

Perth Harbour
PMSC Harbour User Meeting
Held – 26th June 2025

Attendees/Invites

Organisation	Attended (Y/N)	Apologies (Y/N)
Forth Ports	Y	
Taymara	Y	
NLB	N	Y
Forth Ports	Y	
Police Scotland	N	Y
Scottish Water	N	N
INEOS	N	Y
LiveActive	Y	
CalPort	Y	
Blast Design	N	N
Glenalmond Timber	N	Y
PKC	N	Y
PKC DP	Y	
PKC Harbour	Y	
Kinnes Shipping	Y	
Salt Dog Marine	Y	
David Anderson Marine	N	N
SFR	N	N
ScotBroker	N	N
Perth Pilot	N	Y
Tay and Earn Trust	Y	
Paddle Scotland	Y	
BB/SSE	Y	
Amey Highways – Friarton Bridge	N	Y
Shell Pipeline	Y	
PKC	N	Y
Inchyra Sailing Club	Y	
Newburgh Community Trust / Council	N	Y
NatureScot	N	Y
UHI	N	Y
King James VI Golf Club	Y	

Introduction

CM welcomed all to the annual Perth Harbour PMSC stakeholder meeting.

CM provided a brief update on harbour operations and structure.

Safety

CM reported no leisure marine incidents during period. Three commercial near misses;

1. Pilot boarding time @ Balmerino
2. Lack of water in river for ship arrival
3. Flood tide still in flow on arrival at harbour entrance

All NMs have been investigated and mitigations put in place.

CM aware of two persons entering the water during the period and rescued/recovered. CM asked if there are any other incidents the attendees are aware of to report.

CM provided an updated reporting procedure – the Perth Harbour website has an incident/near miss reporting link. In the first instance to contact the harbour on the numbers provided.

Issue with jet skis was raised again, similar to last meeting. SB from the Tay Sports Hub provided an update. Jet skis who are members of clubs conform to the Perth jet ski code of practice. CM provided update and meeting due to held on 26th June 2025 with PKC and jet ski club to discuss issues. Items suggested;

1. Signage at slips
2. Education for all users
3. Controlled access – ABN suggested phone app access
4. Registration of jet skis

CM raised leisure users concerns around water quality at SW outfalls. CM discussed water quality with Scottish Water and SEPA following last meeting and raised that all users are to contact SEPA in the first instance to report any water quality issues.

Compliance

- PMSC/ISPS – RM provided update to recent audits;
 - CRS Harbours Ltd, a consultancy providing professional, bespoke services to the ports, harbours and marine facilities industry.
 - CRS were appointed as Perth Harbour's DP in June 2024 and conducted our first detailed audit in August 2024 to establish a baseline of compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code. The August 2024 audit established that Perth Harbour was compliant with the Code and that measures existed to evidence that Perth Harbour was conducting the necessary governance, strategic direction and operational management controls (per the MSMS) to demonstrate clear management of the safety of navigation within their jurisdiction. This position was subject to agreement to some specific observations, primarily in relation to consideration of recommended MSMS updates and monitoring of governance and maintenance of safe operations whilst the proposed Harbour Closure Order (at that time) was being progressed.
 - At the end of April 2025, CRS conducted an interim review of compliance to review progress on the recommendations from the August 24 audit and to review compliance against the revised PMSC and GTGP which was issued in mid-April 25. The April 2025 interim review established that the approach to changes at Perth Harbour had moved towards a HRO rather than an HCO, with outline plans to remove pilotage and restrict the size of vessels which could use the Harbour. The HRO process is ongoing. As a result of the latest PMSC, the April 2025 interim audit also identified the need for a bridging document between Forth Ports and PKC in relation to agreeing roles and responsibilities between the parties.
 - Work is ongoing with PKC in relation to ensuring they remain compliant to the Code when the MCA kick off the exercise which is expected in Jan 2026.
 - April 2025, CRS carried out an annual audit of the Perth Harbour Port Facility Security Plan. The audit found that the port facility is operating in compliance with the ISPS Code. Discussions are underway relating to carrying out the annual PFSP exercise at Perth which needs to take place this calendar year.

- Drills/Exercises – CM provided an update on drills carried out in accordance with the ports emergency plans. CM provided update that 3yearly Oil Spill Exercise and ISPS annual exercise due to be held in August.
- AToNs – CM reported on the AToN annual report to NLB was submitted with a performance level of 99.7%. ABN raised point on AtoNs and removal of lights raised by users and RYA – users would not support. CM mentioned upcoming Navigational Risk Assessment update and asked stakeholders to raise any comments on AtoNs or safety on the river. If users identify any issues or requests to share direct with CM.
- Port Plans – CM informed stakeholders the Perth Harbour Oil Spill plan is currently being updated and will be submitted to the MCA for approval. ABK requested a copy of Perth OPRC plan, CM informed this was shared with FP Marine Compliance Manager earlier this year – if required let CM know and can share direct.
- PMSC Bridging Document between Forth Ports and Perth Harbour. CM and ABK discussed and shall set up meeting to discuss/agree.
- ISPS Joint PSC meeting – CM raised question to ABK around joint PSC meeting for Dundee and Perth. CM and ABK to discuss at meeting tbc.

User Updates

Stakeholders provided updates for their respected area. Issues raised include;

1. Jet skis on river, discussed
2. Mapping/safety leaflet needing update
3. Removal of AtoN lights, discussed
4. Golf course access/causeway issues – contract in place to repair, no progress
5. Golf course erosion – CM and RM agreed to set up meeting to look at bank erosion and dredge material. SF raised concerns about lack of maintenance from PKC on right of access and tree would not have collapsed into river.
6. Passenger vessel operations on river – CM agreed to share contact details of commercial users with ABK.
7. SSE/Balfour Beatty works at Inchyra/River Earn – AJ provided overview of works due to overhead wires at Inchyra – double outage. Proposed dates of work July/August 2026. CM asked AJ to send more info of works and to set up meeting to discuss impact on wider stakeholders.

Harbour Closure Update

CM provided updated as per PKC request. PKC previous Harbour Closure Order (HCO) has not progressed with Transport Scotland. PKC changed position following discussion with TS and now seeking a Harbour Revision Order (HRO) to limit vessel size to 24m and retain their SHA status and responsibilities. PKC would look to revoke CHA (Pilotage Powers) for vessels on the River Tay.

CM stated engagement with TS has been ongoing and the public 42days consultation will commence in the near future once wording is approved by Transport Scotland. CM requested all users can make representations which allows PKC to review and respond.

River Tay Steering Group

CM provided an update on the River Tay Steering Group, now chaired by CM. Next meeting will be after school holidays – August 2025. Purpose of group is to provide a platform to repurpose the river for leisure/community use. CM provided update from last meeting that Steering Group agreed for member from Sports Hub group to attend as key stakeholder to represent leisure users.

Operations / Cargos

Cargos - CM provided an update to shipping. CM provided latest shipping numbers, noting a decline in movements since April. Various commercial discussions with cargos underway between CalPort and Harbour.

Surveys – CM provided update that regular surveys are under way of harbour entrance every 6months. Newburgh approach/piers and Willowgate also surveyed this year.

Dredge Licence

CM provided update that CalPort Ltd, as the main commercial operator at Perth Harbour, submitted a dredge licence July 2024 and awaiting final approval from Marine Directorate. Once approved CalPort will look to dredge the harbour entrance asap to bring vessel draft back to max. Licence is being funded by CalPort and not PKC.

Police Scotland

Apologies from Police Scotland for not attending meeting, provided report – no change or any concerns to raise.

A.O.B

Nil

Next Meeting

TBC