



## **Forth Ports Limited – Scotland Marine Environment and Sustainability Policy**

As part of Forth Ports Limited, the Marine Department is committed to fulfilling its' environmental duties as required by the Harbours Act 1964 and other compliance obligations. Ports are required by Government policy to adopt an appropriate balance between conservation of the environment and enabling sustainable economic growth.

Forth Ports Marine Department provide Navigation and Conservancy in the Firths of Forth and Tay and Pilotage and Towage services in the Firth of Forth. To fulfil its commitment to the protection of the environment, including through the prevention of pollution, the department commits to continual environmental improvement, and aims to achieve these commitments through the following:

- Committing adequate resources to departmental activities to allow for effective environmental stewardship to be carried out in line with the provision of departmental services.
- Pursuing continual environmental performance improvement through the company's procurement process by reviewing the environmental performance attributes of plant and equipment prior to selection.
- Undertaking a biennial review of selected department activities to identify opportunities for improving environmental performance.
- Ensuring that all departmental activities, as well as the activities of those carrying out work on behalf of the department, at least match adopted compliance obligations, and where possible exceed them.
- Executing an annual competency review to ensure that there are sufficient human resources within the department to allow for adopted environmental commitments and statutory responsibilities to be effectively met.
- Undertaking and regulating marine movements in such a way as to safeguard water users, the marine and adjacent land environment and local communities.
- Maximising response capabilities by regularly exercising contingency plans (whether pollution prevention or emergency plans) and ensuring that selected emergency exercise scenarios drive continual improvement in departmental and other stakeholder capabilities.
- Undertaking appropriate assessments under the Habitats Directive for new projects, as required.
- Where appropriate, consulting with identified interested parties such as relevant statutory authorities, regulators and stakeholders, as well as local community groups where there are areas of common interest.
- Maintaining membership of the Forth Estuary Forum and Tay Estuary Forum and taking an active role in the management of these organisations and the initiatives they develop.
- Ensuring that all waste is disposed of responsibly, or where practical, recycled or re-used.
- Communicating this Environmental Policy to identified interested parties such as Marine Department staff and where necessary provide guidance and appropriate training.
- Reviewing this Policy at regular intervals.

Alan McPherson  
Chief Harbour Master

20 August 2020