

Chichester Harbour Management Plan Annual Review 2022-2023



An Integrated Coastal Zone Management Strategy
for the Trust Port and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)



CHICHESTER
HARBOUR
CONSERVANCY



Cllr Ann Briggs
Chairman
Chichester Harbour
Conservancy

Chairman's Welcome

It's always a pleasure to introduce the latest Chichester Harbour Annual Review. Although it is a statutory requirement to publish these reports each year, it is also a time when we can pause and reflect on some of the achievements of the past 12 months by the Conservancy and its partners. I feel it is important to celebrate success, especially given the pressures we are under.

I would like to thank Chichester Harbour Trust for their excellent acquisitions of Tournerbury Farm on Hayling Island, and Marina Farm on Thorney Island. These sites are going to be strategically important in years to come, as we respond to climate change and seek new opportunities for habitat creation projects.

The Heritage Fund's Return of the Terns project raised the shingle bank on the southern end of Stakes Island. We did this because when the Island overtops by unusually high waves, it washes the nests out. Hopefully the nesting birds will have a better chance of success now that the shingle bank is higher. We were also able to install more tern rafts at the Great Deeps on Thorney Island, and complete small fish surveys. All this excellent conservation work was completed in partnership with the Friends of Chichester Harbour – thank you.

Meanwhile the Harbour continues to face unprecedented development pressure, with almost 2,000 dwellings planned in the years to come. We do not wish the boundary of our protected landscape to be urbanised, nor the intertidal zone dominated by hard sea defences. The Conservancy, with the support the National Association of AONBs, will continue to lobby government for greater powers and duties, and a new funding model that will enable us to conserve and enhance the Harbour and its landscape for generations to come.

Last year there were several changes to senior personnel at the Conservancy. We bid a fond farewell to Richard Craven, Ed Carter, and Maria Court. In their place, we have welcomed Matt Briers as the new Chief Executive Officer, Jo Cox as the new Harbour Master, and Nicky Simmons as the new Communications Manager. I am pleased to say it's not all change though – Richard Austin, the AONB Manager, and Mel Belderson, the Finance Manager, will provide some continuity whilst helping our new recruits to settle in.

On behalf of all the Members, I would like to wish the new team every success with their time at the Conservancy, and I will look forward to working with them in the months and years to come.

A landscape for habitats and wildlife

Wildlife

- The wildlife monitoring, habitat management, and related projects within Chichester Harbour, were carried out by Conservancy's staff and volunteers, and took place between April 2022 to March 2023. Data is drawn from the Wetland Bird Survey results of 2021-22.

Thorney Deep's Tern Rafts and Stakes Island

- Tern rafts were deployed at Thorney Deep's for the fourth year in succession, with permission from the MoD.
- Thanks to the funding provided by the Heritage Fund's Return of the Terns project, 7 rafts were deployed at Thorney Deep's (3 existing rafts and 4 new, larger rafts). They were deployed in late April and May. Due to the presence of bird flu, the monitoring effort was reduced to ensure minimal movements to and from the rafts. Despite bird flu apparently causing some mortality amongst adults and chicks the rafts were still successful with 42 pairs of Common Terns raising approximately 54 young to fledging.

Common tern figures

	2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Pairs	Fledged young	Pairs	Fledged young	Pairs	Fledged young	Pairs	Fledged young
Thorney Deep's (tern rafts)	9	20	33	48 (48-52)	34	15	42	c.54
Stakes Island	5	6	7	0	4	0	2	0

- The rafts were also used by Black-headed Gulls, with 76 pairs raised, and around 78 young to fledging.

Seals

- In partnership with Langstone Harbour Board, seals are counted monthly (May-September). Surveys are conducted at low tide, using vessels from both Harbours, with all known haul-out sites checked.
- A minimum of 12-14 Harbour Seal pups were recorded in Chichester and Langstone Harbours during June and July, which is a higher number than previous years (7 in both the last 2 years). Harbour Seals continue to steadily increase, and a new record total (62 animals) was set in July. Grey Seals are also increasing, and whilst they do not breed in Chichester Harbour, their slowly increasing presence in the harbour may indicate they might do so in the future.



Seal population figures

	2015	2016	2017	2018*	2019	2020	2021	2022
Harbour (Common)	30	39	46	38	47	48	57	62
Grey	5	5	8	11	20	18	20	20

* Figures only for Chichester Harbour

Botanical

- Grass poly *Lythrum hyssopifolia* was monitored at a site on Thorney Island. This plant requires seasonally flooded areas and some disturbance to germinate. Annual management is important to ensure this rare plant survives. The exceptionally dry conditions in the summer of 2022 meant it apparently did not germinate in significant quantities. Cattle then partially grazed the site later in the year. Only a handful of plants were seen.

Site Management

Fishbourne Meadows (Local Wildlife Site)

- The site was cattle grazed from 29 July 2022 to 14 October 2022 with 6 yearling cattle.
- The Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group undertook water vole conservation training at Fishbourne Meadows.
- Southern Marsh Orchids were monitored on 6 June 2022 with 1,538 flowering spikes counted, suggesting that the annual grazing management is suitable.

Nutbourne Farm (Site of Special Scientific Interest)

- Up to 13 belted Galloway Cattle (cows and calves) grazed the site from early May to mid-October 2022 to maintain the varied grassland and streamside vegetation structure.
- Management of the stream is planned to ensure that cattle grazing and vegetation management can continue the site.

Thornham Point (Local Wildlife Site)

- This site is noted for the rare moth *Coleophora vibicella* and several scarce plants.
- Bramble is expanding on the open grassland, and as in previous years a small section of the encroaching scrub was cut by the

Rangers during the autumn to maintain the open grassland.

Earnley Triangle (Local Wildlife Site)

- The Rangers carried out some bramble removal on c.0.5ha to maintain the balance between open grassland and scrub in the autumn of 2022. This small-scale management began in 2019 and is carried out annually.

Wildflower Meadows

- Cobnor Estate planted a wildflower meadow in 2019. This site is monitored and managed by the Rangers and Ecologist. The area was cut and raked off in August 2022, with the cut material left to seed onto the new unseeded areas for several days. Additional Yellow Rattle seed was added to the site to reduce the vigour of the dominant grasses.

CHaPRoN Annual Review

- The Chichester Harbour Protection and Recovery of Nature (CHaPRoN) Annual Review is available to download from the CHaPRoN website. The Review features an in-depth look at the outputs and outcomes of 2022/23.
- The Review includes the successful bid for funds from the new Solent Seascape Project and the BUDs trial in Itchenor (Beneficial Use of Dredgings). Please see CHaPRoN's Annual Review to find out more.

Queen's Green Canopy

- The Queen's Green Canopy was a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Following the wishes of their Patron, His Majesty The King, the plan was extended to the end of March 2023, to give people the opportunity to plant trees in memoriam to honour Her Majesty.

- A total of 3,165 trees was planted in Chichester Harbour AONB as a contribution to the programme, involving five different landowners, the Conservancy's Rangers and the Friends of Chichester Harbour Conservation Work Parties. The whips were kindly paid for by Chichester District Council and Chichester Rotary Club.

Chichester Harbour Trust

- Founded in 2002, the Chichester Harbour Trust is a registered charity dedicated to the protection of Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. They believe the strongest method of protection is by direct control through ownership or long leases and they strive to achieve this end.
- As of 2023, they safeguard over 375 acres of land across 15 sites throughout the AONB, working in close partnership with Chichester Harbour Conservancy, the local authorities, and the harbour community. Their latest acquisitions are Tournerbury Farm, on Hayling Island and Marina Farm, on Thorney Island.

Coastal Grazing Marsh Report

- Coastal grazing marsh is defined as periodically inundated pasture, or meadow with ditches which maintain the water levels, containing standing brackish or fresh water. The ditches are especially rich in plants and invertebrates. Almost all areas are grazed and some are cut for hay or silage.
- Coastal grazing marsh is a habitat in decline around Chichester Harbour.
- With thanks to funding from the Environment Agency, the Conservancy commissioned a report into the Future Potential for Coastal Grazing Marsh in Chichester Harbour AONB. Royal Haskoning DHV took a holistic view of Chichester Harbour and identified three sites which could revert to coastal grazing marsh



Tournerbury Farm

in the future. These sites were at Prinsted, Bosham, and West Wittering.

- The Conservancy, through the CHaPRoN partnership, will consider the findings and assess the potential for taking some of the recommendations forward. The Report is available to download from the CHaPRoN website.

North Common

- The North Common Steering Group was last convened in 2010.
- With several issues reported to the Conservancy in recent years with regard to its use, a draft Site Management Plan was prepared, with the support of the North East Hayling Residents Association.
- After a consultation on the draft Plan, the Conservancy reconvened the Steering Group to consider the findings. Havant

Borough Council, as the landowner, informed the Steering Group that this community green space remains strategically important to the Council. The Plan, which is now a working document, is available to download from the Conservancy's website.

Projects

West Thorney Habitat Creation Scheme (Managed Realignment)

- In 2019, the Environment Agency, with their main contactors JBA Consulting and in partnership with MoD, began a scheme to create saltmarsh and other intertidal habitats on the west side of Thorney Island.
- This project is continuing, although it has been delayed as ground investigations are continuing, to ensure the planned realignment has no negative impacts on the surrounding habitats.
- This site has great potential for habitat restoration and the Conservancy are working closely with the project team to ensure that the best environmental outcomes can be delivered.

Stakes Island Recharge

- Between September and October 2022, under the Heritage Fund's Return of the Terns project, contractors deposited 500 tonnes of shingle on the crest of Stakes Island to raise a small proportion of the ridge to about 1 metre above the spring high water level. This will help to make the bird nests more resilient to sea level rise.
- The operation was consented by Natural England and the Marine Management Organisation. The project was delivered on-time and on-budget.
- The project would not have been possible without the kind support of the Friends of Chichester Harbour.



Mute Swans were impacted by Avian Flu

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (Bird Flu)

- In the autumn of 2022, a significant outbreak of bird flu occurred in Chichester Harbour. The species most impacted was the Mute Swan, although the prevalence was very localised. At least 35 birds died in the upper reaches of the Fishbourne Channel, representing approximately 25% of the wintering flock in that area of the Harbour. A further 3 Mute Swans were found dead in the Bosham Channel.
- Two of the corpses were collected by Defra and sent for analysis, which confirmed the presence of HPAI. Where possible, the corpses were collected by the Conservancy's staff and disposed of by a licenced contractor.

SPA Key Wildfowl Species Peak Counts (2017 to 2022)

Species	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21*	2021/22	5 Year Average	National Importance Threshold	International Importance Threshold
Brent goose (Dark-bellied)	10,224	8,721	11,582	8,871	9,741 (Dec)	11,569	910	2,400
Eurasian teal	1,083	1,005	950	981	965 (Dec)	1,070	2,100	5,000
Eurasian widgeon	2,355	2,821	1,993	7,587	3,345 (Nov)	2,698	4,400	15,000
Northern pintail	246	154	72	-	244 (Dec)	143	290	600
Red-breasted merganser	103	136	115	55	107 (Jan)	105	84	1,700
Shelduck	656	502	407	407	397 (Jan)	480	610	3,000

SPA Key Wader Peak Counts (2017 to 2022)

Species	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21*	2021/22	5 Year Average	National Importance Threshold	International Importance Threshold
Bar-tailed godwit	609	330	458	220	407 (Oct)	417	380	1,200
Black-tailed godwit	512	644	850	857	724 (Dec)	717	610	430
Curlew	1,594	1,024	1,246	1,325	1,153	1,348	1,400	8,400
Dunlin	12,960	14,252	7,035	3,529	9,220 (Jan)	9,399	3,500	13,300
Golden plover	97	492	325	450	534 (Nov)	373	4,000	9,300
Greenshank	70	86	50	64	50	62	6	2,300
Grey plover	1,354	957	1,073	1,125	1,202 (Dec)	1,061	430	2,500
Lapwing	1,397	1,002	1,081	813	1,642 (Jan)	1,386	6,200	20,000
Little egret	216	209	136	190	226 (Oct)	202	45	1,300
Knot	1,411	1,456	1,105	440	401 (Feb)	954	3,200	4,500
Oystercatcher	1,655	1,219	1,218	940	1,530 (Jan)	1,402	3,200	8,200
Redshank	1,491	1,686	1,607	1,741	1,637	1,632	1,200	2,400
Ringed plover	271	126	172	430	1,108	403	340	730
Sanderling	110	176	155	87	75 (Jan)	149	160	1,200
Turnstone	287	198	219	246	182	223	480	1,400

*incomplete count for Jan 2021 due to COVID restrictions.

A landscape for leisure and recreation

The Role of the Harbour Authority

- The Conservancy is committed to meeting the requirements of the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC).
- The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) currently monitors compliance with the PMSC by seeking a statement of compliance from the Duty Holder of each Harbour Authority every three years. This requirement was last completed and sent to the MCA in February 2021.
- The PMSC Audit took place in December 2022 by our 'designated person' Monty Smedley, who confirmed compliance with the PMSC.
- Members of the Conservancy are nominated as the Duty Holders, and an auditable Marine Safety Management System is maintained.
- An explanation as to how plans and policies are delivered is detailed in the Conservancy's Annual Safety Plan/Marine Safety Management System document.

Season Summary

- The beginning of the 2022 season saw predominantly fine weather and good sailing winds, although the Harbour seemed unusually quiet, noticeably so during periods of school holidays and bank holiday weekends.
- Generally, activity in the Harbour appeared quieter than the previous two years although there were days of very high activity. The prolonged period of hot weather had the effect of spreading activity and reducing individual peak days.
- Prior to the start of the season, newly appointed, returning, and full-time staff all attended a comprehensive week of training.

Harbour knowledge, administration, towage skills, scenario based first aid training, man overboard and rescue techniques, and Conflict Resolution guidance were attended by all staff. The training week is important to ensure confident and skilled staff and to fulfil PMSC compliance regarding the appointment of "competent, adequately trained, qualified and experienced" officers.

Incidents

- There were 238 incidents in 2022, compared to a high of 322 in 2009, and a decrease of 47 from 2021.
- 2022 saw a decrease in recorded Byelaw infringements. 7 incidents were attended by the Patrol Team with 3 of these being for exceeding the Harbour speed limit. 2022 also saw a big decrease in reports of anti-social behaviour around the Harbour. Further to the issues seen in 2021, the application of anti-climb paint on navigation marks and jetty piles at Emsworth has successfully stopped all 'tombstoning' from Conservancy infrastructure in the area. To further control anti-social use of the jetty in the peak of the season, a temporary access control gate was trialed during August. The gate completely removed the need to proactively manage the jetty during this period. Following that trial, a new and permanent gate structure, with key code access, will be installed in 2023.
- In March 2023, Emsworth Jetty was replaced in its entirety. The previous structure had reached the end of its life.
- Further to the delay in the Courts for prosecutions during 2021, the backlog of cases put forward by us in 2021 has been cleared, with a guilty verdict being found in all 5 instances. 4 cases of

speeding have been put forward since the 2022 season. Two have been heard with a guilty verdict returned in both cases. In one case the offender received a 6-month conditional discharge and was ordered to pay costs, the second offender received a fine and was ordered to pay costs. The remaining 2 cases are pending hearing at the time of writing.

- 52 Byelaw warning tickets, for minor infringements, were issued, 5 more than in 2021. Of these warnings, 36 were issued solely for exceeding the Harbour speed limit and 16 warnings were given for both excessive speed and navigating without care and caution.
- There were 14 reports of collisions or near-misses between moving vessels. 2 reports dealt with vessels in collision with moored vessels or navigation aids.
- Vessels aground numbers decreased to 24 (from 32 in 2021). Upon investigation the incidents were dispersed around the Harbour indicating there was not a single area of concern.
- There were 3 man-overboard incidents.
- There were 6 incidents of swimmers requiring rescue (persons that had entered the water voluntarily and then required assistance), which were attended by the Conservancy's Patrol Team.
- There were 47 tows by the Patrol Team with the majority (39) of these due to mechanical failure, a proportion of more than 82% and continuing the trend of the last six years.
- 4 cases of pollution were reported in 2022. In 3 cases, Tier One Oil Spill response equipment was put on stand-by, however, upon further investigation of the reports no assets were deployed. The fourth and rather unusual case of reported pollution was attended after a large sailing vessel was reported to be purposefully beached at East Head and engaged in sanding their hull. The activity had ceased prior to the



Conservancy staff arriving on scene, but upon investigation, and discussion with National Trust Rangers who had also been tasked to the scene, it was ascertained that the owner of the vessel had been using a generator to power an electrical sander, and consequently paint dust had been left on the sand surrounding the vessel.

Email Alert Publications

- 31 Weekend Navigation Bulletins.
- 18 Local Notices to Mariners.
- Around 3,500 people received these email alerts with many people clicking on the links to read more about the safety messages.

Enforcement

- The Conservancy adopted a public facing enforcement policy in January 2018.
- 4 prosecutions have been put forward for the breach of Byelaw 5, Speed of Vessels. 52 Byelaw Infringement warnings were issued for speeding or creating excessive wash.

Hydrography

- The Chichester Bar and approach channel, and the channel from Black Point to Sandhead, were surveyed in May 2022. Details of shoaling were promulgated in the Local Notice to Mariners and surveys were made available on the Conservancy's website.

Admiralty Charts

- Bathymetric surveys and the Local Notice to Mariners were passed to the Hydrographic Office. The latest edition of chart 3418 Langstone and Chichester Harbours (Edition No.11) was released by the UKHO on 13 August 2020.

Aids to Navigation

- The Navigational Risk Assessment was reviewed and revised in January 2022. Trinity House, the General Lighthouse Authority, inspected the Aids to Navigation 23 November 2022 and found them to be in good and efficient order.
- The 5-year Aids to Navigation review took place in 2022. A 6-week public consultation was held in August/September where people were asked to contribute to the review by commenting on the usefulness and usability of existing aids to navigation provided by the Conservancy, and any suggested new aids to navigation.

Prevailing Conditions

- The Conservancy has continued to provide access to weather forecasts on its website and notice boards, and real time weather information through the monitoring stations ChiMET and CamberMET.

Local Lighthouse Authority

- On the 3-yearly rolling assessment of the availability of aids to navigation set by the General Lighthouse Authority the Conservancy's performance was:
- Category 2: 100.00%
- Category 3: 99.96%

Anchorage

- The use of anchorages continues to be kept under close review. Snowhill and East Head Spit buoys remain appropriately sited for current levels of activity at East Head. Two unlighted starboard floating withies along the chart datum contour within the East Head anchorage to give a visual indication of the shallow areas continue to serve a useful purpose.

Works and Dredging Licenses

- 4 Works Licenses were approved.
- 3 Dredging Licenses issued.

Prevention of Pollution

- Issue 5 of the Conservancy's Oil Spill Response Plan was approved by the MCA in December 2021 and is valid until December 2026.
- There were no significant oil spill incidents during the 2022 season.

Environmental Duty

- Chichester Harbour's Port Waste Management Plan (PWMP) is endorsed by the MCA and is valid until 15 July 2024.
- The PWMP is available on the Conservancy's website.

- At the last MCA inspection of the PWMP the Inspector concluded she was:
"...impressed by (the Conservancy's) proactive nature in dealing with your customer's waste requirements and complying with the spirit of the legislation in reducing the instances of marine pollution from waste disposal at sea."

Licensing of Passenger Vessels and Masters of Passenger Vessels

- 16 vessels were issued licenses under the Conservancy's passenger boat licensing scheme in 2022.
- Interest was high for trips on Victorian Oysterboat *Terror* during 2022. 158 trips were conducted (481 passengers) throughout the season.



Commercial Operations

- As part of their responsibilities under the Port Marine Safety Code: *'Harbour Authorities should ensure that workboats used in their harbours are "fit for purpose" for any use to which they are involved with'.*
- Chichester Harbour Conservancy operates a registration scheme for all workboats and small commercially operated craft, including fishing vessels, within the Chichester Harbour area of jurisdiction. All operators are requested to participate by submitting a completed registration form for each of their vessels operating within this area.
- The Conservancy issues an Operator's License for companies that provide the hire of small craft such as canoes, kayaks and stand-up paddleboards (SUPs). The businesses are audited to ensure that they are compliant with SASHMA guidelines and MCA regulations for licenses to let small boats for hire.

Moorings

- Mooring let continues to be high, driven by increased demand over the last two years, particularly for deep water moorings. Conservancy maintained moorings reached a peak of 95% let during 2022, with waiting lists of 5 years or more being held in the premium deep water mooring categories.
- As well as several private mooring maintenance contracts across the Harbour, Conservancy moorings continue to be maintained in accordance with the maintenance schedule.
- Oysterboat *Terror* is owned by the Conservancy and operated by the Friends of Chichester Harbour. She is berthed at Emsworth Yacht Harbour. Winter 2021/22 saw a comprehensive re-fit of *Terror* and a complete review of the safety systems and operating instructions involving all 45 volunteer skippers and crew. Training took place at the start of the season. On 13 October 2022, Gavin Crick was appointed Chairman of the *Terror* Operating Committee, replacing Chris Clode. Chris served as Chairman since 2015.



Incident Summary 2022 (up to 31st December)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Vessels aground					
Sail	11	11	14	18	18
Motor	7	11	4	14	6
Total	18	22	18	32	24

Cause					
Navigation error	14	19	12	22	20
Mechanical failure	4	3	6	10	4
Dragged anchor	0	0	0	0	0

Collisions with moored vessels or navigational aids					
Sail	8	7	5	2	2
Motor	6	8	4	1	0
Total	14	15	9	3	2

Collisions / near miss with moving vessels					
Sail & sail	1	4	3	11	12
Sail & motor	1	2	1	4	1
Motor & motor	0	0	1	6	1
Total	2	6	5	21	14

Vessels adrift					
Cause					
Mooring failure	12	19	19	10	20
Mooring stop failure	2	5	3	6	8
Deck failure / dragged anchor	3	4	2	2	9
Tender/kayak/canoe/ small craft	-	-	12	8	7
Total (sail & motor)	17	28	36	26	44

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Vessels requiring tow					
Sail	18	18	29	45	24
Motor	23	20	25	25	23
Total	41	38	54	70	47

Cause					
Mechanical failure	34	33	41	57	39
Out of fuel	4	4	4	7	1
Fouled prop	1	1	1	3	3
Taking on water	0	0	2	0	0
Weather	0	0	4	1	3
Dismasted	2	0	4	2	1

Complaints and other notable incidents					
3rd party injuries	6	6	11	6	9
Pollution	4	4	1	6	4
Byelaw infringement - wash	1	2	1	3	3
Byelaw infringement - speeding & prosecutions	26	16	4	5	3
Byelaw infringement - other	3	2	5	8	1
Taking on water / sunk on mooring	10	11	15	20	15
Dinghy rescue - independent	5	16	10	4	12
Racing complaints	2	1	0	2	0
Dinghy rescue - club racing	0	3	1	2	0
Total	57	61	48	56	47

Speed Infringement tickets issued	67	51	46	47	52
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Miscellaneous and others	119	103	88	77	60
Incident Totals	268	273	258	285	

Events and trends

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Fatalities	2	0	0	0	0
Racing collisions / near miss	0	0	0	0	4
Man overboard / tenders	2	4	4	2	3
Swimmer rescue	6				
International 14s / fast asymmetrics	0	0	0	0	0
International Moths	0	0	0	0	0
Alcohol related	1	0	1	0	0
Poor seamanship	1	2	1	0	0
Rude/abusive behaviour	4	7	2	2	0

Fig 1: Total incidents trend 2006-22

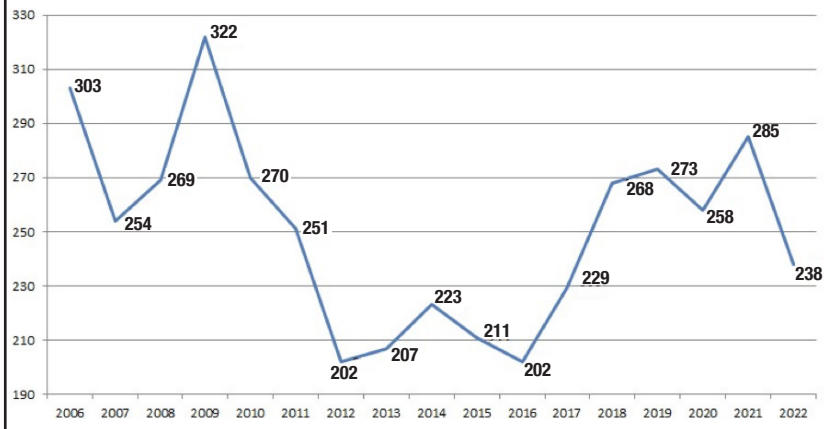


Fig 2: Total incidents

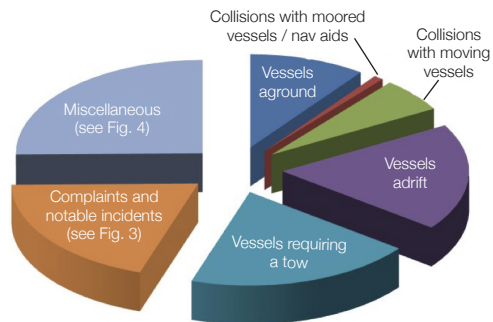


Fig 3: Complaints and notable incidents

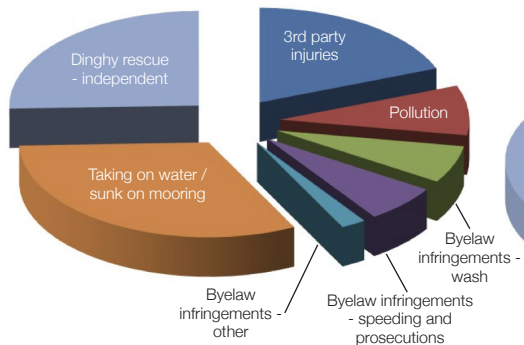
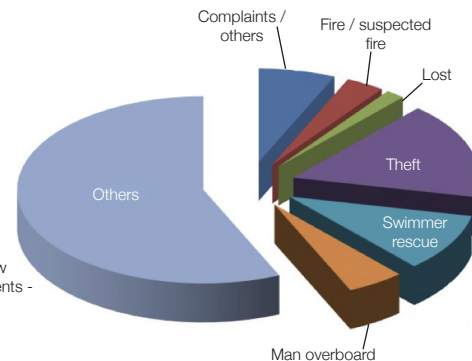


Fig 4: Miscellaneous



A landscape for communities and business

Farming in Protected Landscapes

- Year 2 of the new Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme commenced on 1 April 2022.
- The Local Assessment Panel (LAP) was convened by the Conservancy, as the decision-making body.
- The LAP funded 11 projects, worth £80,440 in grant-aid.



FiPL Outputs and Outcomes

Chichester Harbour AONB FiPL Year 2	
Land Managed with Regenerative Farming (ha)	2,248
Projects to improve soil quality (no.)	7
Projects to reduce flood risk (no.)	2
Hedgerows planted (metres)	712
Positive management on SSSIs (ha)	1
Habitat improvement for biodiversity (ha)	1,298
Habitat connectivity improved (ha)	316.6
Projects delivering educational visits (no.)	3
Projects making landscape more inclusive for visitors (no.)	2
Projects to support public engagement in land management (no.)	5
Other People outcomes (description and quantity of metric)	1
Projects increasing resilience of nature friendly sustainable farm business (no.)	5
Farmers engaged in programme (no.)	13
Farmers who the PL has not engaged with before (no.)	1
New Farm Clusters created (no.)	1
Land managers engaged in programme (no.)	2

Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) Grants

Applicant	Grant	Total	Description
Hale Farm, Chichester	£14,600	£23,250	Purchase a GPS Fertiliser spreader to apply levels of fertilizer more accurately. Reduction of Nitrates runoff into the water courses round the harbour. Only the volume of Nitrates needed by the crop to be applied.
Northney Farm, Hayling Island	£5,425	£6,425	Wildlife boxes and educational film, to increase the habitat and nesting opportunities for a range of endangered species such as Kestrels, Swifts and Bats.
Chichester Harbour Conservancy	£1,500	£1,500	Hay Rake for wildflower meadows. Raking and collecting of cuttings more effectively and reduce trampling of habitat caused by hand raking.
Osier Dell Manor Farm, Hayling Farm	£10,424	£25,500	Purchase of a Fertiliser Spreader with new GPS headland management, overlap management and variable rate technology. Greater precision of the application of Phosphorus, Potassium, Sulphur, and Nitrogen. Reduced run-off.
Mapson Farm, Chichester	£19,662	£33,143	712m of native mixed wildlife hedging and 2,327m of stock fencing to protect previously planted native mixed wildlife hedging. New wildlife corridors to increase biodiversity enhance AONB.
Tuppenny Barn, Southbourne	£4,959	£4,959	Lighting of polytunnels, two new sheds, and six new wheelbarrows to support a year-round programme of educational delivery and growing.

continued

Applicant	Grant	Total	Description
Mapson Farm, Chichester	£11,132	£18,554	New low disturbance tool bar to enable planting over winter cover crops and winter cereals using existing farm machinery. Will reduce soil disturbance, erosion, compaction and leaching through reduced cultivation passes.
Cobnor Estate, Cobnor	£1,328	£1,328	Equipment for 30 wildlife boxes, an owl box camera, and Swift calling systems. Workshops to show locals how to build their own wildlife boxes, for Swifts, House Martins and Bats.
Itchenor Gate Farm, Chichester	£1,659	£8,955	GPS Farming Tool which will enable older non-GPS tractors to have autosteer. Precision application of sprays, fertilizer and drilling to a 2cm accuracy. Reduction excess nutrient run-off.
Manhood Cluster Group, Chichester	£9,390	£9,390	Establishment of the Manhood Cluster Group. Specialist farm training, environmental surveys, how to increase biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and nutrient management.
Chichester Harbour Trust, Thorney Island	£361	£450	Wildflower seed for Marina Farm.
Total	£80,440	£133,434	

Education

- In 2022/23 the Conservancy's Education Centre helped 9,500 people to access the Harbour through its Education Services. This represented the highest number of beneficiaries since opening in 1999.
- The Education Team planned and hosted 280 sessions of engagement. The majority of these were full day field trips in the Harbour but also included visiting schools and attending or hosting community events.
- The 280 sessions amount to 28,770 hours of engagement delivered by the Education Team.
- The Centre offered a wide variety of curriculum linked school programmes to help young people experience the Harbour's coastal landscapes and wildlife.
- Programmes for primary age children include Living things and Habitats, Coasts and Rivers. The Conservancy's Junior Conservancy debate workshop for KS2 continued to be very popular, with 7 school debates held. During the spring and autumn 17 Harbour School sessions were hosted, benefiting 3 local primary schools. 13 organisations enjoyed a boat trip on the *Solar Heritage* and activities in the Harbour as part of the 'Get Afloat' scheme.
- At secondary level, students visited the Harbour to study coastal processes and management at East Head. In 2022/23 there was an increase in schools requesting A level Biology field trips to study saltmarsh and sand dunes ecosystems. Compared to the previous year the number of secondary age sessions increased by 20%.
- In 2022 the Conservancy invited and assisted University of Chichester Fine Art undergraduates to create a temporary arts trail for Maybush Copse, in Chidham. The project was supported by Maybush Copse Friends and very well received by residents and the wider community.

- The Education Centre also, hosted workshops such as photography, printmaking and nature writing workshops for schools and community groups.
- The Education Centre worked with 107 organisations, 86% were based in Hampshire or West Sussex, with the remainder from Surrey, London, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Hertfordshire.
- The Conservancy's Education Service also worked in partnership with Solent Bird Aware, the Friends of Chichester Harbour, Chichester Harbour Trust, Chichester Home Start, West Wittering Estate and Havant Climate Alliance.



Planning	
Cases fully delegated to Officers	281
Consulted with Members by email	16
Planning Committee	35
Total	332
No objection	259
Objection	40
Holding objection	9
Pre-app Advice	3
No comments	15
Clarification sought	6
Total	332

England Coast Path

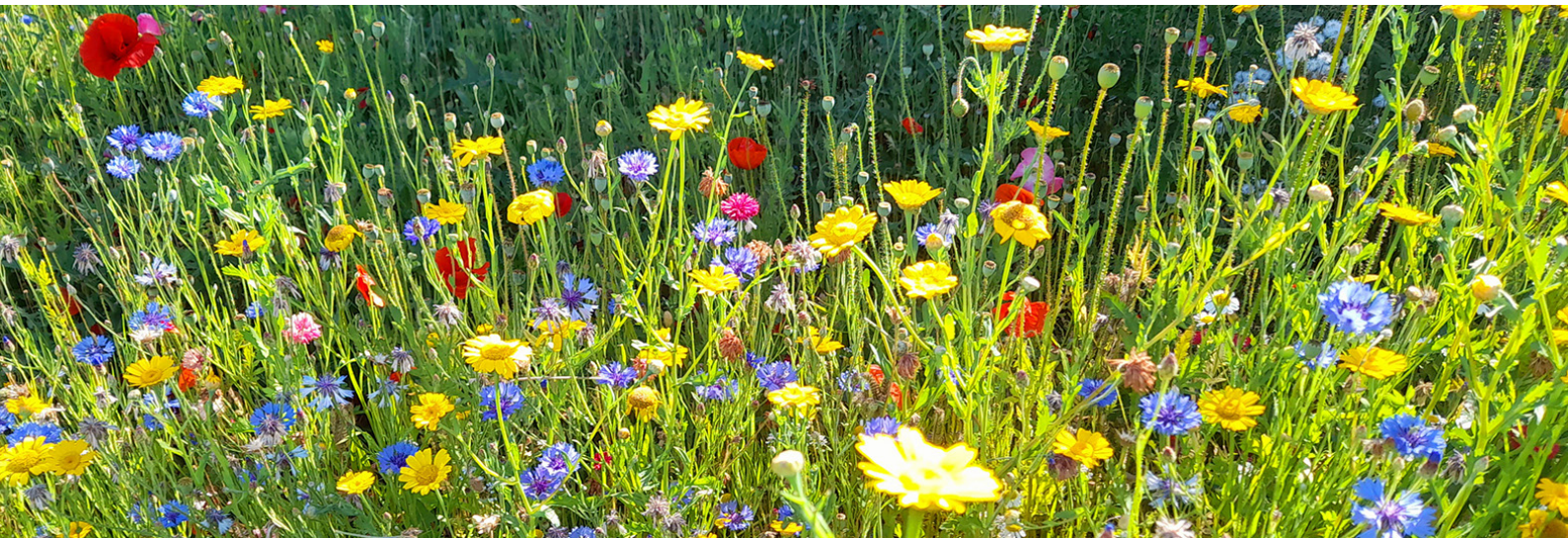
- In the summer of 2022, a workplace student was tasked with assessing where the King Charles III England Coast Path would likely be in 2100, taking into account projected sea level rise.

Friends of Chichester Harbour

- As well as financially supporting the Heritage Fund's Return of the Terns project, the Friends of Chichester Harbour gave grants to the Education Service and for a new boardwalk across Footpath 555 in Fishbourne. This project was match funded thanks to a S106 agreement and was installed by the Conservancy's Rangers.

Websites

- Chichester Harbour Conservancy refreshed its website.
- A new website was published for CHaPRoN.



Financial Summary

The financial summary provides a general overview of the year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Income		
Moorings	£847,446	30%
Harbour dues	£465,999	16%
Precept from Hampshire County Council	£209,900	7%
Precept from West Sussex County Council	£209,900	7%
AONB Grant from Defra	£173,075	6%
Other Grants (including S106)	£128,328	5%
AONB Project Grant from Friends of Chichester Harbour	£20,500	2%
FiPL	£120,132	4%
Heritage Fund - Green Recovery Challenge Fund	£182,713	6%
Chargeable Activities	£74,760	3%
Contribution from Reserves	£50,076	2%
Miscellaneous*	£354,372	12%
Total	£2,837,201	100%

The rates for moorings and harbour dues are established in association with the Chichester Harbour Federation, to help ensure they are in-keeping with similar rates across the south coast. Income from moorings and harbour dues is solely used to run the Harbour Authority.

The precepts from Hampshire County Council and West Sussex County Council, the AONB Grant from Defra are specifically used to help to fund the work of the AONB Unit that looks after the environment of Chichester Harbour.

Expenditure		
Staff costs	£1,264,844	45%
Estates	£372,091	13%
Administration	£63,406	2%
Professional Services	£162,131	6%
Transport	£106,710	4%
Projects	£203,456	7%
Contribution to Reserves	£325,686	11%
Miscellaneous**	£338,877	12%
Total	£2,837,201	100%

The Contribution to Reserves includes:

- £139,800 surplus generated by Harbour activities added to the Harbour Development Fund.
- £111,000 transferred to the Repairs and Renewals Fund.

** Capital Expenditure, Moorings maintenance, bank charges, tools, repairs, insurance and contingency.



Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Straddling the boundary between Hampshire and West Sussex, Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was designated in 1964. Chichester Harbour Conservancy, established in 1971, is unique in that it is the only Statutory Harbour Authority with responsibility for managing an AONB.

In 2023/24, Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is going to be rebranded as Chichester Harbour National Landscape. All 34 English AONBs will change to this new branding, as recommended in the Landscapes Review of 2019.

www.conservancy.co.uk
www.chapron.org.uk



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Hampshire
 County Council



Havant
 BOROUGH COUNCIL



Chichester Harbour AONB Annual Review 2022/23 is
 available to download from: www.conservancy.co.uk
 Please ask if a different format is required.

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