



Annual Environmental Summary 2008/2009

Poole Harbour is one of the outstanding features of Southern England. The Commissioners have a duty to maintain, regulate and improve the harbour sustainably so that it can be passed on to future generations.

The Port of Poole, operated by the Commissioners, remains a central feature of the harbour's day to day activity as a successful medium sized port. The Commissioners continue to look at ways to develop and improve the facilities and services they provide for ferries, fast ferries, cargo vessels, cruise ships, private yachts and other harbour users in an environmentally sustainable way.

As previously decided the Commissioners now publish an environmental summary in the annual report, to explain the highlights from the past year.



Environmental Policy Statement

Poole Harbour Commissioners' objective is to maintain the balance in the harbour between commercial, recreational and environmental interests, at the same time maintaining a sustainable and commercially viable medium sized port.

The Commissioners are committed to continuous improvement of their environmental performance by fulfilling their duties relating to conservation, regulation and enhancement of the port and harbour of Poole and complying with relevant UK, European and International legislation.

In implementing this policy, the Commissioners shall ensure that they:

1. Environmental Management

- Endorse the principles contained in the European Sea Ports Organisation's Environmental Code of Practice.
- Assess and mitigate environmental risks for all aspects of the Commissioners' operations.
- Include measurable environmental objectives and targets in business plans.
- Conduct regular management reviews and audits to identify areas for improvement.
- Record all significant environmental occurrences.
- Publish environmental performance in an annual environmental review



2. Resource Management

- Continue to monitor and where possible reduce resource consumption.
- Seek opportunities to apply innovative technology to reduce emissions and energy consumption.

3. Waste Management

- Continually assess recycling, re-use and waste minimisation opportunities.

4. Communication & Training

- Communicate with employees, contractors, regulators and the general public to ensure people are aware of their roles and responsibilities, and are competent in performing them.

5. Pollution Prevention and Control

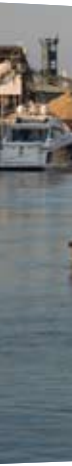
- Ensure that contingency plans and controls are in place and regularly reviewed and tested, to endeavour to prevent spills of oil, chemicals or potentially contaminating materials.

- Apply best available technology, without involving disproportionate costs, to plant acquisitions, facilities and activities to advance pollution control and emissions reduction.
- Pursue good house-keeping policies to ensure tidiness on the Port Estate.
- It is the Commissioners' policy for the 'polluter' to pay for the cost of clean up and disposal following land and marine based incidents.

The policy will be reviewed from time to time to embrace changes in the Commissioners' activities.

Richard Lacey – Chairman

Dated: 26th June 2009



Review of 2008/09 Environmental Performance

Environmental Management

Sustainable Procurement Policy – The PHC board agreed in their Environmental Policy in 2006 and subsequent annual environmental targets in 06/07 and 07/08 to develop and implement a sustainable procurement policy for all of their functions and to strive for continual improvement.

What is Sustainable Procurement? It is the process of purchasing goods and services that take into account the social, economic and environmental impact that such purchases have on people and communities. It is about considering what products are made of, where they have come from, who has made them, how they are transported and how they are eventually disposed of. It may even be about whether the purchase requires to be made at all.

The Management Team have discussed and agreed on a policy for PHC. The board adopted and signed the Sustainable Procurement Policy in September 2008.

Cycle Shed – Following on from last year's Cycle to Work Scheme, a new cycle shed for the use of employees has been erected on the Port estate.

Finding Sanctuary project – 'Finding Sanctuary' is a project which has been running in the South West Region since 2007. It was initially set up as a national pilot partnership project to design a network of Marine Protected Areas to safeguard the region's undersea habitats and marine life, and to help ensure the long-term sustainability of marine resources in the South West. New County Groups have been formed to help plan Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) in the region to be designated under the forthcoming Marine and Coastal Access Bill, which is sponsored by Natural England, Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) and Defra. Recently, similar projects have been set up to cover all of England's territorial seas.

The programme now is for all the regional projects to submit proposals for an ecologically coherent network of MCZs to government by 2012. These will have a similar status in the sea as SSSIs have on land.

Poole Harbour Commissioners have been a member of the project steering group since the start, representing the Ports & Harbours interest in the region for the BPA. The steering group is made up of a comprehensive group of stakeholders with maritime interests.



Their role will now be to propose the actual MCZs and the arguments for their definition and boundaries. The Marine Bill requires socio economic considerations to be taken into account in this exercise so it is vital that the ports industry is properly represented to ensure that its interests are accounted for while at the same time good nature conservation is delivered. PHC with their good record in environmental matters and contacts with the other ports in the region are very well qualified to continue this role and will see the project through to completion.

Further details of 'Finding Sanctuary' can be found at www.finding-sanctuary.org

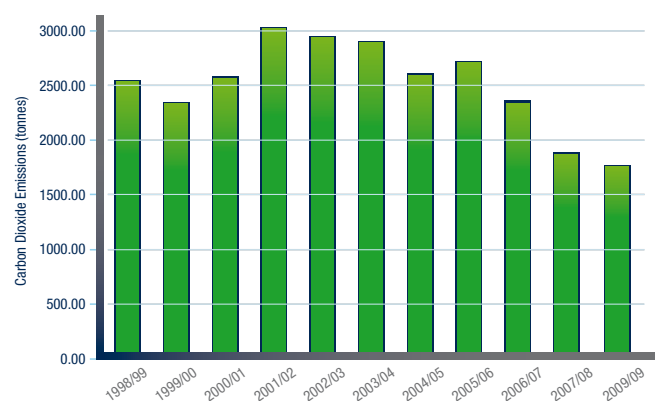
Dredging and Disposal – During the year 2008/09, the PHC dredger 'CH Horn' carried out 13,900 m³ dredging. As an outcome of the Commissioners' Sediment Management Plan which encourages fine sediment to remain in the Harbour, 12,700m³ of this material was deposited on an experimental disposal ground east of Brownsea Island.

On-going monitoring of the harbour continues, with reports being published periodically.

Resource management

Carbon Dioxide Emissions – The Commissioners' numerous operations continue to be monitored for their resource efficiency by determining their carbon dioxide emissions from diesel, marine gas oil, heating oil, gas, electricity and liquefied petroleum gas use.

Carbon Dioxide Emissions



Carbon dioxide emissions from the Commissioners' operations were reduced by a further 3% during 2008/09. This is accounted for mainly by a decrease in the use of diesel due to the conversion of two forklift trucks from diesel to LPG, and the transport fleet having been reduced to two vehicles during the year.

Electricity consumption also decreased, partly as a result of the opportunity outlined the previous year by Resource Efficiency Club which enabled external port lighting to be reduced. The target to implement Port Estate external lighting modifications to reduce lighting levels between midnight and 0500 hours was set; the aim being to reduce light pollution and make cost savings on electricity use. Tenants on the Port Estate have been advised of the project and their feedback incorporated. This has now been implemented.



A change in operating procedure of Travis Perkins increased the throughput / carriage / transfer of timber through Poole at the expense of Cardiff. Although this contributed to the CO₂ emissions of the Commissioners, it has created a significant saving nationally owing to reduced road miles.

Water use – Water use continues to be monitored across the site. The Commissioners' operational use of water decreased this year by 10% against the 2007/08 figures.

A review of the charging regime for watering conventional and ro/ro vessels has been carried out by the Harbour Master and a revised tariff has been agreed by the Board.

In last year's Environmental Review PHC set the target to investigate the feasibility and cost savings for transferring from bottled water coolers to mains water coolers. During July and August this exercise was undertaken and following a tender process Greencare H₂O were awarded the contract. By making this transfer to mains supplied water coolers PHC will make an annual saving of £1,000 as well as reducing vehicle deliveries for providing refills for the stand alone water coolers.

Centralisation of Stationery – During April 2008 PHC embarked upon reviewing how stationery and associated products are purchased within the organisation. All office consumables are now centrally purchased for all departments. There is normally one monthly order placed reducing the number of vehicle movements coming to all the departments across the organisation, reducing road congestion and vehicle emissions. Significant cost savings have also been identified.

Central Procurement – Centralisation of ordering has commenced within the Harbour Master's Department. It is anticipated that this will be extended to the whole organisation in due course.

Waste Management

Port Waste Management Plan – The updated Port Waste Management Plan has been approved by the Maritime Coastguard Agency. The plan covers the requirements under the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Port Waste Reception Facilities) Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/1809) as amended and the Commissioners' own operational waste requirements.



Waste Management – The overall volume of waste created by the Commissioners' operations during 2008/09 has shown an increase of 7%. The volume sent for landfill has remained the same, with the increased quantity being sent for recycling.

The Waste Contractor has changed from a policy of segregated recycling to co-mingled recycling, which has the two-fold benefit of a) reducing the number of site visits by the contractor and b) allowing the Commissioners to increase the number of recycling waste streams.

Communication

Tenants on the Port Estate – Further meetings have been held during the year with PHC tenants. These meetings have been extended to cover all Port related issues.

Eel Grass Leaflet – The Poole Harbour Steering Group, of which PHC is a member, is producing an awareness-raising leaflet about the sensitive nature and importance of the eel grass beds that can be found in the harbour. It has been agreed that the leaflet will be published by the Poole Harbour Steering Group. The leaflet is one way that PHC can satisfy their duties

under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006 this being 'to exercise their functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with proper exercise of those functions, for the purpose of conserving biodiversity'. The leaflet is in the designer stage and it is hoped that this will be published and circulated during 2009.

Mooring Holders – Environmental Awareness Leaflet

An environmental awareness raising leaflet was sent out in 2009 to all mooring holders. This leaflet gave advice on waste, oil and fuel, discharging sewage in the harbour and cutting noise and exhaust fumes. The leaflet also gave comprehensive advice on cleaning vessels and appreciating wildlife within the harbour.

Pollution Prevention And Control

There were 22 non-attributable incidents of pollution this year, which were all dealt with by the Harbour Master's department. This is a significant decrease on the previous year, where 44 such incidents were reported.



Contacts

The Commissioners are committed to continually improving their environmental performance through ongoing adoption of best practice and working together with their staff and stakeholders to ensure that all their activities and services are delivered in an environmentally sustainable and sensitive manner.

Correspondence on environmental issues related to the Poole Harbour Commissioners and the Port of Poole should be referred to:-

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