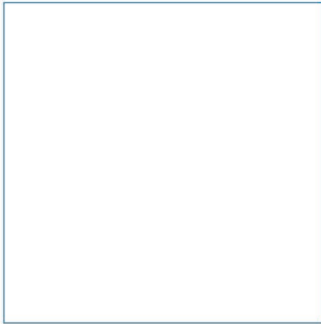
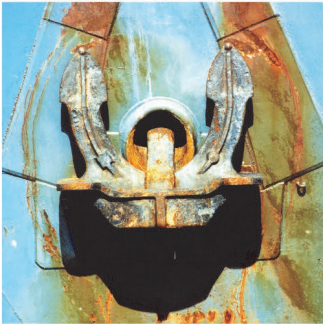
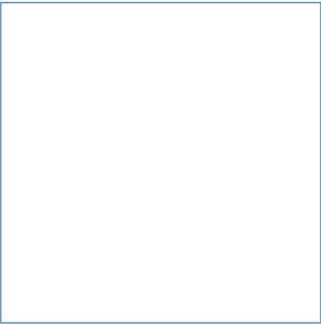
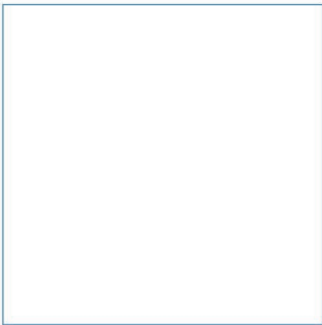


# Langstone Harbour Board

## Langstone Harbour Environmental Management Scoping Report

May 2025



Innovative Thinking - Sustainable Solutions

Page intentionally left blank

# Langstone Harbour




## Environmental Management Scoping Report

May 2025



# Document Information

Document History and Authorisation		
<b>Title</b>	Langstone Harbour	
	Environmental Management Scoping Report	
<b>Commissioned by</b>	Langstone Harbour Board	
<b>Issue date</b>	May 2025	
<b>Document ref</b>	R.4833	
<b>Project no</b>	R/5578/01	
Date	Version	Revision Details
02/04/2025	1	Issued for client comment
23/04/2025	2	Issued for client review
15/05/2025	3	Issued for client use

Prepared (Project Manager)	Approved (Quality Manager)	Authorised (Project Director)
Tania Davey	Monty Smedley	Natalie Frost
		

## Suggested Citation

ABPmer, (2025). Langstone Harbour, Environmental Management Scoping Report, ABPmer Report No. R.4833. A report produced by ABPmer for Langstone Harbour Board, May 2025.

## Contributing Authors

T. F. Davey

## Acknowledgements

The Author would like to include a note of appreciation for the invaluable contributions from Meg Roberts (Environment Officer at Langstone Harbour Board) and Billy Johnson (Harbour Master at Langstone Harbour Board) for their information, help and support in compiling this report.

## Notice

ABP Marine Environmental Research Ltd ("ABPmer") has prepared this document in accordance with the client's instructions, for the client's sole purpose and use. No third party may rely upon this document without the prior and express written agreement of ABPmer. ABPmer does not accept liability to any person other than the client. If the client discloses this document to a third party, it shall make them aware that ABPmer shall not be liable to them in relation to this document. The client shall indemnify ABPmer in the event that ABPmer suffers any loss or damage as a result of the client's failure to comply with this requirement.

Sections of this document may rely on information supplied by or drawn from third party sources. Unless otherwise expressly stated in this document, ABPmer has not independently checked or verified such information. ABPmer does not accept liability for any loss or damage suffered by any person, including the client, as a result of any error or inaccuracy in any third party information or for any conclusions drawn by ABPmer which are based on such information.

All content in this document should be considered provisional and should not be relied upon until a final version marked '*issued for client use*' is issued.

All images on front cover copyright ABPmer.

## ABPmer

Quayside Suite, Medina Chambers, Town Quay, Southampton, Hampshire SO14 2AQ  
T: +44 (0) 2380 711844 W: <http://www.abpmer.co.uk/>

# Executive Summary

Langstone Harbour is situated on the South Coast of England, between Portsmouth Island and Hayling Island. The harbour is managed by Langstone Harbour Board who has trust port status and are the Statutory Harbour Authority. Langstone Harbour Board is also the Local Lighthouse Authority, Competent Harbour Authority (for pilotage) and a statutory consultee in relation to local authority planning decisions which may affect Langstone Harbour.

LHB was established in 1962 under the Pier and Harbour Order (Langstone Harbour) Confirmation Act, with an extension of the Competent Harbour Authority for pilotage into the approaches to the harbour in the Eastern Solent. The harbour covers some 4,695 acres, has two commercial aggregate wharves, historically used for aggregate import, and is home to both charter fishing and commercial fishing vessels. Of the two wharves, only Kendall's Wharf is active as an aggregates berth. In addition, the harbour has a large recreational community including yachts and power-driven vessels, plus a range of recreational water pursuits such as windsurfing, water skiing and kayaking. The harbour also has extensive international, European and national nature conservation status for its critically important marine habitat and species.

Langstone Harbour Board is committed to renewing the Langstone Harbour Management Plan, produced in 1997. This scoping report has been produced to support the update of the Langstone Harbour Management Plan. The report reviews the statutory duties of Langstone Harbour Board alongside an assessment of deliverables since the production of the Langstone Harbour Management Plan. This information has been used alongside the Natural England condition assessment of protected habitats and species to propose updated aims, objectives and outlined actions. The scoping report suggests an approach to stakeholder input into the Langstone Harbour Management Plan update and proposes a structure for the updated Langstone Harbour Management Plan. Finally, a technical scope of works has been produced to support Langstone Harbour Board in the development of an invitation to tender to update the Langstone Harbour Management Plan.

The review of the Management Plan has focused upon the duties of Langstone Harbour Board primarily in relation to the protection and conservation of the natural environment. This information will allow Langstone Harbour Board to implement the future sustainable development of the Harbour whilst ensuring the necessary assessments and measures are implemented to protect and conserve the environment for people to enjoy and benefit from, both now and for future generations.

# Contents

1	Introduction.....	1
2	Review of National and Local Legislation.....	3
3	Review and Update of Aims and Objectives.....	12
3.1	Review of the aims.....	12
3.2	Review of the objectives.....	12
3.3	Areas for improvement and update .....	25
3.4	Revised aims and objectives.....	26
4	Proposed Outline Actions .....	29
4.1	Development of outline actions.....	29
4.2	Review of LHMP actions.....	31
4.3	Proposed assessment of actions.....	31
5	Environmental Management Plan Scoping.....	33
5.1	Review of LHMP.....	33
5.2	Proposed outline structure and contents for an updated LHMP.....	33
6	LHMP Proposed Stakeholder Input .....	35
6.1	Consultation on the proposed aim, objectives and outline actions .....	35
6.2	Task and Finish Group.....	35
6.3	Workshop to identify actions.....	35
6.4	Engagement of the Board and Local Authorities .....	36
6.5	Final consultation on the plan .....	36
6.6	Launch of the updated plan.....	36
7	Invitation to Tender – Technical Scope of Works.....	37
7.1	Technical scope of works.....	37
7.2	Further steps required.....	38
8	References.....	39
9	Abbreviations/Acronyms .....	41

## Appendices

A	Langstone Harbour Board Strategic Aims and Objectives .....	44
B	Evaluation of Objectives in Relation to Environmental Legislation.....	49

## Figure

Figure 1.	Harbour Limit.....	2
-----------	--------------------	---

## Tables

Table 1.	Summary of local environmental legislation and environmental obligations .....	4
Table 2.	Summary of national environmental legislation and environmental obligations .....	5
Table 3.	LHMP objectives and LHB strategic environmental objectives .....	13
Table 4.	Evaluation of objectives in relation to current environmental legislation.....	14
Table 5.	Actions and outputs delivered by LHB linked to the LHMP objectives and the LHB strategic objectives.....	17
Table 6.	Current habitat/species/protected site condition and issues. Natural England (2025) .....	23
Table 7.	Proposed objectives and reason for update .....	27
Table 8.	Proposed objectives and actions.....	29



# 1 Introduction

Langstone Harbour is situated on the South Coast of England, between Portsmouth Island and Hayling Island. Langstone Harbour Board (LHB) is a Statutory Harbour Authority (SHA), a Local Lighthouse Authority (LLA) and a Competent Harbour Authority (CHA) in respect of pilotage. The Board was established in 1962 under the Pier and Harbour Order (Langstone Harbour) Confirmation Act, with an extension of the CHA area into the Eastern Solent through a Harbour Revision Order (HRO) granted in 2005.

The harbour limits are shown shaded blue in Figure 1, with the pink line denoting the current high-water mark.

The harbour, which covers some 4,695 acres, has two commercial aggregate wharves, historically used for aggregate import, and is home to both charter fishing and commercial fishing vessels. Of the two wharves, only Kendall's Wharf is active as an aggregates berth. In addition, the harbour has a large recreational community including yachts and power-driven vessels, plus a range of recreational water pursuits such as windsurfing, water skiing and kayaking. The harbour also has extensive international, European and national nature conservation status for its critically important marine habitat and species.

This scoping report has been prepared to review the Langstone Harbour Management Plan (LHMP). The LHMP was produced in 1997 to outline a framework to promote the sustainable use of Langstone Harbour by managing human activity in and around the Harbour and maintaining the value of its natural resources, especially those identified as of national and international significance (LHMP, 1997).

The review of the Management Plan has focused upon the duties of Langstone Harbour Board primarily in relation to the protection and conservation of the natural environment. This information will allow Langstone Harbour Board to implement the future sustainable development of the Harbour whilst ensuring the necessary assessments and measures are implemented to protect and conserve the environment for people to enjoy and benefit from, both now and for future generations.

The report has considered the following:

- **Section 2: Review of national and local legislation:** a comprehensive review of local and national legislation has been undertaken to clarify LHB environmental obligations. This has identified the main environmental duties which LHB must meet. These focus on action to conserve, protect, restore, and enhance biodiversity. Harbour and port legislation also gives duties in relation to geological, physiographical, archaeological and historic features.
- **Section 3: Review and update of aims and objectives:** the aims and objectives of the LHMP were considered in relation to local and national legislation, particularly in relation to the updated Biodiversity Duty. Other factors have also been taken into consideration, including the condition of protected habitats and species and actions and outputs linked to the LHMP objectives.
- **Section 4: Proposed outline action:** outline actions have been developed and linked to proposed updated LHMP objectives. Criteria have been proposed in the development of actions as part of the wider LHMP update.
- **Section 5: Scoping of an environmental management plan:** based on a review of the existing LHMP structure, an updated outline structure has been proposed to support the update of the LHMP.



- **Section 6: Proposed stakeholder input into the update of the LHMP:** it is recognised that engagement of key stakeholders will be important in the update of the LHMP. Key stakeholders have been identified and options to engage these stakeholders in the plan update have been proposed.
- **Section 7: Invitation to tender:** a technical scope of works has been produced to support LHB in the development of an invitation to tender for the update to the LHMP.

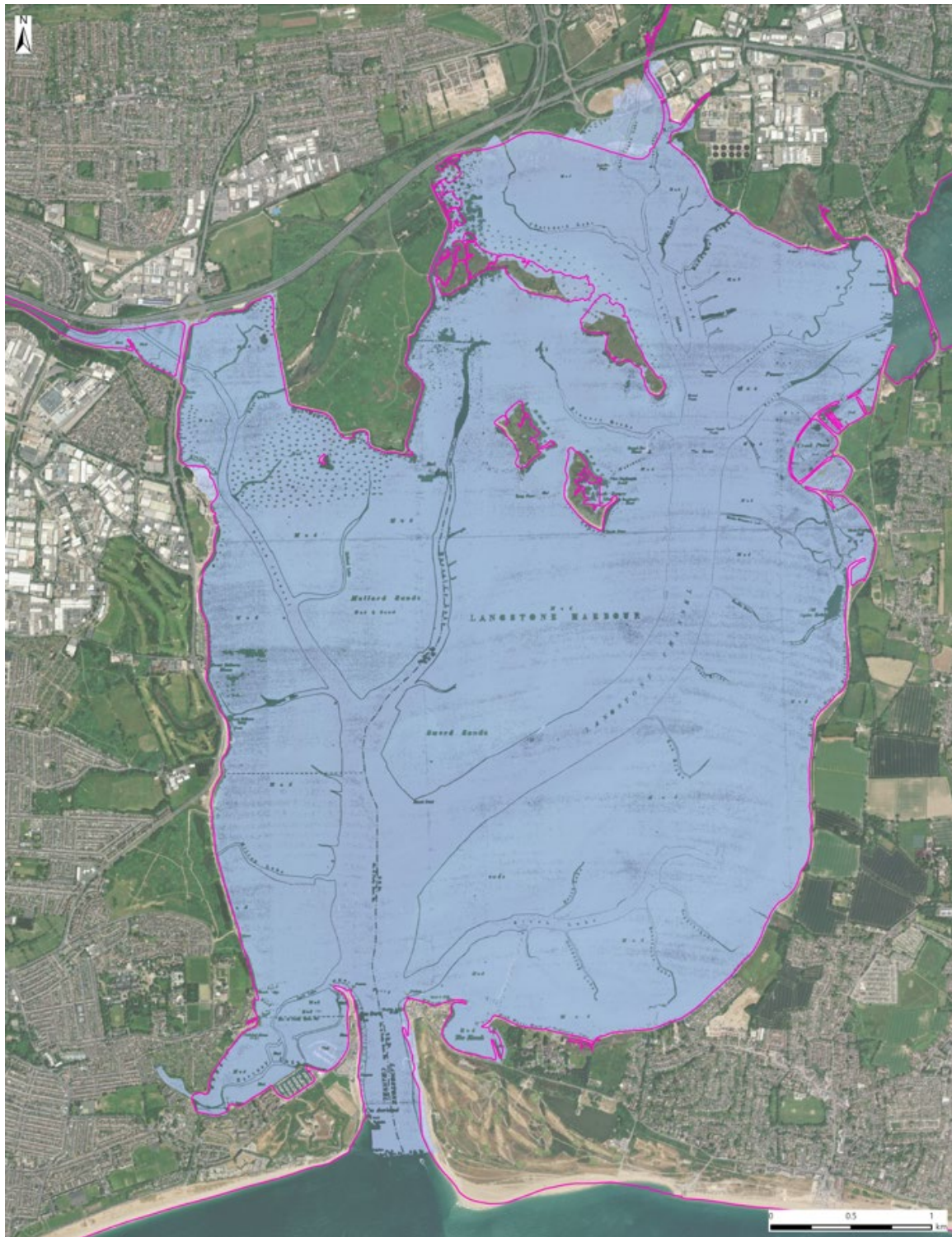


Figure 1. Harbour Limit

## 2 Review of National and Local Legislation

To determine LHB's legal environmental obligations, a review of national and local legislation has been undertaken. Table 1 and Table 2 identify local and national legislation and LHB environmental obligations in detail.

In summary, these environmental obligations include:

- The 'biodiversity duty' – a general duty to exercise functions to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
- Powers to create byelaws and incur expenditure for conservation and associated educational and interpretation purposes.
- To conserve and enhance Langstone Harbour Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).
- Provisions for LHB to be a consultee in relation to local authority planning decisions which may affect Langstone Harbour SSSI.
- A general duty to exercise functions which are relevant to nature conservation to ensure compliance with the Habitats Directive.
- To protect, conserve and restore Chichester and Langstone Harbours Special Protection Area (SPA) and Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation (SAC) to meet conservation objectives.
- To prevent deterioration of Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA and Solent Maritime SAC from human activities or natural change, including habitats that support protected species.
- To prevent significant disturbance to Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA from human activity or natural change.
- To have regard to the South Marine Plan when exercising functions.
- To apply for a marine licence for any activity which is not exempt.

Table 1. Summary of local environmental legislation and environmental obligations

Environmental Legislation	Summary of Legislative Requirement	Environmental Obligations
The Langstone Harbour Revision Order 1985 (SI1985/1554), Section 8.	<p>General Powers of Board</p> <p><i>8. — (1) The Board may from time to time carry out such works or operations as they may consider necessary for the maintenance, operation and improvement of the harbour.</i></p> <p>The impact of these activities are often described as the “functions” which LHB undertake as a harbour authority. These functions will need to be assessed across the various national environmental legislation listed below.</p>	None within legislation, but the implications of functions as outlined should be considered across all environmental duties.
The Langstone Harbour Revision Order 1999 (SI1999/266), Section 8 and 9.	<p>Section 8 of the Order makes it a requirement of the local planning authority to consult with LHB in or likely to affect a SSSI.</p> <p><i>Conservation powers, education and interpretation</i></p> <p><i>9—(1) Within the limits of jurisdiction, the Board may—</i></p> <p><i>(a) make byelaws and incur expenditure for the conservation of the natural beauty of all or any part of the harbour or any of the fauna, flora or geological or physiographical features in the harbour and all other natural features; and</i></p> <p><i>(b) incur expenditure on and carry out works for the purpose of interpreting the history, fauna, flora or geological or physiographical features of the harbour for the benefit or education of persons visiting the harbour or its surroundings.</i></p> <p><i>(2) Before taking action under paragraph (1) above, the Board shall consult with and obtain the consent of the constituent councils</i></p> <p>The power in Section 9(1)(a) allows LHB to make byelaws for conservation purposes and to incur expenditure for conservation purposes within the limits of jurisdiction. These powers allow LHB to discharge duties with regard to national environmental legislation.</p> <p>The power in 9(1)(b) allows LHB to undertake works to interpret the conservation and historical value for educational purposes. This is an important power in relation to any management requirements in relation to human pressures on Langstone Harbour. This may be relevant to the management of recreational disturbance pressure.</p>	<p>Powers to create byelaws and incur expenditure for conservation and associated educational and interpretation of the harbour and its history.</p> <p>Gives provisions for LHB to be a consultee in relation to local authority planning decisions which may affect Langstone Harbour SSSI.</p>

Table 2. Summary of national environmental legislation and environmental obligations

Environmental Legislation	Summary of Legislative Requirement	Environmental Obligations
Harbours Act 1964 Section 48A	<p><i>48A Environmental duties of harbour authorities.</i>  <i>It shall be the duty of a harbour authority in formulating or considering any proposals relating to its functions under any enactment to have regard to—</i>  <i>(a)the conservation of the natural beauty of the countryside and of flora, fauna and geological or physiographical features of special interest;</i>  <i>(b)the desirability of preserving for the public any freedom of access to places of natural beauty; and</i>  <i>(c)the desirability of maintaining the availability to the public of any facility for visiting or inspecting any building, site or object of archaeological, architectural or historic interest; and to take into account any effect which the proposals may have on the natural beauty of the countryside, flora, fauna or any such feature or facility</i></p> <p>This is a general duty to require LHB to have regard to the environment, give access to the environment and the maintenance of any facilities for visiting or inspecting the environment when considering and delivering any functions which the LHB has power to deliver.</p>	A general duty to have regard to the environment in relation to the delivery of functions.
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	<p>Special Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSI) are designated under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. Langstone Harbour is fully protected as a SSSI. LHB is classified as a Section 28 Authority under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.</p> <p>The duty under this section "<i>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</i>". Guidance on responsibilities in relation to the SSSI is available (Natural England, 2020).</p> <p>LHB also has duties under Section 28E of the Act with regards to consenting.</p> <p>It is important that LHB seeks approval from Natural England before carrying out functions if they are likely to damage any feature of the SSSI. This will require an</p>	To conserve and enhance Langstone Harbour SSSI. Ensure any damaging activities are assessed and approvals are sought from Natural England for any damaging activity.

Environmental Legislation	Summary of Legislative Requirement	Environmental Obligations
	assessment of any impacts. If Natural England is not given prior notice or approves an activity likely to damage a SSSI, a £20,000 fine could be given by a magistrates court or an unlimited fine in the Crown Court.	
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 Section 40 "NERC Act"	<p>The Environment Act 2021 updated the "biodiversity duty" within the NERC Act to give a general duty to conserve and enhance biodiversity through the exercise of functions in England.</p> <p>A public authority which has functions in England must (from time to time) consider what action an authority can take, consistently with proper exercise of its function, to further the general biodiversity objective. Authorities must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine and revise policies and objectives appropriate for taking action to further the general biodiversity objective. This may require revising existing policies and objectives.</li> <li>▪ Take action in light of the policies and objectives to further the general biodiversity objectives. This includes action for the purposes of:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Conserving, restoring or otherwise enhancing a population of a particular species, and</li> <li>b) Conserving, restoring or otherwise enhancing a particular type of habitat.</li> </ol> </li> <li>▪ The authority must have regard to               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Any relevant local nature recovery strategy</li> <li>b) Any species conservation strategy or protected site strategy prepared by Natural England.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p>In LHB must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Understand how/if the above strategies are relevant to LHB</li> <li>▪ Be aware how these strategies affect land that LHB own or manage, or actions you could take to conserve and enhance biodiversity</li> <li>▪ Consider how you could contribute to the strategy, where appropriate.</li> </ul>	Biodiversity general duty to exercise functions to conserve and enhance biodiversity. This requires development and revision of policies and objectives to take action to further the objectives.



Environmental Legislation	Summary of Legislative Requirement	Environmental Obligations
	<p>In terms of timescales for meeting the biodiversity duty, the first consideration on what action to take for biodiversity must be complete by 01 January 2024. Policies and objectives must be agreed as soon as possible after this. Actions must be reconsidered within 5 years of when the previous consideration was undertaken, although this can be done more often. Defra guidance outlines <i>"Local authorities (excluding parish councils) and local planning authorities must publish a biodiversity report. Other public authorities do not need to publish a report but must fulfil their biodiversity duty. Other public authorities may be required to publish a report in future. Defra will consult before these authorities are designated."</i> (Defra, 2023a).</p> <p>Guidance is available on how to comply with the biodiversity duty (Defra, 2023b).</p> <p>The action which LHB takes for biodiversity will contribute to the achievement of national goals and targets for biodiversity. The Environment Improvement Plan should be considered in relation to this (Defra 2023c).</p>	
Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)	<p>Known as the Habitats Regulations, the legislation was established to meet the duties of the Birds Directive and Habitats Directive.</p> <p><b>General duty</b> Section 9 of the Habitats Regulations 2017 gives a general duty to <i>"exercise their functions which are relevant to nature conservation, including marine conservation, so as to secure compliance with the requirements of the Directives."</i> The regulations apply to functions in relation to the Harbours Act 1964.</p> <p><b>Duty in relation to protected sites</b> The Habitats Regulations allows the designations of SPAs and SACs. LHB duties in relation to the SAC and SPA designations are for the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA</li> <li>▪ Solent Maritime SAC</li> </ul>	<p>Duty to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A general duty to exercise functions which are relevant to nature conservation to ensure compliance with the original Directives.</li> <li>▪ Protect, conserve and restore designated sites to meet conservation objectives.</li> <li>▪ Prevent deterioration of sites habitats from human activities or natural change, including habitats that support protected species.</li> </ul>

Environmental Legislation	Summary of Legislative Requirement	Environmental Obligations
	<p>Together these sites form a European Marine Site (EMS) and a Marine Protected Area (MPA).</p> <p>LHB has a duty to protect, conserve and restore these sites. This applies to any area of the site, which is owned or occupied, any decisions that might affect the site, if a third party asks LHB to use its powers to protect the sites and to how LHB carries out any statutory work affecting the sites. Guidance is available to support the delivery of this duty (Defra, 2021a). Section 38 of the Regulations allows the establishment of EMS management schemes to exercise functions and ensure compliance with the Directives. LHB is a member of the Solent EMS scheme.</p> <p>If a plan or project might impact on the features of a designated site, a Habitats Regulations Assessment must be undertaken (Section 63 and 64 of the Regulations). Further guidance is available (Defra, 2021b)</p> <p>Section 43 of the Regulations outlines strict protection for animals which are classed as European Protected Species (EPS). It is an offence to deliberately capture, kill or disturb EPS, deliberately take or destroy eggs of an EPS animal or damage or destroy a breeding site of resting place of an EPS animal. Similar protection exists for plants classed as EPS under Section 47 of the Regulations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevent significant disturbance of sites designated species from human activity or natural change.</li> </ul>
Ramsar Convention 1975	<p>The Ramsar Convention is an international mechanism to protect wetlands of global importance. Chichester and Langstone Harbours Ramsar site is underpinned by Langstone Harbour SSSI and therefore given statutory protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Ramsar Sites are given the same protection as SACs and SPAs in the National Planning Policy Framework, Section 194 (Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2024). The Planning and Infrastructure Bill currently working through parliament proposes to make amendments to the Habitats Regulations 2017 to allow Ramsar Sites to be given the same formal legal protection as SACs and SPAs (Schedule 7 of Bill).</p>	Duties as per Habitats Regulations 2017.



Environmental Legislation	Summary of Legislative Requirement	Environmental Obligations
Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	<p><b>Marine Plans</b> The Marine and Coastal Access Act gives provisions for the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) to create regional Marine Plans in England. Marine plans set out priorities and future direction within plan areas, inform sustainable development and help marine users understand the best areas for activities (MMO, 2014). LHB sits within the South Marine Plan Area. The Marine Plan for this area was adopted in 2018 (MMO, 2018). The South Marine Plan must be taken into account in accordance with Section 58 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A public authority must take any authorisation or enforcement decision in accordance with the appropriate marine policy document. If not in accordance with the Marine Plan, reasons must be stated.</li> <li>▪ A public authority must have regard to the appropriate Marine Plan document in taking decisions which relate to the exercise of any function capable of affecting the whole or part of the UK marine area but is not an authorisation or enforcement decision. Details on authorisation and enforcement decisions are listed in the legislation.</li> </ul> <p>A number of guidance documents are available on the use of Marine Plans (MMO, 2020)</p> <p><b>Marine Licensing</b> Marine licences are required from the MMO to undertake certain works within Marine Plan areas in England. The licensing process will require an assessment and any mitigation for impacts to protected sites. Guidance on the marine licensing process is available from the MMO (2023).</p> <p>Some licence exemptions apply. A marine licence is not required for the deposit, removal or works activities carried on by or on behalf of a harbour authority for the purpose of maintaining any harbour works (see The Marine Licensing (Exempted Activities) Order 2011, Article 23) or for a harbour authority to deposit or construct any piled or swinging mooring, or to install a pontoon with a deck size of 30 square metres or less.</p>	<p><b>Marine planning</b> Any authorisation or enforcement decisions must be taken in accordance with Marine Plans.</p> <p>Have regard to the South Marine Plan when taking decisions which relate to the exercise of any functions capable of affecting the whole or part of the UK Marine Plan area.</p> <p><b>Licensing</b> Apply for a marine licence for any activity which is not exempt. Take into account and mitigate any impacts on protected sites as part of the licensing process.</p>

Environmental Legislation	Summary of Legislative Requirement	Environmental Obligations
Environment Act 2021	<p>The Environment Act updated the NERC General biodiversity objective to conserve and enhance biodiversity in England through the exercise of functions. See further details under NERC legislation.</p> <p>It is also good to be aware of the following which the Environment Act makes provisions for:</p> <p>Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG): A mandatory requirement in England under Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act (as inserted by the Environment Act). Developers must deliver a BNG of 10%. This should be taken account of any development in the vicinity of Langstone Harbour. BNG guidance is available (Defra, 2024a).</p> <p>Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP): The Environment Act outlines provisions for Government to produce an EIP. The EIP, published in 2023, sets out how the environment will be improved (Defra, 2023c).</p> <p>The Environment Act makes provisions for the Government to set long term targets which relate to the environment. Relevant to Langstone Harbour include halting the decline in species population by 2030 and restoring 70% of designated features in MPAs to favourable condition by 2042 (Defra, 2022).</p> <p>Conservation Covenants: The Environment Act creates provisions to create Conservation Covenants. These are a private, voluntary agreement to conserve the natural or heritage feature of the land (Defra 2024b).</p>	As per the NERC biodiversity duty.
Ports & Marine Facilities Safety Code (PMSC) 2025 Section Paragraph 4.35-4.36	The Port and Marine Facility Safety Code sets out a national standard for every aspect of port safety. A summary of the environment duty of harbour authorities is provided within this document.	A general duty to have regard to the environment in relations to the delivery of functions.

Environmental Legislation	Summary of Legislative Requirement	Environmental Obligations
Water Framework Regulations 2017	<p>The Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2000/60/EC) came into force in 2000 and established a framework for the management and protection of Europe's water resources. It is implemented in England and Wales through the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 (the WFD Regulations) (as amended). While the UK left the EU on 31 January 2020, the UK continues to be committed to meeting high environmental standards. The main provisions of the WFD have been retained in English law through the Floods and Water (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.</p> <p>The WFD Regulations set environmental objectives to achieve good status in all inland, transitional, coastal and ground waters by 22 December 2021, with possible extensions to 22 December 2027 or later dates if certain statutory tests are met. Currently, the date to achieve Good Ecological Status or Potential for most surface water bodies in England has been extended to 2027. The achievement of Good Chemical Status in surface water bodies has been extended to 2063 due to the presence of certain 'ubiquitous, persistent, bio-accumulative and toxic' (uPBT) chemicals.</p> <p>LHB is classed as a public body in relation to the WFD Regulations (Section 2(1)(b)).</p> <p>Public bodies must, in exercising their functions so far as affecting a river basin plan, have regard to the river basing management plan and any supplementary plan prepared (Section 33).</p> <p>LHB participates in the East Hampshire Catchment Partnership.</p>	Have regard to the river basin plan when exercising function.
Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Section 262	LHB is classed as a "statutory undertaker" under Section 262 of the Town and Country Planning Act. Further review is required to identify associated obligations.	

## 3 Review and Update of Aims and Objectives

To understand the effectiveness of the LHMP and LHB aims and objectives, a review has been undertaken using the following criteria:

- Do objectives meet the environmental legislative requirement?
- Have action and outputs been delivered against the current aims and objectives?
- Is action being taken to address the condition status of protected habitats and species?

### 3.1 Review of the aims

The LHMP was created in 1997 as a framework to coordinate action for the sustainable use of the harbour (LHMP, 1997). The aim of the plan was outlined as an overall goal:

*“The overall goal of the management plan should be to promote the sustainable use of Langstone Harbour by managing human activity in and around the Harbour so as to maintain the value of its natural resources, especially those identified as of national and international significance.”*

Parallel to this, the Board for Langstone Harbour works to a list of strategic aims which covers a range of duties and responsibilities (these have been presented for completeness in Appendix A) The environmental strategic aim is as follows:

*“To manage environmental features in the harbour and have due regard to nature conservation as well as pollution control and response; and to liaise with relevant authorities for conservation, flood defence, erosion risk and coastal management locally.”*

The review provided in Section 2 identifies the environmental obligations which LHB must work to. The LHMP and the strategic environment aim of the LHB does not take account of all the legal requirements to conserve and enhance biodiversity or protect, conserve and restore protected sites, or the requirement to consider Marine Plans in the delivery of functions. It is therefore recommended that the LHMP aim is updated to reflect these legal requirements. It is also recommended that LHMP and LHB environmental aim is aligned to avoid confusion.

### 3.2 Review of the objectives

As outlined in Table 3 the LHMP includes ten objectives and LHB work to eight environmental strategic objectives. A number of the LHMP and LHB objectives overlap. To determine the impact of the LHMP and LHB strategic environmental objectives, analysis has been undertaken using two criteria:

- Whether the LHMP and LHB objectives meet the requirements of environmental legislation; and
- What actions and outputs have been delivered against the LHMP and LHB strategic objectives.

**Table 3. LHMP objectives and LHB strategic environmental objectives**

LHMP Objectives (1997) LHMP	LHB Strategic Environmental Objectives
O.1 To conserve and seek to enhance the nature conservation value of the Harbour and its surroundings	ED1 Maintain adequate Tier 1 pollution response, train staff to respond to pollution events and retain a contract with an accredited Tier 2 response organisation
O.2/ED3 To accommodate recreational use of the Harbour on a scale and at an intensity consistent with the overall goal	ED2 Liaise with coastal management, flood defence and erosion risk management authorities (EA, MMO and Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership) with regard to construction and dredge operations within the harbour
O.3 To accommodate commercial use of the Harbour in so far as it is compatible with the overall goal	ED3 Accommodate recreational use of the harbour on a scale and at an intensity consistent with overall environmental goal in the Langstone Harbour Management Plan
O.4 To involve Harbour users and those interested in the study of its natural resources in the work of the Harbour Advisory Committee and in programmes of monitoring, interpretation and environmental improvement	ED4 To accommodate commercial use of the Harbour in so far as it is compatible with the overall goal
O.5 To seek to improve the quality of water in the Harbour	ED5 Seek to improve quality of water in the harbour
O.6 To conserve and improve the landscape of the Harbour and of the surrounding area visible from the water, including the built environment	ED6 Encourage land use and management practices on land around the harbour that will maintain and enhance value to nature conservation and quality of its landscape
O.7 To protect features of historic and archaeological significance in and around the Harbour	ED7 Establish a monitoring programme to provide information about the health of the harbour's natural resources, recreation and commercial life
O.8 To encourage land use and management practices on land around the Harbour that will maintain and enhance its value to nature conservation and the quality of its landscape	ED8 Liaise with Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA), Natural England, Solent Forum, Hampshire Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency, MMO and RSPB as required to conserve designated sites in and around the harbour and in local waters
O.9 To encourage interpretation, and an understanding, of the natural history and landscape of the Harbour as a means of achieving responsible use of the Harbour's resources	
O.10 To establish a monitoring programme to provide information about the health of the Harbour's natural resources, recreation and commercial life	

### 3.2.1 Review of existing objectives in meeting requirements of environmental legislation

The objectives from the LHMP (LHMP, 1997) and the LHB strategic objectives have been reviewed to analyse how they meet the requirements of current environmental legislation (Table 4). Some objectives are very broad and require greater specificity. In addition, some legal requirements are not fully encompassed in the objectives, for example to meet the biodiversity duty. Therefore, it is important to update the objectives to reflect the requirements of current environmental legislation. The LHMP and LHB environmental objectives should also be aligned to avoid confusion. Further detailed analysis can be found in Appendix B.

**Table 4. Evaluation of objectives in relation to current environmental legislation**

LHMP and LHB Objectives	Evaluation of Objectives in Relation to the Legislation
O.1 To conserve and seek to enhance the nature conservation value of the Harbour and its surroundings	This is a very broad objective and in general encompasses the requirements of environmental legislation. This objective requires greater specificity to identify actions to meet the legislative requirements. It would be better to incorporate this objective into an updated wider aim.
O.2/ED3 To accommodate recreational use of the Harbour on a scale and at an intensity consistent with the overall goal	This is an important objective, but the wording should link more clearly to the requirements of the legislation. For example, recreational pressure has the potential to impact on habitats and species within Langstone Harbour. However, the use of the word 'accommodate' does not make it explicit that active management of recreational activities may be required to ensure conservation and enhancement of habitats and species as per legislative requirements. This objective requires review and update.
O.3/ED4 To accommodate commercial use of the Harbour in so far as it is compatible with the overall goal	This is an important objective, but the wording should link more clearly to the requirements of the legislation. For example, pressure from commercial activities has the potential to impact on habitats and species within the area. However, the use of the word 'accommodate' does not make it explicit that active management of commercial activities may be required to ensure conservation and enhancement of habitats and species as per legislative requirements. This objective requires review and update.

LHMP and LHB Objectives	Evaluation of Objectives in Relation to the Legislation
O.4 To involve Harbour users and those interested in the study of its natural resources in the work of the Harbour Advisory Committee and in programmes of monitoring, interpretation and environmental improvement	Involvement of all stakeholders is important to ensure support for the delivery of measures to meet environmental legislative requirements. This objective should be reviewed to make it more explicit to the requirements of the legislation. This objective has some overlap with Objective 10.
O.5/ED5 To seek to improve the quality of water in the Harbour	Water quality is an important factor affecting the ecology of Langstone Harbour and cuts across many pieces of legislation. This objective should continue to be included but should be reviewed based on local evidence to identify if the objective or actions should be more specific. Partners with statutory powers in relation to water quality should also be identified. Opportunities to deliver partnership actions could be considered.
O.6 To conserve and improve the landscape of the Harbour and of the surrounding area visible from the water, including the built environment	This objective is specific to Section 48A of the Harbours Act 1964. The objective should continue to be included. Recommend review of the objective in relation to the duty as part of the Marine and Coastal Access Act to have regard to the South Marine Plan.
O.7 To protect features of historic and archaeological significance in and around the Harbour	This objective is specific to Section 48A of the Harbours Act 1964, with the power to incur expense derived from the 1999 HRO. The objective should continue to be included. A review of the objective in relation to the duty as part of the Marine and Coastal Access Act to have regard to the South Marine Plan is recommended.
O.8/ED6 To encourage land use and management practices on land around the Harbour that will maintain and enhance its value to nature conservation and the quality of its landscape	The land surrounding the Harbour provides important functional habitat for bird species e.g. roosting sites. The management of surrounding land may also be important in managing water quality. This remains an important action. A review of the objective to incorporate any requirements of environmental legislation is recommended.
O.9 To encourage interpretation, and an understanding, of the natural history and landscape of the Harbour as a means of achieving responsible use of the Harbour's resources	This remains an important objective in the management of activities which may have an impact on the ecology or protected sites of Langstone Harbour. A review of the objective to incorporate any requirements of environmental legislation is recommended.



LHMP and LHB Objectives	Evaluation of Objectives in Relation to the Legislation
O.10/ED7 To establish a monitoring programme to provide information about the health of the Harbour's natural resources, recreation and commercial life	This is an important objective to provide evidence and data to a) understand any changes in the ecology in order to identify any action required and b) to provide a review mechanism to regularly review the progress of the LHMP linked to the aims and objectives. Although a biodiversity report is not currently required to meet the NERC biodiversity duty, it may be required in the future. Therefore, it is important to develop good monitoring and reporting mechanisms. A review of this objective to ensure good review and reporting mechanisms are in place is recommended. This objective has some overlap with Objective 4.
ED1 Maintain adequate Tier 1 pollution response, train staff to respond to pollution events and retain a contract with an accredited Tier 2 response organisation	This is a requirement of 'The Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation Convention) Regulations 1998 (as amended)' termed the OPRC Regulations. The regulations require the preparation of 'Oil Pollution Emergency Plans' (OPEPs) which will facilitate the implementation of a robust and effective response to an oil or fuel pollution incident and minimise the impact on the marine environment. OPEP and regular exercising of these plans helps to manage any impacts on habitats, species and protected sites. This should remain in the plan, but perhaps as an action rather than an objective.
ED2 Liaise with coastal management, flood defence and erosion risk management authorities (EA, MMO and Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership) with regard to construction and dredge operations within the harbour	These are important activities, but it would be useful to be explicit on what the purpose of the liaison is. For example, to input into coastal management, flood defence and erosion risk management which can impact on the ecology and protected habitats of Langstone Harbour. A review and update of this action is recommended.
ED8 Liaise with Southern IFCA, Natural England, Solent Forum, Hampshire Wildlife Trust, EA, MMO and RSPB as required to conserve designated sites in and around the harbour and in local waters	Engagement with these organisations is important in the management of Langstone Harbour to meet environmental legislative requirements. It would be useful to make the purpose of the engagement explicit. A review and update of this action is recommended.

### 3.2.2 Actions delivered towards the LHMP and LHB strategic objectives

To fully understand the impact of the LHMP objectives and LHB strategic environmental objectives, a review of actions and outputs since the inception of the LHMP has been undertaken. Details can be found in Table 5.

Table 5. Actions and outputs delivered by LHB linked to the LHMP objectives and the LHB strategic objectives

Objectives LHMP/Strategic Environmental LHB Objectives	Actions Delivered by LHB	Outcomes	Further Action Required
O.1 To conserve and seek to enhance the nature conservation value of the Harbour and its surroundings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption of LHMP.</li> <li>Recruitment of Environment Officer.</li> <li>Harbour Revision 1999 which gives LHB byelaw making powers to make byelaws for conservation, educational and interpretation purposes. Byelaws are in place for numerous activities e.g. bait digging, rubbish/sewage, kitesurfing, hovercraft (LHB, 1994). These byelaws were not implemented for conservation purposes but will have conservation benefits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statutory duties fulfilled in relation to SSSI and SEMS.</li> <li>Board has additional powers to incur expenditure on environmental management and education.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate whether conservation byelaws are required to deliver environmental statutory duties or action.</li> </ul>
O.2/ED3 To accommodate recreational use of the Harbour on a scale and at an intensity consistent with the overall goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of moorings at a suitable level, only increase by 10%/yr.</li> <li>Various Codes of Conduct, and Playsafe! Publications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved signage around the harbour and literature educating people on the significance of habitats and wildlife using the harbour.</li> <li>Recent work with Bird Aware Solent to promote responsible watersports activity, highlighting sensitive and no-go areas for light craft.</li> <li>To obtain a Personal Watercraft (PWC) licence, riders must be able to provide proof of marine qualification (Power Boat Level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better understanding of current recreation activity levels and impacts on habitats and species to inform future actions.</li> <li>Investigate measures to reduce recreational disturbance impacts on birds.</li> <li>Investigate opportunities to install advanced mooring systems to allow habitat recovery.</li> <li>Investigate partnership opportunities to deliver</li> </ul>

Objectives LHMP/Strategic Environmental LHB Objectives	Actions Delivered by LHB	Outcomes	Further Action Required
		<p>2 or PWC Proficiency). Part of this course is environmental awareness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recreational Craft Code of Conduct including Waterski Code of Conduct, Solent Seals Code of Conduct, Wildlife Watching Code of Conduct, Notes for Canoes and Kayaks, Playsafe!, Wildlife, Bird Aware Solent, Watersports with Wildlife.</li> </ul>	measures to reduce recreational impact.
O.3/ED4 To accommodate commercial use of the Harbour in so far as it is compatible with the overall goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One regular aggregate dredger (current the 'Al AVOCET').</li> <li>A pilotage service and Pilotage Exemption Certificate (PEC) process is administered by the harbour to engage with the harbour's commercial operator and mitigate continued use of the harbour by larger vessels.</li> <li>Responded to consultation on local planning decisions which may affect Langstone Harbour SSSI.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commercial operator fully aware of environmental sensitivities associated with operating in Langstone Harbour.</li> <li>Also mandated to hold stock of oil spill equipment, as well as waste facilities at an appropriate level.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider mechanisms whereby functionally linked habitats important to the SSSI are better taken into account in local planning decisions e.g. high tide roosts.</li> </ul>
O.4/SE5 To involve Harbour users and those interested in the study of its natural resources in the work of the Harbour Advisory Committee and in programmes of monitoring,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continual review of Advisory Committee membership.</li> <li>New organisations welcome and encourage conservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Growing Advisory Committee from local interest groups.</li> <li>Small fish surveys undertaken 2012-2017. Information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider consolidating monitoring records into a simple database.</li> </ul>

Objectives LHMP/Strategic Environmental LHB Objectives	Actions Delivered by LHB	Outcomes	Further Action Required
interpretation and environmental improvement	<p>bodies/charities not constituted to attend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring/improvements brought to the Advisory Committee periodically, as part of Board reports.</li> <li>Close relationship with Portsmouth University Institute of Marine Sciences – help facilitate research via boat access, permission etc.</li> </ul>	provided to Southern IFCA to help inform stock assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use monitoring information to input into future management requirements.</li> </ul>
O.5/ED5 To seek to improve the quality of water in the Harbour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working closely with Southern Water to reduce reliance on storm overflows</li> <li>Promote sustainable boating practices, safe refuelling – harbour guide pollution control</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Three Harbours: a partnership of organisations working together to restore the landscape across the Three Harbours of Langstone, Chichester and Pagham focussing on water quality, biodiversity and carbon capture. Three Harbours 2024-2028 strategy produced.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrate Three Harbours strategy and any actions specific to LHB into updated water quality objective.</li> <li>Consider future actions with Southern Water to address water quality e.g. habitat creation (reedbeds).</li> <li>Southern Water funded PhD investigation into strategic opportunities and to establish a long-term modelling and evaluation approach.</li> </ul>
O.6/CD8 To conserve and improve the landscape of the Harbour and of the surrounding area visible from the water, including the built environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LHB has responded to local planning applications as a consultee in relation to Langstone Harbour SSSI.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consulted on planning applications within our defined boundary.</li> </ul>	

Objectives LHMP/Strategic Environmental LHB Objectives	Actions Delivered by LHB	Outcomes	Further Action Required
O.7 To protect features of historic and archaeological significance in and around the Harbour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marking and restriction of Historic Wreck (wooden circle).</li> <li>Promotion of Historic England protected wreck sites information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Notice to Mariners 03/2019 – relating to Historic Site Protection (LHB, 2019).</li> </ul>	
O.8/ED6 To encourage land use and management practices on land around the Harbour that will maintain and enhance its value to nature conservation and the quality of its landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Input incorporated through planning remit.</li> <li>Now closer working relationship with local councils who manage some of the land.</li> </ul>		
O.9 To encourage interpretation, and an understanding, of the natural history and landscape of the Harbour as a means of achieving responsible use of the Harbour's resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Harbour Master and Environment Officer talks to outside bodies and interest groups.</li> <li>Interpretation boards/signage around the harbour perimeter informing on various conservation matters – local wildlife, sensitivities etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased local awareness of environmental sensitivities through various presentations to local interest groups</li> </ul>	
O.10/ED7 To establish a monitoring programme to provide information about the health of the Harbour's natural resources, recreation and commercial life	<p>Numerous monitoring programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Harbour seal data since 2015</li> <li>small fish data from 2012-2017, 2023-present.</li> <li>Previous participation in WeBS counts.</li> <li>Commercial fishing activity monitored.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi-year data sets for bird, small fish and seal populations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a simple database to collate data and evidence.</li> <li>Create a feedback mechanism to ensure data is feed into objectives and actions linked to overall aim.</li> </ul>

Objectives LHMP/Strategic Environmental LHB Objectives	Actions Delivered by LHB	Outcomes	Further Action Required
ED1 Maintain adequate Tier 1 pollution response, train staff to respond to pollution events and retain a contract with an accredited Tier 2 response organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publication and exercise of Oil Spill Contingency Plan. Tier 2 contract currently held with Adler and Allan.</li> <li>Waste Management Plan updated every three years. Includes provisions made at Harbour Office for waste, available to harbour users.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan updated and tested throughout the year with a larger exercise every three years to test operational capacity/response on a broader scale with external stakeholders. Trained staffing levels proportional to risk levels. Harbour Master and Environment Officer are trained to a higher standard, and at least five staff trained to a minimum level.</li> </ul>	
ED2 Liaise with coastal management, flood defence and erosion risk management authorities (EA, MMO and Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership) with regard to construction and dredge operations within the harbour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation in the Solent Forum, SCOPAC<sup>1</sup>/Southern Coastal Group. Only dredge operations taking place are at Kendall's Wharf as berth maintenance. LHB no statutory powers to dredge. Communications with Coastal Partners in relation to National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) projects in the Harbour.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Successful completion of North Portsea FCERM scheme, current investigations of Broadmarsh sea wall repairs/maintenance, and involvement in Langstone FCERM development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore what outputs LHB would like to see from engagement and participation in partnership groups.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Standing Conference on Problems Associated with the Coastline (SCOPAC)

Objectives LHMP/Strategic Environmental LHB Objectives	Actions Delivered by LHB	Outcomes	Further Action Required
ED8 Liaise with Southern IFCA, Natural England, Solent Forum, Hampshire Wildlife Trust, EA, MMO and RSPB as required to conserve designated sites in and around the harbour and in local waters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular communication. Commercial fishing data fed back to Southern IFCA. Close relationship with RSPB. Support and facilitate conservation efforts from organisations i.e. the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT) seagrass trials, BLUE oyster reef, RSPB recharge. Partnership working via Three Harbours to facilitate nature recovery.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numerous partnerships in place to investigate and deliver projects.</li> <li>The seagrass survey LHB undertook in 2016 resulted in an additional closure area for bottom towed fishing gear.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate further partnership opportunities to deliver an updated LHMP.</li> </ul>



### 3.2.3 Condition of protected habitats and species

To identify updates and improvements to the aims and objectives, local factors should be taken into account. This includes information in Natural England designated site conservation advice. As part of the advice, Natural England produce designated site condition information (Natural England, 2025). This is a useful source of information to determine any issues and actions required to protect, conserve and restore/enhance protected habitats and species. Condition information for Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA, Solent Maritime SAC and Langstone Harbour SSSI has been reviewed and summarised in Table 6. Natural England do not produce conservation advice for Ramsar Sites. However, information can be drawn from the SSSI condition assessment which overlaps with the Ramsar Site.

**Table 6. Current habitat/species/protected site condition and issues. Natural England (2025)**

Site/Species/ Habitat/Feature	Condition		Issues/Risk
Solent Maritime SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater at all times: Unfavourable no change (100%)		Water quality Non-native species Subtidal seagrass -water quality, recreation
	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide: Unfavourable no change (70)% and unfavourable declining (30%)		Water quality Non-native species Coastal squeeze Intertidal seagrass – water quality, recreation.
	Coastal lagoons: favourable (100%)		
	Estuaries: Unfavourable no change (70%) and unfavourable declining (30%)		Water quality Non-native species Coastal squeeze Subtidal seagrass -water quality, recreation Intertidal seagrass – water quality, recreation.
Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA	Waterbird assemblage: Unfavourable declining (100%)		Coastal squeeze Water quality Recreational disturbance
	Bar-tailed godwit: Unfavourable declining (100%)		Coastal squeeze Water quality Recreational disturbance
	Shelduck: Unfavourable declining (100%)		Climate change Coastal Squeeze Recreational disturbance
	Teal: Unfavourable declining (100%)		Coastal squeeze Water quality Recreational disturbance
	Ringed plover: Unfavourable declining (100%)		Water quality Recreational disturbance Climate change
	Curlew: Favourable (100%)		
	Redshank: Favourable (100%)		

Site/Species/ Habitat/Feature	Condition		Issues/Risk
	Common Tern: Unfavourable no change (100%)		Coastal squeeze Water quality Recreational disturbance
	Dunlin: Unfavourable declining (100%)		Coastal squeeze Water quality Recreational disturbance
	Little tern: Unfavourable declining (100%)		Water quality Recreational disturbance Removal of target species - <b>Langstone Harbour holds the main population of little terns which are steadily decreasing.</b>
	Pintail: Favourable (100%)		
	Sandwich tern: Unfavourable no change (100%)		Coastal squeeze Water quality Recreational disturbance
	Turnstone: Favourable (100%)		
	Grey plover: Unfavourable declining (100%)		Coastal squeeze Water quality Recreational disturbance
	Sanderling: Unfavourable no change (100%)		Coastal squeeze Water quality Recreational disturbance
	Wigeon: Recovering (100%)		Coastal squeeze Water quality Recreational disturbance
	Shoveler: Unfavourable no change (100%)		Coastal squeeze Water quality Recreational disturbance
	Dark-bellied brent goose: Recovering (100%)		Loss of habitat Water quality Recreational disturbance
	Red-breasted merganser: Favourable (100%)		
Chichester and Langstone Harbours Ramsar Site	Natural England do not produce conservation advice packages for Ramsar Sites. See details for other designations which overlap with local designations.		
Langstone Harbour SSSI unit information	8.87% favourable		Detailed information is included in Natural England SSSI condition assessment on each unit which describes the condition of each unit and any action required.
	91.05% unfavourable recovering		
	0.09% unfavourable no change		

Site/Species/ Habitat/Feature	Condition	Issues/Risk
Langstone Harbour SSSI feature information	73.91% favourable	
	8.7% Unfavourable no change	<p>Features with unfavourable status: Dunlin: unfavourable declining. Grey plover: unfavourable declining. Redshank: unfavourable no change Ringed plover: unfavourable no change In general, there appears to be a national decline in bird numbers for the above species. However, local factors affecting population numbers includes availability of high tide roosts and impacts of recreational disturbance.</p> <p>Please note that the SSSI condition assessment defines little terns as in favourable condition in contrast to the SPA condition assessment which defines little tern in unfavourable declining condition with decline in Langstone Harbour. Further investigation is required.</p> <p>Habitat feature condition is shown to be in favourable condition.</p> <p>Active pressures identified include recreational disturbance and agricultural sources of pollution. Other potential pressures include water abstraction, water company discharge (pollution) flood and erosion risk management measures and fishing activities.</p>
	8.7% unfavourable declining	
	8.7% not recorded	

### 3.3 Areas for improvement and update

Section 3.2 has identified that the LHMP objectives and LHB strategic objectives are broad in nature and lack specificity to ensure that actions meet the requirements of the legislation. It is recommended that the aims and objectives are revised to meet the specific requirements of the legislation, in particular in relation to the Biodiversity Duty to meet the requirement of the Environment Act and the NERC Act.

Analysis in Section 3.2.1 to determine if the if the LHMP and LHB strategic objectives meet the requirements of environmental legislative have identified several gaps. It is recommended that the following new objectives and steps should be undertaken or included in an updated LHMP.

- To meet the requirements of the NERC/Environment Act Biodiversity duty, an objective should be created to ensure action is delivered to determine and revise policy objectives and take actions forward to further the biodiversity objective to conserve, restore or enhance populations of particular species or types of habitats. This work will also meet the requirement of the Harbours Act 1964 and the Ports & Marine Facilities Safety Code (DfT, 2025).
- A review of any further actions required in relation the functions of LHB to meet the requirements of The Wildlife and Countryside Act to conserve and enhance Langstone Harbour SSSI. Actions can be linked to an existing objective, or a new objective could be created.
- Similarly, a review of any action which is required in relation the functions of LHB to meet the requirements of the Habitats Regulations for Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA and Solent Maritime SAC to protect, conserve and restore designated sites to meet conservation objectives, prevent deterioration of habitats and significant disturbance to species. Actions can be linked to an existing objective, or a new objective could be created. This work could be achieved through engagement with the Solent EMS scheme.
- To support the delivery of the above recommendations, a review should be undertaken of any byelaws required for conservation, education or interpretation purposes as part of the LHB powers under The Langstone Harbour Revision Order 1999.
- Any update to the LHMP should have regard to the South Marine Plan to meet the requirements of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

Condition assessment information included in 3.2.3 shows that many features across the SAC, SPA and SSSI are in unfavourable condition. The following local issues and pressures have been identified as contributing factors towards this condition:

- Water quality;
- Non-native species;
- Recreational disturbance;
- Coastal squeeze;
- Climate change; and
- Access to high tide roosts.

It is important that updated objectives and actions included in the LHMP address the above issues where possible.

Finally, the LHMP (LHMP, 1997) includes a number of recommendations and actions. However, these are not linked to the overarching objectives. It is recommended that all future actions link to the updated objectives. This will assist in monitoring, reviewing and updating future objectives and actions. LHMP and LHB strategic environmental objectives should also align better in the future.

## 3.4 Revised aims and objectives

Revised aims and objectives have been determined based upon evaluation of environmental legislative requirements, evidence on the condition of designated sites and local information.

### 3.4.1 Proposed updated aim

The proposed updated aim of the LHMP based on environmental obligations is as follows:

To work in partnership to meet legislative requirements to protect, conserve, enhance and restore habitats, species, and historic heritage associated with Langstone Harbour, ensuring that people can enjoy and benefit from these assets both now and for future generations.

### 3.4.2 Proposed updated objectives

The proposed objectives included in Table 7 have been derived from analysis of environmental legislative requirements, through the review of Natural England condition assessment information and from discussion with LHB. It is proposed that updated objectives are split into cross cutting objectives and specific objectives in order to avoid repetition.

**Table 7. Proposed objectives and reason for update**

Proposed Objectives	Reason for Updated/New Objective
<b>Cross Cutting Objectives</b>	
1. To review policy and identify action to conserve and enhance biodiversity.	A requirement of the Biodiversity Duty (NERC/Environment Act). To have regard to Marine Plans in the development of policy.
2. Develop and deliver a monitoring and reporting plan to measure progress against objectives and to ensure further action can be taken if required to conserve and enhance biodiversity	LHB has been successful in delivering many measures to conserve biodiversity, but a review and reporting mechanism is lacking to measure progress and regularly review action. This objective will result in a 'live' LHMP.
3. Engage with a range of partners and stakeholders to implement and monitor the LHMP	Review of the plan and discussion with LHB has demonstrated the importance of stakeholder engagement in the delivery of action to conserve the ecology of the harbour. This objective can encompass a range of areas, including monitoring and research, partnership working opportunities, education and interpretation. Recommend that action should be taken forward to develop and deliver a stakeholder engagement plan alongside an education and interpretation plan to direct clear action in relation to biodiversity conservation and enhancement.
<b>Topic Specific Objectives</b>	
4. Understand the impact of recreational disturbance in order to implement action to conserve, restore and enhance habitats and species.	Evidence is available to suggest that recreation is having an impact on birds, seals and habitats. In order to identify appropriate management, evidence is required to understand the level and impact of recreational activity.
5. Understand the impact of commercial and development pressure in order to implement action to conserve, restore and enhance habitats and species and landscape value of the harbour and surrounding areas.	It is important to regularly review the impact of commercial activities to ensure appropriate management is in place. One action identified through discussion with LHB is the potential for advanced mooring systems to reduce scour impacts on protected mudflat.  Discussions have also identified the impact of development pressure outside the LHB boundary which is impacting on species

Proposed Objectives	Reason for Updated/New Objective
	protected within Langstone Harbour. For example, protected bird species roost on areas outside the harbour which could be subject to future development pressure. Action to protect and enhance these important areas should be developed and implemented in partnership with other organisations such as local authorities.
6. Implement actions to manage the impact of water quality issues to conserve, restore and enhance habitats and species.	Water quality has been identified as an issue impacting on numerous habitats and species. This action will provide an opportunity to work in partnership with others (e.g. Southern Water/Three Harbours Partnership) to identify measures to manage impacts, including more novel approaches e.g. reedbed enhancement.
7. Implement and develop habitat and species plans to conserve, restore and enhance habitats and species.	<p>This objective is important for 2 reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It identifies specific action which is needed for habitats and species where issues have been identified but action does not fit within other objectives. Examples may include actions required to manage Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) or broad range of actions to improve high tide roost areas for protected bird species.</li> <li>▪ It identifies proactive measures to enhance and restore habitats and species. This may include restoring seagrass beds or oyster populations.</li> </ul> <p>Species and habitat plans should be informed by Natural England conservation advice and engagement with stakeholders.</p>
8. To protect features of historic and archaeological significance in and around the Harbour.	This is action is from the original LHMP and is a statutory duty.
9. To encourage land use and management practices on land around the Harbour that will maintain and enhance its value to nature conservation, the wider community, and the quality of the landscape.	This is a slightly amended action from the original LHMP.

## 4 Proposed Outline Actions

### 4.1 Development of outline actions

Outline actions have been identified linked to the proposed updated objectives. Further work is required to develop the actions as part of the update to the LHMP. It is recommended that this should be done in consultation with key stakeholders.

A thorough review of the existing actions included in the LHMP is required to identify the impact of the actions and to identify if actions are still relevant. This alongside with the suggested outline actions below (Table 8) will help to create an updated list of future actions linked to the overarching aims and objectives.

Table 8. Proposed objectives and actions

Proposed Objectives	Proposed Outline Actions
<b>Cross Cutting Objectives</b>	
1. To review policy and identify action to conserve and enhance biodiversity.	Update the LHMP to review existing policy and identify action to conserve and enhance biodiversity, taking account of other plans such as local nature recovery strategies, species conservation strategies, protected site strategy and the South Marine Plan.
2. Develop and deliver a monitoring and reporting plan to measure progress against objectives and to ensure further action can be taken if required to conserve and enhance biodiversity.	When developing new actions, identify reporting criteria to be used in review and reporting
	LHB has been successful in delivering many measures to conserve biodiversity, but a review and reporting mechanism is lacking to measure progress and regularly review action. This objective will result in a 'live' management plan.
	Consolidate the reporting criteria into a LHMP monitoring plan.
	Ecological evidence will be important to the review and report on actions. Continue existing ecological monitoring undertaken by LHB and partners and consolidate into a simple database to record and review evidence. This will help to understand trends and changes in habitats and species in order to identify any future action required.
	Produce a simple annual report to identify progress against actions. Identify future action required.
3. Engage with a range of partners and stakeholders to implement and monitor the LHMP	Review and update the LHMP every 5 years.
	Develop a simple stakeholder/partnership plan which identifies who LHB will engage with and for what purpose in progressing actions. If actions are assigned to other organisations to progress the actions, this should be identified.
	Develop and deliver an education and interpretation plan linked to the conservation, restoration and enhancement of habitats and species and historic environment
<b>Topic Specific Objectives</b>	
4. Understand the impact of recreational disturbance in order to implement action to conserve,	Using existing evidence and data to build a better understanding of the level and locations in which the main recreational activities take place. Identify if evidence gaps exist and plan how these can be filled.



Proposed Objectives	Proposed Outline Actions
restore and enhance habitats and species.	Use existing evidence to understand how recreational activities are impacting on habitats and species. Identify if evidence gaps exist and plan how these can be filled.
	Use the evidence from the above actions to identify activity specific action required to reduce recreational pressure on habitats and species. This can be developed through the update of the LHMP. Potential actions may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education and interpretation</li> <li>Engagement with recreational users</li> <li>Activity specific awareness raising projects</li> <li>Zonation</li> <li>Use of conservation byelaw making powers.</li> </ul>
	Seals: Education and awareness raising with recreational users about disturbance sensitivities. Link to Objective 7.
	Birds: Education and awareness raising with recreational users about disturbance sensitivities. Link to Objective 7.
5. Understand the impact of commercial and development pressure in order to implement action to conserve, restore and enhance habitats and species.	Review the impact of any commercial activities which take place within the harbour on habitats and species to identify any further action required.
	Development and delivery of an advanced mooring systems project to reduce impact on protected mudflat habitat.
	Identify areas outside LHB jurisdiction which are functionally linked to species which are protected within Langstone Harbour. Develop a plan in partnership with other stakeholders to conserve, enhance and protect these areas. Investigate links to the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS).
	Work with local planning authorities to include functionally linked areas in local plans to avoid/reduce impacts of future developments on these critically important areas to protected bird species.
6. Implement action to manage the impact of water quality issues to conserve, restore and enhance habitats and species.	Investigate and develop a proposal for wetland restoration to act as a nature-based solution to address water quality issues.
	A number of actions have been identified by LHB including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water quality study.</li> <li>Reduction and mitigation of nutrient and bacterial inputs.</li> <li>In situ-mitigation e.g. seaweed aquaculture, nutrient harvesting.</li> <li>Opportunities as part of the Three Harbours Strategy to produce a holistic and integrated water plan for the area.</li> </ul>
	Review, implement and maintain the Tier 1 pollution response, train staff to respond to pollution events and retain a contract with an accredited Tier 2 oil pollution response organisation to avoid impacts on habitats and species.
	Maintain adequate waste management plan in accordance with Merchant Shipping Regulations.
7. Implement and develop habitat and species plans to conserve, restore and enhance habitats and species.	Investigate issues affecting declines in other bird population declines and identify/implement actions. Identify any actions to recovery little tern populations as identified by Natural England SPA condition assessment (Table 6)
	Identify any actions required to conserve/recovery harbour seal populations.
	Implement measures to restore seagrass beds in the harbour.

Proposed Objectives	Proposed Outline Actions
	Identify any actions required to conserve/recover fish populations.
	Identify and implement action to manage INNS.
	Identify other species and habitat conservation/recovery/restoration actions as part of the update of the LHMP.
8. To protect features of historic and archaeological significance in and around the Harbour;	In consultation with Historic England and local community groups facilitate improved understanding of sites of historic value within and adjacent to the SHA, with particular reference to Fort Cumberland and Hayling Island's involvement in WWII.
9. To encourage land use and management practices on land around the Harbour that will maintain and enhance its value to nature conservation, the wider community, and the quality of the landscape.	Work with partners to ensure planning and development policies integrate harbour interests with the wider landscape, and investigate the potential of establishing wildlife corridors to enhance connectivity.

## 4.2 Review of LHMP actions

As outlined in Section 4.1, the development of detailed actions will be undertaken as part of the update to the LHMP, in consultation with key stakeholders. The identification of actions should consider information included in this report such as requirements to fulfil statutory duties and ecological condition. Section 3.2.2 includes high level information on actions which have been delivered by LHB to achieve the objectives of the LHMP. Further work is required to review the delivery of actions included in the original LHMP (LHMP, 1997) to aid in the identification of an updated action plan. The following should be considered when reviewing the original LHMP actions:

- Which actions have progressed well;
- Which actions have not progressed, or further action is required ; and
- Which actions which are no longer required.

## 4.3 Proposed assessment of actions

It is important that actions included in an updated LHMP are assessed to ensure a prioritised and feasible list of actions. The following criteria are proposed and can be further developed during the update of the LHMP:

- Does the action link to the LHMP aim and objectives?  
It is important that future actions link to the updated LHMP aim and objectives to ensure that statutory duties are met. This approach will also assist in the monitoring and review of future actions.
- Is the action mandatory (e.g. a legal requirement), best practice or aspirational?  
This question will help in the prioritisation of actions.
- Does the action link to the management, protection or recovery habitats/species/features/protected sites/historic feature?  
This question further explores the legal drivers for an action and will assist with prioritisation.

- Is this action already identified as a priority and by who?  
This approach will help identify the drivers for progressing the action. For example, are actions already part of LHB ongoing operations? Or have actions been identified by partners or through local strategies or evidence e.g. Natural England condition assessment, Local Nature Recovery Strategy?
- Can the measure be delivered as part of a partnership or with other stakeholders?  
This question can help identify opportunities and frameworks for delivery which may increase resource and funding to deliver actions.
- Will the action deliver multiple benefits?  
This question can consider the multiple benefits an action will deliver e.g. ecological, historical, social, financial. Natural capital benefits can also be considered. Projects with multiple benefits will deliver value for money.
- Is the action financially viable?  
It is important that an estimate of costs for the delivery of actions are considered. If a project is not financially viable, can it be broken down into phases? It is important to highlight if an action is not financially viable to identify when progress would be limited.
- Is the action practically deliverable?  
If actions are difficult to deliver, this question will help identify why and if actions can be split into phases to make delivery more practical. It will also identify those actions which are not practically deliverable at the current time and what barriers need to be removed to allow progress to be made.
- What are the timescales for delivery?  
This is an important consideration for business and resource planning. Some measures, especially for ecological recovery, will take time to deliver and establish. This must be noted to manage expectations.
- Is there likely to be support from the Board and Advisory Committee?  
Understanding support for actions will help in prioritisation. Actions with little support will be difficult to progress. However, identifying why support is lacking will be useful to communicate and gain support for important actions.

## 5 Environmental Management Plan Scoping

### 5.1 Review of LHMP

A review of the LHMP (LHMP, 1997) structure has been undertaken to consider how the plan can be best updated to reflect current requirements. The following areas have been identified for consideration as part of the update to the LHMP.

- Presentation of clear aims and objectives.
- Prioritised actions with timescales for delivery and identification of responsible/key delivery partners.
- Clear monitoring and reporting structures.
- Inclusion of maps to define LHB boundaries and statutory duties.
- Innovative ways to present the LHMP to increase accessibility.

### 5.2 Proposed outline structure and contents for an updated LHMP

It is proposed that an updated LHMP should be produced as a “live” document. This brings numerous benefits such as creating an accessible document, being able to demonstrate progress against actions and allows the opportunity for regular updates with an ongoing review of roles and responsibilities. The options for presenting a “live” LHMP should be investigated at the ITT stage.

It is proposed the structure could be split into two main sections. Section 1 would summarise the background information on Langstone Harbour and Section 2 would focus on the action plan. Details are outlined below.

#### 5.2.1 Section 1: Background information

This section will set the scene to the LHMP. It will provide all relevant background information. Most of the information included in this section will be more static and require less regular review.

1. **Introduction, aim, objectives and purpose:** An important section to highlight the aim, objectives and purpose of the LHMP. It is key to have this as a focal point of the LHMP to highlight the need and importance of the plan and partnership delivery.
2. **About Langstone Harbour:** This section should provide a brief and high-level summary of the important ecological, historical and landscape functions of Langstone Harbour, possible using the following headings:
  - Geography and physiography
  - Ecology and designations
  - Historic and landscape
  - Maps and boundaries
3. **Current status:** This section is important to highlight the current condition of habitats and species in order to identify issues and actions required. Issues and concerns could be identified through a traffic light system. It will be important for this section to be regularly reviewed and updated based on new evidence and information.

4. **Summary of the statutory duties of LHB and other statutory bodies linked to objectives:** This section should summarise the key statutory duties of LHB and other statutory duties. This information is important to help identify when and why action is required. It also will help identify when more than one organisation is responsible for the delivery of a statutory duty, for example, a number of organisations have statutory functions in relation to water quality.
5. **Advisory Committee:** Maintaining dialogue with statutory and non-statutory stakeholders is an important function of the Advisory Committee. This should be highlighted in the LHMP.

### 5.2.2 Section 2: Action plan

This section will focus on the actions required to protect, conserve restore and enhance habitats and species alongside protecting historic and landscape features. It should be a very clear and focused plan which is supported by a monitoring, review and reporting framework to ensure regular update at key intervals.

1. **Objectives:** A simple section which outlines the objectives of the LHMP. Supporting text should be included to provide a narrative as to why the objective is in place, particularly linking to the legislative requirements.
2. **Action plan:** Likely to be in a tabular format, the action plan should include clear headings such as the link to the objective, legislative requirement, responsible body for delivery, key stakeholders, outline timescales and costs and monitoring indicators. It is important to establish the timeframe of the action plan. It may take a number of years for some ecological measures to be achieved. This should be identified to manage expectations. It is also important that actions are prioritised.
3. **3-5 year delivery plan:** Some actions may take several years to deliver and may need to be split into a number of tasks. This approach can be supported through the development of a delivery plan. The delivery plan will outline prioritised and SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound) actions within the period of the plan. The timeframe of the delivery plan should be agreed upon through the development of the updated LHMP. It will also be important to identify the links and overlap with the Three Harbours Strategy.
4. **Monitoring, review and reporting framework:** The framework is an overarching element of the whole LHMP. It should identify a monitoring plan linked to the action and delivery plan. A monitoring plan should be developed that contains criteria against which objectives and actions can be monitored. This will allow an annual review of progress against the delivery plan. Incorporating Natural England condition information on habitats and species will also be an important element of a monitoring plan to identify progress and issues. The framework will also include a warning system to indicate if actions are not delivering as expected and when updates are required.
5. **Appendices:** These will be an important element to ensure the most relevant information can be focused upon in the LHMP. As a live document, appendices may be links to online documents. Possible appendices may include detail on legislation and responsibilities.

## 6 LHMP Proposed Stakeholder Input

The following stakeholders will need to be engaged and consulted in the development of an updated LHMP:

- Coastal Partners (an amalgamation of multiple Local Authorities with FCERM remits)
- Environment Agency/ via East Hampshire Catchment Partnership
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
- Hampshire County Council
- Havant Borough Council
- Historic England
- Langstone Harbour Advisory Committee
- MMO
- Natural England
- Portsmouth City Council
- RSPB
- Solent Forum
- Southern IFCA
- Southern Water
- The Crown Estate
- Three Harbours Partnership

There are several points of engagement that could be considered as part of the development of the updated LHMP. These are outlined in the following sections.

### 6.1 Consultation on the proposed aim, objectives and outline actions

Before progressing the development of the plan, consultation with the key stakeholders identified above is required to ensure the proposed updated aim, objectives and outline actions are fit for purpose. This could be done as a simple consultation and online feedback form. If responses are not received, online follow up meetings could be arranged to complete the feedback form. Once the updated aim, objectives and outline actions are agreed with stakeholders, these should be presented and agreed by the Board.

### 6.2 Task and Finish Group

It might be beneficial to establish a small task and finish group to ensure key tasks are progressed and delivered to time to develop an updated LHMP.

### 6.3 Workshop to identify actions

A workshop should be arranged with key stakeholders to:

- Review the delivery of actions linked to the LHMP to date.
- Review issues
- Identify actions to manage activities to reduce impacts on habitats and species
- Identify habitat and species recovery and restoration actions

This information would be used to develop a detailed action plan. Informal focus groups could be used if further information is required to develop activity management actions or species/habitat recovery and restoration actions.

## 6.4 Engagement of the Board and Local Authorities

Updates and presentations on the development of the LHMP should be given at every Board meeting. The Board will need to be given the opportunity to review the draft LHMP before giving sign off. The timescale for review should give Board members adequate time to complete this effectively.

Local Authorities are key stakeholders for the Board. It is important that actions included in the updated plan are aligned with Local Authority aspirations. An understanding of the processes Local Authorities have in place to adopt plans, actions and recommendations is required to ensure this can be incorporated into the timescales for the LHMP update. It may be beneficial to hold regular meetings with Local Authorities to implement this approach.

## 6.5 Final consultation on the plan

It is important that key stakeholders are content with the draft plan before it is presented to the Board for approval. To achieve this, a presentation could be provided to key stakeholders with the opportunity for a question-and-answer session before a period of consultation on the draft plan. Comments on the draft plan could be received through an online form or through online meetings.

## 6.6 Launch of the updated plan

To recognise the input from stakeholders in the development of the updated plan, an informal event could be held to launch the plan.

## 7 Invitation to Tender – Technical Scope of Works

A technical scope of works has been prepared which will allow LHB to formally invite tenders to potential contractors to draft an updated management plan based on the structure as outlined in Section 5.

### 7.1 Technical scope of works

#### 7.1.1 Background

Langstone Harbour Board (LHB) is committed to renewing the Langstone Harbour Management Plan (LHMP), produced in 1997. A scoping report has been produced to support the update of the LHMP. This report reviews the statutory duties of LHB alongside an assessment of deliverables since the production of the LHMP and a summary of the condition of protected sites and features of Langstone Harbour. The scoping report also includes proposed aims and objectives and outlined proposed actions. Finally, the report suggests an approach to stakeholder input into the LHMP update and a proposed structure for the updated LHMP.

Building on information in the scoping report, LHB now invites tenders to produce an updated LHMP.

#### 7.1.2 Objectives

- To consult with key stakeholders in the production of the updated LHMP.
- To clearly outline the statutory duties of LHB and other key statutory stakeholders.
- To produce an updated LHMP which meets environmental obligations, is accessible and is easy to update.
- To create a monitoring, review and reporting framework which allows progress to be measured and the LHMP to be reviewed at regular intervals.

#### 7.1.3 Tasks

To produce the updated LHMP the following tasks should be undertaken.

1) **Project inception**

To review and build on the scoping exercise including:

- Confirm the aims and objectives of the plan.
- Summarise the statutory duties of LHB and other key statutory authorities. Identify any statutory duties not captured in the Scoping Report.
- Clarify LHB geographical boundaries including the production of any maps.
- Develop a stakeholder engagement plan with LHB. Be clear about how any engagement will feed into all tasks below.

2) **Define and prioritise actions**

- Review all actions in the LHMP and those identified in the Scoping Report
- Take account of stakeholder views in the identification of future actions.
- Identify opportunities for collaboration to deliver actions.
- Ensure all actions are linked to objectives.
- Consider the timeframes for the delivery of actions.
- Score and prioritise actions



- 3) **Develop a monitoring, review and reporting framework**
  - Create a monitoring plan to allow annual reporting on progress.
  - Suggest a review and reporting framework to ensure regular review and update to the LHMP.
- 4) **Production of the updated LHMP**
  - Produce an updated LHMP which includes the outputs of the above tasks.
  - Consider innovative ways to present information in the LHMP.

For all tasks, there should be regular engagement with the LHB Environment Officer and Harbour Master to report on progress and receive feedback on the development of the updated LHMP.

#### 7.1.4 Deliverables

- Inception meeting note
- Stakeholder engagement plan and communication log
- Map(s) to identify LHB boundary and statutory duties.
- Summary of statutory duties of LHB and other key statutory authorities.
- Prioritised action plan.
- Monitoring, review and reporting framework.
- Updated LHMP.

## 7.2 Further steps required

Based on the technical works identified in Section 7.1, LHB can define the timescales and procurement framework to invite tenders to produce an updated LHMP. An indicative budget will also help those responding to the ITT through ensuring a consistent understanding of the level of resource required to deliver the updated LHMP.

## 8 References

Defra (2021a). Guidance. Duty to protect, conserve and restore European sites. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/duty-to-protect-conserve-and-restore-european-sites>

Defra (2021b). Guidance. Habitats regulations assessment: protecting a European site. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/habitats-regulations-assessments-protecting-a-european-site>

Defra (2022). New legally binding environment targets set out. News Story. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-legally-binding-environment-targets-set-out>

Defra (2023a). Guidance. Reporting your biodiversity duty actions. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/reporting-your-biodiversity-duty-actions>

Defra (2023b). Guidance. Complying with the biodiversity duty. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/complying-with-the-biodiversity-duty>

Defra (2023c). Environmental Improvement Plan 2023. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-improvement-plan>

Defra (2024a). Understanding biodiversity net gain. Guidance. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-biodiversity-net-gain>

Defra (2024b). Getting and using a conservation covenant agreement. Guidance. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/getting-and-using-a-conservation-covenant-agreement>

Department for Transport (DfT), (2025). Ports & Marine Facilities Safety Code (PMSC). Guidance for all ports, harbours, marine facilities, berths and terminals. 15 April 2025 <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67fd175bed87b81608546666/port-marine-safety-code.pdf>

LHMP (1997). Langstone Harbour Management Plan.

Langstone Harbour Board (LHB), (2019). Notice to Mariners 'HISTORIC SITE – PROTECTED AREA'. 03/2019 [https://www.langstoneharbour.org.uk/\\_files/ugd/3a32f8\\_5d6e22f563014c2ba444f1e529de2fed.pdf](https://www.langstoneharbour.org.uk/_files/ugd/3a32f8_5d6e22f563014c2ba444f1e529de2fed.pdf)

LHB (1994). Langstone Harbour Byelaws. Langstone Harbour Board: <https://www.langstoneharbour.org.uk/byelaws>

Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (2024). National Planning Policy Framework. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67aaf8f3b41f783cca46251/NPPF\\_December\\_2024.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67aaf8f3b41f783cca46251/NPPF_December_2024.pdf)

MMO (2014). Marine Planning in England. Marine Management Organisation: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/marine-planning-in-england>

MMO (2018). Statutory Guidance. The South Marine plan documents. Marine Management Organisation: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-south-marine-plans-documents>

MMO (2020). Guidance. Using Marine Plans. Marine Management Organisation: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/using-marine-plans>

MMO (2023). Planning and Development: marine licenses. Guidance on activities for marine licenses. Marine Management Organisation: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-and-development-marine-licences>

Natural England (2020). Guidance. Sites of special scientific interest: public body responsibilities. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sites-of-special-scientific-interest-public-body-responsibilities>

Natural England (2025): SPA, Solent Maritime SAC and Langstone and Chichester Harbour SSSI condition assessments. Designated Sites View. <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/>  
Accessed on 19 March 2025.

## 9 Abbreviations/Acronyms

AGM	Annual General Meeting
AtN	Aids to Navigation
BNG	Biodiversity Net Gain
BPA	British Port Association
CERS	Consolidated European Reporting System
CHA	Competent Harbour Authority
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DfT	Department for Transport
EA	Environment Agency
EC	European Commission
EIP	Environmental Improvement Plan
EMS	European Marine Site
EPS	European Protected Species
EU	European Union
FCERM	Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management
GLA	General Lighthouse Authority
HIWWT	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
HRO	Harbour Revision Order
IFCA	Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
INNS	Invasive Non-Native Species
ITT	Invitation to Tender
LHB	Langstone Harbour Board
LHMP	Langstone Harbour Management Plan
LLA	Local Lighthouse Authority
LNRS	Local Nature Recovery Strategy
MAIB	Marine Accident Investigation Branch
MCA	Marine and Coastguard Agency
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSMS	Marine Safety Management System
NERC	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act
OPEP	Oil Pollution Emergency Plan
OPRC	Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation Convention) Regulations 1998
PCC	Portsmouth City Council
PEC	Pilotage Exemption Certificate
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
PMSC	Ports & Marine Facilities Safety Code
PWC	Personal Watercraft
Ramsar	Ramsar Convention of Wetlands
RSPB	Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SCOPAC	Standing Conference on Problems Associated with the Coastline
SEMs	Solent Marine Sites
SHA	Statutory Harbour Authority
S.I.	Statutory Instrument
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest

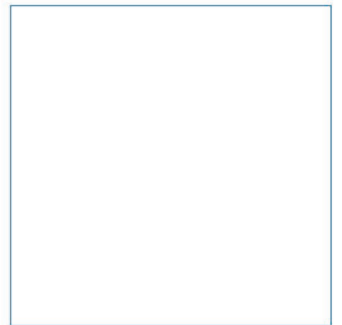
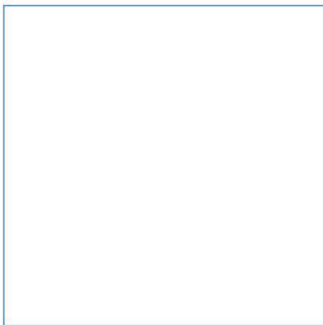
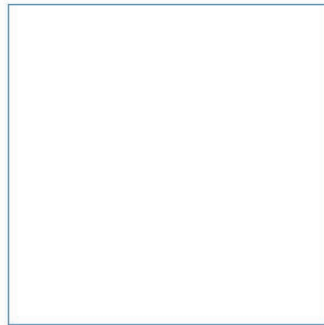
---

UK	United Kingdom
UK SAR	UK Search and Rescue
UKHO	UK Hydrographic Office
uPBT	Ubiquitous, Persistent, Bio-accumulative and Toxic'
VHF	Very High Frequency (marine radio)
VTs	Vessel Traffic Service
WeBS	Wetland Bird Survey
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WWII	World War Two

Cardinal points/directions are used unless otherwise stated.

SI units are used unless otherwise stated.

# Appendices



Innovative Thinking - Sustainable Solutions

# A Langstone Harbour Board Strategic Aims and Objectives

## Langstone Harbour - Aims

Duties and responsibilities	Aim
<b>Open port duty</b> (under Harbours Docks and Piers Clauses Act, Pilotage Act and local Acts)	<i>To take reasonable care, so long as the harbour is open for public use, that all who may choose to navigate in it may do so without danger to their lives or property by maintaining harbour infrastructure and the provision of an uninterrupted and cost effective pilotage service<sup>2</sup>.</i>
<b>Conservancy duty</b> (under Harbours Act)	<i>To conserve the harbour so that it is fit for use, maintain clear navigational channels<sup>3</sup> and provide users with adequate information about conditions in the harbour.</i>
<b>General duty to ensure safe and efficient port marine operations</b> (under various safety legislation and local Acts)	<i>To consider the efficiency, economy and safety of the services and facilities provided in the harbour and ensure appropriate resources are made available to meet the harbours marine safety obligations.</i>
<b>Environmental duty</b> (under local Act and various environmental legislation)	<i>To manage environmental features in the harbour<sup>4</sup> and have due regard to nature conservation as well as pollution control and response; and to liaise with relevant authorities for conservation, flood defence, erosion risk and coastal management locally.</i>
<b>Civil Contingencies and port security duty</b> (from Civil Contingencies Act 2004)	<i>To take account of the harbour's responsibility as a Category 2 response organisation, including planning, preparing and co-ordinating responses to emergencies which threaten serious damage to human welfare, the environment or security and to appoint a port security officer with responsibility for port security as required.</i>
<b>Responsibility for revising duties and powers</b> (under the PMSC)	<i>To keep under review the powers and jurisdiction of Langstone Harbour in relation to its duties as a statutory harbour authority, to comply with appropriate standards of governance<sup>6</sup> and amend statutory powers as and when required.</i>
<b>Financial responsibility</b> (from the ports local Acts)	<i>To ensure that the harbour is properly funded to carry out its core functions for safety, conservancy education and interpretation<sup>1</sup> and to generate income through gathering harbour dues, provision of leisure moorings for residential and visiting vessels and the provision of other cost effective marine services for the benefit of harbour users<sup>5</sup>.</i>
<b>Stakeholder engagement responsibility</b> (under Ports Good Governance Guidance)	<i>To participate in appropriate local, regional and national consultation<sup>7</sup> and to engage effectively on significant decisions where appropriate with a wide range of stakeholders through a stakeholder advisory body, open forum, social media presence and production of an annual report.</i>
<b>Responsibility to promote and improve the harbour as an asset</b> (under Ports Good Governance Guidance)	<i>To safeguard Langstone Harbour as a valuable asset and to hand it on in the same or better condition to succeeding generations through promoting its environmental importance and improving the harbour for commercial and leisure marine sectors.</i>
<sup>1-7</sup> Reference to strategic aims contained in LHB Business Plan 2017	

## Langstone Harbour – Objectives

Open port duty	
<i>To take reasonable care, so long as the harbour is open for public use, that all who may choose to navigate in it may do so without danger to their lives or property by maintaining harbour infrastructure and the provision of an uninterrupted and cost effective pilotage service.</i>	
OPD1	To maintain a list of assets and establish an asset replacement programme <sup>3.1,3.2</sup>
OPD2	To maintain a professional and scalable pilotage service in line with current and forecasted demands and to keep under review the requirement for a pilotage service
OPD3	Continue to review funding strategy for Hayling and Eastney pontoons <sup>3.3</sup>

Conservancy duty	
<i>To conserve the harbour so that it is fit for use, maintain clear navigational channels and provide users with adequate information about conditions in the harbour.</i>	
CD1	Survey the harbour and approaches periodically and share this information with the UKHO
CD2	Monitor navigation channels and review the requirement for dredging to maintain access to the harbour and commercial wharves
CD3	Act as a Local Lighthouse Authority with responsibility for the maintenance of AtN, and reporting of defects with accountability to Trinity House the GLA
CD4	Operate a periodic Harbour Radio VHF service
CD5	To produce an annual port guide for users and provide up to date weather information
CD6	Set harbour dues on goods, passengers and vessels <sup>2.3</sup>
CD7	To conserve and seek to enhance the nature conservation value of the harbour and its surroundings <sup>01</sup>
CD8	To conserve and improve the landscape of the harbour and of the surrounding area visible from the water, including the built environment <sup>06</sup>

General duty to ensure safe and efficient port marine operations	
<i>To consider the efficiency, economy and safety of the services and facilities provided in the harbour and ensure appropriate resources are made available to meet the harbours marine safety obligations.</i>	
SPO1	Maintain and review annually a Marine Safety Management System (MSMS) and report PMSC compliance as required to the DfT
SPO2	Engage with marine service providers, organisations and individual users on marine operations and events
SPO4	Maintain a patrol presence on the water as required
SPO5	Participate in Portsmouth Water Safety Forum, Solent Operational Group, Solent navigation & Pilotage Co-ordinating Committee and Nab VTS Users Group to co-ordinate and improve safety within the harbour and in local waters
SPO6	Maintain an enforcement capability and carry out enforcement action where required
SPO7	Set the standard for levels of training and qualification of marine staff in line with national requirements and best practice
SPO8	Conduct incident investigation in line with published MCA and MAIB guidance



<b>Environmental duty</b>	
<i>To manage environmental features in the harbour and have due regard to nature conservation as well as pollution control and response; and to liaise with relevant authorities for conservation, flood defence, erosion risk and coastal management locally.</i>	
ED1	Maintain adequate Tier 1 pollution response, train staff to respond to pollution events and retain a contract with an accredited Tier 2 response organisation
ED2	Liaise with coastal management, flood defence and erosion risk management authorities (EA, MMO and Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership) with regard to construction and dredge operations within the harbour
ED3	Accommodate recreational use of the harbour on a scale and at an intensity consistent with overall environmental goal in the Langstone Harbour Management Plan <sup>O1</sup>
ED4	Accommodate commercial use of the harbour in so far as it is compatible with overall environmental goal Langstone Harbour Management Plan <sup>O2</sup>
ED5	Seek to improve quality of water in the harbour <sup>O5</sup>
ED6	Encourage land use and management practices on land around the harbour that will maintain and enhance value to nature conservation and quality of its landscape <sup>O8</sup>
ED7	Establish a monitoring programme to provide information about the health of the harbour's natural resources, recreation and commercial life <sup>O10</sup>
ED8	Liaise with Southern IFCA, Natural England, Solent Forum, Hampshire Wildlife Trust, EA, MMO and RSPB as required to conserve designated sites in and around the harbour and in local waters

<b>Civil Contingencies and port security duty</b>	
<i>To take account of the harbour's responsibility as a Category 2 response organisation, including planning, preparing and co-ordinating responses to emergencies which threaten serious damage to human welfare, the environment or security and to appoint a port security officer with responsibility for port security as required.</i>	
CCS1	Attend the Local Resilience Forum as a Category 2 organisation
CCS2	Provide a permanent duty point of contact for border security agencies, emergency services and UK SAR organisations taking actions as required
CCS3	Complete CERS reporting actions for ships as required
CCS4	Work with commercial port facility operators to maintain an appropriate security level at operational quaysides
CCS5	Maintain infrastructure for a secondary transport link on and off Hayling Island

<b>Responsibility for revising duties and powers</b>	
<i>To keep under review the powers and jurisdiction of Langstone Harbour in relation to its duties as a statutory harbour authority, to comply with appropriate standards of governance and amend statutory powers as and when required.</i>	
RDP1	Keep under review general duties and responsibilities and promote Harbour Revision Orders (HRO) where deficiencies are identified
RDP2	Review and amend the harbour regulations (directions or byelaws) as required
RDP3	Keep under review governance arrangements and policies to be in line with national best practice

<b>Financial responsibility</b>	
<i>To ensure that the harbour is properly funded to carry out its core functions for safety, conservancy education and interpretation and to generate income through gathering harbour dues, provision of leisure moorings for residential and visiting vessels and the provision of other cost effective marine services for the benefit of harbour users.</i>	
FR1	Manage the costs of staffing the harbour through periodic staff review and participation in annual BPA salary benchmarking exercise <sup>1.1</sup>
FR2	Maximise income through marketing and provision of residential and visitor moorings <sup>2.1, 2.2</sup>
FR3	Maximise income through provision of marine services (including fuel) using Harbour staff and vessels to offset operational costs where this is possible and does not impact on conservancy functions
FR4	Monitor costs of providing a pilotage service passing costs to end users
FR5	Ensure that Harbour Dues and other charges are set at an appropriate level to fund the harbour undertaking <sup>2.3</sup>
FR6	Carry out annual budget setting and monitoring process <sup>1.2</sup>
FR7	Report deficiencies in revenues that cannot be made good from the reserve fund to the Local Authorities at the earliest opportunity
FR8	Ensure returns on investments are maximised <sup>2.4</sup>

<b>Stakeholder engagement responsibility</b>	
<i>To participate in appropriate local, regional and national consultation and to engage effectively on significant decisions where appropriate with a wide range of stakeholders through a stakeholder advisory body, open forum, social media presence and production of an annual report.</i>	
SE1	Maintain Harbour Advisory Committee for stakeholder engagement
SE2	Hold AGM of stakeholders and publish an annual report including stakeholder benefit statement <sup>4.2</sup>
SE3	Encourage the formation of user groups and actively engage with these groups
SE4	Engage with Local Authorities where possible with regard to annual contributions, precepts and to align positions on strategic opportunities for development within and adjacent to the harbour (with reference to Minerals Plan and Local Plan, Portsmouth seafront Master Plan etc.)
SE5	Involve Harbour users and those interested in the study of its natural resources in the work of the Harbour Advisory Committee and in programmes of monitoring, interpretation and environmental improvement <sup>0.4</sup>

<b>Responsibility to promote and improve the harbour as an asset</b>	
<i>To safeguard Langstone Harbour as a valuable asset and to hand it on in the same or better condition to succeeding generations through promoting its environmental importance and improving the harbour for commercial and leisure marine sectors.</i>	
PIA1	Promote the improvement of facilities and moorings for small vessels
PIA2	Ensure continued use of the harbour by commercial traffic
PIA3	Protect features of historic and archaeological significance in and around the Harbour <sup>0.7</sup>
PIA4	Encourage interpretation and understanding of the natural history and landscape of the harbour as a means of achieving responsible use of the harbour's resources <sup>0.9</sup>
PIA5	Keep the Langstone Harbour management plan under review <sup>4.1</sup>

---

**Priority Projects**

- A. Harbour Office broadband connectivity modernisation to enable business continuity, more flexible employment and improve opportunities for remote payment of slipway fees.
- B. Staff review with a regard to current marine operations gapping and outlook for the next five years.
- C. Development of engineering asset management plan and prioritisation of Eastney Pontoon repair/replacement strategy.
- D. Collaborative work with PCC on Fort Cumberland and Ferry Road seafront development concept.
- E. Collaborative work with AI on Kendall's Wharf extension project.
- F. Review and renewal of Langstone Harbour Management Plan
- G. Collaboration with other harbour authorities and environment groups on Nature Recovery Area

## B Evaluation of Objectives in Relation to Environmental Legislation

Objectives Included in LHMP/ Strategic Objectives of LHB	Evaluation of Objectives in Relation to the Legislation
<b>O.1 To conserve and seek to enhance the nature conservation value of the Harbour and its surroundings</b>	This is a very broad objective and in general encompasses all the requirements of environmental legislation. Therefore, this objective requires greater specificity to identify actions to meet the legislative requirements. It would be better to incorporate this objective into an updated wider aim.
The Langstone Harbour Revision Order 1985	Although no environmental remit in this legislation, it identifies what activities LHB can undertake which should be taken account in across all environmental legislation when considering environmental impacts.
The Langstone Harbour Revision Order 1999	The powers given in this legislation to create byelaws for conservation and associated educational and interpretation purposes link directly to this objective. However, further detail is required in the development of actions on if and how byelaw making powers will be used to meet this objective.
Harbours Act 1964	This is a general environmental duty to have regard to the environment in relations to the delivery of functions. The broadness of this objective meets this duty.
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	The duty requires LHB to conserve and enhance Langstone Harbour SSSI. LHB must also ensure any damaging activities are assessed and approvals are sought from Natural England for any damaging activity. The broadness of this objective meets this duty.
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006	The biodiversity duty, updated by the Environment act, requires LHB to exercise functions to conserve and enhance biodiversity. This requires development and revision of policies and objectives to take action to further the objectives. Although the broadness of this objective captures the requirements of the legislation, greater specificity would be beneficial to identify actions.
Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017	The regulations outline a general duty in relation to designated habitats and species and a specific duty in relation to protect sites. In this case, Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA and Solent Maritime SAC. The requirement is to protect, conserve and restore designated sites to meet conservation objectives, prevent deterioration of habitats and significant disturbance to species. Although the broadness of this objective captures the requirements of the legislation, greater specificity would be beneficial to identify actions.

Objectives Included in LHMP/ Strategic Objectives of LHB	Evaluation of Objectives in Relation to the Legislation
Ramsar Convention 1975	Duties as per Habitats Regulations 2017. Although the broadness of this objective captures the requirements of the legislation, greater specificity would be beneficial to identify actions.
Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	This legislation requires any authorisation or enforcement decisions must be taken in accordance with Marine Plans and have regard to the south Marine Plan when taking decisions which relate to the exercise of any functions capable of affecting the whole or part of the UK Marine Plan area. It also requires the application for a marine licence for any activity which is not exempt. The objective does not meet the requirement of the legislation.
Environment Act 2021	Duties as per NERC Act.
Ports & Marine Facilities Safety Code (DfT, 2025)	This is a general environmental duty to have regard to the environment in relations to the delivery of functions. The broadness of this objective meets this duty.
<b>O.2/ED3 To accommodate recreational use of the Harbour on a scale and at an intensity consistent with the overall goal;</b>	This is an important objective, but the wording should link more clearly to the requirements of the legislation. For example, recreational pressure has the potential to impact on habitats and species within Langstone Harbour. However, the use of the word 'accommodate' does not make it explicit that active management of recreational activities may be required to ensure conservation and enhancement of habitats and species as per legislative requirements. This objective requires review and update.
The Langstone Harbour Revision Order 1999	The powers given in this legislation to create byelaws for conservation and associated educational and interpretation purposes could be needed to achieve this objective. It should be identified if powers provided as part of this legislation is required to meet this objective.
Harbours Act 1964	This general duty requires LHB to have regard to the environment in relations to the delivery of functions. Recreational activity could have impacts on habitats and species within Langstone Harbour. It should be determined if the delivery of any functions in relation to recreation are required in relation to this general duty.
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	The duty requires LHB to conserve and enhance Langstone Harbour SSSI. It should be determined if any recreational activities are impacting on the SSSI which LHB or any partners have responsibility for management to meet the SSSI duty.
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006	The biodiversity duty, updated by the Environment Act, requires LHB to exercise functions to conserve and enhance biodiversity. This requires development and revision of policies and objectives to take action to further the objectives. It should be determined if any recreational activities are impacting on the SSSI which LHB or any partners have responsibility for management to meet the biodiversity duty.

Objectives Included in LHMP/ Strategic Objectives of LHB	Evaluation of Objectives in Relation to the Legislation
Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017	The regulations outline a general duty in relation to designated habitats and species and a specific duty in relation to protect sites. In this case, Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA and Solent Maritime SAC. The requirement is to protect, conserve and restore designated sites to meet conservation objectives, prevent deterioration of habitats and significant disturbance to species. It should be determined if any recreational activities are impacting on the SSSI which LHB or any partners have responsibility for management to meet the requirements of the Habitats Regulations
Ramsar Convention 1975	Duties as per Habitats Regulations 2017
Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	This legislation requires any authorisation or enforcement decisions must be taken in accordance with Marine Plans and have regard to the south Marine Plan when taking decisions which relate to the exercise of any functions capable of affecting the whole or part of the UK Marine Plan area. The Marine Plan should be reviewed in relation to this objective to meet the requirements of the act.
Environment Act 2021	Duties as per NERC Act.
Ports & Marine Facilities Safety Code (DfT, 2025)	This general duty requires LHB to have regard to the environment in relations to the delivery of functions. Recreational activity could have impacts on habitats and species within Langstone Harbour. It should be determined if the delivery of any functions in relation to recreation are required in relation to this general duty.
<b>O.3/ED4 To accommodate commercial use of the Harbour in so far as it is compatible with the overall goal</b>	This is an important objective, but the wording should link more clearly to the requirements of the legislation. For example, pressure from commercial activities has the potential to impact on habitats and species within the area. However, the use of the word 'accommodate' does not make it explicit that active management of commercial activities may be required to ensure conservation and enhancement of habitats and species as per legislative requirements. This objective requires review and update.
The Langstone Harbour Revision Order 1999	The powers given in this legislation to create byelaws for conservation and associated educational and interpretation purposes could be needed to achieve this objective. It should be identified if powers provided as part of this legislation is required to meet this objective.
Harbours Act 1964	This general duty requires LHB to have regard to the environment in relations to the delivery of functions. Commercial activity could have impacts on habitats and species within Langstone Harbour. It should be determined if the delivery of any functions in relation to recreation are required in relation to this general duty.

Objectives Included in LHMP/ Strategic Objectives of LHB	Evaluation of Objectives in Relation to the Legislation
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	The duty requires LHB to conserve and enhance Langstone Harbour SSSI. It should be determined if any commercial activities are impacting on the SSSI which LHB or any partners have responsibility for management to meet the SSSI duty.
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006	The biodiversity duty, updated by the Environment act, requires LHB to exercise functions to conserve and enhance biodiversity. This requires development and revision of policies and objectives to take action to further the objectives. It should be determined if any commercial activities are impacting on the SSSI which LHB or any partners have responsibility for management to meet the biodiversity duty.
Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017	The regulations outline a general duty in relation to designated habitats and species and a specific duty in relation to protect sites. In this case, Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA and Solent Maritime SAC. The requirement is to protect, conserve and restore designated sites to meet conservation objectives, prevent deterioration of habitats and significant disturbance to species. It should be determined if any commercial activities are impacting on the SSSI which LHB or any partners have responsibility for management to meet the requirements of the Habitats Regulations
Ramsar Convention 1975	Duties as per Habitats Regulations 2017
Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	This legislation requires any authorisation or enforcement decisions must be taken in accordance with Marine Plans and have regard to the south Marine Plan when taking decisions which relate to the exercise of any functions capable of affecting the whole or part of the UK Marine Plan area. The Marine Plan should be reviewed in relation to this objective to meet the requirements of the act.
Environment Act 2021	Duties as per NERC Act.
Ports & Marine Facilities Safety Code (DfT, 2025)	This general duty requires LHB to have regard to the environment in relations to the delivery of functions. Commercial activity could have impacts on habitats and species within Langstone Harbour. It should be determined if the delivery of any functions in relation to recreation are required in relation to this general duty.
<b>O.4 To involve Harbour users and those interested in the study of its natural resources in the work of the Harbour Advisory Committee and in programmes of monitoring, interpretation and environmental improvement</b>	Involvement of all stakeholders is important to ensure support for the delivery of measures to meet environmental legislative requirements. This objective should be reviewed to make it more explicit to the requirements of the legislation. This objective has some overlap with Objective 10.

Objectives Included in LHMP/ Strategic Objectives of LHB	Evaluation of Objectives in Relation to the Legislation
<b>O.5/ED5 To seek to improve the quality of water in the Harbour</b>	Water quality is an important factor affecting the ecology of Langstone harbour and cuts across many pieces of legislation. This objective should continue to be included but should be reviewed based on local evidence to identify if the objective or actions should be more specific.
<b>O.6 To conserve and improve the landscape of the Harbour and of the surrounding area visible from the water, including the built environment</b>	This objective is specific to Section 48A of the Harbours Act 1964. The objective should continue to be included. Recommend review of the objective in line relation to the duty as part of the Marine and Coastal Access Act to have regard to the South Marine Plan.
<b>O.7 To protect features of historic and archaeological significance in and around the Harbour</b>	This objective is specific to Section 48A of the Harbours Act 1964. The objective should continue to be included. This objective is specific to Section 48A of the Harbours Act 1964. The objective should continue to be included. Recommend review of the objective in line relation to the duty as part of the Marine and Coastal Access Act to have regard to the South Marine Plan.
<b>O.8/ED6 To encourage land use and management practices on land around the Harbour that will maintain and enhance its value to nature conservation and the quality of its landscape</b>	The land surrounding the Harbour provides important functional habitat for bird species e.g. roosting sites. The management of surrounding land may also be important in managing water quality. This remains an important action. Recommend a review of the objective to incorporate any requirements of environmental legislation.
<b>O.9 To encourage interpretation, and an understanding, of the natural history and landscape of the Harbour as a means of achieving responsible use of the Harbour's resources</b>	This remains an important objective in the management of activities which may have an impact on the ecology or protected sites of Langstone Harbour. Recommend a review of the objective to incorporate any requirements of environmental legislation.
<b>O.10/ED7 To establish a monitoring programme to provide information about the health of the Harbour's natural resources, recreation and commercial life</b>	This is an important objective to provide evidence and data to a) understand any changes in the ecology in order to identify any action required and b) to provide a review mechanism to regularly review the progress of the LHMP linked to the aims and objectives. Although a biodiversity report is not currently required to meet the NERC biodiversity duty, it may be required in the future. Therefore, it is important to develop good monitoring and reporting mechanisms. Recommend a review of this objective to ensure good review and reporting mechanisms are in place. This objective has some overlap with Objective 4.
<b>ED1 Maintain adequate Tier 1 pollution response, train staff to respond to pollution events and retain a contract with an accredited Tier 2 response organisation</b>	This is a requirement of 'The Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation Convention) Regulations 1998 (as amended)' termed the OPRC Regulations. It is also important to have pollution response plans in place to manage any impacts on habitats, species and protected sites. This objective should remain in the plan.



Objectives Included in LHMP/ Strategic Objectives of LHB	Evaluation of Objectives in Relation to the Legislation
<b>ED2 Liaise with coastal management, flood defence and erosion risk management authorities (EA, MMO and Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership) with regard to construction and dredge operations within the harbour</b>	These important activities but it would be useful to be explicit what the purpose of the liaison is for e.g. to input into coastal management, flood defence and erosion risk management which can impact on the ecology and protected habitats of Langstone Harbour. Recommend review and update of this action.
<b>ED8 Liaise with Southern IFCA, Natural England, Solent Forum, Hampshire Wildlife Trust, EA, MMO and RSPB as required to conserve designated sites in and around the harbour and in local waters</b>	Engagement with these organisations is important in the management of Langstone Harbour to meet environmental legislative requirements. It would be useful to make the purpose of the engagement explicit. Recommend review and update of this action.

## Contact Us

ABPmer

Quayside Suite,  
Medina Chambers  
Town Quay, Southampton  
SO14 2AQ

T +44 (0) 23 8071 1840

F +44 (0) 23 8071 1841

E [enquiries@abpmer.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@abpmer.co.uk)

[www.abpmer.co.uk](http://www.abpmer.co.uk)

