



James O'Connor
Eversheds Sutherland (International)
LLP
(By email only)

Our reference:
HRO/2022/00010

7 May 2025

Dear Mr O'Connor,

**The Harbours Act 1964
The Blyth Harbour Revision Order**

1. The Marine Management Organisation ("the MMO") informs you that consideration has been given to the application for the Blyth (Extension of Limits) Harbour Revision Order ("the Order") for which you applied on behalf of Blyth Harbour Commissioners ("the applicant") under Section 14 of the Harbours Act 1964 ("the Act") on 14 September 2022.

Summary of Decision

2. The MMO has authorised the making of the Order with amendments and modifications not affecting the character of the Order which it considers necessary and appropriate.
3. The Order would extend the harbour limits of Blyth Harbour within which the applicant exercises jurisdiction as statutory harbour authority to include an additional area known as Ash Barge Dock.

Context

4. The applicant is the statutory harbour authority for Blyth Harbour.
5. The applicant is responsible for the maintenance, management and improvement of Blyth Harbour.
6. Blyth Harbour is situated on the north-east coast of England. Ash Barge Dock is being constructed as a deep-water berth for the Northumberland Energy Park Project in Blyth. Ash Barge Dock is adjacent to the jurisdiction limits of the applicant.
7. The Order would extend the area of jurisdiction of the applicant to include Ash Barge Dock.



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE

Bronze



Application procedure

8. On 14 September 2022 an application for the Order was submitted to the MMO by Eversheds Sutherland (International) LLP on behalf of the applicant.
9. Notice of the application for the Order was advertised in the London Gazette on 9 June 2023 and in the News Post Leader on 9 June 2023 and 16 June 2023.
10. MMO consulted the following bodies, their responses are summarised below:

Organisation	Response received and actions
British Ports Association ("BPA")	BPA supported the application.
Chamber of Shipping ("CoS")	No response received.
Department for Transport ("DfT")	No objection to the application.
Health and Safety Executive ("HSE")	No response received.
Maritime and Coastguard Agency ("MCA")	No concerns regarding the application.
Northumberland County Council ("NCC")	No objection to the application.
Royal Yachting Association ("RYA")	No response received.
The Crown Estate ("TCE")	No comments to make.
Trinity House ("TH")	TH supports the Order and supports the inclusion of the standard saving provision for Trinity House in Article 4 of the Order.
UK Major Ports Group ("UKMPG")	No response was received.

Public representations

11. No representations were received within the statutory 42-day period provided for in Schedule 3 to the Act.

MMO consideration

12. Section 14(1) of the Act provides for an order to be made under this section ("a harbour revision order") in relation to a harbour which is being improved, maintained or managed by a harbour authority in the exercise and performance of statutory powers and duties for achieving all or any of the objects set out in Schedule 2 to the Act. The Order contains provision for maintenance and construction as part of the harbour development to enable the authority to manage the Harbour to exercise their statutory functions.
13. By virtue of section 14(2)(a) a harbour revision order may not be made in relation to a harbour unless the MMO is satisfied that an appropriate written application has been made by the authority engaged in improving, maintaining or managing it, or by a

person appearing to it to have a substantial interest or body representative of persons appearing to it to have such an interest.

14. By virtue of section 14(2)(b) a harbour revision order shall not be made in relation to a harbour unless the MMO is satisfied that the making of the order is desirable in the interests of securing the improvement, maintenance or management of the harbour in an efficient and economical manner, or of facilitating the efficient and economical transport of goods or passengers by sea or in the interests of the recreational use of sea-going ships.

MMO's decision

15. The MMO is satisfied that the Order meets the requirements of section 14(1) and 14(2)(a) of the Act.
16. The MMO is satisfied that there are no objections to the application for the Order.
17. The MMO is satisfied for the reasons set out by the applicant in their Statement in Support, and summarised above, that the making of the Order (and each provision of the Order) is desirable for the purposes of section 14(2)(a) and (b) of the Act and should be made.
18. The MMO authorises the making of the Order with amendments and modifications which it considers necessary and appropriate but not substantially affecting the character of the Order.

Challenges to decisions

19. Information on the right to challenge this decision is set out in the Annex to this letter.

Yours Sincerely



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Marine Licensing Case Officer

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Annex

Right to challenge decisions

Right to challenge orders made under sections 14 and 16 of the Harbours Act 1964

Any person who desires to question the making of the Order on the ground that there was no power to make the Order or that a requirement of the Harbours Act 1964 was not complied with in relation to the Order, may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order becomes operative make an application for the purpose to the High Court or the Court of Session, as the case may be.

A person who thinks they may have grounds for challenging the decision to make the Order is advised to seek legal advice before taking any action.