

1. The Port of Sunderland Marine Department maintains, controls and develops safe working procedures to enable safe movement of vessels within the port limits by:

- Systematically eliminating navigational and similar hazards
- Maintaining and developing navigational aids to safety
- Ensuring staff are suitably trained and competent.
- Systematically audit compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC).
- Risk assessing marine operations using MarNIS methodology.
- Reviewing risk assessments at least annually.
- Regulating activities of harbour users to maintain a safe port for all.
- Establishing a Local Port Services (LPS) port information service for port users.
- Disseminating information to port users by Notices to Mariners and other means.
- Maintaining a Port Operations Database to monitor, record, report and analysing shipping movements, incidents and operational events.
- Investigating the circumstances of incidents where there has been a failure to comply with safety management procedures.
- Taking appropriate action to deal with areas of non-compliance.
- Establishing a policy on enforcement and prosecution procedures.
- Ensuring Port Authority vessels meet statutory requirements and appropriate codes.

2. The Port of Sunderland is an independent statutory body established as a Statutory Harbour Authority (SHA) under the Sunderland Corporation Act, 1972 and is a competent harbour authority (CHA) under the provisions of the Pilotage Act, 1987.

3. As SHA, the Port of Sunderland has a duty to conserve the harbour and will maintain it by:

- Ensuring regular hydrographic surveys are undertaken.
- Finding and marking the best navigable channel in the harbour.
- Providing users with up-to-date information on depths, channels and prevailing conditions.
- Providing the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO) with information under a form of agreement.
- Acting as the Local Lighthouse Authority (LLA) on behalf of Trinity House as General Lighthouse Authority (GLA).
- Ensuring navigational aids are suitable for their purpose, correctly placed, regularly inspected and maintained in good working order; continually assessing the requirement for additional aids.
- Reporting defects of navigational aids to harbour users.
- Keeping the harbour and its approach within port limits clear of obstructions.

- Ensuring any wreck, obstruction or other hazard to shipping within port limits is marked and/or removed.
- Ensuring that all dredging is conducted in accordance with licences issued by Marine Management Organisation (MMO).
- Assessing and licensing works within or near the harbour that may interfere with the safety of navigation.

4. The Port of Sunderland will ensure that the following Plans are produced, practiced, regularly reviewed and updated to comply with relevant legislation:

- Risk Plan
- Business Continuity Plan
- Port Emergency Plan
- Oil Spill Contingency Plan
- Waste Management Plan
- Port Facility Security Plan
- Safety Management System for Marine Operations (as required by the Port Marine Safety Code 2009)

5. As a Category 2 Responder under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, the Port Authority will cooperate with and share relevant information with Category 1 Responders (emergency services and local authorities) and other category 2 responders.

6. The Port Authority will collect the information required from vessel's under the Merchant Shipping (Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Reporting Requirements) Regs.2004 and make appropriate notifications to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, including the use of The Consolidated European Reporting System (CERS).

**Captain AK Ullah**

Harbour Master

Port of Sunderland

14th October, 2011.