



**LOCH RYAN MARINE SAFETY FORUM  
MEETING 4**

1400 HRS, 27 SEPTEMBER 2023  
VIRTUAL MEETING- MS TEAMS

**Attendees**

Gail Pickett	Senior Harbour Assistant, DGC	GP
Paul Jennings	Regional Harbour Master, DGC	PJ
George Combe	Harbour Master, Stena Line Ports	GC
Simon Voce	South Ayrshire Council, Girvan Harbour Master	SV
Susan Todd	HMCG Belfast	AS
Richard Morgans	HMCG Sector Commander	RM
Gillian Burns	Northern Lighthouse Board	GB
Roddy MacKay	MCA Glasgow	RMack
Graham Russell	RYA Scotland	GR
John Harvey	SFRS	JH
Gary Ferguson	Police (Small Ports)	DW

**Apologies**

Stuart Wilson	Harbour Master for Larne and Cairnryan (Port of Cairnryan Ltd) and Designated Person
Raymond Mundle	Marina User
Tristan Hugh-Jones	Loch Ryan Oysters
Capt Kaisar Ali	MCA Glasgow
Kyle Anderson	RNLI Community Safety Officer
Neil Moore	NHS
Simon MacDonald	Independent Fisheries Adviser
John Ryman	Police Scotland
Adam Lewis	Northern Lighthouse Board
Kerry Monteith	DGC, Ward Worker
James McLeod	Infrastructure Manager, DGC
Will Jones	Regional Harbour Master, DGC
David Williamson	Police (Small Ports)
Karl Munday	Nature Scot
Alex Smith	HMCG Belfast

**Distribution:** All attendees, MCA, Duty Holder of respective SHAs.

**Purpose:** A user forum, sitting under the Loch Ryan Statutory Harbours Authority Committee (LRSHAC) to assist and inform them in the management of safe navigation in the northern half of Loch Ryan for where there is no Statutory Harbour Authority.

Item	Description	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	
	PJ welcomed everyone to the meeting and listed apologies from those unable to attend.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes from 28 March 2022 to agree</b>	
	PJ asked all present at last meeting in March 2023 to confirm the accuracy of the circulated minutes. Everyone happy to do so.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Matters arising</b>	
	None	
<b>4</b>	<b>Navigational Safety</b>	
4.1	<p>Direct reporting to Hazman</p> <p><a href="https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/harbours">https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/harbours</a> - there is a 'report an incident' tab towards the bottom of that page.</p> <p>Alternatively, copy and paste the below http:</p> <p><a href="https://uk.hazman.org/incident/PYPXHafJSO4z7315YNdt6Ny3NSGpvqMzAI4i1zUX">https://uk.hazman.org/incident/PYPXHafJSO4z7315YNdt6Ny3NSGpvqMzAI4i1zUX</a></p> <p>PJ highlighted that there had only been one reported incident in Loch Ryan since the last meeting and that was not in the northern half of the Loch.</p> <p>The report was screen shared showing the near miss mooring breakout of a small commercial vessel at Stranraer Harbour.</p> <p>The list of Hazards identified for both the northern and southern half of the loch Navigation Risk Assessments (NRA) were also screen shared and consideration given to check there were no Hazards missing.</p> <p>Consideration was given to include 'Unintended Immersion' into the Hazard list and this was agreed. This was based upon the opening of a new coastal path, the risk of being wash off the shoreline and historical incident where people have fallen from commercial vessels. Meeting note the 'Unintended Immersion' Hazard has been added to the NRA for the northern half of Loch Ryan.</p> <p>GR raised the issue of paddle boarders and social media driven spontaneous events such as swimming which has been problematic elsewhere. PJ pointed out these were covered by the leisure user Hazard and Risk Assessment.</p> <p>GB raised the matter of wreck response, managed by NLB, if not in a SHA and the communication protocols.</p>	PJ
4.2	<p>Commercial fishing in Loch Ryan</p> <p>PJ informed the group all commercial users of the Loch had been invited but none were in attendance. The group were not aware of any specific commercial fishing issues in the area. There was no specific change in overall activity or habits reported.</p>	
4.3	<p>Commercial Fishing beyond Loch Ryan</p> <p>No observations re this for this meeting.</p>	
4.4	<p>SHA co-operation / NTM distribution</p> <p>It was requested the Girvan Harbour Master and MHCG Belfast were added to the Stena Line Loch Ryan Port NTMs distribution list.</p>	GC

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	PJ pointed out that all valid NTMs issued for all the SHAs at Loch Ryan were listed on the DGC Harbours website NTM page.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Conservancy</b>	
5.1	<p>Aids to Navigation (AtoNs)</p> <p>GC reported all three of the starboard hand perches in the southern half of Loch Ryan had been removed following the consultation. Only one pile had to be cut off below the sea bed, the other eight were fully extracted.</p> <p>PJ reported that once the DGC SHA for the southern half of the loch was in place, the Spit Buoy would be adopted from NLB.</p> <p>A further consultation to determine the General Directions for the new SHA would include the requirement for other necessary buoyage.</p>	
5.2	<p>Surveys</p> <p>Bathymetric surveys for Loch Ryan Port, the approaches to Stranraer Harbour from Spit Buoy and Stranraer Harbour have been completed through the summer. The survey information has been fed into UKHO for release to charts.</p> <p>The DGC Harbour website hosts all Bathymetric survey data for harbour users.</p>	
5.3	<p>Maintenance dredging programme</p> <p>GC – some dredging needing done at Loch Ryan Port but waiting for contractor availability.</p> <p>PJ – DGC have no dredging plans at this time.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Loch Ryan Navigation Risk Assessment review</b>	
	<p>The Navigation Risk Assessment hierarchy of hazards and risk scores for both North and Southern halves of the loch were shared with the meeting. It was agreed 'Unintended Immersion' would be added as a Hazard and Risk Assessed.</p> <p>There was no significant changes to user habits or volumes of traffic identified that would alter the Hazard hierarchy or require additional mitigations to be put in place.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>HRO Progress</b>	
7.1	The HRO was in the final submission phase with Transport Scotland prior to the formal consultation being initiated. The exact legal wording in the HRO, to ensure the Stena SHA is correctly revoked and the DGC SHA correctly made, is being refined by Transport Scotland and DGC legal representatives.	
<b>8</b>	<b>Emergency Planning</b>	
8.1	<p>HMCG Mass landing plans (MLP) for Loch Ryan</p> <p>ST and RM are progressing the MLP for Loch Ryan with Port Surveys of Loch Ryan Port and Stranraer Marina complete. Cairnryan Port survey is planned and liaison with the Local Resilience Partnership under way.</p>	
8.2	<p>IME at Loch Ryan Port 10 May 23 feedback and learning points.</p> <p>Organisations were made aware of the Galloway Mountain Rescue Service – Drone equipment. This is now on the community asset register and deployment can be requested through the Police or HMCG.</p>	
8.3	<p>New topic – Military Exercise</p> <p>GC has been contacted by the planning team for a Military Exercise to be based at Loch Ryan in Jan / Feb 24. He has shared contact details with DGC RHM as the exercise may be based from the southern half of the loch.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<b>Leisure Activities</b>	

Item	Description	Action
9.1	<p>RNLI update</p> <p>GC was planning a live person from the water recovery exercise with RNLI and HMCG assets.</p>	
9.2	<p>SWSA update</p> <p>PJ gave an update to SWSA infrastructure, water sports hosting and event hosting that had occurred or was being planned.</p>	
9.3	<p>DGC Stranraer Marina expansion project update</p> <p>The Marina is still at phase one of the contract costing stage, with a 2 year schedule to completion.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
	<p>ST mentioned that new standard signage designs were about to be introduced through Water Safety Scotland.</p>	
	<p><b>Next meeting proposed for 14:00-15:20, 24 March 2024. Teams invite will be issued in due course.</b></p>	PJ