Permit Receipt Centre
Natural Resources Wales
Welsh Government Offices
Cathays Park
King Edward VII Avenue
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ
Tel: 0300 065 3000
Email: permitreceiptcentre@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

APPLICATION FOR A MARINE LICENCE TO DREDGE AND/OR DISPOSE OF DREDGE MATERIAL

Please read the notes carefully before completing the form.

- The Marine Licensing Team (MLT) administers applications under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 on behalf of the licensing authority, the Welsh Ministers.
- The completed application form must be accompanied by a location plan and, where appropriate, descriptive drawing(s) and any supporting environmental assessments.
- Please submit applications to the **Permit Receipt Centre** via the details at the top of this form. For applications larger than 20MB, we would advise that you contact us to determine the most appropriate method for submitting your application.
- Please submit marine licence applications including this form and all supporting documents **at least 4 months before the licence is required.**

  Some projects may raise matters that require a significantly longer time for consideration. These are most likely to be:

  - Projects that fall **within** The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 – as amended requiring an Environmental Statement
  - Large scale projects with substantial volumes of material being deposited or excavated
  - Works requiring an Appropriate Assessment to be conducted under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017
- Please note that an application will not be considered to be complete until sediment sampling and analysis has been undertaken. Please allow an additional **2 months** for sampling plan details and all relevant information to be submitted should sampling analysis be required.
- Information should be provided about the anticipated **duration of the entire project** in respect of works below/seaward of Mean High Water Spring (MHWS). Where appropriate, planned phasing of the work for which consent is sought must be detailed. For projects lasting more than one calendar year, planned phasing details must be given for each 12 month period.

A licence fee is payable in respect of an application. Details of fees can be found on our web pages.

Please note applications will not be processed without the correct relevant fee or invoicing details.

- Payments can be made via Cheque, BACS or credit/debit card.
- Cheques should be crossed and made payable to **Natural Resources Wales**.
- For BACS payments ensure you provide the reference number (not remittance number)

Further information on payment methods can be found on our web pages

- **All dredge and disposal activities need to comply with the Water Framework Directive (WFD). The framework and guidance can be found on the Natural Resources Wales website, http://naturalresources.wales. The results of your WFD assessment must be attached to your marine licence application.**

- Please answer all questions. If any information is not available at the time of application please indicate in the relevant section, giving reasoning in a covering letter. Outstanding details must be submitted as soon as possible. Any delay in forwarding details is likely to result in delays in determining your application.

  Your application may not be considered complete and therefore not processed until key information has been submitted. Your application may be returned if you fail to submit outstanding information within given timescales.

- Please note any licence may have conditions that must be discharged before works can commence. This will take additional time.

- If you have any queries with regards to completing this application please contact the MLT: marinelicensing@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

How your application will be processed by the MLT:

- Submit all application to the **Permit Receipt Centre** via the details at the top of this form.

- Checked and acknowledged by the MLT within 21 days of receipt of application and payment

- If the application is complete and no further information is needed at this time, your application will be placed in a work queue to be assigned a permitting officer

- If the application is not complete, further information will be request and need to be provided before the application can be considered as complete

- Our **4 months** service level for determining non-EIA applications will begin from the date the **completed** application, including sampling results, is received (*Please note some projects may take significantly longer than 4 months to determine due to their nature)*

- EIA projects may take significantly longer due to their scale and complexity. Therefore we encourage early engagement with the MLT

- Your application and supporting documents will be sent to for an initial consultation period of 28 days *(42 days for EIA projects)*

- For the majority of projects, a public notice must be advertised. Public consultation will be 28 days (*49 days for EIA projects*). For EIA projects a second public notice will be required. The MLT will advise on how this should be done.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain any other consents or authorisations that may be required.

Application Form Structure

1. Project description and cost
2. Applicant details
3. Dredging contractor (Producer) details
4. Holder details
5. Agent details
6. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
7. Current consents
8. Licensable Period
9. Duration of dredging operation
10. Dredging and/or disposal vessel(s) details
11. Method statement for dredging
12. Areas to be dredged
13. Details of materials to be dredged
14. Details of material quality
15. Construction/Land reclamation projects
16. Alternative Means of Disposal
17. Disposal at Sea
18. Conservation bodies
19. Statutory powers
20. Public register
21. Application fee
22. Declaration

Check List

Please ensure that you have included all the necessary information before you submit your application. **If any of the below are not completed in the application form, the application is likely to be considered incomplete and may be returned to you**

Item	Yes (√)
The applicant is a legal entity?	√
The declaration is signed by the applicant?	√
Is the application fee correct?	√
Are the grid references/coordinates correct?	√
Do the coordinates match map locations?	√
Have all the relevant supporting documents been submitted?	√
Has a clear methodology been provided in the application form?	√
Has Protected sites information been included?	√
Are all the continuation sheets for application questions appended with correct	√

Should you have any queries regarding you application please contact the MLT via marinelicensing@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

1. Project Description and Cost

1 (a). Project Name

Pwllheli Harbour Dredge and Disposal

1(b). Please provide a brief description of the proposed project, including location

The proposed project relates to the disposal of corrective and maintenance dredging material from Pwllheli Harbour, Gwynedd, north-west Wales. Pwllheli Harbour is an operational marina, and dredging is needed to maintain safe navigational depths for marine users. Dredging has been permitted under the Pwllheli Harbour Act 1983; however, the current onsite disposal options have reached capacity. It is therefore proposed that the dredged material be disposed of offshore within Abererch Bay, (approximately 200 metres outside of the harbour). A map of the project area can be found in Appendix A.2.

1(c). Please provide an estimated gross cost of the project (Inc. materials and labour) for works that fall below/seaward of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)

- Extra 300m of pipeline: £300,000 (one-off capital cost)
- Deployment: £20,000 (£2,000 per annum)
- Pipeline retrieval: £20,000 (£2,000 per annum)
- Maintenance (including damaging and repairs): £34,000 (over licence period)

Estimated Gross Cost: £374,000

1 (d). Please specify which activities you are applying for (tick all that apply)

Dredging		Disposal	x

1(e). Please provide the annual tonnage being applied for in this marine licence application

Up to 120,000 tonnes (60,000m^3) for initial 'corrective' dredging and up to 40,000 tonnes (20,000m^3) per annum (based on a dredged material density of 2t/m^3).

2. Applicant Details

(this must be a legal entity such as an individual, registered company/ charity or a public body)

Title	Mrs	Name	Sarah	Surname	Hattle

Company or Trading Name	Marina Manager and Harbourmasters

Registered Address (inc. postcode)	Marina Manager and Harbourmasters, Hafan, Glan y Don, Pwllheli, Gwynedd LL53 5YT
Name of Contact (if different)	
Position in Company	Harbour Master and Marina Manager
Telephone no. (inc. area code)	07350 394570
Email address	sarahhattle@gwynedd.llyw.cymru
Company Registration Number	N/A

3. Dredging Contractor (Producer) Details

*(The **Producer** is anyone whose activities produce the material intended to be deposited at sea)*

If the **Producer** is the applicant in 2, please tick and move on to section 4 ☐

Title	Name	Surname
Mr	Frits	Van Den Boogard

Company or Trading Name	Smals Dredging UK Ltd
Address (inc. postcode)	Fletcher & Partners, Crown Chambers, Bridge Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2LZ
Name of Contact (if different)	
Position in Company	Business Development Manager
Telephone no. (inc. area code)	+31 6 20 74 74 64

Email address	fvdb@smals.com
Company Registration Number	**09788917**

If there is more than one **producer**, please continue on a separate sheet and tick box ☐

4. Holder Details

*(The **Holder** is anyone who is in possession of the dredged material prior to its deposit at sea)*

If the **Holder** is the applicant in 2, please tick and move on to section 5 ☐

If the **Holder** is the producer in 3, please tick and move on to section 5 ☒

Title		Name		Surname	

Company or Trading Name	
Address (inc. postcode)	
Name of Contact (if different)	
Position in Company	
Telephone no. (inc. area code)	
Email address	
Company Registration Number	

If there is more than one **holder**, please continue on a separate sheet and tick box ☐

5. Agent Details

*(An **Agent** is anyone engaged to act under contract or other agreement on behalf of any party listed in **2,3 or** 4 having responsibility for the control, management or deposit of the material anywhere below Mean High Water Springs). This is who we will correspond with unless otherwise informed. If there is no agent, we will contact the applicant.*

Agent 1

Function (eg. Sea Disposal Contractor)	Commissioning authority

Title	Name	Surname
Mr	Eifion	Davies

Company or Trading Name	Gwynedd Council
Address (inc. postcode)	Dwyfor Area Office, Ffordd y Cob, Pwllheli, Gwynedd, LL53 5AA
Name of Contact (if different)	
Position in Company	Senior Environment Officer
Telephone no. (inc. area code)	(01758) 704240
Email address	eifionglyndavies@gwynedd.llyw.cymru
Company Registration Number	

If there is more than one **agent**, please continue on a separate sheet and tick box ☒

Does the Applicant wish to be included in all correspondence? Yes ☒ No ☐

Agent 2

Function (eg. Sea Disposal Contractor)	Marine Licence Consultant

Title	Name	Surname
Miss	Eloïse	Boblin

Company or Trading Name	Intertek Metoc
Address (inc. postcode)	Intertek Metoc, ESPA House, 1 The Millennium Centre, Crosby Way, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 7XX, United Kingdom
Name of Contact (if different)	

Position in Company	Senior Consultant
Telephone no. (inc. area code)	+44 7483 045455
Email address	eloise.boblin@intertek.com
Company Registration Number	01489779

If there is more than one **agent**, please continue on a separate sheet and tick box ☒

Does the Applicant wish to be included in all correspondence? Yes ☒ No ☐

6. Environmental Impact Assessment

6(a). **Have you considered the works to be under the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (Directive 85/337/EEC – as amended) on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment?**

Yes ☐ No ☒

6(b). If **Yes**, which Annex do you consider they fall within? Annex I ☐ Annex II ☐

6(c). Have you applied for a screening or scoping opinion from the **MLT** under the **Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007** (as amended)? Yes ☒ No ☐

If **Yes**, what is the reference? SC2603

6(d). Has an Environmental Impact Assessment been undertaken to support this application**?** Yes ☐ No ☒

If **Yes**, is a copy of the assessment included in this application? Yes ☐ No ☐

6(e). Please provide an explanation if assessment has been done and a copy is **not available**.

7. Current Consents (if applicable)

7(a). Existing Licence(s)/Consent(s) Reference Number	N/A
7(b). Expiry date	N/A
7(c). Quantity (tonnes) deposited under Current licence at (date)	N/A

7(d). If **No** current licence/consent exists, please give reference number(s) for any historic licences(s)/consent(s) held for this operation or state if this is not applicable.

N/A

8. Licensable period

Determination of your Marine Licence application will be based on the works taking place during these dates. Please ensure you have included an adequate contingency period. If works are not completed by the Requested Licence Expiry Date you may be required to submit a new application. *Including a contingency period within your original application does not impact on Licence Fee*

Start Date	01/03/2027	Requested Licence Expiry Date	01/03/2037

*Please ensure you submit your application for a Marine Licence **at least 4 months** prior to the intended start date. Some projects will take significantly longer than this to determine.*

9. Duration of Dredging and/or Disposal Operation

If your operation will not take place year round at the locations outlined in section 12, please state the expected periods when dredging and/or disposals will take place.

9(a). Proposed periods of dredging and/or disposal operations	To return Pwllheli Harbour to a safe navigation depth, a one-off 'corrective' dredging of approximately 60,000m^3 of sediment must be completed, predicted to take place in the Spring of 2027. This is predicted to take up to 98 days with disposal occurring concurrently with dredging. Depending on the final mobilisation date, a limited proportion of the corrective dredging campaign may overlap with the bathing water season. Maintenance dredging and deposition of dredged material from Pwllheli Harbour is proposed to take place over a series of campaigns over the next ten years. The maximum volume of sand material to be dredged and deposited within each 12-month period will be 20,000 m^3. The annual maintenance dredge is

9(b). Expected completion date of dredging and/or disposal operations	estimated to take between 17 days (for 10,000m^3) and 34 days (for 20,000m^3). Initial corrective dredging is set to commence in the Spring of 2027 and continue for up to 98 days; operational date will be confirmed prior to commencement of operation. Annual dredging is expected to take place between 1st October and end by 1st May (to avoid the bathing season). The expected end of the licence is 2037.

10. Dredging and/or Disposal Vessel(s) Details

	Operator	Name of Vessel	Vessel Registration Number	Country of Registration	Method of Deposit
Note, three candidate dredgers have been identified however the final dredger will be selected closer to mobilisation.					
(a)	Royal Smals	PIONIER	**TBC**	Netherlands	Please refer to the method statement in Section 11 below.
(b)	Royal Smals	PHOENIX	**TBC**	Netherlands	Please refer to the method statement in Section 11 below.
(c)	Royal Smals	PHANTOM	**TBC**	Netherlands	Please refer to the method statement in Section 11 below.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Please tick if you have done this ☐

11. Method statement for dredging and/or disposal operations (if applicable)

Please provide a comprehensive method statement for each dredging campaign, including type of dredging (if using different types at different locations please state), duration, and depth of proposed dredge, dredge areas and deposit areas

The proposed works comprise a one-off corrective dredging campaign followed by smaller annual maintenance dredging campaigns to maintain navigational depths within Pwllheli Harbour. The corrective dredge would involve the removal of up to 60,000 m³ of sediment, while subsequent maintenance dredging campaigns would remove approximately 10,000-20,000 m³ of sediment per annum to maintain the design depths of the harbour basin, marina and navigation channels. All dredging would be undertaken using a cutter suction dredger. A cutter suction dredger operates using a rotating cutter head and suction pump system, which mobilises and excavates sediment before transporting it via pipeline. The cutter head reduces the amount of sediment released at the dredge head, although some sediment loss may still occur. The pumped dredged

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Please tick if you have done this ☐

material will typically be a slurry comprising of approximately 20% of solids, and 80% of seawater (pers. Comms. with Royal Smals 28/08/2025). This slurry will be disposed of via pipeline as it is dredged and deposited at the disposal site.

The proposed disposal area is located approximately 200 m seaward of the dredging area within Abererch Bay, remaining within the operational reach of the cutter suction dredger pipeline. Dredged material would therefore not be temporarily stored prior to disposal. Based on the anticipated production rates, an average of approximately 600 m^3 of sediment would be dredged per 12 hour day, split to coincide with ebb tides. The corrective dredging is predicted to take up to 98 days in Spring 2027. The annual maintenance dredge duration will be between 17 days (for 10,000m^3) and 34 days (for 20,000m^3).

12. Areas to be Dredged

	Name of Area to be Dredged (an annotated chart **must** be attached with each proposed dredge area-boundary latitude and longitude should be given in next column)	**Coordinates** (degrees and minutes to 2 decimal places)	**Nature of Dredge** (such as river, sea, harbour, estuary)	**Date Area last Dredged (If known)** (month and year)
(a)	Approach Channel	Min: 52° 53.01' N, 4° 24.33' W Max: 52°53.24'N, 4°23.67'W	Harbour	October 2024
(b)	Basin	Min: 52° 53.07' N, 4° 24.46' W Max: 52°53.11'N, 4°24.31'W	Harbour	October 2024

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Please tick if you have done this ☐

13. Details of Material to be Dredged and/or Disposed

For each area listed in **12** [a to e] including any listed separately, please give the following information:

	Type of Material (Maintenance or Capital Dredge)	**Specific Gravity** (estimate)	**Physical Composition of Materials** (Approximate proportions by volume of clay/slit/sand/gravel/etc...)	**Depth of Material being Removed** (Approximate maximum depth in metres)	**Quantity to be Dredged each year** (Indicate in-situ cubic metres or metric tonnes)
(a)	Approach Channel (maintenance dredge)	2t/m^3	The Particle Size analysis (PSA) determined that the material within the approach channel is made up of approximately 87.7% sand, 9.5% silt, 2.4% clay and 0.4% gravel.	Approximately 3m	Between 33,000 m^3- 36,000 m^3 (55-60% of the 60,000m^3 for combined dredging) for first 'corrective' maintenance. Between 11,000 m^3 – 12,000 m^3 (55-60% of the 20,000m^3 for combined dredging) per annum.
(b)	Basin (maintenance dredge)	2t/m^3	PSA determined that material within the basin is made up of approximately 63.6% silt, 28.4% clay, 7.6% sand and 0.3% gravel.	Approximately 3m	Between 24,000 m^3 – 27,000 m^3 (40-45% of the 60,000m^3 for combined dredging) for first 'corrective' maintenance. Between 8,000 m^3 – 9,000 m^3 (40-45% of the 20,000m^3 for combined dredging) per annum.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Please tick if you have done this ☐

Dredged and/or Disposal Material: additional information

For each area listed in **10** [a to e] including any listed separately, please give the following information:

	Type of Contamination (State if material to be deposited at sea is likely to be contaminated by any known waste discharge or man-made rubbish (e.g. scrap metal/concrete)	**Type of Dredger Proposed to be Used**	**Any beneficial uses (inc. mitigation) for the material to be dredged** (any alternatives to disposal at sea should be indicated, details in **11**)
(a)	**Approach Channel (maintenance dredge)** The corrective and maintenance dredged material are not expected to increase the concentration of transition elements and organo-metallic compounds in the receiving environment above background levels. Chemical analysis has determined that the sediment contained low to moderate concentrations of heavy metals. Within the approach channel, one sample (SS2) contained a lead concentration higher than Cefas Action Level 1 but remained below the Action Level 2 threshold. The suitability of material from Pwllheli Harbour for disposal at sea has been assessed in accordance with OSPAR and Cefas guidance. As the material will be relocated within the local sedimentary system and contaminant concentrations are below Cefas Action Level 2, no significant adverse effects associated with contamination are anticipated. Further information can be found in Section 4.6.4 and 6.2.6 of the HRA (P2843_R7011_Rev1_HRA Screening and Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA))	Cutting suction dredger	No beneficial use of the dredged material is currently proposed. Material arising from the dredging works will be disposed of at the proposed marine disposal site in accordance with the Marine Licence. Beneficial re-use options have not been identified as feasible for the volumes and nature of material arising from the proposed works.
(b)	**Basin (maintenance dredge)**	Cutting suction dredger	No beneficial use of the dredged material is currently proposed.

	The corrective and maintenance dredged material are not expected to increase the concentration of transition elements and organo-metallic compounds in the receiving environment above background levels. Chemical analysis has determined that the sediment contained low to moderate concentrations of heavy metals. Throughout the basin area, few samples contained concentrations higher than Cefas Action Level 1, however all sample concentrations remained below Action Level 2. Nickel concentrations above Action Level 1 were recorded in samples SS3, SS5, SS6, SS7, SS8, and SS9. Lead concentration above Action Level 1 were recorded in samples SS3, SS4, SS5, SS6, SS7, and SS8. Zinc concentrations above Action Level 1 were recorded in sample SS5. The suitability of material from Pwllheli Harbour for disposal at sea has been assessed in accordance with OSPAR and Cefas guidance. As the material will be relocated within the local sedimentary system and contaminant concentrations are below Cefas Action Level 2, no significant adverse effects associated with contamination are anticipated. Further information can be found in Section 4.6.4 and 6.2.6 of the HRA (P2843_R7011_Rev1_HRA Screening and Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA))		Material arising from the dredging works will be disposed of at the proposed marine disposal site in accordance with the Marine Licence. Beneficial re-use options have not been identified as feasible for the volumes and nature of material arising from the proposed works.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Please tick if you have done this ☐

14. Details of Material Quality

Applicants are not normally required to specify chemical quality of dredged materials for deposit, unless depositing at sea. There will usually be a requirement to submit samples for the purpose of assessing the effects of the materials on the marine environment to enable the UK to fulfil its obligations under International Conventions

14(a). Has the dredged material been chemically analysed in the past 3 years? Yes ☒ No ☐

14(b). Can the sample be made available now if required? Yes ☒ No ☐

If **No**, please state when they will be available

15. Construction/Land Reclamation Projects

15(a). Is the dredging operation related to a construction or land reclamation project?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If **Yes**, have you applied for a construction or reclamation licence under **Part 4** of the **Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009**? Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have **Not** yet applied for a construction/reclamation licence, please provide an explanation

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Please tick if you have done this ☐

16. Alternative Means of Disposal

The Licensing Authority requires applicant to have regard to the practical availability of alternative means of disposal or treatment (other than deposit at sea) when determining whether to issue a licence, in order to fulfil its responsibility.

Please state the results of your investigations to identify alternative means of disposal, including beneficial uses, or treatment of the materials, along with cost of all options, including deposit at sea.

A variety of different disposal methods have been investigated (a detailed overview of the options can be found in Table 2-1 of the EIA Screening SC2603). Options considered included: do-nothing scenario; continued use of the existing stilling lagoon; geotextile dewatering bags; beneficial reuse as engineered fill; disposal at Holyhead Deep; land reclamation within the harbour; direct pumping of material into the bay; and water injection dredger using tide and currents to dispose of material.

The do-nothing option was discounted as it would result in continued siltation, reduced navigable depths and adverse impacts on marina operations. Land-based disposal and treatment options, including the stilling lagoon, geotextile bags, beneficial reuse and land reclamation, were constrained by limited capacity, high costs, treatment requirements, disposal site availability, and planning or permitting risks. Disposal at Holyhead Deep was discounted due to the significant distance from Pwllheli, operational inefficiencies, weather dependency and associated costs.

The assessment concluded that direct marine disposal within bay, either via pipeline or through water injection dredging, represents the most practical and sustainable long-term solution. These options remove reliance on the stilling lagoon and avoid the ongoing costs and constraints associated with excavation, transport, treatment and land-based disposal. While both options require environmental assessment and regulatory approval, they were identified as the most feasible and cost-effective alternatives when considering long-term operational requirements. The proposed deposit-at-sea option was therefore selected as the preferred disposal method.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Please tick if you have done this ☐

17. Disposal at Sea

17 (a). Do you intend to dispose of any dredged material at sea Yes ☒ No ☐

17 (b). Please provide the disposal site code

The disposal site will not be located offshore at a designated open sea disposal area; instead, it will be situated approximately 200 metres from the harbour. The dredged material will be discharged via pipeline. Due to operational limitations and the increased stress imposed on the pipeline by oceanographic conditions, the discharge distance cannot exceed 200 metres. Therefore, material will be disposed of within the outer bay, in close proximity to the harbour.

17 (c). Please provide the coordinates of the intended disposal site

X: 239090.44 Y: 334924.27 (OSGB36 / BNG (ESPG 27700))

18. Conservation Bodies

18 (a). Licensing Authorities have a duty to ensure that projects will **not have significant adverse environmental impact**, particularly on any designated **European Site of Conservation Importance - Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA),**

listed under the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/42/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora). In addition, it is Government Policy that Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites) are also considered as European Sites. There is a duty to take reasonable steps to further the conservation and enhancement of nationally designated sites (Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).

Please provide copies of correspondence with Natural Resources Wales or its legacy bodies (**in this case the Countryside Council for Wales**) or Natural England. Please indicate below if **no consultation had yet taken place.**

Informal consultation with NRW was undertaken by Intertek Metoc (Intertek) and Cyngor Gwynedd Council (CGC) via a video call meeting and exchange of emails. Intertek provided project proposal, scope of work and site history. Methodology for dredging and disposal was agreed. Intertek advised NRW that the Marine Licence Application would be accompanied by a Modelling report, Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and a Water Framework Directive (WFD) Compliance Assessment. Intertek confirmed EIA screening was completed and concluded that an EIA is not required. Accordingly, reports have been prepared to accompany this Marine Licence Application to demonstrate that the proposed activities will not have significant adverse environmental impacts. Meeting Minutes and Map of the project area have been included within Appendix A.1. and A.2. respectively.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Please tick if you have done this ☐

18 (b). **Are any parts of the proposed works located *within* or *likely to affect* a designated conservation site? *(SAC, SPA, SSSI or Ramsar Sites)*** Yes ☒ No ☐

18(c). If **Yes**, which designated site(s) will the works fall within:

The proposed disposal site is located within the Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau / Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

18(d). **Please provide a description of all measures proposed to avoid any impacts on designated conservation sites**

A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening assessment has been undertaken to consider whether the proposed disposal of maintenance dredged materials outside of Pwllheli Harbour is likely to have the potential for a significant effect on the features and the favourable conservation status of the Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau / Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau SAC. To aid this assessment, a hydrodynamic and sediment dispersion modelling study has been undertaken to assess potential plume behaviour, extent of suspended sediment and associated impacts at the proposed disposal activity. This included consideration of cumulative and in-combination impacts from other plans, projects and activities.
In addition to the HRA, a Biosecurity Risk Assessment (BRA) has been completed to assess the potential of introduction of invasive non-native species to the operational area.
A Technical Note (P2843_R7031_Rev0_Technical_Note) has been prepared to assess any implications of the revised dredging duration (98 days) and potential overlap with the bathing water season, which concluded that the findings of the HRA, WFD and supporting environmental assessments remain valid.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Please tick if you have done this ☐

18(e). If **No**, please indicate the approximate distance to the nearest conservation site of the proposed works.

19. Statutory Powers

Do you or (if appropriate) your client, have statutory powers to consent any aspect of the project? Yes ☒ No ☐

If **Yes**, please give details:

The Pwllheli Harbour Act 1983 permits the dredging of Pwllheli harbour and disposal within reclamations or areas within defined areas. However, previously approved disposal sites are no longer viable options for disposal. This Marine Licence Application relates specifically to the disposal of the dredged material. The assessments, however, consider the dredging and disposal activities together as they form a single operational project and the cumulative environmental effects are considered.

20. Public Register

Under The Marine Licensing (Register of Licensing Information)(Wales) Regulations 2011 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (Directive 85/337/EEC – as amended) , all information contained within or provided in support of this application will be placed on the Public Register unless NRW approve of the applicant's reasons for withholding all or part.

Is there any information contained within or provided in support of this application that you consider **should not be included** on the Public Register on the grounds that its disclosure:

19(a). Would be contrary to the interest of National Security? Yes ☐ No ☒

19(b). Would prejudice to an unreasonable degree you, or some other person's commercial interest of those of a third party? Yes ☐ No ☒

If **Yes**, to either (a) or (b), please full justification as to why all or part of the information you have provided should be withheld.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Please tick if you have done this ☐

21. Application Fee

21(a). What are the corresponding fee band for this application? Band 2 ☒ Band 3 ☐

21(b) Band 2 Only
Projects are charged at a fixed fee of £1920. The application will not be processed until the correct fee has been provided.

Please provide the method of payment

Method	Yes (√)	Reference Number
Cheque		
BACS (not remittance no.)	√	PRCAPPINTER1509
World Pay (phone)		

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FAO	
Purchase order number	
Address for invoice	
Telephone Number	
Email Address	

22. Declaration

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief that the information given in this application form and related papers is true.

WARNING: It is an offence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, under which this application is made, to fail to disclose information or to provide false or misleading information and can invalidate any licence granted.

Signature  **Date** 3/11/26

Name *(in capitals)* SARAH HATTLE

Position in Company HARBOUR MASTER + MARINA MANAGER

Applications cannot be processed unless signed by the applicant (not agent); the applicant must have the appropriate level of authority within the company. **Applications will not be processed unless signed.**

Appendix

A.1. Natural Resources Wales Meeting Minutes

Project	**Pwllheli Harbour Dredging Marine Licence**	
Subject	NRW consultation meeting	
Date and Time	27/07/2026 11:30 am	
Attendees	Name	Company, role
	Rowland Sharp	NRW – Senior Marine Advisor
	Delyth Rowlands	NRW - Permitting
	James Highfield	NRW - Benthic Ecologist
	Iain Farley	NRW - Marine and Physical Processes
	Eifion Davies	YGC – Gwynedd Council
	Emma Langley	Intertek Metoc – Project Director
	Eloïse Boblin	Intertek Metoc – Project Manager
	Seth Smith	Intertek Metoc – Modelling Lead
	Kevin McGovern	Intertek Metoc – Modelling Lead
	Rob Daniels	Intertek Metoc – Environmental Support
	Tessa McCormack	Intertek Metoc – Environmental Support

Item	Comment
Minutes	• All attendees completed introductions. • Eloïse Boblin provided introduction to the project, outlining scope of works. It was noted that Pwllheli Harbour is currently at capacity and requires dredging to maintain functionality. • Intertek Metoc summarised the work completed to date, which included previous bathymetric surveys and sediment sampling. A draft modelling report was also completed and sent to both client and NRW. Previous discussions were help with NRW regarding modelling and the HRA approach & methodology. • Disposal methodology discussed - cutter suction dredger with the disposal via pipeline into the bay – confirmed to be preferred approach. • Intertek Metoc confirmed EIA screening was completed and that NRW concluded that an EIA is not required. • Intertek Metoc stated that an EIA screening was completed and concluded that an EIA is not required for the dredging and deposition project. This was originally submitted on 05/05/2026.
Consultation comment discussion - **Dredging and disposal options**	Seth presented project background information, explaining that recent dredging material was deposited in onshore lagoons, which are now at full capacity. An overview of the coastal processes within the area surrounding the harbour was provided. Key processes including net longshore drift and wind-dominated flows along with riverine inputs play a key role in sediment deposition within the Pwllheli harbour. Four dredging/disposal options were assessed: Option A: Cutter suction dredger with disposal to a new stilling lagoon

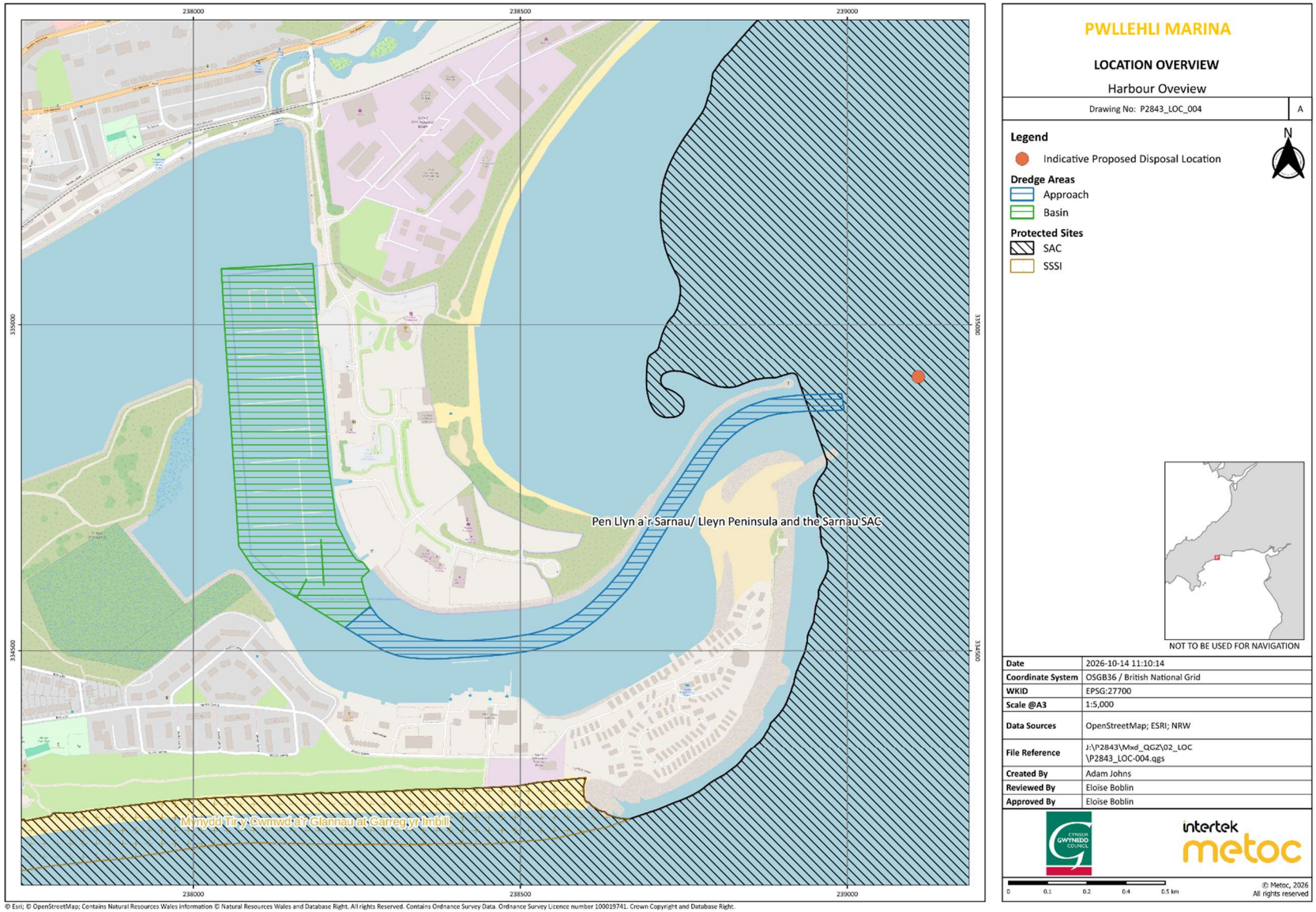
Item	Comment
	Option B: Cutter suction dredger with the disposal via pipeline into the bay, with discharge during ebb tide only (PREFERRED) Option C: Water injection dredging - not feasible Option D: Backhoe dredging - not economically viable **Hydrodynamic and sediment plume modelling** Seth presented hydrodynamic and sediment plume modelling results, showing that the hydrodynamic conditions within the bay are strongly influenced by wind. It was noted that the modelling for hydrodynamics was undertaken using MIKE 21 Flexible Mesh and Hydrodynamics, and dredge plume using MIKE 21 Particle tracking. The model demonstrated southwest winds drive sediment plume eastwards - example presented. Six modelling scenarios were selected to assess potential sediment dispersion and deposition. Results indicated the majority of deposited material remains limited to the local bay area, with an estimated 25% deposited within 1km of the discharge location. In the preferred option, it's expected that material is predicted to accumulate near the end of the disposal pipeline. Elevated suspended sediment concentrations (SSC) were also predicted during disposal operations. Specifically, Model scenario 6 considered tidal flux conditions and noted to represent a conservative assessment scenario. The HRA and modelling report will go into more detail Additional model outputs were presented with both wind and no wind scenarios. The impact assessment was based on highest concentrations at any given time during the modelling period.
HRA	Rob and Tessa presented HRA section. It was noted that the current operations will require a Band 2 Marine Licence, of which the dredging is considered exempt from the MLA under the Pwllheli Harbour Act 1983, although the dredging will be assessed within the HRA itself, alongside the disposal activities in which is requiring the MLA. Intertek Metoc stated that the Pen Llyn a ' r Sarnau / Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau SAC will need full HRA screening due to proximity to the operations (within). Also stated that the HRA will determine if operations have a likely significant effect (LSE) on European sites contextually with their conservation objectives and habitats/species that the site was designated for. Intertek Metoc also presented List of pressures split into three sections: Physical, Chemical and Biological (using JNCC pressures database). It was noted that some are likely to be screened out during HRA process. It was noted that particular consideration will be given to bird foraging and feeding, fish behaviour, habitats and shellfish receptors and prey availability. Intertek Metoc also stated relevant protected sites and ecological receptors within the modelled zone of influence, where relevant SACs (and other designated sites) were identified as part of the HRA process. The area of Search was presented and defined as: • Birds: up to 100 km to account for foraging and nesting behaviours. • Fish: up to 100 km for migratory species. • Marine mammals: based on recognised management units for each species. Regarding receptor identification, Intertek Metoc presented protected sites with their features, and other qualifying habitats/species, for relevant protected sites. PLAS SAC a key site (due to operations being within the SAC), alongside; Seacliffs of Lleyn SAC (11.2 km), Morfa Harlech and Morfa Dyffryn SAC (16.5 km), Northern Cardigan Bay SPA (4.5 km) and Mynydd Cilan, Trwyn y Wylfa ac Ynysoedd Sant Tudwal SPA (10.2 km). Intertek Metoc stated that for other protected sites, receptors were only screened out when justification was present. Intertek Metoc then provided list of data sources and guidance used to inform the HRA: DataMapWales

Item	Comment
	JNCC NRW Intertidal Phase 1 Habitat Survey EMODnet Marine Recorder NBN Atlas OneBenthic - Cefas
Any Other Business (AOB) or discussions	• Intertek Metoc queried whether NRW were satisfied with the proposed approach to include the dredging within the HRA despite being exempt under the Pwllheli Harbour Act 1983. NRW confirmed that they were content with this approach. • The proposed zones of influence were discussed, and NRW confirmed they were satisfied with the method. • SSC or deposition thresholds discussed, proposing the minimum 0.1mg/l SSC threshold and 0.1mm deposition threshold - Kevin (Intertek) confirmed approach is may be defined at a later date. • The Areas of Search adopted for benthic habitats and birds were reviewed. NRW confirmed that all relevant designated sites had been identified. • Intertek Metoc also asked if any non-publicly available datasets that could inform the HRA were available, or if NRW are aware of any? NRW advised that whilst no dataset available, it is noted that in recent years, Angel Sharks were recorded, with juveniles observed near the headland in last 3 years. • Separately, it was mentioned that Intertek Metoc to take into account section 7 species (seagrass, Angel shark etc.) as well as 'sediment type' change re considered in HRA. • No further questions.

ACTIONS

No.	Description
1	Metoc so supply slides to attendees
2	Comments to be integrated into MLA package

A.2. Map of the Project area


238000
238500
239000
335000
334500
Pen Llyn a'r Sarnau/ Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau SAC
Morfa Dinlle
Morfa Dinlle
Morfa Dinlle