The Port Marine Safety Code Policy Statement

The Group Harbour Master, as the senior marine professional, understands the statutory and common law duties which include an obligation to conserve and facilitate the safe use of each of our harbours, and has an express duty to take such action as each harbour authority considers necessary or desirable for or incidental to maintenance, operation, improvement or conservancy of the harbour.

To that end the Group Harbour Master has produced a Group Marine Safety Management System, which details how marine operations are to be conducted safely in our ports. Where appropriate consultations take place with all those who work in and use the harbours to ensure that they are fully involved in the preparation of the Group Marine Safety Management System, marine policies and procedures.

Full and comprehensive risk assessments are undertaken in respect of all activities and facilities within the harbours leading to the development of the Group Marine Safety Management System.

Protection of the environment is recognised by general and specific duties and the Group Marine Safety Management System exercises functions in a manner, which has regard to nature conservation and environmental considerations.

The Port Director of each of the Peel Ports Group statutory harbour authorities are the Duty Holders for the purposes of the Port Marine Safety Code and individually accept responsibility for ensuring that the relevant harbour authority of which they are a director, discharges its duties in accordance with the Port Marine Safety Code and have responsibility and accountability for delivering the respective harbour authority's duties and powers in relation to marine operations and harbour undertakings within their control, through the application of the Group Safety Management System; the Port Director of the respective ports are responsible for the operational and financial control of each of the harbour authorities.
The Port Directors as Duty Holders are committed to undertake and regulate marine operations, through the operation of the Group Marine Safety Management System, in a way that safeguards, their users, the public, the environment and their harbours.

The Port Directors are advised on all matters related to the relevant Harbour Authority's statutory duties and powers by the Group Harbour Master, the Group Head of Legal and the QSSHE Managers. The Chief Operating Officer oversees the implementation of policies and decisions of the Group and together with the Chief Executive has ultimate executive responsibility for the safety of operations and staff.

The Chief Operating Officer, the Group Harbour Master and the Port Directors are committed to the continuous improvement of safety within the Group ports by the constant development of policies, systems and techniques of risk control, governed by an independently assured audit system.

This Policy will be reviewed again within the next 3 years.

Signed ........................................ Date ........................................
Mark Whitworth
Chief Executive