

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

Committee	River Hamble Harbour Board
Date:	4 October 2024
Title:	Annual Review of Business Plan
Report From:	Director of Universal Services

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Purpose of the Report

1. This report covers a review of the River Hamble Harbour Authority's rolling Business Plan.

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that the River Hamble Harbour Board considers and approves the Business Plan and any suitable revisions and additional items made by the River Hamble Management Committee.

Executive Summary

3. This report covers a review of the River Hamble Harbour Authority's rolling Business Plan.

Review of Business Plan

4. The River Hamble Harbour Authority's rolling Business Plan has been updated and is attached at Appendix 1. The Plan supports the Harbour Authority's Strategic Plan from which the headings of 'Plan Topic' and 'Brief' are derived. There is scope for new or revised objectives to be added to the plan, particularly where they update or replace those objectives which have been completed in full.
5. Members are requested to comment and to recommend potential revisions or additional items for inclusion in the plan.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	yes

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

A full Equalities Impact Assessment for the River Hamble Harbour Authority's compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code (including environmental responsibilities) has been carried out and this report does not raise any issues not previously covered by that Assessment.

Serial	Priority 1 low 5 high	Plan topic	Brief	Objective	Constraints	Budget	Target completion date	Ownership of project	Review date	Review Notes
1	5	Governance	To support the current governance arrangements, as approved by HCC	Recruit, select and train members of the Harbour Board as required	Availability of selection panel members	Minimal	Ongoing	Marine Director and Harbour Board	Sep-24	Harbour Board Marine Industry representative recruited Management Committee Marina and Boatyards' representative recruited
2	5	Navigational safety	To comply with the requirements of the Port Marine Safety Code	Marine Safety Management System maintenance. Repair and maintain Aids to Navigation.	None	£6000 per annum	Ongoing	DHM/HOM	Sep-24	Compliant. Awaiting instruction from Regulator for next statement of compliance. Awaiting issue of new PMSC Edition
3	5	Environment	To discharge responsibilities under Habitats Regulations and other relevant environmental legislation	Provide and maintain Tier 1 Oil Spill response equipment, meeting the appropriate legislative requirements. Produce and review an Oil Spill Plan for MCA approval			Ongoing	DHM/HOM and Environment and Development Manager	Sep-24	Compliant. Oil Spill Plan reviewed and approved by Regulator 01 November 2023. Next Review Nov 26.
4	5	Environment	To discharge responsibilities under Habitats Regulations and other relevant environmental legislation	Provide adequate storage facilities for oil spill response and emergency equipment			Ongoing	Marine Director and HCC	Sep-24	Storage contract in Stone Pier Yard renewed 3 August 2022 for 3 years.
5	4	Environment	To discharge responsibilities under Habitats Regulations and other relevant environmental legislation	To ensure that all staff are trained and exercised in oil spill response	Major exercise required every 3 years	Up to £8000 per annum, depending on training and exercise requirements	Ongoing. Next major exercise 2025	DHM/HOM, and Environment and Development Manager	Sep-24	Contract with Adler and Allen last renewed 12 Aug 2022 for 3 years.
6	4	Environment	To discharge responsibilities under Habitats Regulations and other relevant environmental legislation	To work with the Highways Agency, Environment Agency and Hampshire Fire and Rescue to seek ways of reducing the risk of pollution from bridges across the River	Funding	Not known	Ongoing	MD and Environment and Development Manager	Sep-24	National Highways' funding allocated for construction 2026 but subject to its budgetary change. (8 Aug 24).
7	4	Environment	To discharge responsibilities under Habitats Regulations and other relevant environmental legislation	Conduct desk-top study to assess feasibility of beneficial re-use of dredged material on saltmarsh		£25000 report complete	Ongoing	Environment and Development Manager	Ongoing	Member of Solent BUDS Project Technical Group. Ongoing advice on opportunities to both researchers, regulators and applicants
8	1	Environment	To discharge responsibilities under Habitats Regulations and other relevant environmental legislation	To identify and provide support and partial funding for environmental research and improvement projects which are deemed to be of net benefit to the harbour	Maximum of two projects per academic year	£5000 per annum	Ongoing	Environment and Development Manager	Sep-24	Support to Solent Seascape's (i) Solent Oyster Restoration Project monitoring, and (ii) saltmarsh restoration, and to other projects. Support to Bird Aware's Watersport with Wildlife campaign. Much support 'in kind' given. Policy of making available £5000 retained..
9	3	Public relations and communications	To enhance the public perception of the Harbour Authority	Broad involvement in and representation at relevant local committees. Programme of HM Presentations.		£500	Ongoing	MD	Sep-24	Pro-active engagement with and support to local initiatives and sporting events – SBW regatta, Hamble Classics Regatta, Running and swimming events, Hamble River Raid 2024

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10	3	Public relations and communications	To enhance the public perception of the Harbour Authority	To ensure that RHHA input to the River Hamble Directory is relevant and accurate	Editorial control rests with River Hamble Combined Clubs	£2,000	Complete for 2024	Harbour Office staff and Scene-Media	Sep-24	New Edition Hamble Handbook issued February 2024. Press engagement through HCC Corporate Comms. Handbook newly on revised Website
11	3	Public relations and communications	To enhance the public perception of the Harbour Authority	Optimise Web Site and Social Media use to land messages	Nil	None budgeted – potential income generator	Ongoing	Marine Director	Sep-24	New RHHA Website Development - live Sep 2023 – positive feedback
12	5	Crown Estate	To maintain a productive relationship with The Crown Estate	Fulfil the terms of the Moorings Management Agreement with the Crown Estate	Moorings Management Agreement	Income generator	Annual and ongoing	Marine Director, DHM/HOM, Moorings Manager	Sep-24	Management Agreement Contract in place from 31 Mar 2020 until Mar 2025. 2 year extension available.
13	2	Enhancement of economic benefits	Where possible, to seek opportunities to enhance the economic benefits of the harbour	To encourage the use of Harbour Authority facilities for events, rallies and regattas	Requires advertising and promotion on website and Hamble Directory	None budgeted - potential income generator	Ongoing	Harbour Board and Marine Director	Sep-24	Rally and regatta pre-booking arrangements in use. Mooring pattern adjustment with the Crown Estate to build continuous pontoon availability
14	3	Enhancement of well-being and enjoyment	Where possible, to seek opportunities for all harbour users to enjoy the benefits of the harbour	To seek to enhance the experience of those who use the River by improving access, both on and off the water To keep abreast of developments in County and Borough Council Policy, local initiatives and events, in order to enable and facilitate their safe and efficient delivery within the constraints of the Port Marine Safety Code.	Funding Staff resource	From Asset Enhancement Reserve	Ongoing	Harbour Board and Marine Director	Sep-24	Remaining alive to and facilitating opportunities for enjoyment and development. Supporting the proper authorities in delivery of policy objectives within the bounds of own existing resource.
15	5	Planning and consents	To provide a clear and effective works consent process	All works consents applications dealt with in a reasonable timescale, taking into account safety and environmental factors. Provision of advice to other regulators' consultations.	Port Marine Safety Code and relevant legislation	Income generator	Ongoing	Environment and Development Manager	Sep-24	Ongoing.
16	4	Planning and consents	To provide a clear and effective harbour works consent process	Provide professional pre-application advice	Availability of officials from other consenting bodies	Nil cost	Ongoing	Environment and Development Manager	Sep-24	Response provided to 3 rd party consultations. 1 to 1 advice meetings regularly held. Consents Advisory Panel meets as required.
17	4	Consultation	To respond to ideas and suggestions put forward by harbour users and other interested parties and consult with them when appropriate	Conduct formal consultations with interested parties when appropriate, using on-line methods whenever possible		None at present	Ongoing	Marine Director	Sep-24	Use of and positive feedback from bi-annual Harbour Safety Newsletters.

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18	3	Visitors	To encourage the provision of appropriate facilities for visiting yachtsmen.	Provide assistance and local information to visiting yachtsmen	None	Minimal	Ongoing	All staff	Sep-24	Continuous, including contributions to local pilot books, directories and guidebooks. Website development work including 'fly-through' pilotage, new weather station data offering real-time information. Revised signage, particularly safety signage
19	4	Policy	To ensure that the opinions of the Harbour Authority are taken into account when Government policies on ports, harbours and the marine environment are under consideration	Respond to all relevant Government consultations and attend appropriate conferences, workshops and meetings		Travel costs for meetings etc	Ongoing	Marine Director	Sep-24	Staff have attended various UKHMA, BPA, SASHMA and Solent Forum meetings and workshops, together with environmental and marine planning events. HM chair of SEMS since 2020 – re-elected for 3 years Sep 2022.
20	2	Future trends	To respond appropriately to new trends in recreational boating	Monitor trends in recreational boating and propose appropriate responses		None budgeted	Ongoing	Marine Director	Sep-24	New paddleboarding signage installed 2020. Engagement with new businesses. Safety Newsletters 2022 and 2023 highlighting responsibilities of paddleboarders and vessels
21	5	Financial	To maintain and manage the harbour cost-effectively and within available resources	Plan and implement annual budget	Hampshire County Council financial regulations	£27,000 (Service Level Agreement with County Treasurer)	Ongoing	Marine Director and County Treasurer	Sep-24	2024/25 forward budget approved by Harbour Board Jan 2024. Asset Review Paper approved April 2024.
22	3	Financial	To maintain and manage the harbour cost-effectively and within available resources	Maximise income through effective collection of Harbour Dues	Requires co-operation of yards and clubs	Income generator	Ongoing	Marine Director	Sep-24	Effectiveness of collection of visitors proven through higher levels of income consistently over last two years
23	4	Staff	To employ and retain well-motivated, properly trained staff	Recruit high quality staff, and provide and encourage training and personal development		Core business	Ongoing	All line managers	Sep-24	Ongoing
24	4	Staff	To employ and retain well-motivated, properly trained staff	Adhere to principles of Investors in People (IIP)		Core business	Ongoing	All line managers	Sep-24	Ongoing. Make use of HCC Valuing Performance protocols
25	3	Staff	To provide appropriate training for Management Committee and Harbour Board members	Organise training events for Members as required	Availability of Members	Core business	Ongoing	Marine Director and Members	Sep-24	Training presentations and boat trips. Duty Holder training/presentations
26	4	Equalities and accessibility	To ensure compliance with all equalities and accessibility legislation	Ensure that equalities and accessibility are taken into account in all activities and decisions	Equalities legislation	Core business	Ongoing	Marine Director	Sep-24	Equality central to planning processes as directed by the updated Strategic Vision Paper.