

Tierney, Matthew

From: navigation safety <navigationsafety@mcga.gov.uk>
Sent: 04 August 2023 16:17
To: Tierney, Matthew
Subject: RE: Pre Engagement for Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Marine Licence Application - Investigations for Aberystwyth Coastal Defences

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Matthew,

Thank you for the information regarding the proposed Investigations for Aberystwyth Coastal Defences

We note that the works fall within the jurisdiction of a Statutory Harbour Authority (SHA) - Aberystwyth Harbour and therefore they are responsible for the safety of navigation within their waters.

Therefore, on the understanding that the following takes place, the MCA would have no significant concerns to raise with regards to the safety of navigation and would be satisfied that the risk is relatively low on this occasion:

1. All maritime safety legislation is complied with;
2. The site is within port limits and the applicant should gain the approval/agreement of the responsible local navigation authority or the Harbour Authority/Commissioners/Council. They may wish to issue local warnings to alert those navigating in the vicinity to the presence of the works, as deemed necessary.

Please can you confirm that you accept the above risk mitigations?

Kind Regards

Sam Chudley

Maritime Licence Advisor +44 (0) 7553 637057
Marine Licensing and Consenting
UK Technical Services Navigation Sam.Chudley@mcga.gov.uk



Maritime &
Coastguard
Agency

Maritime & Coastguard Agency

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From: Tierney, Matthew <Matthew.Tierney@atkinsglobal.com>

Sent: Friday, August 4, 2023 12:29 PM

To: navigation safety <navigationsafety@mcga.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: Pre Engagement for Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Marine Licence Application - Investigations for Aberystwyth Coastal Defences

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Dear Maritime and Coastguard Agency

Further to the email on 21/07/23 below in relation pre engagement for the Aberystwyth Marine Licence.

I would be grateful if confirm that you agree with the conclusion, or otherwise please by the end of the day.

Regards

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Company



From: Tierney, Matthew

Sent: 21 July 2023 16:50

To: navigationsafety@mcga.gov.uk

Subject: Pre Engagement for Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Marine Licence Application - Investigations for Aberystwyth Coastal Defences

Dear Maritime and Coastguard Agency

We are consulting with you on behalf of Ceredigion County Council regarding the feasibility and investigations of coastal defences at Aberystwyth. Please see further information below.

Ceredigion County Council are intending to apply to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) for a Marine Licence, for carrying out potential licensable activities under section 66 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. As part of the application, we are obliged to consult with you in advance of making an application, as per the extract from NRW website below.

Pre-engagement with other organisations

Local Archaeological Trust and/or Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) - For a Band 1 application for boreholes, grab samples or beach management (removal activities), approval from the Local Archaeological Trust (onshore) and/or Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) (off shore) will be required.

If advice suggests archaeological features may be adversely affected, you can either resolve the issue with the above organisations prior to submission of a Band 1 application or submit a Band 2 application.

Maritime and Coastguard Agency at navigationsafety@mcga.gov.uk and **Trinity House** at navigation@trinityhouse.co.uk – Contact the MCA and Trinity House to confirm if your activity is likely to have an impact on the safety of others at sea. You **MUST** have confirmation from BOTH bodies that your proposed works will not pose a risk to others prior to application.

Please include the following information in your correspondence with the MCA:

- Location of the works, preferably on a nautical chart graphic, or a satellite/map image if available.
- Whether the works are within a Statutory Harbour Authority jurisdiction; applicants should check with the local harbour/marina if there is one. If yes, have they been contacted?
- The duration of the works, and if these will be conducted at night when visibility is low.
- A brief description of the activities, any scaffolding or heavy equipment used, whether works will take place from land or the water, and if any vessels are used.
- Any envisaged impacts on the safety of navigation, such as closing off a waterway or reducing overhead clearance under a bridge, and what risk mitigation measures the applicant proposes to put in place.

We (Atkins Ltd) are working with Ceredigion County Council to investigate the feasibility of coastal defences at Aberystwyth with the aim of reducing coastal flooding. To progress the study we need to undertake ground investigations on the promenade and on the beach. The trial pitting and boreholes on the promenade will be above high water (and are therefore not subject to a marine licence). However, hand dug sampling on the beach and inspections of sea wall foundations will take place in the dry during low tide. The investigations will also involve non-intrusive bathymetric and geophysical surveys by boat, using sensor equipment.

The details and locations are shown on the attached drawings. The 'Phase 1' investigations on the beach will involve machine excavated trial pits to determine sea wall foundation depths - no material sampling will be undertaken at these locations, and these will be reinstated using the original material. In addition, separate material samples on the beach will be undertaken in 'Phase 2' to obtain samples of the existing sand / shingle sediment in order to determine the particle size distribution of this beach material. These samples will be undertaken by hand. The retrieval of samples is a licensable activity.

As part of our consultation with you NRW has asked that we provide you with information on the bullet points below:

Maritime and Coastguard Agency at navigationsafety@mcga.gov.uk and **Trinity House** at navigation@trinityhouse.co.uk – Contact the MCA and Trinity House to confirm if your activity is likely to

have an impact on the safety of others at sea. You MUST have confirmation from BOTH bodies that your proposed works will not pose a risk to others prior to application.

Please include the following information in your correspondence with the MCA:

- **Location of the works, preferably on a nautical chart graphic, or a satellite/map image if available.**

The locations of the 'Phase 1' and 'Phase 2' investigations are shown on the attached drawings. A detailed description of the investigations is provided below.

- **Whether the works are within a Statutory Harbour Authority jurisdiction; applicants should check with the local harbour/marina if there is one. If yes, have they been contacted?**

We have discussed these investigations with Ceredigion County Council's harbourmaster and he has confirmed that the investigations are within the seaward Harbour Limits as described in the Aberystwyth Harbour Act and plan attached.

The harbourmaster has confirmed that he cannot foresee any impact on navigation with these investigations.

- **The duration of the works, and if these will be conducted at night when visibility is low.**

The investigations are planned to take place between September 2023 and December 2023, during daylight hours. Investigations on the beach will be at low tide i.e. undertaken in the dry.

Total duration on site could be between 2 to 4 weeks for the land and beach based investigations and depending on tidal state at the time of the investigations.

The investigations will also involve non-intrusive bathymetric and geophysical surveys by boat at high tide, using sensor equipment.

- **A brief description of the activities, any scaffolding or heavy equipment used, whether works will take place from land or the water, and if any vessels are used.**

The trial pitting and boreholes on the promenade will be above high water (and are therefore not subject to a marine licence). However, hand dug sampling on the beach and inspections of sea wall foundations will take place in the dry during low tide. The investigations will also involve non-intrusive bathymetric and geophysical surveys by boat, using sensor equipment.

The details and locations are shown on the attached drawings. The 'Phase 1' investigations on the beach will involve machine excavated trial pits to determine sea wall foundation depths - no material sampling will be undertaken at these locations, and these will be reinstated using the original material. In addition, separate material samples on the beach will be undertaken in 'Phase 2' to obtain samples of the existing sand / shingle sediment in order to determine the particle size distribution of this beach material. These samples will be undertaken by hand. The retrieval of samples is a licensable activity.

No scaffolding will be used for these investigations.

The investigations that we are undertaking are, in our opinion, will have no effect on navigation or marking.

- **Any envisaged impacts on the safety of navigation, such as closing off a waterway or reducing overhead clearance under a bridge, and what risk mitigation measures the applicant proposes to put in place.**

In terms of the beach investigations, these will be planned at low tide and will be above low water, in the dry. Therefore, we believe this will not pose a risk to navigation.

We have discussed these investigations with Ceredigion County Council's harbourmaster and he has confirmed that he cannot foresee any impact on navigation.

The mitigation measures to be put in place will be a Notice to Mariners to advise when the investigations will take place and the likely duration.

Conclusion

We have concluded that these investigations will not affect navigation or marking in this area. Please can you confirm that you agree with this conclusion, or otherwise, so that we can submit your response with the marine licence application to NRW for these investigations?

I would be grateful if you could confirm receipt of this email and reply by no later than 04/08/23. If you are not able to meet this response time, please inform us as soon as practicable.

Regards

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