

The Port Marine Safety Code

POLICY STATEMENT

The Chief Executive and the directors of each of the Peel Ports Group statutory harbour authorities are the Duty Holders and for the purposes of the Port Marine Safety Code collectively and individually accept responsibility for ensuring that the relevant harbour authority of which they are directors discharges its duties in accordance with the Port Marine Safety Code and have responsibility and accountability for each of the respective harbour authority's role and powers in relation to marine operations and harbour undertakings within their control; the Chief Executive and the Managing Directors of the respective ports are responsible for the operational and financial control of each of the harbour authorities. The Chief Executive and Managing Directors are advised on all matters related to the relevant company's statutory powers and duties by the appropriate Harbour Masters, the Group Director of Legal Services and its Safety and Environmental Managers. The Chief Executive oversees the implementation of policies and decisions of the Group and has ultimate executive responsibility for the safety of operations and staff.

The Boards of the respective statutory harbour authorities understand their statutory and common law duties which include an obligation to conserve and facilitate the safe use of each of the harbours, and an express duty to take such action as each harbour authority considers necessary or desirable for or incidental to maintenance, operation, improvement or conservancy of the harbour.

The Boards of the Duty Holders are committed to undertake and regulate marine operations in a way that safeguards their harbours; their users, the public and the environment. Consultations take place with all those who work in and use the harbours to ensure that they are fully involved in the preparation of safety policies and procedures.

Full and comprehensive risk assessments are undertaken in respect of all activities and facilities within the harbours leading to the development of comprehensive management systems for marine operations.

Protection of the environment is recognised by general and specific duties to exercise functions in a manner, which has regard to nature conservation and environmental considerations.

The Boards of the respective Duty Holders are committed to the continuous improvement of safety within their ports by the constant development of policies, systems and techniques of risk control governed by an independent audit system.

This Policy was approved by the Board on 15th August 2008 and will be reviewed again within the next 3 years.

Stephen Baxter
Chief Executive