

WHITSTABLE HARBOUR

Marine Safety Plan

2026 - 2029

Introduction

This safety plan has been drawn up by virtue of the powers conferred upon Canterbury City Council under Section 26 of the Harbour's Act 1964 and the Whitstable Harbour Act 1957.

As part of its compliance with the requirements of the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC), Whitstable Harbour Board publishes the following Marine Safety Plan for marine operations in Whitstable Harbour and its approaches for the period 2026 to 2029.

1. Marine Policies

- **Navigational Safety**
- **Enforcement and Prosecution**
- **Dredging**

In line with current policy, all the marine policies are reviewed every three years. They were last considered in July 2026, and the next scheduled review is in July 2029.

2. Marine Procedures

This Marine Safety Plan commits the Harbour Board to undertaking the management and regulation of marine operations, within the scope of its powers and authority, in a way that safeguards the harbour, the users of the harbour including members of the public, and the environment.

3. Ongoing Management Targets for the Period of the Plan

Standing Targets

| Service Provision/Activity Target | Target |
|---|---|
| Navigational incidents | No major incidents, serious injuries or serious pollution because of a failure of the Safety Management System. |
| Provision of a shore to ship passage plan and general information service | Provide an on-demand passage information service for all vessels over 50m. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Hydrographic surveys | Ensure that the harbour and its approaches have been adequately surveyed and that the results are openly available on request |
| Provision of 'Aids to Navigation' | Ensure that all aids to navigation are fully maintained and meet the requirements and availability targets of the General Lighthouse Authority |
| Support for and approval and facilitation of harbour events | Associated risks to be at As Low as Reasonably Practical (ALARP) prior to approval. Avoid unnecessary restrictions to vessel movements and disruption to commercial services and activities |
| Liaison and consultation with harbour users | Maintain communications with harbour user groups and any interested parties regarding proposed developments |

Temporary Targets

| Service Provision/Activity Target | Target |
|--|---|
| Traffic management | Improved traffic management at the West entrance of the Harbour |
| Harbour basin safety | Improvements to the safety of stakeholders on the quayside |
| Quay maintenance | Completion of Section 3 quay works |
| Improved safety for visitors, passengers and ships crews | Operational improvements of provision of safety ladders |