



Port Marine Safety Code-2025 Annual Performance Statement

Eyemouth Harbour Trust

Introduction

Eyemouth Harbour Trust (The Statutory Harbour Authority) aim to undertake and regulate marine operations to safeguard the harbour, river, river users, the public and the environment. Eyemouth Harbour Trust complies with the requirements of the Port Marine Safety Code when carrying out all marine operations as confirmed by annual audit & review conducted by the appointed independent Designated Person.

Our compliance to the Port Marine Safety Code was confirmed to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency in March 2021, and with the MCA PMSC Compliance Exercise scheduled to be complete by the 31st of March 2026.

The Annual Performance Review is prepared in order that Eyemouth Harbour Trust (the Duty Holder) can report on the performance of the Harbour Authority as required by the Port Marine Safety Code.

This report is a summary of the marine activities over the year and is prepared in addition to the annual report that the Designated Person presents to the Duty Holder. This review will report on the main activities of the marine operations under the following headings:

1. The Duty Holder
2. Governance, Legislation & Powers
3. Marine Operations Activity Report
4. PMSC Accidents, Incidents & Near Misses
5. PMSC Audit and statement of compliance
6. Conservancy
7. PMSC Meetings
8. Environmental Management & Pollution Response
9. Review of Marine Safety Plan
10. Stake Holder Engagement
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1. The Duty Holder

The Board of Trustees currently makes up 10 non-executive volunteer members who collectively bring a diverse range of skills and expertise essential for the effective management of the harbour.

Eyemouth Harbour Trust has set up fixed terms of reference for Duty Holders, which each individual Duty Holder formally signs and accepts. These terms clearly define their individual and collective responsibilities and accountability concerning marine safety.

Furthermore, it is mandatory for all current and former Duty Holders to undergo an induction on the Port Marine Safety Code, along with awareness training provided by the British Ports Association.

In 2023, the Board of Trustees appointed Martin Willis as the designated person, who attends meetings, provides quarterly reports to the board, and keeps regular contact with the Harbour Master and Deputy Harbour Master.

2. Governance, Legislation & Powers

Eyemouth Harbour Trust operates under the statutory framework established primarily by the Harbours Act 1964, which grants the Trust its powers and responsibilities. The Trust's Constitution clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Trustees, currently composed of 10 non-executive volunteer members, who oversee harbour management and safety. The Harbour Revision order, reviewed and updated in 2021, regulate vessel movements, mooring, and harbour operations to ensure safety and order within the harbour limits. In recent years, the Trust has actively pursued to update its statutory powers, including amendments to extend operational jurisdiction and enhance safety enforcement capabilities in line with modern requirements.

The Trust maintains full compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC), Merchant Shipping Act 1995, the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. Regular internal audits and external inspections are conducted to verify adherence to these legislative requirements. Environmental regulations, including the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and relevant UK environmental protection laws, are also strictly observed to minimize ecological impact. The Trust ensures that all operational activities meet the standards set by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) and other regulatory bodies.

Eyemouth Harbour Trust has implemented a comprehensive suite of policies to support safe and sustainable harbour operations. These include the Marine Safety Management System, Environmental Management Policy, Emergency Response Plan, and Stakeholder Engagement Policy. Each policy is reviewed annually to incorporate legislative updates, operational feedback, and best practice guidance. The Marine Safety Management System aligns with the PMSC requirements and provides a structured approach to risk assessment, incident reporting, and continuous improvement.

The Trust's Duty Holders formally accept fixed terms of reference that define their individual and collective accountability for marine safety under the PMSC. These Duty Holders, including the Harbour Master and senior management, conduct an annual review of all relevant legislation and the Trust's Safety, Health, and Environmental (SHE) powers to ensure compliance and operational effectiveness. Induction and refresher training on the Port Marine Safety Code and associated legislation are mandatory for all current and past Duty Holders, delivered in partnership with the British Ports Association. This ensures that the Trust's governance framework remains robust, with clear lines of responsibility and up-to-date knowledge of statutory obligations.

3. Marine Operations Activity Report

Local Fishing Vessels: Eyemouth Harbour supports a thriving local fishing fleet, with 18 vessels operating year-round. The primary focus of the fleet is potting/creeling for crabs and lobsters, as well as local stern trawler targeting langoustine/prawns.

Visiting Fishing Vessels: Eyemouth Harbour serves as a hub for visiting fishing vessels, welcoming 26 vessels throughout the year. These vessels utilize the harbour's facilities, land their catch, and seek shelter during inclement weather.

Local Leisure Vessels: The harbour provides a home up to 15 local resident vessels during the year.

Visiting Yachts: Between January and October, Eyemouth Harbour Trust welcomes 249 visiting yachts, generating a total of 705 paid nights in the harbour.

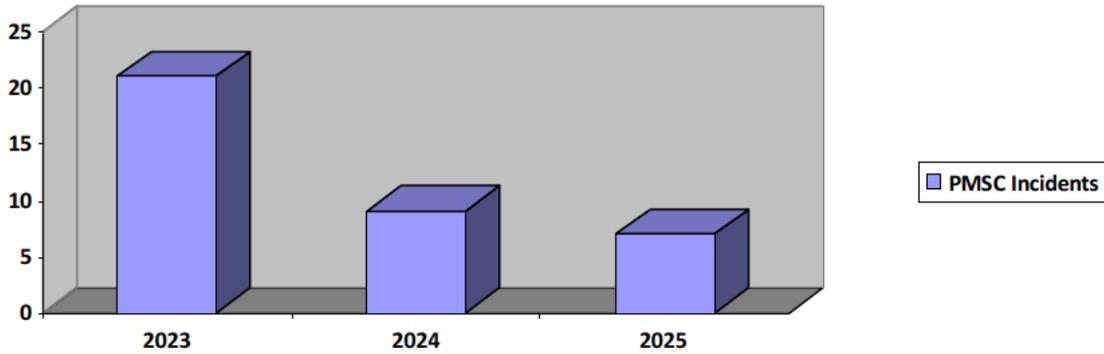
Commercial Leisure Activities: Eyemouth Harbour supports a thriving commercial leisure sector, with 5 vessels dedicated to offering recreational activities. These vessels primarily focus on leisure diving and angling, with trips typically running twice daily, with some extending to full-day excursions.

Offshore Wind Support: Eyemouth Harbour plays a vital role in supporting the offshore wind industry, serving as a port of call for 9 Crew Transfer Vessels (CTVs) throughout the year. At peak times, up to 7 CTVs utilize the harbour's facilities simultaneously, highlighting the port's capacity to accommodate the growing needs of the offshore wind sector.

4. PMSC Accidents, Incidents & Near Misses

In 2025, Eyemouth Harbour Trust recorded a total of 7 PMSC-related accidents, incidents, and near misses. The majority of these, accounting for 57%, involved collisions and contacts, making them the most frequently reported types of incidents.

Importantly, none of these reported events were caused by, nor did they lead to, any non-compliance with the PMSC.



The above statistics include all incidents reported to Eyemouth Harbour Trust during the past three years. All incidents are reviewed following the Safety Management System.

5. PMSC Audit and statement of compliance

Audit: In November 2025, Eyemouth Harbour Trust carried out an internal audit in collaboration with the designated person, Captain Martin Willis. The audit focused on assessing compliance with the Code and the accompanying Guide to Good Practice on Port Marine Operations. Its purpose was to determine whether the Harbour Authority meets the Code’s requirements through a combination of evidence sampling and onsite observations.

The audit’s scope encompassed a thorough review of the Harbour Authority’s performance against the standards set forth in the latest edition of the Code. Any areas found to be non-compliant or not fully addressing the Code’s requirements were identified, with recommendations provided to support improvement.

This audit was commissioned to offer assurance to the Harbour Master, CEO, Designated Person, and Duty Holder that the Port continues to operate in accordance with the Code.

Conclusion

While there were some recommendations and observations for enhancement, Eyemouth Harbour Trust was found to be compliant with all reviewed aspects of the Code. The audit highlighted several satisfactory practices and included suggestions for best practice improvements.

PMSC 10 Key Compliance Measures		Compliance Status
1)	Duty Holder Responsibilities & Awareness	Very Good
2)	Designated Person Provision	Very Good
3)	Legislation	Good
4)	SHA Duties & Powers	Very Good
5)	Risk Assessment & Mitigation	Good
6)	Marine Safety Management System	Good
7)	Review & Audit	Very Good
8)	Competence & Training	Very Good
9)	Plan	Good
10)	Conservancy Duty	Good

Audit Summary from DP Martin Willis:

“The overall PMSC 2025 Edition Compliance is rated as good and very good in many areas, with many areas of best practice identified. Areas identified for action / improvement within the previous 2024 /25 MCA Port Health Check audit have been actioned into the EHT Marine Safety Management System.

The Board of Trustees (the Duty Holder) governance is particularly strong, and this clearly feeds into the operational Marine policies & procedures, with a strong, competent Marine team led by the Harbour Master, delivering safe marine operations at Eyemouth Harbour.

A clear commitment to resourcing and training from the Duty Holder is apparent throughout the audit process.

Industry and stakeholder engagement is again seen as an area of best practice embedded within Eyemouth Harbour Trust governance.

Eyemouth Harbour Trustees should be assured when confirming their PMSC statement of compliance to the MCA / DfT, March 2026.”

Statement of Compliance: Eyemouth Harbour Trust is actively preparing for the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) compliance exercise scheduled for March 2026. In this process, the Trust is collaborating closely with relevant stakeholders classified as Facilities under the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC).

As part of these efforts, Martin Willis (Designated Person) and Brendan Bates (Harbour Master) recently held a meeting with NNG Offshore Wind to clarify the requirements expected of them as a Tier 1 Facility in relation to the PMSC.

It is important to note that Eyemouth Harbour Trust currently maintains full compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code, demonstrating its ongoing commitment to marine safety and regulatory standards.

6. Conservancy

Aids to Navigation: The Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB) is the statutory authority responsible for Aids to Navigation (Aton) in Scotland, while Eyemouth Harbour Trust serves as the local lighthouse authority within our Statutory Harbour Authority (SHA) area.

In 2025, we experienced one failure, which was reported to the NLB, resulting in an availability rate of 87.93%.

Eyemouth Harbour Trust has an agreement with the NLB to carry out an annual survey of the North Cardinal Buoy. However, due to the commissioning of the NLB’s new vessel, Pole Star, this survey has been postponed to 2026.

Eyemouth Harbour Trust								
	Eyemouth. Blind Buss.	CAT 1		0:00	0:00	0:00	100.00%	99.80%
A2840	Eyemouth Harbour. Ldg. Lts 174 deg. W Breakwater. Head.	CAT 1		0:00	0:00	0:00	100.00%	99.80%
A2840.1	Eyemouth Harbour. Ldg Lts 174deg. W Breakwater. Elbow. Rear. 55m from front	CAT 1		0:00	0:00	0:00	100.00%	99.80%
A2841	Eyemouth Harbour. E Breakwater. Head	CAT 2		0:00	0:00	0:00	100.00%	99.00%
A2841.5	Eyemouth Harbour. Promenade. (Occas)	CAT 2		0:00	0:00	0:00	100.00%	99.00%
A2843	Eyemouth Harbour. Entrance Channel. E Side. Smeaton Quay. Head.	CAT 2	1	1054:18	1054:18	7681:42	87.93%	99.00%
A2843.4	Eyemouth Harbour. Entrance Channel. West Side.	CAT 2		0:00	0:00	0:00	100.00%	99.00%
			Totals	1				

Individual Navigation Report

Eyemouth Harbour Trust								
CAT 1	3	26,208	0	0:00	0:00	0:00	100.00%	99.80%
CAT 2	4	34,944	1	1054:18	1054:18	33889:42	96.98%	99.00%
CAT 3	0	0	0	0:00	0:00	0:00	0.00%	97.00%
No Category	0	0	0	0:00	0:00	0:00	0.00%	0.00%
Totals		7						

Category Navigation Report

Dredging: In May 2025, Eyemouth Harbour undertook a one-month maintenance dredging campaign in collaboration with the Wyre Estuary. This operation successfully removed a total of 8,400 wet tonnes of sediment. The dredging enabled Eyemouth Harbour Trust (EHT) to achieve a depth of 2.7 metres below Chart Datum, meeting the operational requirements for the NNG Operations and Maintenance Base.

Since April 2025, Eyemouth Harbour Trust has been working closely with Xodus to prepare for the Marine Dredging License covering the period 2026 to 2029. This collaboration involved the development of sampling plans and identification of sampling locations, which were subsequently submitted to MD-Lot. The formal license application was submitted to MD-Lot in August 2025,

7. Port Marine Safety Code Meetings

During the calendar year 2025, the port authority successfully convened a total of three operational Port Marine Safety Committee (PMSC) meetings. In parallel, three Safety Group committee meetings were also held, which actively involved key stakeholders, including Harbour Users. These meetings serve as critical platforms for collaboration and communication among all parties engaged in port operations, safety management, and environmental stewardship.

Recognizing the importance of continuous improvement in safety and operational standards, the port authority has scheduled an increase in the frequency of these meetings for the year 2026. This planned expansion reflects a proactive approach to addressing emerging challenges and enhancing stakeholder engagement in port safety and security matters.

Objectives and Focus Areas of the PMSC Meetings

The PMSC meetings are convened with the primary aim of fostering a comprehensive and coordinated approach to marine safety and operational excellence within the port environment. The agenda typically encompasses a wide range of critical topics, including but not limited to:

Incident, Accident, and Near Miss Reporting: Detailed reviews and analyses of any incidents, accidents, or near misses that have occurred within the port jurisdiction. This enables the identification of root causes and the implementation of corrective measures to prevent recurrence.

Environmental and Pollution Control: Discussions and evaluations on environmental pollution controls with discussion of any incident of accident, along with up-to-date guidance.

Port Security: Assessment of current security measures, identification of potential vulnerabilities, and planning of initiatives to safeguard the port against security threats, ensuring compliance with national and international regulations.

Dredging, Hydrography, and Conservancy: Review of ongoing and planned dredging activities, hydrographic surveys, and conservancy efforts to maintain safe and navigable waterways, which are essential for efficient port operations.

Staff Training: Evaluation of training programs aimed at enhancing the skills and competencies of port personnel, ensuring that staff are well-prepared to meet operational and safety requirements.

Exercises: Planning and debriefing of various safety and emergency response exercises conducted to test the readiness and coordination of all stakeholders involved in port operations.

Risk Assessments: Comprehensive risk assessments to identify potential hazards and vulnerabilities within the port environment, facilitating the development of mitigation strategies.

Marine Safety Management System (MSMS): Monitoring and continuous improvement of the MSMS framework to ensure it remains effective, up-to-date, and aligned with best practices and regulatory requirements.

Action Plans: Formulation and review of action plans arising from meeting discussions, ensuring that agreed-upon measures are implemented in a timely and effective manner.

Conclusion: The operational PMSC and Safety Group committee meetings held in 2025 have played a vital role in maintaining and enhancing the safety, security, and environmental standards of the port. The planned increase in meeting frequency for 2026 underscores the port authority’s commitment to fostering a culture of safety, collaboration, and continuous improvement. Through these structured engagements, the port aims to proactively address challenges, optimize operational efficiency, and safeguard the interests of all Harbour Users and stakeholders.

8. Environmental Management & Pollution Response

Eyemouth Harbour Trust remains fully committed to robust environmental management and effective pollution response as integral components of our Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC) compliance and operational excellence.

Plans and Policy: The Trust maintains up-to-date and comprehensive environmental management and pollution response plans, aligned with national regulations and best practice standards. These include our Environmental Policy Statement and Port Waste Management Plan and Oil Spill Contingency Plan. These documents set out clear procedures for preventing, managing, and mitigating environmental impacts within the harbour and surrounding waters, ensuring protection of marine and coastal ecosystems.

Exercises and Drills: To ensure preparedness, the Trust conducts regular pollution response exercises and drills involving harbour staff, emergency responders, and relevant stakeholders. In 2025, these exercises simulated various pollution scenarios, including oil spills and hazardous substance releases, testing the effectiveness of our response plans and inter-agency coordination. Outcomes from these exercises have informed continuous improvement of our operational readiness.

Training: Ongoing training programs are delivered to all relevant personnel to maintain high levels of competence in environmental protection and pollution response. Training sessions in 2025 covered spill containment techniques, use of pollution control equipment, and environmental legislation compliance.

Eyemouth Harbour Trust work alongside and fully supports several national campaigns and local initiatives concerned with the marine environment and plastic pollution.

9. Review of Marine Safety Plan

Eyemouth Harbour Trust publishes a Marine Safety Plan (MSP) in accordance with the Code requirements. The MSP and associated policy statements have been reviewed and approved for the current period of 2022-2025, establishing ongoing standards, Permanent performance target and temporary/ Development target.

To maintain an effective Safety Management System and ensure compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC), the following measures are implemented by Eyemouth Harbour Trust:

- Regular review and updating of the Marine Safety Plan and policies.
- Engagement with stakeholders through consultation and feedback mechanisms
- Continuous monitoring of safety performance against established targets

2023-2025 temporary/ Development targets:

	Activity	Target	Status
1	Completion of new NNG O&M base construction and vessel berths.	Delivery Q3 2022 – Continual liaison with NNG and their contractors to ensure safe construction and project delivery. Regular liaison and communications with harbour users and other stakeholders throughout the construction works.	Complete
2	Create new senior marine team	Recruit permanent Deputy Harbour Master and review marine staff resourcing to align with additional harbour operational requirements.	Complete
3	Review / update / re-issue the Marine Safety Management System & Procedures, OPRC Plan, PWMP and PFSP.	On-going throughout 2022 with completion by end September 2022.	Complete
4	Internal / External PMSC Audit 2022	The designated person shall complete internal audit during Q4 2022 and assist in identifying a suitable auditor to assess the revised MSMS	Complete

2026-2029 Temporary/Development targets

	Activity	Target	To Be completed by
1.	"The Duty Holder is progressing with a project to install an additional pontoon in Gungreen Basin to support both current and future stakeholders.	Install a heavy-duty pontoon in Gungreen basin with operation by end of March.	April 2026
2.	Port Marine & Facilities Safety Code Meetings	Conduct at least quarterly meetings with operational staff and duty holders to discuss the Port Marine & Facilities Safety Code	Quarterly
3.	Review / update / re-issue the Term of conditions for berth holders, along with berth guidance.	Revise the terms and conditions for Berth Holders to incorporate provisions on care and maintenance, and to address crew training and compliance requirements	March 2026
4.	Internal / External PMSC Audit 2026	The designated person shall complete internal audit during Q4 2026	December 2026 December 2027
5.	Review/ Update/ Re Issue Company SMS Procedures	Gap analysis of all Safety Management System (SMS) procedures, specifically focusing on: delegation of authority for special Direction within the port.	Ongoing development within the SMS. Review each quarter within the PMSC meetings.
6.	Collaborate with key facilities working within the Harbour Jurisdiction, such as NNG and Eyemouth Marine, to ensure effective implementation of the updated code.	actively collaborating with our Designated Person (DP) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule meetings with key stakeholders to understand their requirements related to the Port Marine & Facilities Safety Code. • Organize and execute safety exercises. • Develop a bridging document to ensure alignment and address any gaps. 	June 2026 for agreement on Bridging document with ongoing communications.

10. Stake Holder Engagement

Eymouth Harbour Trust actively engages with its stakeholders to ensure effective communication and collaboration. Our engagement activities include:

- Regular attendance at Harbour User Group meetings, providing a platform for open dialogue and feedback.
- Preparation and hosting of stakeholder meetings to facilitate direct engagement and discussion on harbour matters.
- Quarterly Safety Group Committee meetings with stakeholders to discuss safety issues, share updates, and address concerns collaboratively.
- Annual General Meetings (AGMs) to review the Trust's performance, present key information, and engage with the wider stakeholder community.
- Distribution of communications through multiple channels, including email updates, Local Notices to Mariners (LNTM), and social media posts, to keep all stakeholders informed and involved.

These ongoing efforts demonstrate our commitment to maintaining transparent, responsive, and inclusive stakeholder relationships in support of safe and efficient harbour operations.

Summary of 2025 PMSC Performance

Eyemouth Harbour Trust, as the Statutory Harbour Authority, rigorously manages and regulates marine operations to ensure the safety of the harbour, its users, and the surrounding environment. The Trust fully complies with the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC), as verified by independent audits and ongoing reviews, with the latest compliance confirmed in 2021 and a scheduled MCA compliance exercise by March 2026.

The Trust's governance is overseen by a board of 10 skilled volunteer trustees who are individually accountable for marine safety under clearly defined terms of reference. They undergo mandatory induction and continuous training on marine safety legislation, ensuring robust governance aligned with statutory frameworks such as the Harbours Act 1964, Merchant Shipping Act 1995, and environmental regulations including the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

Operationally, Eyemouth Harbour supports a diverse range of marine activities including a local fishing fleet, visiting fishing vessels, leisure crafts, commercial leisure operations, and crucially, offshore wind industry support through Crew Transfer Vessels. The harbour's capacity and infrastructure accommodate these activities safely and efficiently.

In 2025, the Trust recorded seven incidents related to marine safety, primarily collisions and contacts, none of which breached PMSC compliance. A comprehensive internal audit confirmed the Trust's strong adherence to the Code, highlighting effective governance, competent marine operations led by the Harbour Master, and exemplary stakeholder engagement. Recommendations for continuous improvement have been integrated into the Marine Safety Management System.

Conservancy efforts include collaboration with the Northern Lighthouse Board for navigation aids, with a high availability rate despite minor equipment failures. Maintenance dredging was successfully conducted to ensure navigational safety and harbour operability.

Overall, Eyemouth Harbour Trust demonstrates a strong commitment to safe, sustainable, and environmentally responsible harbour management, reinforcing its role as a key steward of the marine environment and supporter of initiatives addressing marine pollution and ecosystem protection.

Sign: *Brendan Bates*

Harbour Master.

December 2025