

Subject to continued compliance with the Poole Harbour Commissioners Maintenance Dredging Protocol (MDP) and the Environmental Policy Statement (EPS) PHC shall:

1. Continue a policy of hydrographic monitoring of the whole Harbour, using this information to inform adjustments and revisions to harbour marks for the safety and convenience of all users.
2. Recognise the need for maintenance dredging within active berths and marinas. Poole Harbour Commissioners will support dredging regimes undertaken where necessary to maintain acceptable depths for the safety of commercial shipping within the Harbour.
3. Exercise their powers to undertake maintenance dredging of the main navigation channels within Poole Harbour to acceptable and published depths. These channels include the Swash Channel, Middle Ship Channel, Turning Basin and Little Channel.
4. Support proposals to improve facilities for shipping and increased trade through capital dredging.
5. Continue to grant licences to operators of marinas, havens and other facilities, to carry out necessary maintenance dredging from time to time. Licences will be granted on the basis that operators will fall in line with the MDP, accompanying Sediment Management Plan (SedMP) and obtain any other approvals as required.
6. Ensure as far as possible that “minor” channels are maintained in a manner to allow their continued safe use by vessels of a similar nature and size to those at present using them. This will be achieved by increased monitoring and adjustment if appropriate and by minor dredging subject to statutory approvals. Channels considered most likely to fall into this category are North Channel, Wych Channel to Pottery Pier, Wareham Channel to WH12 Buoy, Rockley Channel to Rockley Point and the Backwater Channel upstream of ‘Twin Sails’ bridge.
7. Remain aware that there are farmed shellfish beds within certain areas of the minor channels mentioned above. It is likely that they are contained in areas not susceptible to accretion. However, these sites will be monitored with the SedMP adjusted as considered necessary.

Nothing in this Policy shall subvert existing Harbour Byelaws, General Directions, regulations or terms and conditions.

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