

Langstone Harbour Conservancy Policy

Langstone Harbour Board (LHB) recognises its duty to conserve the harbour so that it is fit for use as a port, a duty of reasonable care to see that the harbour is in a fit condition for a vessel to use it, and a duty to protect, conserve and restore the environment.

It's policy of regular maintenance supports continued effective and efficient operations and reduces costs in the long term.

LHB will aim to provide users with adequate information about conditions in the harbour.

LHB recognises the extent of its duty and powers as a Local lighthouse Authority (LLA) and specific powers with relation to wrecks.

Conservancy Organisation and Management Responsibility

Hydrographic Survey

LHB complies with the Harbour Master's Guide to Hydrographic and Maritime Information Exchange (UKHO, 2025). Records of hydrographic surveys of channels in the harbour are kept by the Harbour Office. The authority has not yet undertaken maintenance dredging that required a Marine Licence from the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). The navigation channels are monitored by echo sounder, visually at low water, and surveyed as required. Other surveys, such as mooring areas or wreck investigation take place as required.

Area	Survey Frequency	Last Surveyed
Whole Port	10 years	Sept 2019
Broom Channel	3 years	Sept 2023
Bedhampton Channel	5 years*	Sept 2021
Eastney Lake/Marina Channel**	5 years	2024

* Or prior to use of commercial wharf at Bedhampton by owner operator Tarmac.

** Current policy adopted by Premier Marina Southsea is to survey the marina approach channel once a year in support of ongoing monitoring and dredge management activity.

The UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) receives all hydrographic information and Local Notices to Mariners produced by the Harbour. Admiralty Chart of Langstone Harbour is kept up to date, BA 3418 (Ed. 12 published 13 April 2023).

Buoyage and Aids to Navigation

The harbour has a comprehensive, well maintained and modern system of Aids to Navigation (AtoN) based on risk assessment and installed in consultation with Trinity House, the General Lighthouse Authority (GLA). Planned maintenance and defect rectification of AtoN is carried out in-house using the Board's mooring lighter DELILAH which can be deployed at short notice using LHB staff to meet IALA availability requirements.

There are 104 separate AtoN in Langstone Harbour, 66 of which are the responsibility of the LHB to maintain. These include: 14 buoys, and 7 beacons with lights; 32 unlit beacons/piles and 13 unlit buoys.

AtoN #	IALA Category	Target availability	Re-instatement period
11	Category 2	99%	within 3 ½ days
93	Category 3	97%	within 11 days

The Board inspects navigation marks under its jurisdiction in accordance with availability criteria laid down by Trinity House and effects maintenance and repairs as necessary. The alteration of existing marks and establishment of new marks is kept under review by the Board.

As Local Lighthouse Authority (LLA) the Board communicates its requirements and the requirements of Trinity House to other bodies with responsibilities for maintenance of navigation marks in the harbour.

Aids to navigation under its jurisdiction are variously maintained by:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| a) Langstone Harbour Board | b) Portsmouth City and Hayling Borough Councils |
| c) Southern Water | d) Premier Marina Southsea |

Wrecks and Abandoned Vessels

Wrecks and abandoned vessels are a particular issue in Langstone Harbour in terms of their number and the environmental impact on the designated site. The LHB maintains a database of recreational vessels in the harbour and will use national and local legislation to clear wrecks and abandoned vessels if required, passing on costs as appropriate wherever possible.

Following agreement with Premier Marina Southsea, a passage plan is required for any vessel entering the harbour that has been sold under provisions of the Torts Interference with Goods Act.

Prevailing Conditions

Conditions at the Harbour Office are available online via the harbour's Port Log webpage along with predicted and actual tidal information.

<https://langstonehb.port-log.net/live/display.php>

Works and Dredging Licences

Licences for dredging, if required, will be obtained from the Marine Management Organisation.

Environmental Monitoring and Advice

The LHB has an environmental duty derived from national legislation and referenced in the Port and Marine Facility Safety Code (PMSC). The LHB has additional duties and responsibilities to the environment as a result of the harbour's nature designations.

The LHB is classified as a Section 28 Authority under the Wildlife and Countryside Act with a duty "to take reasonable steps, consistent with the proper exercise of the authority's functions, to further the conservation and enhancement of the flora, fauna or geological or physiographical features by reason of which the site is of special scientific interest". LHB also has duties under Section 28E of the Act with regards to consenting.

LHB has a duty to protect, conserve and restore the Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA and the Solent Maritime SAC which together form a European Marine Site (EMS) and a Marine Protected Area (MPA).

Advice on discharging these duties is provided by the Board's Environment Officer, and the Board's environment policy is contained in the Langstone Harbour Management Plan (currently undergoing review).

The Board has established a monitoring programme to provide information about the health of the harbour's natural resources, recreation and commercial life. This includes:

<i>Monitoring activity</i>	<i>Data gathered</i>	<i>Time series</i>
Small Fish Survey	Seine net sample of shoreline species	2012 - 2017, 2023 - present
Seal Survey	Visual survey of colony numbers throughout year	2009 - present