

NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY POLICY

RAK Ports has a primary responsibility to facilitate the safety of navigation in the Ports and approaches. This Navigational Safety Policy commits RAK Ports to undertaking the management of marine operations, within the scope of its powers and authority, in a way that safeguards the ports, users of the ports, including members of the public, and the environment.

To this end to the Port shall:

- Maintain an effective Marine Safety Management System (MSMS) based on a continuous formalised assessment and mitigation of risk in consultation with Port users. The MSMS will be kept under continuous review.
- Produce formal risk assessments for all marine activities to ensure that risks are as low as reasonably practicable.
- Review regularly the effectiveness of, and if necessary, seek amendments to, its legal powers, local laws and Directions in respect of navigational safety.
- Comply with all legal duties and responsibilities for the regulation of vessel traffic and the safety of navigation.
- Develop a consensus for safe navigation through consultation with port users.
- Maintain and sustain the commercial use of the port, upholding and promoting the rights of Masters, ship owners and other shipping and marine interests to ply their respective trades.
- Maintain access to port services, by resourcing appropriate pilotage, traffic management, towage, and mooring service.
- Maintain a competent and authorised pilotage force.
- Ensure that pilotage directions define the circumstances in which pilotage is to be compulsory, how and to which vessels they apply, and in what circumstances.
- Ensure the provision of appropriate formal procedures for assessing the suitability of PEC applicants. The standards and procedures will be published and available to applicants.
- Make and publish hydrographic surveys.
- Undertake maintenance dredging as appropriate.
- Maintain its conservancy functions in respect of hydrographic surveying, navigation, dredging and the provision and maintenance of navigational aids.
- Within Port limits and approaches, monitor and manage vessel traffic through the provision of 24-hour Port Control Services.
- Maintain a system for Incident reporting and Investigation, and to determine the cause to prevent recurrence.
- Report to the relevant authority any sunken vessels and other obstructions that are, or become, an impediment to safe navigation; removal will be subject to wreck insurers/owners/underwriters and should not be attempted unless instructed or requested to assist. Obstructions or objects should be made known to all vessels by notice to mariners or port information notices.
- Promulgate effectively navigational, tidal and other relevant information to all port users.
- Create awareness and motivation of all port users with respect to safety and the protection of the environment.
- Publish and maintain plans to cover emergency situations relating to the safety of life, property or the environment.
- Maintain an appropriate oil spill response capability.
- Ensure that all RAK Ports marine staff are trained and have appropriate experience for their roles and duties.
- Provide effective management and coordination in respect of RAK Ports management response to marine emergency incidents with the area of its jurisdiction.

The policy shall be reviewed on an annual basis or as necessary, ensuring that navigational safety practices are maintained in the best possible manner.



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 RAK Ports



Capt. Michael Magee
 Harbour Master
 RAK Ports

