



Pontoon - People's History Museum

2023

Overview

The proposal to install a 25 metre long pontoon on the south east bank of the River Irwell outside of The People's History Museum, the pontoon will be used as a customer access point for the current fleet of vessels owned by Manchester River Cruises.

The operation of Manchester River Cruises is regulated by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. The safe use and maintenance of our vessels and infrastructure is detailed in the company Domestic Safety Management System.

Operation

1. The operating schedule of Manchester River Cruises is between 10:00- 24:00 7 days a week 365 days a year.
2. The pontoon will be closed to passenger access in between scheduled trips. A crew member will open the gate only once boarding is ready to commence. Any disembarking passengers must have vacated the pontoon prior to allowing embarking passengers through the gate.
3. A crew member will be available to assist all passengers embarking from the pontoon onto the vessel.
4. Use of the pontoon will be restricted during periods of high river flow as determined by the levels of sluicing at Mode Wheel locks and advised by the port authority.

Access

1. Public access is restricted to customers of Manchester River Cruises.
2. All customer access will be done under the supervision of crew members of Manchester River Cruises.
3. The pontoon will be restricted to allow only a limited number of people on at any one time.
4. Any signs of unauthorised use will be reported to the relevant authorities.

Maintenance

1. The pontoon will be built under design specification in order to deflect floating debris.
2. The pontoon surface will be maintained daily to be free of debris, any of which will be disposed of safely.
3. Along with daily maintenance and cleaning extra precautions will be taken during seasonal changes.

These will include but are not limited to:

- Removal of leaves and foliage.
 - The removal of sand (which may occur during times of unsettled weather).
 - Use of anti-slip grit/salt during low temperatures.
 - The clearing of moss or algae as a result of warmer climates during summer months.
4. The pontoon surface will be cleaned daily by the crew of MRC to ensure it is free of any slip and trip hazards.
 5. Access to the pontoon is restricted by a locked gate. Access is by numerical keypad, the code will be available to members of Manchester River Cruises crew and relevant authorities. Whilst not in use a restriction barrier will be in place to restrict access without authority.
 6. Any damage to the pontoon structure or equipment will be assessed and logged.
 7. Any damage deemed to affect the safe use of the pontoon will result in closure until repairs can be carried out.

8. A preventative maintenance contract with Inland Coastal will be in place to ensure the ongoing safety of the pontoon system.

Water Safety

- All crew members of Manchester River Cruises received training on induction in the proper use of life saving equipment.
- Safety notices will be displayed with instructions of safety and guidance and will include emergency contact numbers.
- A life ring and throw line will be available on the pontoon with instructions displayed for its proper use.