





Calm Waters 7

Ceredigion County Council's harbours at Aberaeron, Aberystwyth and New Quay are fantastic resources and attractions in their own right. To ensure *calm waters* at the harbours so they remain safe, enjoyable and attractive for all we are reminding harbour users of a few key things they need to be aware of and do.



Please:

- 1. Always be considerate and respectful of all other harbour users and the general public.
- 2. Always be considerate, respectful of and value the local wildlife.
- 3. Make sure that your equipment is well maintained, in good condition and suitable for use. This includes ground tackle, chain, rope, anchors and other mooring devices. These should all be checked regularly.
- 4. Deal with all of your waste legally and responsibly. This includes and extends from spent fishing equipment to waste oil.
- 5. Store all equipment safely and in an appropriate place. This includes tenders, buoys, pots and other fishing equipment.
- 6. Do not cause an obstruction or nuisance either on the wet or dry sides of the harbours. In any emergency, maintaining good access could be critical. Park vehicles in accordance with the arrangements in place and provision made.
- 7. Respond positively to any advice or instruction issued by any of the Harbours' staff.
- 8. Raise any issues, concerns or suggestions you may have with the Harbours' staff at the earliest opportunity. This includes reporting any faults or damage that you may become aware of within the harbours.
- 9. Contact 999 in any kind of emergency.

The Harbours are managed in accordance with the Ceredigion Harbour Management Policy.

- The Ceredigion Harbours Management Policy,
- Bylaws,
- Nautical Courses and Distances,
- Local Tide Tables,
- The Ceredigion Marine Heritage Coast, Cardigan Bay Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Pen Llyn and Sarnau SAC,
- Stranded Marine Animals, and Safety

can all be found at: https://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/resident/travel-roads-parking/coast-harbours/

Harbour Users should familiarise themselves with this information and ensure that they act in accordance with it at all times. These documents are subject to updates and should therefore be checked regularly.

Updates:

(1) New Joiners

This season, the Harbour Services Team was thrilled to welcome two new Seasonal Harbour Assistants, Chris Cattaway and Robyn Beresford.

Chris and Robyn quickly became valued members of our team, thoroughly enjoying their time working in the harbours getting to know our harbour users and assisting with general administration.

Whilst Chris is undecided if he will return next season, Robyn is eagerly looking forward to her second season at the harbours.





(2) Harbour User Committee Meetings

The next Harbour Users Committee meetings will take place on **24 October 2024** at the following times and will be held virtually on Zoom.

17:30 Aberaeron

18:15 New Quay

19:00 Aberystwyth

While the Committees provide an opportunity to discuss matters, there are many ongoing ways that stakeholders can liaise throughout the year with the Harbour Service regarding day-to-day matters. This includes in person at the Harbours or via Clic, the Council's contact centre: clic@ceredigion.gov.uk / 01545 570881. We encourage stakeholders to do so in order that matters can be investigated in a timely manner.

(3) Port Waste Management Plan (PWMP)

The Harbours Port Waste Management Plans (PWMPs) have worked well this season which has contributed to the general cleanliness of each of the harbours. The waste facilities are available to **leisure users only** and include:

- 1) General Waste
- 2) Mixed recycling (including metals, paper, card, plastics)
- 3) Batteries
- 4) Oil filters

Commercial users' waste and any other forms of waste not mentioned above will continue to be rejected and Harbour users will be expected to make their own legally compliant arrangements for the disposal of any such waste as is required by legislation.

The PWMP is available to view at the Harbour Offices and on our webpage.

(4) Ceredigion Harbours Management Policy

The new Ceredigion Harbours Management Policy was approved by Cabinet and came into effect on 01 March 2024. Whilst it is accepted that not all stakeholders will necessarily agree with all elements of the Policy, the Harbour Service would like to thank all those who participated in the consultation process and shared their feedback / views.

The four main changes to the Policy are as follows:

- 1) Mooring transfers are no longer permitted in relation to leisure moorings.
- 2) Inheritance of moorings are no longer permitted for leisure users.
- 3) Car Parking Permits are no longer issued to mooring holders. Arrangements related to the separate pier reserved parking arrangements for the allocated New Quay commercial users remain unchanged.
- 4) Waiting list caps have been removed, as such leisure and commercial waiting lists are open to new applicants.
- 5) Waiting list fees payable will no longer be a deposit that is applied as credit to the mooring fee due on allocation of a mooring.

All harbour users are advised to familiarise themselves with the new Policy which, can be found be found either on the website, via the following link:

Ceredigion Harbours Management Policy - Ceredigion County Council

Or copies can be viewed at the Harbour Offices during opening hours.

(5) Aberaeron Coastal Defence Scheme

The Aberaeron Coastal Defence Scheme Works are now well underway. The Harbour Service will continue to update all Aberaeron Harbour Users as and when necessary.

Periodic updates on the scheme are available through the Council's website which can be found via the following link:

Coastal Defence - Ceredigion County Council

Local Notices to Mariners applicable to the scheme can be found on the Local Notice to Mariners webpage via the following link:

<u>Local Notices to Mariners and Local Lighthouse Authority Arrangements - Ceredigion</u>
<u>County Council</u>

Any questions or enquiries relating to the scheme can be addressed to the following:

Gwen Clements – Public Liaison Officer

Telephone: 07585 633799

Email: <u>aberaeron.plo@bam.com</u>

(6) Aberystwyth Coastal Defence Scheme

Information on the Aberystwyth Coastal Defence Scheme can be seen via the following link:

Layout1 (ceredigion.gov.uk)

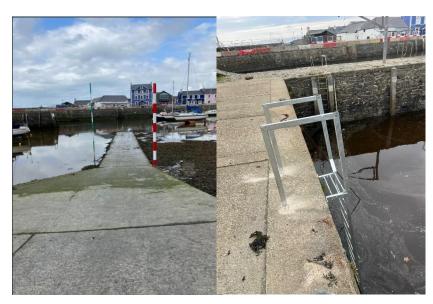
(7) Harbour Works and Maintenance

The Harbour Service has started planning for the dredging of key areas in New Quay Harbour, scheduled for March 2025.

The focus will be on Penpolion and the end of the Pier on the main beach.

We are committed to keeping all harbour users and stakeholders informed about the works. A Local Notice to Mariners will be issued with details on the dredging in due course.

Further maintenance works which have taken place over the summer period include a new guide pole on Aberaeron slip and ladder replacement and repairment works at Aberystwyth and Aberaeron harbours.



Works over the winter period are currently being arranged for the entrance of Aberystwyth inner harbour, Council pontoon and mooring rings at Aberaeron and New Quay (subject to Cadw consent).

(8) Health and Safety - Everyone's Responsibility

Harbours are working and shared use environments. The Harbour Service always looks to support and facilitate their safe use as far as it is reasonable and practicable to do so. Health and Safety is everyone's responsibility and as such we thank all stakeholders for their positive proactive approach and attitude towards maintaining the harbours as safe and enjoyable places to use and visit.

With this in mind, we would like to remind Harbour Users that ladders should be free from any attachments such as ropes, chains or any other mooring devices/apparatus at all times. The ladders are not designated or designed for this purpose and such attachments restrict access / use of the ladders, introduce trip and other hazards to other harbour users and can also damage the integrity of the ladder. In addition, ladders should not be used as a means to secure / moor any vessel, even on a temporary basis.

Any items that you may have attached to ladders on the harbour estate must be removed and stored or disposed of appropriately. Should items remain attached to ladders, the Harbour Service will look to remove and ultimately dispose of any items found as part of regular and ad hoc inspections.

How to report an incident?

There is a requirement for harbour users to report any incidents, accidents or near misses within the Harbours to the Harbour Services Team.

You can report an incident at the Harbour Offices during their opening hours or via the contact details provided in section 19.

(9) Harbours Surgeries

Scheduled surgery style meetings are held at each Harbour, so that harbour users can discuss any issues or concerns with the Harbour Manager (or the Harbour Works Leader in his absence) face to face.

The surgeries will be held at each harbour office except for the months of October and March as follows:

Aberystwyth- Last Tuesday of every month at 14:00 Aberaeron – Last Wednesday of every month 14:00 New Quay – Last Thursday of every month 14:00

Any changes to the schedule will be communicated with Harbour Users.

(10) Aids to Navigation and Local Notices to Mariners

All Aids to Navigation (navigational lights, marks and buoys) that are the responsibility of Ceredigion County Council are inspected monthly for defects, in the event of any such defect a Local Notice to Mariners will be issued, and a follow up will also be issued if and when the defect or issue has been resolved.

Harbour Users are asked to inform the Harbour's Team in the event of them becoming aware of or spotting a defect (for example a missing mark or extinguished light). Defects should be reported via the contact details provided in section 19 below.

Local Notices to Mariners are issued by the Authority to inform mariners of any operations or works taking place which may affect the safety of navigation in the vicinity.

As such, all Harbour Users are advised to keep take note and observe all Local Notices to Mariners are also posted outside each harbour office at New Quay, Aberaeron and Aberystwyth. Local Notices to Mariners are available to view on the on the Council's website.

(11) Proposed Changes to Leading Lights at Aberystwyth Harbour

The Harbour Service is proposing to relocate the leading lights at Aberystwyth Harbour. The previous lights on Ystwyth Bridge front were in the in the following positions:

Permanently extinguished: P0342 N02953: 52°24.369'N 004°05.381'W (Ystwyth Bridge Front)

P0342 N10383: 52°24.346'N 004°05.356'W (Ystwyth Bridge Rear)

and led vessels into the harbour on a 133°T lead.

The Harbour Authority is proposing to relocate these leading lights to the following approximate positions:

52°24'22.90"N 004°05'17.99"W (Front) 52°24'22.95"N 004°05'18.23"W (Rear)

Which will provide an approximate lead of 111°T.

The change, based on assessment of risk, will lead vessels into a more central part of the channel where deeper water is available, whilst keeping the turn clear for departing vessels who should keep as far to the starboard side of the channel as is safe and practicable.

The below diagram is for illustration purposes only and is not accurate.



(12) Insurance

Harbour Users are reminded that they are required to always maintain appropriate and valid insurance for their vessels whilst on their mooring or on winter storage facilities. This is outlined in the Confirmation of Summer and Winter Mooring Requirement application forms with mooring holders confirming they will abide by this as part of the application.

(13) New Quay Lift Out and Storage Arrangements

The lifting out and subsequent storing of vessels on all levels of New Quay Pier is no longer be permitted except for tenders on the provided rack.

Harbour users who have normally done so are to make separate arrangements for the coming and future winter seasons. Affected harbour users have the following options for Winter storage:

- Aberaeron, South Beach Car Park (this will need to be arranged with the lift out organisers)
- New Quay, Church Street Car Park.
- On a mooring in the harbour, the harbour user will need to liaise with the Harbour Authority to identify an appropriate mooring for the winter season.
- Other private arrangement.

(14) New Webpage

The Harbour Service has updated its web page, the new and improved web page contains comprehensive information on all harbour matters, including:

- General Harbour Information
- Local Notices to Mariners and Local Lighthouse Authority Arrangements
- Ceredigion Harbours Management Policy
- Long-Term Mooring, Hardstanding or Water Activity Equipment Stand Storage
- Visitor Launching
- Visitor Moorings
- Calm Waters Newsletters
- Harbour Users Consultative Meetings
- Port Waste Management Plan

The webpage is easily accessible and can be accessed by anyone by simply searching 'Ceredigion Harbours' or by via the below link.

Harbours - Ceredigion County Council

(15) Identification

Section 16.1 of the Ceredigion Harbours Management Policy requires that:

'All vessels/watercraft and equipment including but not limited to, trailers and tenders used within the harbours and Council property must have their names displayed conspicuously to the satisfaction of the Harbour Manager'.

The Harbour Service has noticed that some vessels and equipment do not meet this standard. It is the responsibility of every Harbour User to ensure their vessel and or equipment is named conspicuously and in accordance with the Policy.

(16) Lifejackets and Personal Floatation Devices

The Harbour Authority is encouraging all harbour users to always use lifejackets and personal floatation devices when onboard a vessel or taking part in other water-based activities. According to RNLI statistics around 200 people drown off the coasts of UK and Ireland each year, by people taking part in a large range of water-based activities, many of which are common in our harbours.

Research suggests that the use of a lifejacket could increase chances of survival by up to four times in cold water.

For further information and guidance on lifejackets and personal floatation devices we encourage all harbour users to visit the below web page:

Lifejackets And Buoyancy Aids - Choose And Maintain Yours (rnli.org).

(17) Activities and Events

For any organised activities and events taking place on the harbour estate and within the limits of the harbours an application must be made in accordance with procedures on the following link:

Activities and Events - Ceredigion County Council

Examples of Activities and Events that take place on the Harbour Estate may include but are not limited to:

- Craning Operations (lift in and lift out).
- Sailing and rowing regattas.
- Charity and stakeholder activity or events.
- Displays, exhibitions and demonstrations.
- Filming including the use of drones.
- Entertainment events.
- Commercial trading and leisure activities.
- Food and beverage sales.
- Emergency service training and active response.
- Dredging and maintenance activities.
- Leisure use of beaches.

By following this process, the Council can ensure that any activity or event taking place on Council land, on the harbour estate, or within the limits of the harbours are:

- Fully insured.
- Risk assessments and method statements checked.
- Local Notice to Mariners issued, if necessary.
- Fully communicated with stakeholders and harbour users.
- Fully compliant with the Marine Code, to ensure no disturbance to marine wildlife, especially qualifying features of the three marine Special Areas of Conservation.
- Have organisers permission from NRW for activities within an SSSI (if required or necessary).

Thereby ensuring every aspect of the activity or event, is safe and properly checked, planned, and organised which is mutually beneficial for both the Council and the activity/event organisers.

(18) Tide Tables

Harbour users can access the 2024 on the <u>Discover Ceredigion website</u>, they can also be collected in person at each of the harbour offices.

(19) Making Contact and Feedback

Please note: The technical services mailbox is no longer in use and is not monitored.

Should you wish to contact the Harbours Service you can do so via:

Email: clic@ceredigion.gov.uk

Phone: 01545 570 881

Post: Ceredigion County Council

Canolfan Rheidol Rhodfa Padarn Llanbadarn Fawr Aberystwyth Ceredigion SY23 3UE

We always welcome and encourage constructive feedback from stakeholders and we look forward to hearing from you.

With thanks from,

The Harbours Team

Owen Morgan AFNI, Harbour Manager

Chay Sanders, Harbour Works Leader

Chris Cattaway, Seasonal Harbour Assistant

Robyn Beresford, Seasonal Harbour Assistant









