



Marine Management Organisation

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Port of London Authority

FAO: Mr Ashleigh Evans
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cc: Samantha Woods
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Your reference: [unknown]
Our reference:
HRO/2020/00005

[By email only]

25 July 2025

Dear Mr Evans,

Port of London Authority proposed Harbour Revision Order Application

Public Inquiry

The Inquiry Chair ("the Chair") has informed the MMO that he is currently drafting his report, following closure of the Public Inquiry on 14 March 2025. We anticipate that it will be finalised in early Autumn 2025.

As indicated by the Chair in his closing of the Inquiry it is for him to make one of the following recommendations:

1. the proposed harbour revision order ("proposed order") be made as currently drafted,
2. the proposed order is not made, and the application rejected, or
3. the proposed order is made with made with modifications.

Once the final report is issued to the MMO by the Chair, it will be necessary for the MMO to consider the contents of the Report and its recommendations. The MMO will then reach a decision, having regard to the Chair's Report. The possible options for such a decision would again fall within one of the three categories set out by the Chair.

We set out below the procedure we intend to follow in the case of each of the categories of decision:

1. Make as currently drafted

If the MMO concludes that the proposed order should be made as drafted at the commencement of the Inquiry, your client and those groups and individuals involved in the Inquiry will be notified of this decision. The proposed order will then progress to the legal checking stage. This will also be the approach if the MMO concludes that any modifications should be made which do not appear to substantially affect the character of the order.

2. Application rejected

If the MMO concludes that the proposed order should not be made it will reject the application. Again, your client and those groups and individuals involved in the Inquiry will be notified of this decision.

3. Made with modifications

Schedule 3, paragraph 21 of the Harbours Act 1964 provides:

(1) Where the Secretary of State proposes to make the order applied for with modifications which appear to him substantially to affect the character of the order he—

(a) shall take such steps as appear to him to be sufficient and reasonably practicable for informing the applicant and other persons likely to be concerned, and

(b) shall not make the order until such period for consideration of, and comment upon, the proposed modifications by the applicant and those other persons as he thinks reasonable has expired.”

If the MMO is minded to make the proposed order subject to modifications (whether recommended by the Chair or otherwise) which appear in the MMO's view to substantially affect the character of the Order, paragraph 21 will apply.

In accordance with paragraph 21, the MMO must allow for a period for consideration and comment upon the modifications to the proposed order by those **likely to be concerned**. Those to be informed will be determined at the appropriate time, but are likely to include:

- Any objectors to the original application;
- Participants in the Inquiry who are likely to be concerned by the proposed modifications; and
- Any bodies consulted under paragraph 15 Harbours Act 1964.

It is for the MMO to determine the “*period for consideration*” under paragraph 21. This determination will be made following consideration of the Chair's Report and will be clearly communicated to all those contacted.

The MMO will send all those it determines as likely to be concerned a copy of the Chair's Report and the proposed order with the proposed modifications.

For details of what the MMO considers when determining how to proceed following the period of consideration and comment in accordance with paragraph 21, Schedule 3 Harbours Act 1964, please see the published guidance on 'Determining an Application' [Harbour Orders - GOV.UK](#)

Yours Sincerely,



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