

## **Area 531 Marine Licence**

**MMML1948v2TC**

**&**

**MMML1948v3HN**

## **Compliance Report**

**13<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**to**

**12<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

## Introduction:

This document has been produced by Heidelberg Materials UK Aggregates Marine Ltd (HM) and Tarmac Marine Ltd (TM), collectively known as the Operators, to satisfy Condition 3.6.1 of the Marine Licences MMML1948v3HN and MMML1948v2TC respectively for Area 531.

Condition 3.6.1 states:

*“The Licence Holder must produce a report on compliance with the conditions to which this Marine Licence is subject, including a summary of the monitoring undertaken. The Licence Holder must submit copies of the report to the Licensing Authority, within **3 months** of the end of each 12-month period following the date of commencement of dredging.”*

This document demonstrates the compliance with the Marine Licence. Each respective condition is listed in italics and the statement of the Operators' compliance follows each condition in blue. This report covers the fourth year of dredging under this Marine Licence covering the period 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

### **3 CONDITIONS**

#### **3.1 Notification and Inspection**

##### **3.1.1 Notification of Commencement**

*The Licence Holder must notify the Licensing Authority, The Crown Estate and authorised Welsh Government Marine Enforcement Officers no less than 10 days before the commencement of the Licensed Activities, or an individual phase of the Licensed Activities, is expected to commence.*

Edward Skinner of TM issued an email to the required contacts on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 providing details of the intention to commence dredging in both the Area 531 RDZ and later the wider Area 531 following NRW and MMO approval of the pre-dredge report (approval received on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022).

##### **3.1.2 Notification of commencement of dredging operations**

*The Licence Holder must notify Welsh Government Marine Enforcement Officers, The Crown Estate and the Licensing Authority no less than 10 days before the commencement of the Licensed dredging operations (Activity 1 Table 1) is expected to commence.*

Edward Skinner of TM issued an email to the required contacts on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 providing details of the intention to commence dredging in both the Area 531 RDZ and later the wider Area 531 following NRW and MMO approval of the pre-dredge report ((approval received on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022).

##### **3.1.3 Commencement to be within 5 years of issue of Licence**

*Notification of commencement of first dredging operation under condition 3.1.2 must be received within 5 years of the date of this Licence. If no notification is received within 5 years, this licence shall be void.*

NRW were notified on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022 via the Year 1 Compliance Report that dredging commenced in Area 531 on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021.

##### **3.1.4 Notification of agents/contractors/sub-contractors**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that details of any agent(s), contractor(s) or sub-contractor(s) utilised to undertake the Licensed Activities are submitted to the Licensing Authority prior to the commencement of Licensed Activities.*

Acknowledged and adhered to. All companies dredging in Area 531 are listed on the generic industry Vessel and Masters list as compiled, updated and made available by The Crown Estate (TCE).

### **3.1.5 Notification of Vessels and/or Vehicles**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that the details of the vessels and/or vehicles utilised to undertake the Licensed Activities are submitted to the Licensing Authority and Marine Enforcement Officers prior to the commencement of the Licensed Activities.*

Acknowledged and adhered to. All companies dredging in Area 531 are listed on the generic industry Vessel and Masters list as compiled, updated and made available by TCE.

### **3.1.6 Inspection of Works**

*The Licence Holder must allow officers of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Marine Enforcement Officers or any other person authorised by the Licensing Authority to inspect the Works at any reasonable time.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.1.7 Notification of HM Coastguard**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that HM Coastguard is made aware of the Licensed Activities prior to commencement by contacting The National Maritime Operations Centre at nmoccontroller@hmcg.gov.uk.*

Edward Skinner of TM issued an email to the required contacts on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 providing details of the intention to commence dredging in both the Area 531 RDZ and later the wider Area 531 following NRW and MMO approval of the pre-dredge report (approval received on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022).

### **3.1.8 Notification of UK Hydrographic Office**

*The Licence Holder must notify the UK Hydrographic Office of the timetable of dredging operations, within 5 working days of the commencement of dredging, to permit the promulgation of maritime safety information and updating of nautical charts and publications where necessary.*

Edward Skinner of TM issued an email to the required contacts on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 providing details of the intention to commence dredging in both the Area 531 RDZ and later the wider Area 531 following NRW and MMO approval of the pre-dredge report (approval received on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022).

### **3.1.9 Notification of local mariners**

*The Licence Holder must notify local mariners and fishermen organisations a minimum of 5 working days in advance of commencement of the first instance of dredging. This notification must include the local port/harbour authority/ies and Vessel Traffic Service(s) and any other relevant body as considered appropriate by the Licence Holder.*

Edward Skinner of TM issued an email to the required contacts on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 providing details of the intention to commence dredging in both the Area 531 RDZ and later the wider Area 531 following NRW and MMO approval of the pre-dredge report (approval received on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022). A Kingfisher notice was also issued on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021 advertising the commencement of dredging in Area 531.

### **3.1.10 Force Majeure**

*If, by reason of force majeure any substances or articles are deposited otherwise than as permitted as part of the Licensed Activities or in the Licensed Area full details of the circumstances shall be notified to the Licensing Authority within 48 hours of the incident occurring.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.1.11 Distribution of copies of this licence**

*The Licence Holder is required to ensure that a copy of this Licence, any special conditions and any subsequent revisions or amendments thereto is given to:*

- *All agents, contractors and subcontractors whose names have been provided to the Licensing Authority pursuant to condition 3.1.4; and*
- *The Masters of any vessels employed in the pursuance of this Licence whose details have been submitted to the Licensing Authority pursuant to condition 3.1.5*

Acknowledged and adhered to. All companies dredging in Area 531 are listed on the generic industry Vessel and Masters list as compiled, updated and made available by The Crown Estate (TCE).

### **3.1.12 Inspection of documents**

*Copies of this Licence shall be made available at the following locations:*

- *at the address of the Licence Holder specified in paragraph 1.2;*
- *on board each vessel from which any removal of materials authorised by this Licence are to be made.*

*The documents referred to in this condition shall be available at all reasonable times for inspection by officers appropriately authorised by the Licensing Authority and authorised Marine Enforcement Officers at the locations stated in 1.2 and 3.1.11*

Acknowledged and adhered to.

### **3.1.13 Completion of dredging operations**

*All dredging operations permitted under this licence must cease no later than 12 May 2036.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.1.14 Cessation of dredging**

*The Licence Holder must cease all dredging activity when instructed by the Licensing Authority.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.1.15 Notification of cessation of dredging**

*The Licence Holder must notify Marine Enforcement Officers, the Licensing Authority, and The Crown Estate in writing of the date on which dredging operations cease within 7 days of the operations ceasing.*

Acknowledged.

## **3.2 Additional Permitted Activity**

### **3.2.1 Permitted Sampling**

*(a) Should sampling be necessary to comply with any of the conditions of this licence (including sampling that is required outside the licensed area), the Licence Holder is permitted to undertake such sampling if the survey specification has been approved by the Licensing Authority and The Crown Estate has been notified.*

*(b) The Licence Holder is permitted to undertake the following sampling within the area bounded by the co-ordinates in Table 3 in accordance with the agreed specification under condition 3.3.2, 3.5.1 & 3.7.1):*

- *benthic grab samples using Hamon grab or similar apparatus;*
- *sediment samples using clamshell grab or similar apparatus; and*
- *vibrocores using a vibrocorer.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.2.2 Dropped objects**

*(a) The licence holder must ensure that the position of any dropped object relating to the licensed activity left on the seabed is reported to the UK Hydrographic Office within 30 days and disseminated via the Kingfisher bulletin service at the earliest opportunity.*

*(b) Should it be necessary for the Licence Holder to recover or remove from the Licensed Area any equipment, plant or machinery accidentally dropped when undertaking the Licensed Activities, the Licence Holder is permitted to do so provided that the methodology for such recovery or removal has been approved by the Licensing Authority.*

Acknowledged.

## **3.3 Pre-operation requirements**

### **3.3.1 Prior approval in relation to Restricted Dredge Zones**

*The Licence Holder is not permitted to undertake any dredging operations outside the area bounded by the co-ordinates detailed in Table 4 until a pre-dredge monitoring report is*

*submitted to, and approved in writing by the Licensing Authority in line with conditions 3.3.2 to 3.3.5*

Acknowledged. The Operators submitted the pre-dredge report to NRW in April 2022 which was later approved by NRW in October 2022.

### **3.3.2 Pre-dredge monitoring surveys specifications**

*(a) The Licence Holder must ensure that a specification for the pre-dredge monitoring surveys is submitted to, and approved in writing, by the Licensing Authority, at least 8 weeks before surveys are due to commence, unless otherwise agreed by the Licensing Authority. The survey specification must meet the requirements of condition 3.3.4 and include the following:*

*(i) The methodology to determine the presence and extent of biogenic reef (including Sabellaria reef);*

*(ii) The survey specification must also detail the sandeel habitat suitability assessment methodology from the Regional Seabed Monitoring Plan (condition 3.3.4) samples; and*

*(b) Copies of the approved specification, and of any approved changes to it should be provided to the Licensing Authority within 10 working days of approval having been received.*

Acknowledged. The pre-dredge monitoring survey specification was submitted via email from Edward Skinner of TM to NRW on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and the specifications were later approved by NRW on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

### **3.3.3 Pre-dredge monitoring report**

*The Licence Holder must submit a full report on the pre-dredge survey to the Licensing Authority for written approval within 9 months of the completing of the survey, unless otherwise agreed by the Licensing Authority.*

The Operators submitted the pre-dredge report to NRW in April 2022 which was later approved by NRW on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

### **3.3.4 Contents of pre-dredge survey report**

*(a) The pre-dredge survey report must include provision for the following surveys to cover the marine licence areas listed in Table 2.1, Table 2.2 and Table 3 and reference sites/surrounding areas as specified below and in line with the pre-dredge surveys specifications (condition 3.3.2). The specifications for such surveys must include the following detail:*

*(i) Bathymetry*

*(ii) Seabed Features*

*(iii) Sandeel habitat suitability assessment*

- (iv) Resource Assessment*
- (v) Seabed Sediment Sampling*
- (vi) Benthic Ecology*
- (vii) Sensitive Habitats and/or Species*
- (viii) Archaeology*
- (b) The Licence Holder must ensure that the baseline survey is carried out in line with the latest version of the Regional Seabed Monitoring Plan (RSMP) Protocol for Sample Collection and Processing.*
- (c) Survey results must be submitted to the Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas) and NRW, acting on behalf of the Licensing Authority.*
- (d) Pre-dredge survey be carried out in year 1 of the Licence term and no later than 12 May 2022.*

[Acknowledged and adhered to. The pre-dredge survey was completed on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021.](#)

### **3.3.5 Exclusion Zone report**

*The Licence Holder must submit an Exclusion Zone (EZ) report to the Licensing Authority for written approval at least 8 weeks prior to commencement of any dredging activity outside of the Restricted Dredge Zone (Table 4). No dredging outside of the Restricted Dredge Zone may be undertaken prior to written agreement from the Licensing Authority. The report must include details of the following:*

- (i) Charts or information detailing the location of known cable and pipelines present in or near the licence area*
- (ii) Isopachyte charts detailing the location of areas where resource thickness is 0.5m or less over 250m by 250m grid centred on 125m nodes*
- (iii) Charts detailing the location of known sensitive nature conservation features*
- (iv) Charts or information detailing known features of archaeological interest*
- (v) Details of Exclusion Zones relating to any of the features listed in (i) to (iv).*

[The Operators provided the required information within the pre-dredge report to NRW in April 2022.](#)

### **3.3.6 Biosecurity Plan**

*The Licence Holder must conduct all activities in line with the BMAPA 2018 Regional Biosecurity Plan Bristol Channel (and Celtic Sea) Region and condition 3.4.7 and 3.4.8.*

[Acknowledged. This has been adhered to.](#)

### **3.3.7 Archaeological mitigation Plan**

*The Licence Holder must review the geophysical data in the pre-dredge monitoring report (condition 3.3.3) and submit an updated archaeological baseline to the Licensing Authority for written approval at least 8 weeks prior to the commencement of dredging outside of the Restricted Dredge Zone (Table 4).*

Acknowledged. This has been adhered to.

### **3.3.8 Prohibition on dredging until pre-approval conditions discharged**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that no dredging activity outside the Restricted Dredge Zone (table 4) takes place until conditions 3.3.3, 3.3.5 and 3.3.7 have been discharged in writing by the Licensing Authority.*

Acknowledged. NRW discharged the above conditions on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022 following the submission of the pre-dredge report in April 2022.

### **3.3.9 Implementation and variation of approved Plans**

*Any proposed changes to the actions outlined in the documents detailed in conditions 3.3.5 to 3.3.7 must be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Licensing Authority prior to any changes being enacted.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.3.10 Prohibition on dredging until navigational marking information obtained**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that no dredging shall take place outside the Restricted Dredge Zone (Table 4) until the Licence Holder has obtained information from Trinity House or the relevant Lighthouse Authority on navigational marks in the area. Damage must not be caused to such marks nor shall they be removed. The Licence Holder will be liable for any expense arising from damage to or movement of such marks.*

Edward Skinner of TM issued an email to Trinity House requesting confirmation of any navigational marks that could be affected by the licensed activity on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Confirmation was received back from Trinity House on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021 confirming the presence of the South Middle Grounds Lighted Buoy, for which the Operators already had an exclusion zone placed around it under the previous marine licence for Area 470 (Area 470 falls within the wider Area 531). Details of the exclusion zone are provided in the Pre-Dredge Report submitted to the MMO in April 2022 which was later approved on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

### **3.4 Operational requirements**

#### **3.4.1 Notified contractors and vehicles only to carry out Licensed Activities**

*Only those agents, contractors, subcontractors and vessels whose details have been notified to the Licensing Authority (as stated in condition 3.1.4) may operate under the terms of this Licence. Any changes must be notified to and be approved by the Licensing Authority in writing prior to such an agent, contractor, subcontractors or vessels carrying out any Licensed Activities pursuant to or otherwise operating under this Licence.*

Acknowledged.

#### **3.4.2 Government assistance**

*If, in the opinion of the Licensing Authority, the assistance of a Government Department, including the broadcast of navigational warnings, is required in connection with the Licensed Activities or to deal with any emergency arising the Licensed Activities, the Licence Holder will be liable for any expense incurred in securing such assistance.*

Acknowledged.

#### **3.4.3 Pollution prevention**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that pollution prevention best practice is adhered to at all times. Any incidents must be reported to the Licensing Authority as soon as possible using the hotline number 0300 065 3000.*

Acknowledged and adhered to at all times.

### **Benthic Grab Sampling**

#### **3.4.4 Grab Samples - additional notification upon completion**

*The Licence Holder must inform the Licensing Authority, of the location of all completed grab samples within 10 days of completion of the work.*

Acknowledged.

#### **3.4.5 Grab Samples – sensitive species**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that in the event of removal of biogenic reef habitat designated by Natural Resources Wales under Schedule 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, no further removals occur at that location, or within 20m of that location.*

Acknowledged.

## **Dredging Operations**

### **3.4.6 Dredging methods**

*All dredging in the Licenced Area must be carried out by trailer suction dredging or anchor dredging only. On-board screening is permitted under this licence.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.4.7 Hopper washing**

*The Licence Holder is permitted to undertake hopper washing, where necessary, to remove small amounts of residual material (less than 50m<sup>3</sup>) that remain in the hopper prior to vessel maintenance or extraction of a different grade of cargo, where the hopper washing activity meets the requirements of the biosecurity plan referenced in condition 3.3.6. This material may be deposited within the Licensed Area, subject to condition 3.4.8.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.4.8 Restriction on locations of hopper washing**

*Hopper washing must not take place within any EZs implemented to protect archaeological or nature conservation features identified in condition 3.3.5, 3.4.13 and*

*3.4.22. The release of any material and/or residues is only permitted within an aggregate extraction area for which the Licence Holder holds a valid marine licence.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.4.9 EMS requirements**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that all dredgers operating in the licence area be fitted with a functional and operational Electronic Monitoring System (EMS) approved by the Crown Estate and the Licensing Authority.*

All vessels are fitted with a TCE approved operational EMS.

### **3.4.10 Retention of aggregate substrate**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that no dredging occur in areas of resource 0.5m or less measured over a 250m by 250m grid centred on 125m nodes.*

Acknowledged.

## **Archaeology**

### **3.4.11 Archaeology Guidance**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that in complying with conditions 3.4.12 and 3.4.13 the Licence Holder must observe the Guidance Note, Marine Aggregate Dredging and the Historic Environment, issued by British Marine Aggregate Producers Association (BMAPA)*

and English Heritage in April 2003, the related Protocol for reporting Finds of Archaeological Interest, issued in August 2005, and any subsequent updates of those documents.

Acknowledged. It is standard practice for the Operators to abide by the guidance note. For the period 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 a total of 0 archaeological finds were made by the Operators.

#### **3.4.12 Recording of archaeological finds**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that any items of archaeological and/or military interest identified and retrieved from dredged material as it is processed ashore must be recorded and reported according to the procedures set out in the Protocol for Reporting Finds of Archaeological Interest (BMAPA and English Heritage 2005). Cadw and the relevant Welsh Archaeological Trust must be notified of these finds.*

It is standard practice for the Operators to abide by the protocol. For the period 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 a total of 0 archaeological finds were made by the Operators.

#### **3.4.13 Reporting of wrecks**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that should any previously unreported wrecks (vessel or aircraft) or other sites of archaeological interest are identified within the marine licence area, during either dredging operations or monitoring, Exclusion Zones must be implemented around them in accordance with the procedures set out in the Protocol for Reporting Finds of Archaeological Interest (BMAPA and English Heritage 2005). Unless informed in writing by the Licensing Authority, the Licence Holder must not dredge within these zones for the remainder of the licence period. The co-ordinates and date of implementation of Exclusions Zones must be provided in writing to the Licensing Authority and The Crown Estate within 5 working days of EZ being implemented.*

Acknowledged. No previously unreported wrecks or other sites of archaeological interest have been identified.

### **Navigation**

#### **3.4.14 Navigation Charts**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that all dredging vessels carry up to date editions of the relevant Admiralty Charts (or approved electronic equivalent).*

Acknowledged and adhered to.

#### **3.4.15 Notifications to mariners**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that the fishing industry and other mariners, as necessary, are notified of their intention to commence dredge no later than 5 days before the commencement of dredging within the area.*

Acknowledged. Edward Skinner of TM issued an email to the required contacts on 19<sup>th</sup>

May 2021 providing details of the intention to commence dredging in both the Area 531 RDZ and later the wider Area 531 following NRW and MMO approval of the pre-dredge report (approval received on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022). A Kingfisher notice was also issued on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021 advertising the commencement of dredging in Area 531.

#### **3.4.16 Navigational Safety during Dredging Operations**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that the common measures procedures set out in the Guide to Good Practice for Ensuring Navigational Safety during Dredging Operations (BMAPA, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and Trinity House 2012) are abided by.*

This has been adhered to at all times.

#### **3.4.17 Debris left on the seabed**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that the position of any item of debris relating to the licensed activity left on the seabed is reported to the UK Hydrographic Office within 30 days. The Licence Holder must ensure that the position and nature of the debris is disseminated via the Kingfisher bulletin service at the earliest opportunity. The Licence Holder may remove such debris as described in condition 3.2.2.*

Acknowledged. No debris relating to the licensed activity has been left on the seabed.

#### **Exclusion zones**

#### **3.4.18 No dredging within exclusion zones**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that no dredging activity takes place in the Exclusion Zones (EZs) identified in condition 3.3.5, 3.4.13 and 3.4.22, without prior written consent from the Licensing Authority.*

Acknowledged.

#### **3.4.19 Veneer thickness**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that any additional areas of veneer thickness of less than 0.5m or less over 250m by 250m grid centred on 125m nodes, as defined in condition 3.3.5 (ii), identified during either dredging operations or monitoring are excluded from future extraction upon identification.*

Acknowledged. No such additional areas have been identified.

#### **3.4.20 Sensitive nature conservation features**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that any additional areas of sensitive nature conservation features, as defined in condition 3.3.5 (iii), identified during either dredging operations or monitoring (paragraph 3.5) are excluded from future extraction upon identification.*

Acknowledged. No such additional areas have been identified.

### **3.4.21 Notification of Exclusion Zones**

*The co-ordinates and the date of implementation of EZ under condition 3.3.5, 3.4.13 and 3.4.22 must be provided in writing to the Licensing Authority and The Crown Estate within 5 working days of the EZ being implemented. Unless informed in writing by the Licensing Authority, the Licence Holder must not dredge within these zones for the remainder of the licence period.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.4.22 Modifications to Exclusion Zones**

*All modifications to established EZs, whether temporary or permanent, must be approved in writing by the Licensing Authority before being implemented and changes notified to The Crown Estate within 5 days of its approval.*

Acknowledged.

## **Reporting of Extraction Rate**

### **3.4.23 Reporting of annual extraction for Area 531**

*The Licence Holder must, on an annual basis, from the commencement of dredging and for the duration of the Licence:*

- (i) Provide annual returns to the Licensing Authority no later than 31 January, in writing of the amount of material landed from Area 531 in both tonnes and m<sup>3</sup> (wet weight / as dredged) for the preceding calendar year, including the total extracted amount over the lifetime of the licence; and*
- (ii) Provide the conversion factor applied.*

Acknowledged. Both TM and HM provide the tonnages dredged on an annual basis to NRW, demonstrating that the tonnages have not exceeded those stated in the marine licences.

### **3.4.24 Reporting of errors in returns**

*The Licence Holder must notify and submit a correction to the Licensing Authority if it becomes apparent that the submitted return specified in condition 3.4.23 contains an error, within 5 days of the error being identified.*

Acknowledged.

## **3.5 Operational Stage Monitoring Programme**

### **3.5.1 Site specific monitoring plan**

*The Licence Holder must submit a site-specific monitoring plan, in line with the latest version of the Regional Seabed Monitoring Plan (RSMP) Protocol for Sample Collection and*

*Processing , for written approval by the Licensing Authority within year 1 of the Licence term and no later than 12 May 2022, unless otherwise agreed by the Licensing Authority.*

Acknowledged. The monitoring plan was submitted to NRW and MMO within the Pre-Dredge Report in April 2022 which was subsequently approved on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

### **3.5.2 Monitoring schedule**

*The monitoring plan referenced in condition 3.5.1 must include a timetable for the individual monitoring surveys, which are to be undertaken during the first 5 years from the commencement of dredging.*

Acknowledged. This was detailed in the Pre-Dredge Report submitted to NRW in April 2022 and was subsequently approved on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

### **3.5.3 Subsequent monitoring plans**

*The Licence Holder must submit subsequent monitoring plans following the completion of the substantive reviews as required by condition 3.6.2, within 6 months of submission of the substantive review, unless previously agreed with the licensing authority.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.5.4 Implementation of monitoring plan**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that the monitoring programme is implemented in accordance with the approved specification (condition 3.5.1). The programme must be maintained throughout the period in which dredging is carried out.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.5.5 Changes to monitoring plan**

*Any changes to the approved monitoring scheme must be:*

- (i) When instigated by the Licence Holder, submitted to the Licensing Authority, for approval no later than 8 weeks before the revised monitoring programme is due to start.*
- (ii) Implemented as approved.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.5.6 Compatibility with pre-dredge survey**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that all monitoring surveys are of a comparable specification to the pre-dredge survey, in line with the latest version of the RSMP Protocol for Sample Collection and Processing and as agreed in the site-specific monitoring plan (condition 3.5.1) unless previously agreed with the Licensing Authority.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.5.7 Comparison to pre-dredge report**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that all survey reports shall provide a comparison with the final report of the pre-dredge survey results described in condition 3.3.4.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.5.8 Timescale for submission**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that all monitoring reports are submitted to the Licensing Authority for written approval within the calendar year following the calendar year of the monitoring surveys.*

Acknowledged. The latest operational monitoring report was based on the 2024 bathymetric survey and was submitted to both NRW and the MMO on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025 with approval from the MMO received on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

### **3.5.9 Inclusion of maps in monitoring reports**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that all monitoring reports include a map of the licenced areas indicating clearly the dredge intensity (EMS plots) along with a figure for the total area dredged during the preceding 12 months.*

Acknowledged.

## **3.6 Reviews of the Dredging Operations**

### **3.6.1 Annual Compliance Report**

*The Licence Holder must produce a report on compliance with the conditions to which this Marine Licence is subject, including a summary of the monitoring undertaken. The Licence Holder must submit copies of the report to the Licensing Authority, within 3 months of the end of each 12-month period following the date of commencement of dredging.*

Acknowledged. This report fulfills this condition.

### **3.6.2 Substantive review of operations**

*The Licence Holder must submit a substantive review of the dredging operations that have taken place under the Marine Licence to the Licensing Authority within the calendar year following the calendar year of the monitoring survey reporting (condition 3.5.8), unless previously agreed otherwise with the Licensing Authority. The report must summarise the results of the monitoring undertaken to date and detail:*

- (i) The impact of dredging operations on the marine environment;*
- (ii) The effectiveness of the conditions imposed on the dredging operations and recommending any variations to the dredging operations as may be necessary to protect the environment; and*
- (iii) Any recommendations of variations to the monitoring programme as may be necessary to ensure that effective environmental monitoring of the dredging is maintained.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.6.3 Recommendations arising from monitoring reports**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that any recommendations on amendments to licensed operations arising from monitoring survey reports that have been approved by the Licensing Authority are adhered to.*

Acknowledged.

## **3.7 Post-Dredge Monitoring Programme**

### **3.7.1 Post-dredge monitoring specification**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that a specification for post dredge monitoring is submitted to the Licensing Authority for written approval at least 8 weeks prior to the cessation of dredging.*

Acknowledged. Not applicable at this stage.

### **3.7.2 Implementation of post dredge monitoring**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that the post-dredge monitoring programme is implemented in accordance with the approved specification within 12 months from the cessation of the dredging.*

Acknowledged. Not applicable at this stage.

### **3.7.3 Changes to monitoring scheme**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that any changes to the approved monitoring scheme must be submitted to the Licensing Authority for approval no later than 8 weeks before the revised monitoring programme is due to start. Any changes must be implemented as approved.*

Acknowledged. Not applicable at this stage.

### **3.7.4 Post-dredge monitoring report**

*The Licence Holder must submit a post-dredge monitoring report to the Licensing Authority, within 18 months of cessation of dredging. The post-dredge monitoring report must include:*

- (i) A report describing the condition of the seabed within the Licence Area following the cessation of dredging. The report must ensure that an assessment is made of the need for further post-dredge monitoring of the Licence Area.*
- (ii) Appropriate evidence demonstrating that there have been no adverse impacts on the relevant environmental indicators, as identified in the pre-dredge survey report.*
- (iii) If this evidence cannot be provided then the report will detail recommendations of actions, which must be undertaken to ensure the remediation of any adverse impacts on the seabed sediment environment.*

Acknowledged. Not applicable at this stage.

### **3.7.5 Compatibility with pre-dredge survey**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that all monitoring surveys are of a comparable to the pre-dredge survey, in line with the latest version of the RSMP Protocol for Sample Collection and Processing and as agreed in the post-dredging monitoring specifications (condition 3.7.1) unless previously agreed with the Licensing Authority.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.7.6 Seabed sediment condition after cessation of dredging**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that upon cessation of dredging the sediment substrate must be of a similar grading to the conditions that existed before dredging commenced with due allowance being made for natural sediment movements.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.7.7 Scheme for remedial work**

*In the event that the Licensing Authority determines that remedial work is required, the Licence Holder must ensure a scheme for remedial works is prepared and submitted to the Licensing Authority for written approval within 3 months from the date of submission of the Post-dredge monitoring reporting (condition 3.7.4).*

Acknowledged.

### **3.7.8 Implementation of scheme for remedial work**

*Where required by the Licensing Authority, the Licence Holder must ensure that the scheme referenced in condition 3.7.7 is implemented as approved.*

Acknowledged.

### **3.7.9 Bathymetric survey reports**

*The Licence Holder must ensure that copies of the approved depth data and associated reports from the bathymetric surveys are provided to the UK Hydrographic Office in digital form within 30 days of approval.*

Acknowledged.