



POOLE HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

(Poole Harbour Acts and Orders 1756 to 2001)

HARBOUR ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

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Dear Sir

Invitation to Adopt the Maintenance Dredging Protocol

Thank you for your letter dated 17th March 2008. Poole Harbour Commissioners (PHC), represented by Dick Appleton (retired April 2008), have been heavily involved in the production of the Maintenance Dredging Protocol and are consequently willing to adopt its principles. PHC have had a meeting with Natural England's Roger Morris and Richard Caldwell (local office), and a follow-up meeting with Professor Caldwell to establish the outline contents and format of the Baseline Document.

PHC has not as yet approached other parties who dredge and dispose. We are, however, aware who we issue dredging licences to under our 1914 Harbour Act, but not those who are licensed to dispose by the Marine & Fisheries Agency, or any monitoring conditions applied to their licences.

In order for ourselves and Natural England to start work on the baseline document, it will be necessary for you to make available (preferably in digital format) information that is held by relevant government departments and their contractors.

It appears that generally the government hold the view in that maintenance dredging not carried out for ten years is to be classified as capital dredging. It would therefore seem sensible for you to produce information on all licences issued to parties in Poole Harbour for the last ten years to include:

- Licence numbers and associated information eg DAS number
- allowable dredge quantities

Chairman - Malcolm Shakesby, MBE
Chief Executive, Clerk & Collector of Dues - J. Stewart, BA(Hons), MBA, MICS
Harbour Engineer - J.A. Ramsbottom, MSc, CEng, MICE
Chief Accountant - G.E. Hildred, FCA
Harbour Master - Capt. B.P. Murphy
Port Manager - Capt. C. Lane



- actual dredge returns
- chemical status
- monitoring requirements

PHC employ a Hydrographer who produces the data for the western half of sub-cell 5f of the Shoreline Management Plan, and as such is comprehensively monitoring sea bed movement. This information is used by Poole Harbour Commissioners, the Admiralty and the Channel Coast Observatory. PHC, as a result of the capital dredging/channel deepening carried out in 2005/2006, also carry out other monitoring that at present is published in an annual report and is available on the PHC website. A mitigation feature of Channel Deepening 2005/6 was the requirement for a Sediment Management Plan in order to retain material within the harbour system where possible rather than taking it for disposal at sea.

Our proposal is to form a document 'The Poole Harbour Maintenance Dredging and Disposal Management Plan'. This document will include the requirements for the Baseline Document for the Maintenance Dredging Protocol, but will also include the requirements of the Sediment Management Plan and the existing requirements for monitoring and reporting. The document would be a 'live' document, being continuously updated, generally available on the Poole Harbour Commissioners' website.

Please can you assure us that the considerable amount of work necessary to produce this document will be compatible with the requirements of the Marine Bill and Water Framework Directive.

I look forward to your thoughts on the above, and hopefully you can indicate a timescale on production by the government of the necessary information.

Yours sincerely

Andy Ramsbottom
Harbour Engineer