

Whitstable Harbour

Health and Safety Policy

It is the policy of Canterbury City Council that, in all of its activities, account will be taken of the need to protect the health and safety of its employees at work, and of other persons.

Canterbury City Council aims to eliminate work-related injuries. Our goals are no accidents, no harm to people and no damage to the environment.

Canterbury City Council complies with the letter of relevant national legislation and international conventions.

In following this policy, Canterbury City Council and the responsible Harbour Board will:

- work on the principle that all injuries in the harbour area, commercial port and on the waterfront and on the waters within its control can be prevented, and promotes amongst all those associated with its activities, the high standards of safety consciousness, discipline and individual accountability that this principle demands;
- demand the on-going commitment of all employees to high standards of health and safety and that such employees have the required skills, competence and support to achieve this;
- recognise the need to provide adequate resources to fulfil the responsibilities as directed under this policy;
- to train relevant staff in or procure personnel with the appropriate skills, to ensure that operations are completed with respect for health and safety;
- promote employee participation in the establishment and observance of measures to improve their health and safety at work;
- require that agents, licensees, contractors and sub contractors working within the port apply health and safety standards consistent with its own;
- endeavour to influence those from whom it purchases services and equipment or to whom it provides services and equipment to do likewise;
- keep its employees, contractors, affiliates and licensees appropriately informed of known potential hazards that might affect them or the public at large;

- use all reasonable endeavours to prevent accidents, and to minimise and remedy harm from accidents that may nevertheless occur;
- include assessments of health and safety matters in the factors to be taken into consideration before entering into new ventures, port related events and activities or changing standards or operating procedures;
- co-operate with the Environmental Agency, English Nature and other relevant authorities in respect of health and safety matters;
- include expected future requirements and anticipated developments in all the above areas in long-term planning.

Specifically in relation to the maintenance of safety within the Competent Harbour Authority area, Canterbury City Council and the Harbour Board will:

- maintain high standards of navigational safety;
- provide clear navigational guidance and harbour information
- maintain a high standard of pilotage service within its Competent Harbour Authority area;
- maintain effective harbour incident response plans;
- take appropriate action to ensure compliance with harbour by-laws;
- conduct regular reviews of the risks of all operations carried out in the port and ensure that such operations are carried out so that any risks are as low as reasonably practicable;
- ensure all equipment and facilities within the port are maintained in a safe and proper manner or otherwise protected so as to avoid injury to personnel.