

# Annual Review

2023



**PORT OF  
ABERDEEN**  
EST. 1136



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“ Our diverse customer base generated a solid core of revenue which exceeded expectations. ”



## Chair's statement

### 2022 was a pivotal year for Port of Aberdeen.

No sooner had our lives at home and work returned to normal following the pandemic, than the war in Ukraine sent shockwaves across the globe resulting in economic pressures and rising energy costs.

Despite these challenges, our diverse customer base generated a solid core of revenue which exceeded expectations. Coupled with careful cost management, we returned to pre-pandemic levels of activity and profitability.

In 2022, we generated £39.2 million of turnover and an operating profit of £21.3 million was earned, representing an increase of 22% compared with the previous year. As a Trust Port, all profits are retained for reinvestment in port developments for the benefit of our stakeholders.

This success was driven by an increase in vessel arrival numbers to more than 6,800 and over 27.7 million tonnes of vessels and goods moved through the port. The ferry service continued its recovery with 163,000 passengers travelling through Aberdeen, representing a 47% increase compared to 2021.

I am privileged to have been appointed as Chair of Port of Aberdeen and I want to recognise the incredibly important contribution of my predecessor,

Alistair Mackenzie. He served the board with distinction for 13 years and his leadership as Chair supported growth and development.

My thanks go to our Board members who have guided the business through another year. I take this opportunity to welcome Sian Lloyd Rees, Non Executive Member, and Roddy James, Chief Commercial Officer to the board – their energy industry experience brings a new dynamic to the team. John Brebner stepped into the role of Vice Chair at the start of 2023, and I wish him all the best as he continues to support the business.

Finally, as ever, our stakeholders, from the local community and customers to those leading the country, are crucial to the continued success of Port of Aberdeen.

As the energy transition and drive to net zero gathers pace, now more than ever, we are focused on maintaining and building these positive relationships to deliver a prosperous future.

**Roy Buchan**, Chair



“None of our success today, or in the future, is possible without our people.”



## CEO's statement

### **Recently I reflected on a visit to Aberdeen in my previous role as CEO of the UK Chamber of Shipping.**

I was invited to speak at a Port of Aberdeen stakeholder event, where I discussed the significant opportunity that Aberdeen, and its port, had to lead in the energy transition and drive to net zero.

Four years on, we are turning this opportunity into reality.

We are in the final weeks of construction at Aberdeen South Harbour and the expansion is transformational – not just for the port, but for the region, and indeed the nation.

From a 'soft start' to operations in July, the new facility has been heavily utilised for vessels and projects that would have previously sailed by the city, often destined for a European port capable of handling their requirements.

Offshore wind and hydrogen are also now coming into sharp focus, and we are engaging across government and industry to maximise these opportunities.

Decommissioning, general cargo, and cruise are also significant areas for growth.

2022 was the year that we cemented our position as a leading hub for maritime decarbonisation, whilst supporting the nation's drive for energy security.

We also secured government funding for a range of innovative studies and collaborated with partners on ground-breaking projects.

Now our ambition is to become the UK's first net zero port by 2040.

None of our success today, or in the future, is possible without our people who continue to deliver a safe, professional, and quality service for our customers.

Their expertise, coupled with our world-class infrastructure, and unrivalled supply chain on our doorstep positions the port to capitalise on opportunities for growth in energy transition, trade, and tourism.

We have invested more than half a billion pounds in our infrastructure in recent years. Now even closer private and public sector collaboration is needed to unlock the full potential of the expanded port.

Our business will be transformed, and will, in turn, transform the opportunities for the North East and the nation.

**Bob Sanguinetti, CEO**



## Board of directors

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

**01 Roy Buchan**  
*Chair*  
 BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2019

**02 John Brebner**  
*Vice-Chair*  
 BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2018

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

**04 Jon Oakey**  
*Chief Financial Officer*  
 BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2019

**05 Roddy James**  
*Chief Commercial Officer*  
 BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2022

**06 Sian Lloyd-Rees**  
*Non-executive member*  
 BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2023

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

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

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

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

**11 Jayne MacIennan**  
*Non-executive member*  
 BOARD MEMBER SINCE 2017

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

Read their biographies online >>

## 2022: A year in review



**£39.2 million** turnover  
**£21.3 million** operating profit



**6,813** vessel arrivals  
**12% increase** on 2021



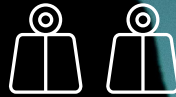
**108** current employees  
**21** new starts in 2022



**34** international trading countries



Cargo tonnage:  
**3,239,045 tonnes**



Vessel tonnage:  
**24,439,129 tonnes**



**£30,000** donated to local community groups



**161,185** ferry passengers

# Net zero port

**Port of Aberdeen's vision is to become Scotland's premier net zero port at the heart of the nation's energy transition. We must be bold and ambitious to achieve this.**

**We are investing £55 million over the next 10 years to become the UK's first net zero port by 2040.**

Strong partnerships and investment across the public and private sectors are essential to deliver this transformational change. The port has been operating for almost 900 years and this could be the biggest challenge, and opportunity, in our history.

To track our progress towards net zero, the port will measure its emissions against a 2019 baseline, with **55,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emitted across scope 1, 2 and 3**. Notably, **97% of emissions were attributed to 9,500 vessel arrivals**, recorded as scope 3.

## Scoping our emissions

### Scope 1



Direct emissions such as company owned vessels and fuel used in equipment, machinery, and company cars.

### Scope 2



Indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy including electricity, heat, steam, and cooling.

### Scope 3



All other indirect emissions occurring upstream and downstream of the port's supply chain, such as client vessels, leased assets, water and waste.

## Immediate focus areas

**Over the next 12 months, we are focused on:**



Completing feasibility testing and implementation of hydrotreated vegetable oil for port handling equipment, machinery, and vessels.



Procuring a renewable electricity tariff, with initial feasibility and cost-analysis exercises planned for the implementation of onsite clean energy.



Implementing shore power at three berths, with suitability analysis planned for the phased approach to installing across remaining berths.



Accelerating the switch to electric company cars and reviewing the suitability and timeframe for transferring plant and machinery to low carbon alternatives.



Engaging with stakeholders such as vessel owners, employees, and tenants to collaboratively make steps in carbon mitigation.

[Net zero strategy video](#) >>

['Charting a sustainable future' explainer](#) >>

# Navigating new opportunities

**Port of Aberdeen connects customers to what they need, where and when they need it, through innovation, commitment, and environmental sustainability.**

Our £400 million investment in South Harbour positions the expanded port, and wider supply chain, to play a pivotal role in the growth and development of a range of sectors in energy transition, trade and tourism.



## Renewables

Port of Aberdeen offers our strategic location, world-class infrastructure and access to an unrivalled supply chain for renewables projects. Offshore wind is a significant area of growth and vessel arrivals have increased by more than 160% so far in 2023.



## Oil & gas

Port of Aberdeen has been Europe's key oil and gas port for more than 50 years, supporting lifecycle activities from exploration to operations and decommissioning. South Harbour creates opportunities to attract new projects such as jack-up rig and FPSO maintenance.



## Decommissioning

Port of Aberdeen has a proven track record supporting safe, cost-effective and environmentally responsible decommissioning. The South Harbour expansion, coupled with the port's waste management licence, significantly enhances the port's capability and capacity.



## Cruise

Port of Aberdeen has welcomed boutique cruise vessels to the city for many years and now extends that expertise to facilitating larger vessels, with thousands of guests and crew, at South Harbour.



## General cargo

Port of Aberdeen connects the North East of Scotland with the world, offering access to more than 40 major shipping routes. The expanded port is unlocking new opportunities to support the safe and efficient handling of cargo across a diverse range of sectors.





## South Harbour construction



**Aberdeen South Harbour is transformational** – not just for Port of Aberdeen, but for the region and the nation.



The £400 million expansion is the largest marine infrastructure project in the UK. Once complete in Q2 2023, Aberdeen will be **the largest berthage port in Scotland**.



**More than 3.5 million workhours** have gone into the construction of this landmark development, and **over 30 companies from across the North East of Scotland** have played a pivotal role in the project.



South Harbour offers **1.5km of deepwater berths** (9 to 15 metres deep) and can accommodate ships **up to 300 metres in length**. It also has **extensive heavy-lift zones** (15 tonnes/m<sup>2</sup>), and **125,000m<sup>2</sup> of flexible laydown space** with expansive project areas.



The new facility **is already attracting vessels** and project activity would have previously sailed past the city, often destined for a European port, capable of handling their requirements.



This increased activity **supports local jobs, attracts local supply chain spend and investment**, and the **profits are reinvested back into the port** to improve the facilities for future generations.



## Safety, health, environment and quality

Quarterly port safety group meetings



Representing 19 companies operating within the port



Key focus areas include net zero plans, port-wide safety flash bulletins and the health safety and environment awards

Port of Aberdeen HSE awards



The inaugural HSE awards recognised the outstanding efforts and achievements of businesses operating within the port estate.

The winners demonstrated their unwavering commitment to the health, safety and wellbeing of their employees, customers, and the environment, contributing to a safer, healthier, and more sustainable Port of Aberdeen.

2023 Port health and safety award:

**WINNER – Peterson**

2023 Port environment best practice award:

**WINNER – North Star**



Zero reportable lost time injuries to Port of Aberdeen employees in 2022



58% decrease in environmental incidents in 2022  
(5 in 2022, 12 in 2021)



“ We are proud to maintain our Investors In People accreditation, with improved engagement rates across the business in 2022. ”



## People and culture



At the Port of Aberdeen, one of our priorities is to develop and invest in our people, so they are empowered with the values and capabilities to deliver prosperity for future generations.

In 2022, we did this by...

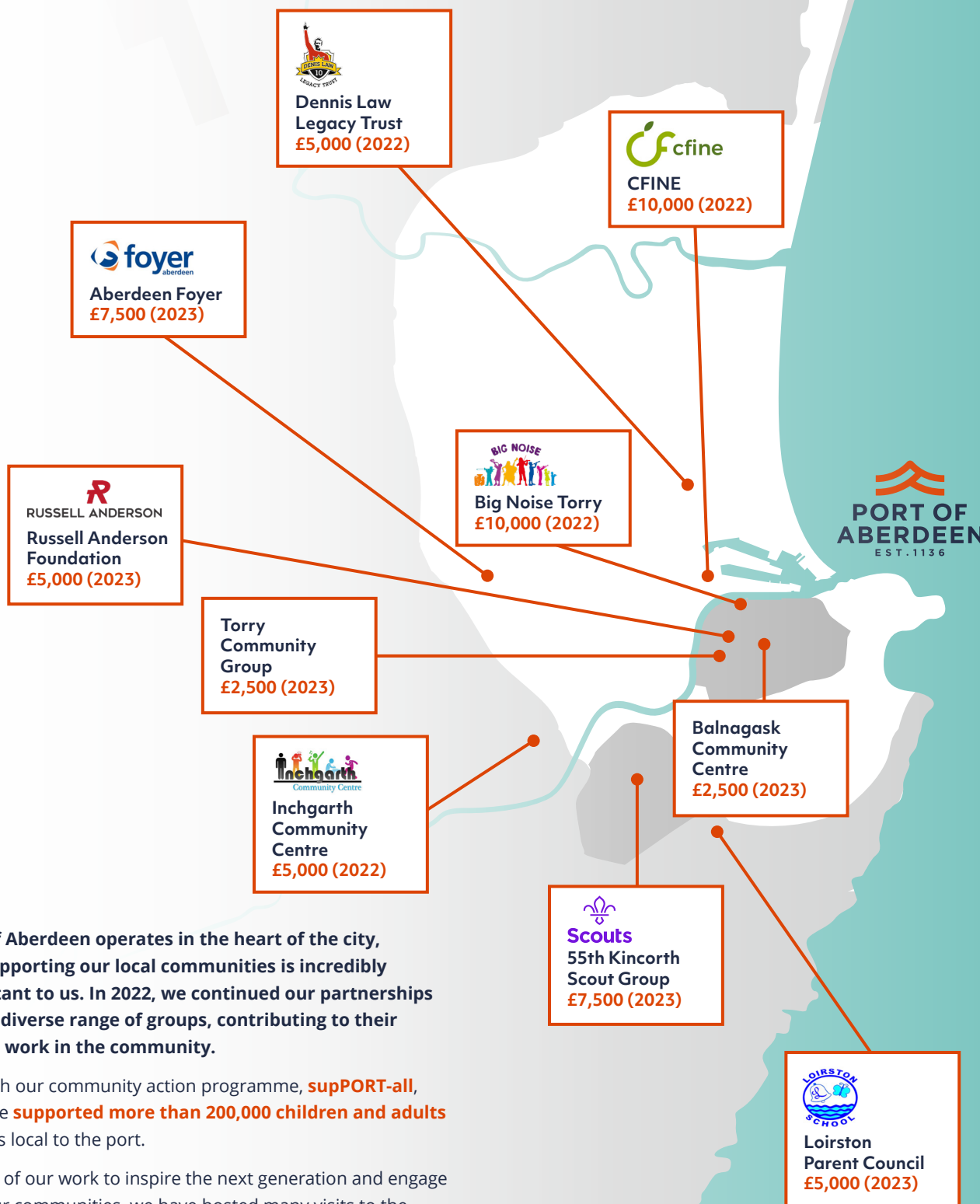
- ▷ Creating a **development framework** to empower Line Managers to inspire and lead their teams
- ▷ Initiating **employee engagement forums** to generate discussions for employees to get involved with ideas and recommendations for improvements
- ▷ Introducing an **enhanced maternity and paternity policy** to support employees and their families
- ▷ Supporting employees with the launch of our **Thrive wellbeing programme**, covering mental and physical health



**INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE**

**DIVERSITY  
IN MARITIME**

# Working with the community



Port of Aberdeen operates in the heart of the city, and supporting our local communities is incredibly important to us. In 2022, we continued our partnerships with a diverse range of groups, contributing to their crucial work in the community.

Through our community action programme, **supPORT-all**, we have **supported more than 200,000 children and adults** in areas local to the port.

As part of our work to inspire the next generation and engage with our communities, we have hosted many visits to the **South Harbour Visitor Centre** from community groups and schools across the North East of Scotland and beyond.

[Meet our 2023 community groups](#) >>

[Find out more about supPORT-all](#) >>

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