

<b>Meeting</b>	Porthmadog Harbour Advisory Committee
<b>Date:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
<b>Author:</b>	Senior Harbour Officer
<b>Service:</b>	Maritime Service, Economy and Community Department
<b>Title:</b>	Update on Service Management Matters

## 1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Committee's role is to consider, discuss and advise on matters relating to harbour management, safety and development and receive members' comments on matters relating to Porthmadog Harbour.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on management issues related to the harbour, inviting feedback or comments from committee members.

## 2. REPORTING ON SERVICE MANAGEMENT MATTERS

The summary below is presented in relation to the performance of the Service.

### i) Performance Data

- 2.1 The data below is collated as part of the Maritime Service's performance management and monitoring arrangements.

Measure	2023/4	2024/5	2025/6
Mooring Agreements			
Porthmadog	106	109	106
Barmouth	71	78	81
Aberdyfi	73	79	83

- 2.2 The figures provided remain consistent with those shared at the October meeting, however during the winter period, the Harbour office has received several enquiries regarding new customer moorings at Porthmadog Harbour. This is an encouraging indication that numbers are likely to raise again compared with previous seasons. The service would like to extend its sincere thanks to the harbour staff for their excellent customer service and professionalism in their roles. Their knowledge and dedication are instrumental in generating the highly positive feedback we continue to receive from local mariners and visiting vessels.

The Maritime Service would also like to remind everyone that the online service for mooring applications and power craft registration will reopen on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. Registration fees have been adjusted in line with annual inflation, please see below for the latest fees and charges.

The Service also collects data on the customer satisfaction of harbour users:

	2023/4	2024/5	2025/6
<b>Customer Satisfaction</b>			
Excellent	40%	60%	68%
Very Good	30%	24%	24%
Satisfactory	20%	16%	4%
Poor	10%	0%	2%
Very Poor	0%	0%	0%
Unknown	0%	0%	2%

The figures shown are comparable to those reported at the October committee meeting. Due to the low footfall over the winter period, we anticipate a decline in the volume of feedback submitted through the QR code questionnaire. Nevertheless, the feedback received through email correspondence and face-to-face discussions has been extremely positive and well received.

An example below of feedback received from customers:

*"Thank you and the Team for the support this week. The support has been absolutely fantastic and has meant that we have been able to continue to support our most vulnerable residents despite the challenging conditions."*

*"Your willingness to help and your positive attitude meant that we were able to continue to run our services as smoothly as possible. I thank you personally and on behalf of the Service, but I would also like to emphasise how appreciative our carers are of the support you have received. Our carers' jobs can be tough, and it's even harder during the winter months. The nature of the job means that it can be a lonely job, and I'm sure the support they've experienced this week has gone a long way in terms of giving them a sense of appreciation."*

*"Thank you to all the lovely harbour staff at Porthmadog, thank you so much for all your help over the year I am now nearly up to £2000 for my chosen charity."*

*"The office is looking fantastic since the work has been carried out, we love the windows."*

*"Excellent service provided by the assistant Harbour Master when requested to assist with the Pwllheli Harbour hydrographic survey. His experience and knowledge is fantastic and has provided this service a number of times using GP2. We thank him very much. Diolch yn fawr iawn."*

Both positive and constructive observations on the management of the harbour are encouraged, as they help us enhance services we provide.

## ii) **Harbour Safety**

- 2.3 The Port Marine Security Code (PMSC) sets out the national standard for all aspects of port maritime safety.

At the October committee meeting, members were advised that following the appointment of Mr Owen Morgan as the new Designated Person for Cyngor Gwynedd, he would undertake audits of the harbours under the authority of the Maritime department, namely Aberdyfi, Barmouth, Porthmadog and Hafan Pwllheli.

In 2025 amendments to the PMSC introduced clearer guidance and strengthened requirements for stakeholders and organisations operating within harbour limits. These changes were designed to ensure that any overlapping marine safety management systems and plans complement one another effectively. As a result, a national compliance exercise was issued to all harbours to confirm adherence to individual codes and to ensure that appropriate measures were in place to address any necessary amendments.

The department is pleased to announce that Mr Morgan completed the audit in February. Following a positive report, the Service is now in a position to submit its Compliance Statement before the end of March and to publish its PMSC documentation on the Cyngor Gwynedd website.

### **Winter Storms**

During the 2025/26 winter period, the area once again experienced an increased number of storms, predominantly from a South-South-East direction. Only one incident was recorded during this time, involving a small vessel that became submerged alongside the harbour wall due to heavy rainfall and strong winds. No environmental concerns were identified, and the vessel was righted at the earliest opportunity. While it is understood that customers are keen to inspect or prepare their vessel during such conditions, safety must remain the priority and unnecessary risks should be avoided. Customers are also reminded to ensure that vessels and mooring lines are properly maintained.

## iii) **Resources and Budget**

Latest table for the 2026/27 Fees

A summary of budgets for Porthmadog harbour is included below.

Prisiau yn Cynnwys TAW	2025/26	2025/26	2026/27	2026/27	Prices Including VAT
<i>Er manteisio ar y ffi 'lleol' mae yn hanfodol fod dalwr yr angorfa wedi bod yn breswyl yn barhaol a llawn amser yng Ngwynedd am y bum mlynedd diwethaf</i>	Lleol Local Inc. VAT	Eraill Others Inc. VAT	Lleol Local Inc. VAT	Eraill Others Inc. VAT	<i>For a 'local' rate to apply the applicant must have been resident in Gwynedd on a permanent and full time basis for the previous five years.</i>
Tollau Harwr y fedr (Ffi blynyddol. Pob cwch)	52.59	52.59	54.69	54.69	Harbour Dues per meter (Annual fee. All vessels)
Ffi Trwydded Angorfa Stad Y Goron-pob angorfa (Eithrwyd TAW-dim yn daladwy hyd omla)	33.11	33.11	33.11	33.11	Crown Estate Mooring License-all moorings (VAT exempt-not presently charged)
Rhent Angorfa Dŵr Dwfyn + Tollau Harwr Ardal 1	535.10	647.16	561.86	673.05	Deep Water Mooring Rental + Harbour Dues Area 1
Rhent Angorfa Dŵr Dwfyn + Tollau Harwr Ardal 2	498.58	614.89	523.51	639.49	Deep Water Mooring Rental + Harbour Dues Area 2
Rhent Angorfa Gwlyb + Tollau Harwr Ardal 1	481.15	593.36	505.21	617.09	Wet Mooring Rental + Harbour Dues Area 1
Rhent Angorfa Gwlyb + Tollau Harwr Ardal 2	444.59	557.09	466.82	579.37	Wet Mooring Rental + Harbour Dues Area 2
Rhent Angorfa Sych + Tollau Harwr Ardal 1	313.10	380.56	328.76	398.78	Drying Mooring + Harbour Dues Area 1
Trwydded Angorfa-Angorfeidd Praifat (Angorfeidd ol a blaen yn unig)	75.53	75.53	78.55	78.55	Mooring License – Private Moorings per mooring (Fore and Aft Moorings all areas)
<i>Cwch ymwelwyr – Dyddiol neu rhan o ddiwrnod</i>					<i>Visiting Vessels – Daily or part of day</i>
Cwsmeriaid Harwr/Marina Cyngor Gwynedd	15.00		16.00		Gwynedd Council Harbour/Marina Clients
Pob Cwch Ymweld Arall		20.00		22.00	All Other Visiting Vessels
<i>Ardal 4 Borth-y-Gest</i>					<i>Area 4 Borth-y-Gest</i>
Pris y fedr am flwyddyn (Tollau Harwr ddim yn daladwy)	40.76	59.87	43.21	62.86	Price per meter per annum (Harbour Dues not payable)
Cychod Gwieni ar angorfa (Fesul cwch nid fesul HYC)	33.23	33.23	34.89	34.89	Small Yacht & Tenders on mooring (per boat not LOA)
Pris y D.G dyddiol neu rhan diwrnod	1.36	1.36	1.41	1.41	Price per G.R.T per day or part of day
Trwydded Parcio a Lansio – uchafswm 50 llestr	2,384.78		2,480.17		Park and Launch License – max 50 vessels
Ffi Maes Parcio - Hyd at 2 awr	3.00	3.00	3.10	3.10	Car Park Fee - Up to 2 hours
Ffi Maes Parcio - Mwy na 2 awr	6.00	6.00	6.20	6.20	Car Park Fee - Above 2 hours
Diddymu cais angorfa. Gorddewisol	Rule 1/18	Rule 1/18	Rule 1/18	Rule 1/18	Cancellation of mooring (Discretionary)

Ffi Cofrestru Blynyddol	2025/26	2026/27	Annual Registration Fee
Cofrestru Blynyddol	£75.00	£80.00	Annual Registration
<b>Ffi Lansio Blynyddol - Cynnwys Ffi Cofrestru Blynyddol</b>			<b>Yearly Launching Fee - Inclusive of Annual Registration Fee</b>
Trwydded Lansio Blynyddol (1 Ebrill – 31 Mawrth)	£190.00	£196.50	Annual Launching Permits (1 April – 31 March)
<b>Ffi Lansio Dyddiol</b>			<b>Daily Launching Fees</b>
Lansio dyddiol - Llithrfeidd/Traethau Cyffredinnoel	£23.00	£24.00	Daily launch – General Slipways/Beaches
Lansio dyddiol - Traeth Morfa Bychan (yn ogystal â £4 ychwanegol ar gyfer parcio)	£27.00	£28.15	Daily launch – Morfa Bychan Beach (plus an additional £4 required for Parking)
<b>Ffi Trosglwyddo / Aildoddiad</b>			<b>Transfer / Replacement Fee</b>
Ceisiadau drwy'r post yn unig i Morwrol@gwynedd.llyw.cymru	£75.00	£80.00	Postal application only to Morwrol@gwynedd.llyw.cymru
<b>Cychod llai na 10 HP a Cychod Hwyllo</b>			<b>Vessels under 10 HP and Sail Boats</b>
Cofrestru Blynyddol – Ceisiadau Mewn Person yn Unig. Yn Swyddfeidd yr Harbyrau neu ar y Prif Draethau gyda'r cwch ar gael er ei archwilio. Dim ffi lansio yn daladwy.	£42.00	£45.00	Annual Registration – In Person Application Only. At the Harbour Offices or at the main Resort Beaches, with the vessel available for inspection. No launching fees charged for small vessel.

PORTHMADOG HARBOUR	Financial Performance for the Period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 - November 2025 Review		
	BUDGET / TARGETS FOR THE PERIOD 1/4/25 TO 31/3/26	INCOME & EXPENDITURE FORECASTED 1/4/25 TO 31/3/26	OVER (UNDER)
Employees	79,918	83,753	3,834
Buildings	18,870	11,146	(7,724)
Transport	740	272	(468)
Supplies & Services	23,770	15,048	(8,722)
One - Off Expenditure - Financed from Reserves	0	31,914	31,914
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>123,298</b>	<b>142,133</b>	<b>18,834</b>
Income	(76,590)	(72,915)	3,675
Contribution from Reserves Tow	0	(31,914)	(31,914)
<b>Total Net</b>	<b>46,708</b>	<b>37,305</b>	<b>(9,404)</b>

iv) **Other Key Issues**

- **Harbour Masters Office and Compound area**

Works at the Harbour Master Office have now been completed. During the winter period, the office was reconfigured to accommodate both the Porthmadog Beaches Officer and Senior Harbour Officer. This also allowed for the relocation of the staff canteen to a more suitable area within the building, ensuring improved staff welfare facilities.



Work on the compound area is ongoing, with further details to be provided in the Harbour Master Report.

- **Staff**

Significant snowfall during the winter period created difficulties for home carers attempting to access patients who require multiple daily visits. The Maritime Unit was requested to assist by providing a transport service for nurses and carers, using their 4x4 vehicles from the early hours of the morning until late at night. Without this assistance, some residents may not have received any visits during this challenging period. We are extremely proud of and grateful to the staff for the service they provide both on and off the water.

Maritime staff also responded to an environmental incident in the Criccieth area during the winter. Staff trained in oil spill response deployed booms, absorbent mats and other materials to contain the spill and minimise the environmental impact.

- **Terra Marique**

During 2026 we expect the next delivery of a shunt reactor by the vessel 'Terra Marique'. As in 2024, the operation is planned to take place at Morfa Bychan beach, where the barge will be beached before the reactor is transported by road to Trawsfynydd (Date to be confirmed).

- **Rowing Club**

A formal agreement between the Rowing Club and the Maritime Service has now been approved following a request for the use of land within the compound area. The Rowing Club has used the area for storage for a number of years, and we are pleased that an official agreement is now in place between both parties.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to accept the contents of the report.

<b>Meeting</b>	Porthmadog Harbour Advisory Committee
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<b>Date:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
<b>Author:</b>	Harbour Master Malcolm Humphreys
<b>Service:</b>	Maritime Service, Economy and Community Department,
<b>Title:</b>	Update on Operational Matters

## 1. BACKGROUND

The Committee's role is to consider, discuss and advise on matters relating to the management, protection and development of the harbour and to receive members' comments on matters relating to Porthmadog Harbour.

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on operational issues related to the harbour, inviting feedback or comments from committee members.

## 2. REPORTING ON OPERATIONAL ISSUES

The summary below is presented from the perspective of the performance of the Service.

### a) Navigation Matters

Due to ongoing maintenance requirements and adverse weather and sea conditions, there are currently three Notice to Mariners in force relating to the approaches to the Porthmadog Harbour. The channel has continued to be monitored throughout the winter period. The large sandbank that developed during the previous season remains in place. Mariners are therefore advised to approach the area with caution. Vessels with a significant draught are advised to navigate the channel approximately 1.5 hours either side of high water.

Mariners are strongly advised to contact the Harbour Office and refer to the latest Local Notice to Mariners for up-to-date information regarding navigation into Porthmadog Harbour.

The following Aids to Navigation are currently "Off Station":

- No3 Starboard hand mark
- No4 Port hand mark
- No12 Port hand mark

As part of our statutory duty, we must advise mariners to navigate with caution within the channel and on approach to the harbour. Any Aids to Navigation currently "Off Station" will be repositioned at the earliest opportunity, subject to safe sea and weather conditions. Once repositioned, an updated Notice to Mariners will be issued, and the information will also be recorded on the Trinity House Local Aids to Navigation LARs database. Further details will be provided in the Harbour Masters report.

## **b) Specific issues have arisen**

### **Harbour Compound**

As previously mentioned by the Senior Harbour Officer, improvement works within the compound area are ongoing. New composite fencing and gates have been installed both internally and externally, improving security for the storage area and enhancing the overall appearance of the compound. Further work will include replacing the existing wooden planters with composite boards to match the fencing, along with resurfacing work around the planter areas.

The containers currently stored in the compound for use at Morfa Bychan during the operational season will shortly be transported back to site, creating additional working space for maritime staff.

### **Yacht Club**

The Yacht Club has replaced the anchor moorings and chain for the pontoon as part of its scheduled maintenance programme.

### **CCTV**

The Service has once again been requested to provide CCTV footage to assist North Wales Police with ongoing enquiries in and around the harbour area. The department welcomes these requests and continues to assist wherever possible.

## **c) Maintenance**

- 2.1 The annual Workboat Code 3 inspection and full engine service for the Harbour Patrol boat have been completed. Following minor maintenance work, GP2 is now back in service and ready for the upcoming season.
- 2.2 Dwyfor is currently undergoing maintenance. Several issues were identified last season regarding the vessel's condition, and investment has been made to repair the clutch, exhaust system and address other minor defects. It is anticipated that the work will be completed by April.
- 2.3 Harbour moorings are scheduled for inspection this year. Servicing of chains, shackles, buoys and lines has already commenced. Commercial divers have been contracted to inspect the equipment to ensure that all moorings remain safe and secure for customers.
- 2.4 Staff have been preparing mooring equipment for deployment of Aids to Navigation prior to the start of the season. A new local chart will be produced and published once all A to N are in the correct positions.

- 2.5 The Service continues to monitor sandbank encroachment near 'Danger Rock'. Mariners operating vessels with a draught of 2 metres or more are advised to navigate this section of the channel approximately 1.5 hours either side of high water in order to avoid grounding. All mariners are encouraged to contact the Harbour Office prior to entering or leaving the harbour to obtain the latest navigational information.
- 2.6 The Pay and Display machine located in the rear car park will be replaced with a new card payment machine. Following feedback from users, this change is expected to provide a more convenient service while also reducing security risks to staff when transporting cash to the bank.
- 2.7 The Harbour Office is currently seeking information regarding potential funding opportunities for the removal of abandoned vessels. Harbours across the UK continue to face significant costs associated with the recovery and disposal of such vessels.
- 2.8 The Service has recently invested in a new 4x4 vehicle to support Maritime staff. This will allow officers to carry out their duties safely and efficiently across both harbour and beach areas.

**d) Events**

- 3.0 Any organisation wishing to hold an event within the harbour area is requested to contact the Harbour Office in advance to discuss the details. As part of our statutory duties, the Service is required to publish a Notice to Mariners to inform harbour users of any activity that may present a potential navigational hazard.

The Service wishes all event organisers a successful season and hopes for favourable weather conditions. We will continue to support event organisers in implementing safe operating procedures to ensure all activities within the harbour are conducted safely.

**4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to accept the contents of the report.