Marine Licence Applications Report No 75. 2 Sep 2023

This report covers applications submitted since 1 May 2023 for work in the Solent not included in previous reports. It excludes applications for burial of human remains at sea.

1. Applications open for consultation

MLA/2023/00302.

Shamrock Quay Marina - Pile Replacements

Submitted 10 July 2023 by Marina Developments Ltd. Consultation closes 21 Sep 2023

Project background

MDL Marinas, owner and operator of Shamrock Quay, seek to obtain a Marine Licence for the direct replacement of piles used to secure the Marina. A recent condition check has identified that a number of piles are at or very nearly at the end of their service life and so direct replacement is required to ensure the ongoing security and health and safety associated with the site. The replacement programme will ensure that the marina area stays both safe and viable for use over the design life of the replacement piles which is in the order of 25 years.

Within the Shamrock site there are 73 piles and we seek a licence that allows replacement of a maximum number per year over the next 10 years. Based on the results of the condition survey we seek a licence that allows replacement of up to 15 piles in year 1, with a subsequent allowance of up to 8 piles per year for years 2 to 10. The maximum number of piles to be replaced under this licence would be capped at 73, however the annual totals are established to provide opportunity for programme and contractor efficiencies which may result in there being no activity in some years.

It is considered that the individual piles or a pile failure could be addressed over an extended period of time via a self-service or emergency approach to the licencing, however with the total number of piles in mind it is assessed that securing a licence covering works over a 10 year period within an established set of parameters is preferable and allows certainty to both regulator and applicant, whilst allowing the applicant to take advantage of flexibility afforded by working against a clear licence and schedule. The structure of the licence would also allow the applicant to react to any unexpected failure and complete 'emergency' replacement under the same licence parameters without needing to revisit licencing.

Drawing MP355P11-00A-003 has been provided to demonstrate the current site layout and pile arrangement. Programme of works

The programme of the works for the planned replacements remains flexible for the selected contractor to react with their own flexibility, marina operations and budgeting, but would be expected to occur in the as one activity in the September to April period to help avoid peak operational periods.

Emergency replacement would be on a single pile basis and would be reactive and so could be required at any point throughout the year. Criteria for 'emergency' replacements under the licence and declared methodologies would be restricted to events that place the security and safety of the marina at risk such as a pile failure or breakage.

Based on previous licences covering pile replacements at Shamrock Quay (eg L/2020/00254/1) we do not believe there is any requirement for a timing restriction on when emergency or reactive works could take place, recognising that the intent for the planned maintenance work is to occur within the stated Sept-April period.

2. Applications submitted but not yet open to consultation

None