

Salcombe Harbour Board – 10 July 2007**PORT MARINE SAFETY CODE****Report of Head of Service Salcombe Harbour****Statutory Powers: Pier and Harbour Order (Salcombe) Confirmation Act 1954**

Financial Implications: None in the preparation of this report other than officer time although there will be financial implications for the delivery of harbour safety improvements.

Purpose

To appraise Members on Salcombe Harbour Authorities compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code.

Compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code is required to ensure Salcombe is a safe and efficient harbour which supports South Hams objectives of good jobs (CP2), retention of the district's character (CP3), and a clean district (CP4).

Recommendations**That the Harbour Board RESOLVES to:**

- a. **Note the report.**

Background

1. The Port marine Safety Code (PMSC) was published in March 2000 by Department of Environment, Transport and Regions (DETR) Ports Division. Its aim was to establish an agreed national standard for port marine safety and a measure by which harbour authorities can be held accountable for the legal powers and duties which they have to run harbours safely.
2. To audit Salcombe's compliance and advise on any changes, developments and safety issues, the Harbour Authority has appointed an independent designated person who reported in December 2006 that, in their opinion there is in place a safety management system which, if maintained actively, complies with the requirements of the PMSC.
3. This report summarises the findings of the independent designated person's mid year review of the Harbour's safety management system on 16 May 2007.

Issues Highlighted by Independent Designated Person

4. The following issues were highlighted as requiring attention:
 - Facilitate a training exercise for MV Egremont post refit.
 - Egremont programmed for refit in Winter 2008, this will be done when they return.
 - Seek advice from Trinity House on harbour lights, marks and buoys.
 - This subject was raised with Trinity House inspector during annual inspection 18 June 2007. The outcome should now be a review of all Salcombe's navigation beacons and a request to Trinity House for a consent for any changes which are proposed. It is proposed to conduct a review during 2008/09.
 - Improve safety on Batson slipway by installing a brow pontoon to separate pedestrians from launching/recovery activities.
 - This is incorporated into the Strategic Business Plan.
 - Pile the Residents' Pontoon.
 - This is incorporated into the Strategic Business Plan.
 - Provide a barrier to safeguard the public from falls off the quay wall at Whitestrand.
 - This issue has been raised to the Council's asset management group.
 - Use asset management group to plan maintenance of slipways and landings. The principals of income, administration cost, funding and investment need to be re-examined.
 - This issue has been raised to the Council's asset management group.
 - Encourage the Council to rebuild the ferry pier.
 - This issue has been raised to the Council's asset management group.
 - Address congestion at Whitestrand.
 - Following a period of public consultation measures have been introduced this season to address this issue. The situation will be monitored throughout the summer and any further recommendations will be brought to the Harbour Board for consideration.
 - Review boat park operation.
 - A report has been prepared for the Harbour Board's consideration.
 - Develop harbour emergency plans and orders.
 - This is work in progress.
 - Conduct regular Health and Safety inspection of workshop.
 - This is work in progress.
 - Continue to refine harbour incident log.
 - This is work in progress.
 - Develop staff training record to include course content reference section.
 - This is work in progress.
 - Review risk assessments.
 - This is work in progress.

Value for Money

5. Delivering Value for Money is one of the Harbour Board's Core Principals and the maintenance of a safe harbour is fundamental to this.

Risk Assessment

Risk	Mitigation
The Harbour Authority is not delivering a satisfactory service to harbour users.	The Harbour Board, through its contact with harbour Community Forums will monitor the stakeholders' reaction to the service provided and amend the Strategic Business Plan to remain relevant.
The Harbour Board fails to comply with its statutory responsibilities.	Continuous monitoring and an annual audit by an independent designated person will highlight potential issues early to enable corrective action to be taken.
Health and safety.	Harbour staff adheres to a training plan audited by the Harbour Board's Port Marine Safety Code independent advisor on an annual basis.
Data Protection, disclosure of information and Freedom of Information (FOI).	Harbour records, including customer accounts are maintained within the office. Staff training is given to prevent any unauthorised disclosure. FOI forms are required before any information is given out.
Corporate activity with an impact on Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, National Parks, and Sites of Scientific Interest.	The Harbour Authority part fund a Marine Conservation Officer who monitors all activity within the estuary to ensure the harbour Authority fully respects the ANOB and SSSI status of the Estuary.
Financial Risks and Impact on Councils Assets	By monitoring performance in relation to the Strategic Objectives, the Harbour Board will be in a strong position to invest Harbour Funds where they can provide the best value for money and return on investment and safeguard the Harbour's future on behalf of the District Council.

Conclusion

- Salcombe Harbours is currently compliant with the requirements of the PMSC. Maintaining a safe harbour, operating an effective safety management system and ultimately compliance with the PMSC is essential if Salcombe Harbour is to continue to be a safe place for harbour users to enjoy and work from. Continuing to satisfy the requirements of the PMSC requires constant work and attention from all Harbour Authority personnel and stakeholders.

Ian Gibson
Head of Service Salcombe Harbour

Salcombe Harbour Board
 10 July 2007

Background Documents:

Salcombe Harbour Board Safety Management System Issue No 5 dated 7 December 2006.