ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT

The Port of Blyth’s objective and aim is to maintain a balance between the commercial, recreational and environmental interests within the ports statutory harbour limits and areas within its jurisdiction, ensuring a sustainable and commercially viable trust port.

The Port recognises its responsibilities for the wider environment and to the local community. It is committed to comply with all relevant environmental legislation as a minimum performance, and to continually improve environmental performance through appropriate initiatives, controls, provision of resources and training of employees. The aim is to minimise adverse impacts on the environment of activities, products and services within the Ports Industry Sector and within the context that Blyth Harbour Commission operates.

An Environmental Management System (EMS) has been established that complies with the International Standard ISO 14001. This integrates environmental understanding and control into other systems and procedures, under the direction of the senior management team and with the support of all employees, suppliers and contractors.

In implementing this policy, Blyth Harbour Commission shall ensure the following:

**1. The Environmental Management System Will:**

* Assesses, control and mitigate environmental risk for all port operations.
* Conduct regular environmental reviews and audits to identify areas for improvement.
* Ensure environmental sustainability is a key consideration within the ports procurement policy for product life cycle.
* Record and report all significant environmental occurrences.
* Publish environmental performance within an annual review.
* Maintaining high workforce awareness of environmental issues.
* Involve suppliers and contractors in environmental initiatives.
* Continually Improve the Port’s environmental performance and provide a framework for setting environmental objectives.
* Ensure staff adhere to policies, procedures and practice which underpins the Ports Mission Vision and Values.

**2. Resource Management will:**

* Monitor and where possible reduce resource (energy and material usage) consumption
* Seek opportunities to apply innovative technology to reduce emissions and energy consumption an improve environmental performance.
* Commit to becoming carbon neutral by 2050, publishing annual carbon emissions data.

**3. Waste Management will:**

* Continue to assess and promote recycling, re-use and waste minimisation opportunities and remain compliant with the MCA Port Waste Management Plan requirements.
* Ensure effective and responsible waste management and disposal arrangements are in place.

**4. Pollution Prevention & Controls:**

* Continue to develop & implement management controls regarding noise, dust and other potential sources of pollution.
* Maintain compliance with the MCA OPRC Oil Spill legislation and maintain a valid, approved Oil Spill Pollution Response plan.

**5. Carbon neutral by 2040**

Port of Blyth are committed to reducing carbon emissions and implementing appropriate measures as an element of the Ports’ overall decarbonisation and clean air strategy. The Ports’ ultimate aim is to achieve carbon neutrality by 2040, and as such are committed to reducing carbon emissions in all aspects of commercial decisions and operations with the following aims:

* Reducing emissions generated from operations and offices.
* Ethical purchasing of green energy tariffs and goods / services
* Electrification of Port fleet by 2040 and the introduction of renewable energy source infrastructure.
* Evaluating energy efficiency and water consumption across all terminals
* Ensuring that, where possible, waste materials are recycled / re-used, reducing waste sent to landfill.

The option of carbon offsetting any residual emission will be seen as a last resort to the Port to achieving carbon neutrality.

Blyth Harbour Commission will always endeavour to comply with Environmental best practice and review and improve on a continuous basis as necessary.

The EMS’s effectiveness is monitored and maintained by regular audit and Management Review. This Environmental Policy will be communicated to all employees and made available to the public on request. The involvement of its workforce and external interested and affected parties in its Environmental Policy is encouraged by the organisation through effective communication procedures.



Martin Lawlor

Chief Executive

February 2024