



EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL - SOUTHWOLD HARBOUR

Conservancy Policy

Version 1.0 January 2023

Conservancy Policy

Southwold Harbour recognises its duty to conserve the harbour so that it is fit for use as a port, and its Common Law duty of care to see that the harbour is in a fit condition for a vessel to use it.

Accordingly, Southwold Harbour will:

1. Provide users with adequate information about conditions in the harbour.
2. Survey the harbour and navigable channels as regularly as necessary, and keep proper hydrographic records
3. Carry out its duty and powers as a Local Lighthouse Authority to place navigation marks or lights where they will be of best use and regulate third-party operators of aids to navigation.
4. Apply specific powers to licence and regulate marine works
5. Apply specific powers in relation to wrecks should a wreck become, or is likely to become, an obstruction or danger to navigation.

The Officer responsible for delivering the Conservancy Duty is the Harbour Master.

Hydrography

Southwold Harbour will follow the requirements laid out in the Port Marine Safety Code for the provision of survey information. Southwold Harbour will maintain appropriate contracted services to deliver surveying commitment.

The UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) will receive all hydrographic information and Local Notices to Mariners produced by the Harbour.

Consents for Marine Works or Dredging

Marine Licences for works or dredging, will be obtained from the Marine Management Organisation if required. The authority has not yet undertaken maintenance dredging that required a Marine Licence from the Marine Management Organisation.

Consent for maintenance dredging and other marine works must have the approval of Southwold Harbour.

Mooring Areas

Southwold Harbour has powers to grant or reasonably withhold consent for marine works within the river (e.g. installation of moorings, dredging etc) after considering the effects on harbour safety of proposed changes in use or harbour works. Installation of moorings within the harbour remains subject to formal consent for marine works and **other third-party licenses/permissions if required**.

Buoyage and Aids to Navigation

Southwold Harbour inspects navigation marks under its jurisdiction in accordance with availability criteria laid down by the General Lighthouse Authority and effects maintenance and repairs as necessary. The alteration of existing marks and establishment of new marks are kept under review in consultation with Trinity House

Southwold Harbour will consider the effect of weather on harbour safety and promulgate warnings as required. Tide times are provided throughout the year.

Further information is available on request from the Harbour Office.