

# Annual Review

2022/2023



**PORT OF  
ABERDEEN**

EST. 1136



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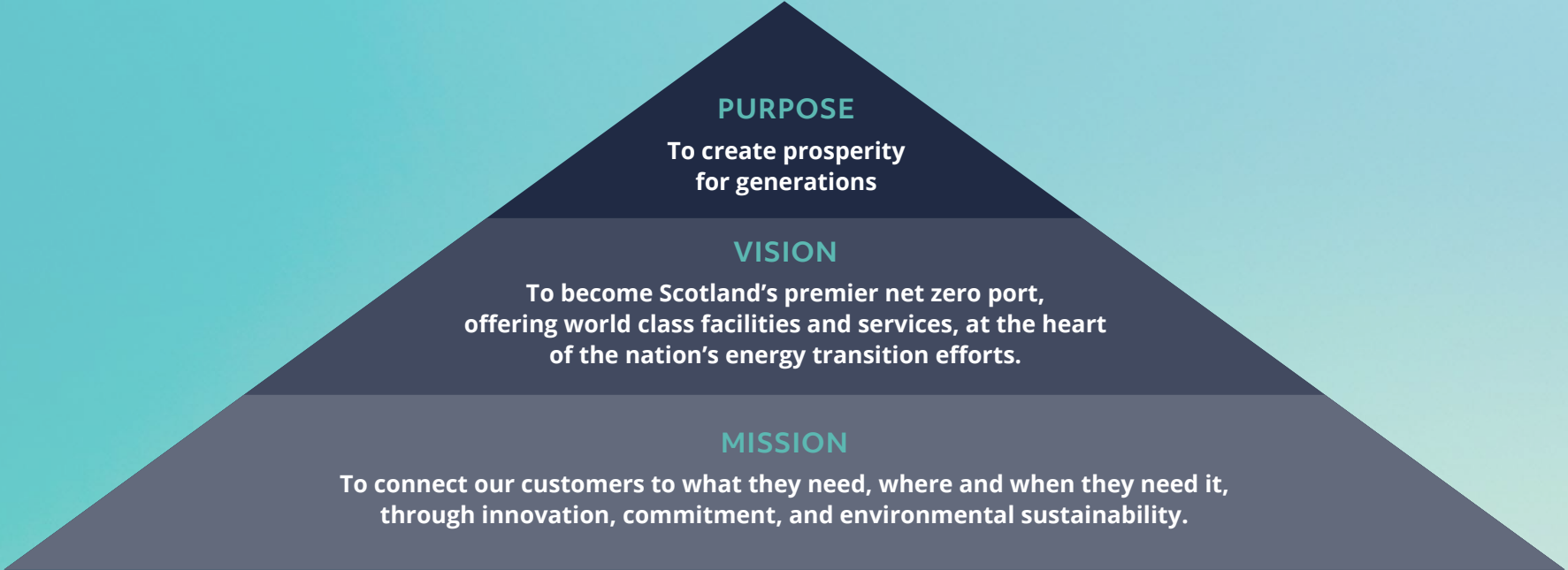
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# Port of Aberdeen: A New Way Forward

Since our last strategic review of the business, there has been an enormous shift in our operating landscape. The increasing focus on sustainability, the environment and responsibly responding to climate change has changed how our business operates, and how it will serve customers in the future. Therefore, it is timely to carry out another refresh as we set the course for the port in the next 5 to 10 years.

Our new strategic plan unites 'North Harbour' and 'South Harbour' under one banner: **the Port of Aberdeen**. But despite the changes, our purpose remains the same: to create prosperity for generations.





**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**



**Customers & Growth**

To increase and diversify port business, providing optimised and environmentally-sound services to existing and prospective customers and stakeholders.



**Land, Facilities & Assets**

To develop and make best use of our land, facilities and assets in line with national sustainable development goals, to support operational excellence and growth, while maintaining sufficient reserves for unexpected changes in the business environment.



**Environment**

To become a leading exemplar in environmental stewardship and sustainability, pioneering green port innovation and facilitating energy transition solutions.



**People & Culture**

To develop and invest in our people, so that they are empowered with the values and capabilities to create and deliver prosperity for generations.



**HSSQ**

To be a leader and exemplar in health, safety, security and quality standards across the UK port community.



**Communication & Engagement**

To build and strengthen the Port of Aberdeen's influence among local, regional and national stakeholders, as a recognisable and trustworthy catalyst for the development of business, trade and energy.



## Chairman's Statement

**As we enter into one of the most important chapters in the port's history, I have been frequently reflecting on the vast changes in our world since we first 'broke ground' at South Harbour in 2016.**

The business has grown through monumental, global challenges: a pandemic, fluctuating oil prices, Brexit, the huge shift in energy production and consumption, and economic hurdles.

However, as we all know, with challenge and change comes opportunity, and while the port has not escaped the effects of these challenges, we have maintained our recovery.

In 2021, our core of revenue remained unaffected, increasing turnover by 1.5% to £33.5 million, while experiencing solid vessel arrival and cargo tonnage figures, as well as a 73% increase in ferry passenger numbers, compared to the record low of 2020.

This would not have been possible without our hard-working employees, who have shown a spirit of enthusiasm, dedication, and resilience every day. Our business will go through significant change in 2022 and 2023, and it is both refreshing and inspiring to see all our team members approach the changes head on.

The progress at our South Harbour expansion site has been remarkable; the reason the site looks different every time I visit is down to the unwavering commitment to all those working on the project, and I would like to thank our AHEP team and contractors for their constant hard work.

My thanks go to our Board members who have led the business through another year. I take this opportunity to welcome

Kenneth Shand to the Board: his experience compliments that of the rest of the Board and we look forward to working with him. Our Vice-Chair of three years, Morag McNeill, has completed her tenure with the Board and I would like to thank her for her loyal and dedicated service during her years with us. Roy Buchan stepped into the role of Vice Chair at the start of 2022, and I wish him all the best as he continues to support the business.

Our new CEO, Bob Sanguinetti, joined the Port of Aberdeen in September 2021, and he has certainly 'hit the ground running'. I look forward to seeing him lead and shape the business in the coming years.

Lastly, my greatest thanks go to our customers, port users and stakeholders across the private and public sectors. Their loyalty and support for our ambitious plans have been critical to the success of the port and will be even more important in the future.

The year ahead will be one of the most remarkable in our 900-year history, as we finally become the largest berthage port in Scotland, ready to support transition to a sustainable energy industry and international trade. The transformation our business will go through will not be without its challenges, but I have no doubt that all those involved in our operations – from the Board Room to the quaysides and everywhere in between – will be advocates for positive change and prosperity in the North East of Scotland and the rest of the country.

***Alistair Mackenzie, Chairman***



## CEO's Statement

**Aberdeen is on the cusp of significant change and – as it has been for the last 900 years – the city's port will be right at the heart of it.**

The changing energy landscape has gathered even more momentum in the last 12 months and the large-scale development of renewable energy represents the biggest opportunity for sustainable economic growth in Scotland for a generation.

However, the focus and determination to ensure the city can maximise the benefits from the global energy transition comes as the country continues to recover from the long-term effects of the pandemic, and as the oil and gas industry adapts into one which is sustainable for future use.

The opportunities for the expanded port in Aberdeen are vast and transformational, and I am very proud of some key achievements which will ensure we are integral to the energy transition in Scotland. In November, during COP26, we were one of the first UK ports to sign the Operation Zero bid to accelerate the decarbonisation of North Sea operations and maintenance vessels by 2025.

We announced a collaboration with bp to reduce emissions at the port through reducing vessel emissions and providing low carbon power supplies. Together with Connected Places Catapult, we received £400,000 from the Department for Transport to fund a demonstration project to provide shore power within North Harbour.

These achievements, combined with our continued exploration of the opportunities associated with the ScotWind offshore wind farms, will ensure the Port of Aberdeen and the surrounding area maintains its position as the energy capital of Europe.

I would like to thank everyone for their warm welcome to Aberdeen since my arrival in September 2021. I am greatly looking forward to continuing our work together over the coming years, as we build on what we offer our customers and port users, and as we play our part in Scotland's development.

***Bob Sanguinetti, Chief Executive***

[Find out more about Bob Sanguinetti](#) ▷▷



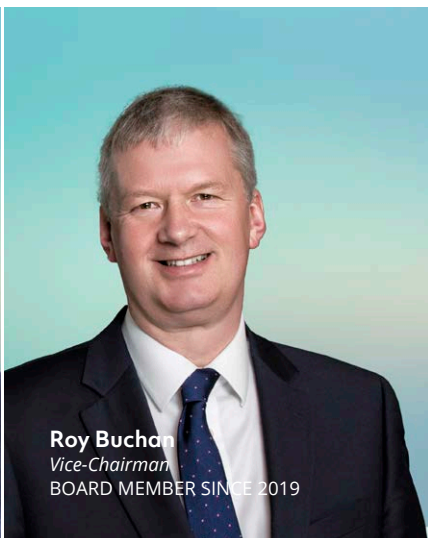
# Our Board of Directors

Selected for their wide-ranging skills and experience, the Port of Aberdeen's Board provides independent oversight for the organisation.

[Read their biographies online](#) >>



**Alistair Mackenzie**  
*Chairman*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2010



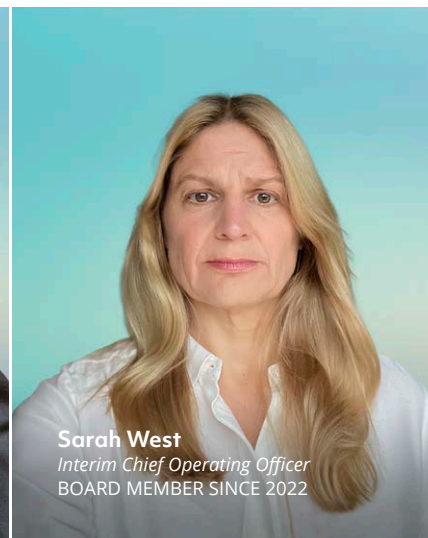
**Roy Buchan**  
*Vice-Chairman*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2019



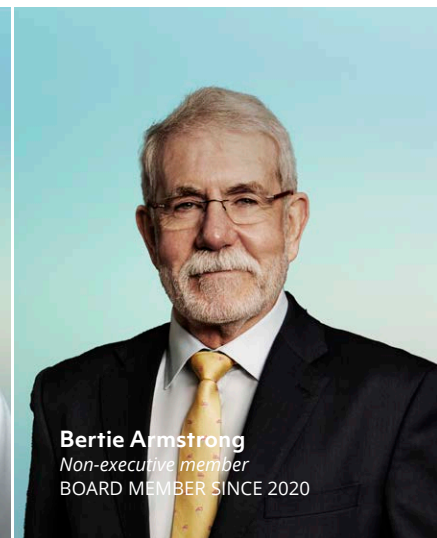
**Bob Sanguinetti**  
*Chief Executive*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2021



**Jon O'key**  
*Chief Financial Officer*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2019



**Sarah West**  
*Interim Chief Operating Officer*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2022



**Bertie Armstrong**  
*Non-executive member*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2020



**Eleanor Craig**  
*Non-executive member*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2019



**Forsyth Black**  
*Non-executive member*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2021



**Jayne MacLennan**  
*Non-executive member*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2017



**John Brebner**  
*Non-executive member*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2018



**Kenneth Shand**  
*Non-executive member*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2022



**Mike Keith**  
*Non-executive member*  
BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2019

# 2021 at a Glance



**98** CURRENT EMPLOYEES

Total Vessels

**6,035**



**32** INTERNATIONAL TRADING COUNTRIES

TOTAL CARGO  
**3,313,074 TONNES**



Supply Vessels  
**2,905**



Total Vessel Tonnage

**21,338,092**  
gross tonnes



Number of Ferry Passengers  
**110,079**



**£30,000**

Donated to Local Community Groups



**22** NUMBER OF NEW EMPLOYEES



## A Global Port

Angola	India
Belgium	Indonesia
Cameroon	Mexico
Canada	Morocco
Cape Verde	Nigeria
Congo (Democratic Republic)	Norway
Denmark	Poland
Egypt	Romania
Equatorial Guinea	Saudi Arabia
Faroe Islands	Senegal
France	Singapore
Gabon	Spain
Germany	Sweden
Ghana	The Netherlands
Iceland	Trinidad
	Turkey
	U.S.A.





## At the Heart of the Energy Transition

Scotland is on the brink of change again, and like the past 900 years, the port will be central to the future prosperity of the region and the country.

Aberdeen is perfectly located to be Europe's energy transition capital, and our £400 million expansion project will be at the heart of the development of high potential sectors, including offshore wind and green hydrogen.

The expanded port has been designed to accommodate larger, wider, and deeper vessels, and incorporates considerable heavy-lift, flexible laydown space and expansive project areas, making it an ideal port for the full lifecycle of an offshore windfarm – from survey and assessment to operation and maintenance, and decommissioning and recommissioning.

The port's ideal location brings customers and their supply chains closer to their offshore project; couple this with the extensive and experienced supply chain on the port's doorstep, and you have the perfect combination in Aberdeen: capacity, location, and expertise.

The port in Aberdeen has been at the forefront of change before, and we are doing it again now. We are looking forward to working with our stakeholders to pull together our expertise, and ultimately bring prosperity to the North East of Scotland and the wider maritime and energy industry.

# The Green Port of Aberdeen

Our activities to reduce carbon emissions in Aberdeen and further afield stretch well beyond our multi-million-pound, world class infrastructure.

Our detailed analysis of port activities shows that 78% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the port come from vessels berthed alongside the quays. As such, we are working closely with our customers, port users and a variety of industry organisations to lead the drive for clean maritime at the port.

**A green port requires innovative thinking and practices and with our partners in the public and private sectors, we will continue exploring opportunities, including quayside electrification, the use of alternative fuels and lower carbon power supplies and sustainable waste management.**

We are looking forward to working with our stakeholders to pull together our expertise and ultimately bring prosperity to the North East of Scotland and the wider maritime and energy industry.



Proud to be a member of **ECOPORTS**  
PERSCERTIFIED

**100%**

of the power to our office buildings comes from

**CERTIFIABLE RENEWABLE SOURCES**

and work is being undertaken to introduce energy efficient heating systems and other technologies



We were awarded

**£400,000**

from the UK Department for Transport to fund a joint demonstration project with Connected Places Catapult to deliver

**Shore Power within our existing North Harbour**

find out more >>



We have partnered with bp and other stakeholders to identify and develop projects to **reduce emissions and lower air and noise pollution** from vessels calling at the Port of Aberdeen



find out more >>

**OUR GROWING FLEET OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES SAVE AT LEAST**

**3,400 litres**  
**OF DIESEL EACH YEAR**



# South Harbour Progress

The completed South Breakwater is 660 metres long

Dredging work is complete, giving the port a depth of up to 15 metres

All 22 caissons are now in place for the heavy-lift areas on the fixed quays

The Crown Wall is 11 metres high and 620 metres long, and will protect vessel and quayside operations from the toughest North Sea conditions


Service trenches installed to house the infrastructure needed for green fuels and utilities, avoiding costly retrofitting in the future

We are gearing up for operations at Aberdeen South Harbour, with the first commercial vessels expected this summer as a 'soft start' prior to operations fully commencing in October. The expanded port will be a critical asset in the future of Scotland's industries, providing customers and port users with scalable, flexible infrastructure, making it ideal for space-intense industries such as offshore wind, decommissioning, cargo, and cruise.

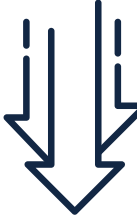
All marine construction work is now complete


Watch our South Harbour construction videos [▶▶](#)

# Safety, Health, Environment & Quality (SHEQ)

**01**   
Port of Aberdeen  
RIDDOR incident

**01**   
PORT OF ABERDEEN  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
INCIDENT

**17%**   
Reduction in  
reported  
Port of Aberdeen  
incidents

**04**   
Port safety  
group meetings  
in 2021  
representing  
26 port  
user companies


**18**   
SHEQ tours  
completed in 2021

**09**   
PORT OF ABERDEEN  
EMPLOYEES ACTING  
AS ROES REPS

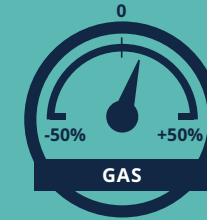
  
Mental Health  
Awareness Training  
attended by  
**20%**  
of employees

Port of Aberdeen re-accredited for  
ISO 45001, ISO 14001 and ISO 9001  
standards following 2021 audits



**67%**   
uptake of digital Safety  
Observation Cards, giving  
port users, employees and  
members of the public the  
opportunity to report on  
positive observations,  
unsafe acts and near misses

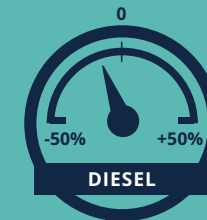
## 2021 Energy Usage



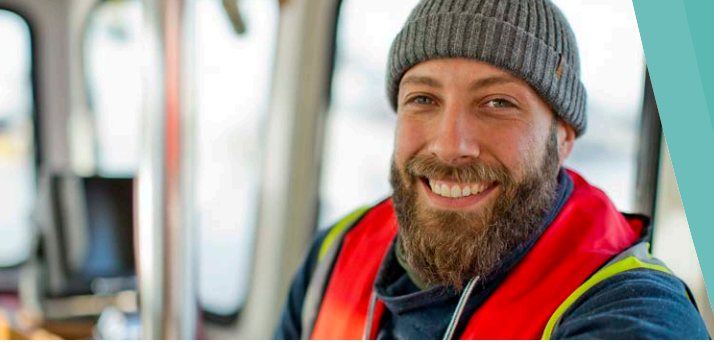
Total 2020: **609,174**  
Total 2021: **621,522**  
(2% Increase)



Total 2020: **435,180.5**  
Total 2021: **417,063.1**  
(4% Decrease)



Total 2020: **105,959.49**  
Total 2021: **100,779.33**  
(5% Decrease)



## People & Culture



It is our mission to develop and invest in our people, so they are empowered to create and deliver prosperity for future generations.

Our Investors in People audit in 2021 provided us with valuable feedback from our employees to help us enhance the workplace and improve employee engagement. Like many of our stakeholders, we have firmly incorporated hybrid working into our daily practices, and are grateful for funding from the Flexible Workforce Development Fund, which has enabled us to further support our employees throughout the pandemic.

The Port of Aberdeen is a vibrant and dynamic place to start a promising career, and by backing talent through early-stage career programmes, benefits have been brought to the port, our customers, and stakeholders, and ultimately, the economy. We were pleased to participate in the 2021 Foundation Apprentice Programme, which involved mentoring 55 students to support them in completing a qualification based on classroom learning and hands-on experience.

We are always considering ways we can add skills and value to our 100-strong workforce as we scale up to the opening of South Harbour, and look forward to supporting other apprentice schemes in the coming year.

# supPORT-all

As a Trust Port, the Port of Aberdeen has a strong ethos of communicating and interacting with anyone who has an interest in the port – including our local communities.

In 2021, we donated £30,000 to community groups and charities undertaking vital work close to the port through our community action programme, **supPORT-all**. This funding builds on our history of supporting more than 200,000 children and adults in the North East of Scotland.

In 2022, we will donate a further £30,000 to local community groups undertaking vital work in our local communities. We look forward to working with:



## WHO WE SUPPORTED IN 2021



Education centre, dolphin viewing site and community space in Aberdeen City



Community food garden and education space in Torry



Dedicated neurological care centre in Kincorth



Community-owned centre in the heart of Footdee

Find out more about supPORT-all >>

[Visit our website](#)

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[Contact us](#)

[Read our latest news](#)

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