

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

Committee	River Hamble Harbour Board
Date:	6 April 2018
Title:	Environmental Update
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

Contact name: Alison Fowler

Tel: 01489 576387

Email: Alison.fowler@hants.gov.uk

1. Recommendation

1.1. That the report be noted by the River Hamble Harbour Board.

2. Summary

2.1. This report summarises activities relating to the River Hamble Harbour Authority's (RHHA) environmental management of the Hamble Estuary between December 2017 and January 2018.

3. Updates

Oil Spill Planning & Response

- 3.1. RHHA staff held an internal table-top Tier 2 oil spill response exercise which formed part of annual testing and training requirements as set out in the Oil Spill Contingency Plan. The focus of this exercise was on refreshing understanding of the following elements of oil spill response; Initial Response Actions; Health & Safety requirements and responsibilities; Waste Management; Equipment.
- 3.2. RHHA's annual return has been made to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency regarding oil spill exercises and training undertaken in 2017, ensuring ongoing compliance with the Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response Cooperation Convention) Regulations 1998.

Beneficial Use of Dredgings in the Solent (BUDS) Project

- 3.3. Further to previous updates, work by ABPMer continues to progress Phase 1 of this project commissioned by the Solent Forum. RHHA's Environment & Development Manager (EDM) attended a stakeholder workshop, to begin the process of identifying potentially suitable sites for implementing a project that beneficially uses fine dredge sediment for habitat restoration (and other functions). Outputs from RHHA's recent Saltmarsh and Sediment study were key to informing discussions relating to the Hamble Estuary. Next steps will include a review of outcomes and the development of recommendations by examining mapping outputs.

The Port Energy Conservation and Savings (PECS) Project

- 3.4. RHHA has been invited by Southampton Solent University to join the project as an 'Observer' and the EDM attended the opening conference held on 19th January, along with other Observers and Partners from UK and European ports and harbours.
- 3.5. PECS is an international cooperation project involving knowledge institutions, port authorities, industry and public authorities. The project focuses on the reduction of carbon within ports and marinas in a cost efficient way, by implementing different technologies on land and in the water. The Interreg funded project has a budget of 8m Euros to implement a series of low carbon and renewable energy solutions, within small partner ports and port operating companies within the '2 Seas' region (covering coastal areas of England, France, Belgium (Flanders) and the Netherlands) connected by the Channel and the North Sea.

“PECS is addressing the challenge of achieving carbon reductions through the introduction of low carbon technologies i.e. renewables and energy efficiency within small and medium sized (SMS) ports and marinas. These ports face numerous common obstacles (i.e. limited resources, technical expertise, lack of collaboration, regulations) and as a result little has been done to reduce carbon emissions. Demonstrations of low carbon technologies and solutions in real life and different circumstances are required to raise awareness and to show feasibility. In addition to convince other SMS ports it is also necessary to develop and showcase practical methods and tools as energy audit, potentials for renewables and the best mix of low carbon options. Finally SMS-ports need practical models for low carbon investment & business cases and to come to energy cooperation structures.”

- 3.6. A key part of the project will be disseminating the results of the various pilots taking place in the Partner ports and harbours (this does not include the Hamble) i.e. both pilot implementation and also their effectiveness in leading to carbon savings. Solent University's role is in the development and application of auditing methodologies as well as exploring the potential and opportunity for energy cooperation within port and harbour environments. As such, it wishes to engage 'observer partners', which will include the Hamble, in the project processes but also in helping disseminate and reach as many relevant stakeholders as possible. There is no financial commitment for RHHA.

<http://www.pecs2seas.eu/about>

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Strategic Plan**

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

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

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

Document

Location

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equality Duty

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

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

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

The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;

Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;

Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

1.2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

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

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. This report does not deal with any issues relating to crime and disorder.

3. Climate Change:

3.1. How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? The contents of this report have no impact on carbon footprint or energy consumption

3.2. How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? Not applicable to this report.