assessments to be in-date	100% in-date
6	MSMS	The Marine Management Team will undertake a formal review of all marine policies on a three-yearly basis	Three years
		The Marine Safety Management System will be reviewed annually (or following any significant industry changes)	Annual
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
8	Competence	Ensure staff with marine safety responsibilities are trained to undertake their duties	100% of mandatory training completed
9	Plan	Publish a three yearly 'Marine Safety Plan' (this plan)	Published and in-date
		Publish an assessment of the organisation's performance against the last period plan	Published review

Number	Provision / Activity	Objective	Measure
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%

### Period Objectives

The Council operates 39 ports and harbours located throughout Argyll and Bute. Specific improvements are identified within the plan period and laid out in the table below. Where the improvement relates to one location, this is denoted in brackets.

Number	Provision / Activity	Objective	Measure
1	Vessel Traffic Management (all SHAs)	Carry out a Formal Risk Assessment of-Local Port Service in line with MGN 401	At each port, by 2023
2	Pilotage service (Campbeltown)	Review the Pilotage Directions	Re-issue within plan period
3	Liaison and consultation with stakeholders (all SHAs)	Ensure good lines of communication are in place on marine safety matters for new and existing activities with Harbour Users Groups.	Each port to establish consultation forum / User Groups
4	Training	Review training needs for all staff associated with Marine Operations to ensure staff with marine safety responsibilities are trained to undertake their duties, identify mandatory training	Create a Training Matrix
5	Emergency plan	Establish an exercise plan. Conduct real time and table top exercises for emergencies	Establish a plan
6	New Installations Infrastructure Replacement (Fionnphort & Rothesay)	Oversee installation of a new Breakwater and Ferry Berth at Fionnphort and replacement of Rothesay Outer Harbour Pontoons	Risk assessed infrastructure development