

Navigation Committee

11 January 2024

Agenda item number 13

2023/24 Health and Safety Review and Internal Audit Recommendations following review

Report by Head of Safety Management

Purpose

To present the annual review of marine incidents 2022/2023 and the recommended annual safety audit programme for 2023/2024.

Broads Plan context

4.3: Implement, promote, and monitor measures to maintain and improve safety and security for the navigation and boats.

Recommendation

To note the report.

1. Annual marine incidents

- 1.1. Appendix 1 gives details of the marine incidents reported during the period of April 2023 to 4 December 2023, including an analysis of deaths and personal injury since 1995.
- 1.2. The Authority continues to highlight the importance of personal responsibility within safety publications. Rangers continue to educate boat users on key safety messaging at Super Safety Events and when observing issues whilst patrolling the waterways.
- 1.3. Notable points from the 2023/24 reported incidents:
 - 3 reported fatalities, which were not related to boating.
 - 9 reported incidents to persons inadvertently entering the water, which is a vast improvement from the previous safety report.
 - Boat fires continue to remain low level, as in previous years.
- 1.4. The number of members of the public inadvertently entering the water is a vast improvement from the previous report. Contributory factors to this improved statistic are the authorities and partners reinforcing the safety messaging of personal

awareness, a slow and steady speed on approach to the mooring, using provided grab rails and wearing of a life jacket when mooring and moving around a vessel.

- 1.5 The licensing of non-powered hire craft was introduced in 2023/24 which required the operators to provide a formal handover and an 'in-water' trial to all hirers. Paddle sports is a growing trend in our waters and an area where more safety education is needed; we intend to work closer with British Canoeing in 2024/25 on safety messaging and educational material for users.
- 1.6 The Hire Boat Licensing Officer carried out a series of 'Spot Checks' during the summer season to ensure that hire boat operators were complying with the licensing requirements and monitored handovers and 'in-water' trials. These seasonal checks will continue in the 2024/25 season.

2. Annual internal safety audit programme 2023/24

- 2.1. The Head of Safety Management has identified three internal safety audits, set out in Table 1 below, to be carried out in the coming year. This programme is to ensure that the Broads Authority's Safety Management System is working effectively and to introduce changes as deemed necessary to maintain and improve the current standards of safety.

Table 1

Internal safety audit programme 2023/24

Internal audit	Aims and objectives
Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC)	To carry out PMSC awareness training to new staff and roll out refresher training throughout the year, following amendments to the Code from the Pilotage review.
Safety Management Systems (SMS)	To ensure that there is a consistent approach in the compliance of our SMS across all disciplines of the Authority.
Broads Authority plant and equipment use	To audit all safety processes to determine that suitable and sufficient control measures are in place to help reduce the risk of accidents and incidents. This is required following the new plant and equipment purchased under the DEFRA Capital Grant.

Author: Linda Ibbitson-Elks

Date of report: 11 December 2023

[Broads Plan](#) strategic objectives: Broads Plan Theme C4 – Maintain and improve safety and security and user behaviours on the waterways.

Appendix 1 – Annual safety audit 2023

Appendix 1 – Annual Safety Audit

**Boat Safety
Management Group**

Safety Audit 2023 Report Report by Head of Safety Management

Summary: This report gives details of the incidents reported during 2023 from April 2023 to December 2023

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The reporting period is from 1 April 2023 to 4 December 2023. The report is limited to the Broads Authority's area of marine responsibility. Notable incidents are listed below.

2 Summary of Incidents Reported

2023	Incident Details	Hazard Log Category
6/4/23	Suspected heart attack on hire cruiser at GYYS	Illness
9/4/23	Person hit head on Ludham Bridge while passing under	Injury
16/4/23	Person dislocated shoulder when fell on hire cruiser as mooring at Acle Bridge	Disembarkation
18/4/23	Person injured arm while mooring hire cruiser at Hoveton Great Broad	Disembarkation
30/4/23	Person injured ankle while mooring at Ranworth Island	Disembarkation
2/5/23	Person sustained minor injuries when fell in at Ranworth	Fallen in
6/5/23	Person injured hip when jumped from boat at Acle while mooring	Disembarkation
11/5/23	Person injured when fell aboard hire cruiser moored at Oulton Broad	Injury
11/5/23	Person injured when fell from hire cruiser at Acle Bridge	Fallen in

20/5/23	Child injured finger when trapped in door aboard hire cruiser	Injury
11/6/23	Person fell in from hire cruiser at GYYS	Fallen in
20/6/23	Person sustained head injury when fell onto quay at GYYS while embarking hire cruiser	Embarkation
21/6/23	Person sustained head injury when fell from moored hire cruiser at Loddon staithe	Disembarkation
24/6/23	Person injured when fell from hire cruiser at Acle Bridge	Disembarkation
30/6/23	Fatality on board hire cruiser moored at Barnes Brinkcraft	Fatality
11/7/23	Fatality following capsizing of vessel near North Cove.	Fatality
13/7/23	Person fallen in at S Walsham	Fallen in
5/8/23	Boat fire at Sabena Marine	Fire
13/8/23	Person injured when fell on board cruiser at Acle	Injury
27/8/23	Person cut leg on mooring post while disembarking at Horning Marshes	Disembarkation
13/9/23	Person injured while disembarking hire cruiser at St Benets	Disembarkation
14/9/23	Vessel on fire and later sunk at moorings in Norwich. No persons on board	Fire/sinking
2/10/23	Person found deceased on board vessel at Neatishead	Fatality
3/10/23	Explosion and subsequent sinking of private cruiser on Oulton Broad	Explosion/sinking
3/10/23	Person injured hip falling on board hire cruiser at Ranworth	Injury

TABLE 1
Analysis of Death/Injuries Since 1997

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Death																											
No of deaths on or from boats	1	3	2	1	3	2	6	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	4	2	0	2	1	5	1	2	1	5	3		3
Reported deaths not related to boating	2	1	4	4	2	3	1	0	7	2	1	1	3	3	3	8	2	5	4	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1
Cause of death																											
Severe injury	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0		
Heart Attack	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	1	5	0	1	1	3	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
Drowning	0	4	5	1	3	3	5	0	4	3	0	0	0	1	3	2	0	5	3	0	0	3	2	3	0		1
Asphyxiation/CO poisoning	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0		
Terminal Illness															1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		1
Not Known	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	3	0	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	3		
Reports of people inadvertently entering in the water See footnote.	4	8	2	5	1	4	15	16	12	23	29	17	34	20	17	18	12	22	19	21	12	23	17	27	24	11	9
No of persons reported as requiring hospital treatment	8	7	9	8	7	7	18	2	4	13	12	11	22	30	17	15	19	14	13	30	36	49	33	35	35	19	15
Head	4	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	5	3	3	1	3	3		2	7	3	4	5	3	1	4	3
Arm/hand	6	0	0	1	3	1	1	1	0	1	6	4	1	4	4	2	4	1	0	3	4	6	7	5	2	5	3
Leg/foot	4	2	4	1	2	2	2	2	1	3	7	5	7	8	3	6	4	3	4	9	8	8	11	9	12	6	3
Torso, ribs, chest, back	2	0	1	4	1	1	2	0	1	4	3	0	2	4	2	0	2	2	2	1	5	8	2	2	6	1	1
Not described	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	2	1	4	0	0	8	10	2	2	5	1	4	6	12	13	8	10	10	3	3
Asphyxiated/CO poisoning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	0		0
Burns/Scalds	1	4	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	1		1	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1		0
Heart attack															3	5	1	2	1	5	3	10	0	4	2		3

Footnote: Reports where someone inadvertently found themselves in the water. It does not include capsizes of sailing dinghies etc, or from any other contact water sports where entry into the water is predictable.

