

**NORTHERN LIGHTHOUSE BOARD
NAVIGATION COMMITTEE**

MINUTES – 21 March 2019

PRESENT:	Alastair Beveridge	Chairman
	Mike Brew	Commissioner
	Graham Crerar	Commissioner
	Phil Day	Director of Operations
	Mairi Rae	Director of Business Services
	Peter Douglas	Navigation Manager
	Karen Charleson	Senior Executive Assistant (notes)

12 December 2018

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Commissioner Shaw and Mike Bullock (Chief Executive).

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Navigation Committee meeting held on 12 December 2018 were agreed. It was agreed that a copy could be published on the website.

Action: Senior Executive Assistant

3. MATTERS ARISING

The Committee noted that Matters Arising from the previous meeting would be addressed within the relevant subject areas.

4. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The Committee noted the report and discussion took place on the following items:

2020 AtoN Review

Proposed inputs for Areas 1, 2 & 3 will be discussed at Agenda item 7. Apart from a number of site-specific proposals, agreement was given in principle to increase AIS coverage so as to have the capability to transmit Virtual AtoN in all areas considered to require 'within 24 hours' response in the GLA Risk Response Criteria document. AIS Data for June 2018 has been sourced and the Navigation Manager will review.

Action: Navigation Manager

Oban Bay

The Committee noted the establishment of the buoyage agreed at the last meeting will take place on 11 April 2019. A new Code of Practice for Oban Bay, North Entrance and the Sound of Kerrera has been produced and will be issued after the buoys have been deployed. The Committee agreed that Commissioners should view the new buoyage during Inspection Voyage 1.

Action: Director of Operations

High density data for the Corran Ledge area has been provided to UKHO by CMAL who arranged a survey. This is being introduced to a revised chart which will allow ECDIS users to have a safety contour at 1 metre intervals rather than 5 metres. NLB has been requested to trial this on our vessels.

Resilient PNT

The Committee noted that US Congress has awarded \$15m for a technology demonstration of terrestrial PNT.

Port Marine Safety Code Audit

It was noted that re-audits were undertaken of Forth Ports and Montrose Ports Authority. No issues were noted.

GNSS update

The first Block IIIA GPS satellite was successfully launched on 23 December and is currently in testing status. This is the first GPS launch in almost three years. GPS III features additional civilian frequencies, improved accuracy and increased power output. Whilst the introduction of GPS III will reduce vulnerability to interference; however GNSS remains inherently vulnerable due to low signal strengths.

Marine incidents

The Committee noted the Navigation Manager's report on recent marine incidents.

Marine Licence and Sanction Requests

The Committee noted the summary of Marine Licence Activity and Sanctions for the establishment/disestablishment of AtoN.

5. ENGINEERING

The Committee noted and discussed the Engineering report:

Programme and Renewals

Temporary lights remain at Copinsay, Duncansby Head (new light in final commissioning), Mull of Kintyre, Stroma and Mull of Galloway. Temporary lights have been established at Kinnaird Head.

Cleit Rock Beacon has been renewed with a more substantial stainless steel beacon with GRP coloured sleeve (black over yellow), but was delayed due to an issue with the barge. Grocis Sgeir renewal is under way.

The 2019/20 programme preparation is progressing. This programme will be reviewed at the Programme and Project Board on 27 March 2019.

Assets

Availability - The Committee noted the 3 year rolling availability figures to 11 March 2019. Since the last committee there has been 2 outages over 72 hours. Category 3 availability has been substantially affected by a small number of AIS outages which took a considerable time to rectify. Currently this remain above the IALA standard of 97% for the group.

Monitoring - The existing monitoring system and servers continue to operate reliably. Final assessment of the tenders submitted is being carried out and site visits are being arranged. It is anticipated a decision will be made in early April.

DGPS – DGPS issues relating to servers and routers have been resolved with all aspects operational. The Tri-GLA survey to establish user demand for DGPS is being evaluated and a meeting is arranged for 23 April 2019 to review the data. A report and technical advice will be provided to IGC5 who will make a recommendation on the future of the service which will be provided to the Navigation Committee.

2015 Aton Review

The Committee noted the Summary of Proposed Changes and Stations Update document for the AtoN Review.

6. NOTICES TO MARINERS

The Notices to Mariners published since the last meeting were noted.

7. ATON REVIEW

The Committee noted the papers on the first draft of outputs from the review for areas 1, 2 and 3 with AIS vessel track data where available.

In particular, the Committee noted and discussed the following:

Area 1 - Isle of Man, North Channel and Clyde

- Point of Ayre - Reduce to 18nM range on re-engineering
- Corsewall - Re-engineer as a light of >18nM range (need to re-examine)
- Loch Ryan - Re-engineer. (No change proposed – will remain a 12 mile red light)
- Pladda - Re-engineer as a light of 17nM range
- AIS & Virtual AIS Capability - Add to Point of Ayre; Mull of Galloway (subject to discussions with Irish Lights) and Corsewall

Area 2 - Mull of Kintyre to Ardnamurchan

- Dubh Artach - Re-engineer as a light of 20nM range
- Ruvaal – Re-engineer as a light of 19nM range
- Skerryvore - Re-engineer as a light of >18nM range

The Navigation Manager to discuss the following with the local community in Mull and bring back to the Committee following research:

- MacQuarrie's Rock (Ulva) - Establish an Isolated Danger Mark buoy
- Bhanarach Rocks (Gigha) - Establish an East Cardinal Mark buoy

Committee to discuss further once new AIS data is received:

- Ross Rock (Loch Sunart) - Establish a South Cardinal Mark buoy
- Broad Rock (Loch Sunart) - Establish an Isolated Danger Mark buoy
- MacKenzies's Rock (Skerryvore) - Establish Virtual AIS AtoN – no justification as not an isolated danger.
- Fladda - Add daytime conspicuity switching for use in restricted visibility (as a trial). This could be achieved through the monitoring system. User would have to request for it to be switched on.

Area 3 - Ardnamurchan to Barra Head; Cape Wrath to the Flannan Isles

- Butt of Lewis - The Director of Operations sought approval from the Navigation Committee to install 2 Sealite fixed flashing LEDs which would reduce the range of the light from 25 miles to 21 miles. The Committee discussed the proposal and agreed to the change.
- Cape Wrath – re-engineer as a light of >18nM range
- Eilean Glas - re-engineer as a light of >18nM range

- Flannan Isles – re-engineer
- Haskeir – re-engineer
- Hyskeir – re-engineer
- Monach Isles – re-engineer
- Ornsay – re-engineer
- Dunvegan - Re-engineer as LED sector light (roll forward into review)
- Whale Rock buoy - Replace with Virtual AIS AtoN broadcast from St Kilda/Flannans/Haskeir (take to consultation)
- Murcadh Breac (Torrison) - Establish a West Cardinal Mark buoy. Need to consult wider include Torrison Fishing Group.
- Sgeir Graidach - Establish Virtual AIS AtoN (look at new AIS data)
- Eileanan Dubha (Lochalsh) - Add daytime conspicuity switching for use in restricted visibility. This is a busy area, look at providing a trial either at this location of Fladda.
- AIS & Virtual AIS Capability - Add to Neist Point, Eilean Glas and Rubh Re. It was noted TH have rolled out units which are 4G enabled – upgrade rather than refit.

It was noted that there would be another opportunity to come back to areas for further discussion if necessary.

8. RISK CARD REVIEW

The Committee reviewed the Risk Card and had no revisions or amendments.

9. ANNUAL REVIEW OF COMMITTEE EFFECTIVENESS (FOR DISCUSSION)

Review Terms of Reference

It was agreed to defer the review of the Terms of Reference to the next meeting in June.

Training

It was agreed that the familiarisation visit to GRAD in Harwich and also the various technical discussions provided adequate training. A visit will be arranged to Cape Wrath for the Navigation Committee to see the new equipment after the work is completed.

Action: Director of Operations

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items of any other business.

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Navigation Committee will take place on 19 June 2019 at 10am. It is proposed to hold the meeting on 18 September 2019 in Oban.