

REPORT OF THE MARINE LICENCE VETTING COMMITTEE (MLVC)

on

**FORESHORE LEASE APPLICATION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A FIXED
PLATFORM, ACCESS GANGWAY, FLOATING PONTOONS AND
ANCILLARY WORKS IN BALTIMORE HARBOUR, CO. CORK**

BY

BALTIMORE AND SKIBBEREEN HARBOUR BOARD

**Dr. Terry McMahon
Chair, Marine Licence Vetting Committee
16 May 2012**

Baltimore and Skibbereen Harbour Board – Foreshore Application for the installation of a fixed platform, access gangway, floating pontoons and ancillary works in Baltimore Harbour, Co. Cork (MS51/8/1399)

Background

In March 2011 the Baltimore and Skibbereen Harbour Board submitted a Foreshore Lease application for the installation of a fixed platform, access gangway, floating pontoon and ancillary works in Baltimore Harbour, Co. Cork.

The reason for the proposed works is to improve safety and access to and from boats on swing moorings within the harbour and to allow berthing of small vessels that are not currently being accommodated within the harbour.

Details of the proposed works are shown on Drawing No C487/F/3 Rev A (1:500 Layout Plan) and Drawing No C487/F/4 Rev A (Layout Plan Sections and Details). The location of the works on the foreshore is shown on Drawing No C487/F/2 Rev A (Foreshore Lease Map)

Planning permission for these works was granted by Cork County Council on 23rd March 2011.

The proposed works are not of a class that would require the submission of an Environmental Impact Statement.

Natura 2000 sites description

The location of the proposed works lies within the Roaring Water Bay and Islands SAC (site Code 000101). A site synopsis and Conservation Objectives were sourced from the NPWS of DAHG.

Public Consultation

The application was advertised in the “Irish Independent” and “Southern Star” newspapers on 29th October 2011. The public display documents were made available for inspection at Clonakilty and Skibbereen Garda Stations for the required period of 21 working days from 29th October to 7th December 2011. No submissions were received.

State Bodies Consultation

Written submissions were received from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (Engineering Division) Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht (underwater archaeology and nature conservation), Sea Fisheries Protection Authority, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Marine Institute, Marine Survey Office, Inland Fisheries Ireland. There were no objections.

MLVC Assessment

The following documents were considered and assessed

- Foreshore Application and accompanying Natura Impact Statement, dated 12th January 2010 and Marine Cultural Heritage Assessment report, dated June 2010, submitted by the applicant.
- Written submissions were received from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (Engineering Division) Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht (underwater archaeology and nature conservation), Sea Fisheries Protection Authority, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Marine Institute, Marine Survey Office, Inland Fisheries Ireland
- Site synopsis and Conservation Objectives for the Roaring Water Bay and Islands SAC. (available at <http://www.npws.ie/protectedsites/specialareasofconservationsac/roaringwaterbayandislandssac/>)

No objections to the proposal were raised.

MLVC Conclusions

Considering the nature, scale, and location of the proposed works the MLVC concludes that, subject to compliance with the specific conditions set out below, the proposed works would not have a significant negative impact on the marine environment, would not have a significant impact on the Conservation Objective of the Roaring Water Bay and Islands SAC and therefore recommends that a lease be issued.

Proposed Conditions

1. The Lessee shall use that part of the Foreshore the subject matter of this licence for the purposes as outlined in the application and for no other purposes whatsoever.
2. The Lessee shall notify the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government at least 14 days prior to the removal of the existing masonry structure and again at least 14 days in advance of the installation of the platform, gangway and pontoon.
3. The Lessee shall provide, to the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, a statement by a Chartered Engineer certifying that the works as shown in Drawing No C487/F/3 Rev A and Drawing No C487/F/4 Rev A have been designed in accordance with relevant Irish, British or EU standard

specifications of Code of Practice for strength, stability and durability, taking into account current building regulations and safety legislation.

4. Within 2 months of completion of the works the Lessee shall provide, to the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, a statement by a Chartered Engineer certifying that the works have been completed in accordance with Drawing No C487/F/2 Rev A, Drawing No C487/F/3 Rev A and Drawing No C487/F/4 Rev A
5. The Lessee shall adopt appropriate methods of operation in order to ensure that no spillages of hydrocarbons, cement or other hazardous substance occur to the Foreshore during the course of the works.
6. All vessels and floating plant to be used in the works shall have appropriate certification from the Marine Survey Office.
7. On completion of the works all temporary plant and floating plant shall be removed from the foreshore and the foreshore reinstated to its original condition to the satisfaction of the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.
8. All works shall be carried out in accordance with relevant Health and Safety legislation.
9. The Lessee shall arrange for the publication of a local marine notice. This local marine notice shall give a general description of operations and approximate dates of commencement and completion. An advertisement in a locally read newspaper shall suffice.
10. The Lessee shall notify the Baltimore Harbour Master at least 14 days in advance of the commencement of the works and comply with any direction given by the Harbour Master during the course of the works
11. In order for charts and nautical publications to be updated the Lessee shall inform the British Admiralty Hydrographic Office at Taunton, UK of the location and nature of the works.
12. The pontoon shall be suitably illuminated at all times.
13. The Lessee shall apply to the Commissioners of Irish Lights for sanction of new aids to navigation and / or alteration to existing aids to navigation.