



## Mission Statement

“ For the Port to be a progressive, vibrant driver of growth for Inverness and the Highlands and to be recognised as such by the community and by industry. ”

There has been a port in Inverness since the 13th Century, originally under the control of the Town Council. Inverness Harbour Trust was established by an Act of Parliament in 1847 and is operated as a Trust Port under the control of a Board of Trustees.

The Scottish Government is responsible for ports and harbours in Scotland, with the guidelines for operating a Trust Port set out in the Transport Scotland publication “Modern Trust Ports for Scotland – Guidance for good governance”.

The focus of our strategic plan for the next ten years is to develop the Port of Inverness, laying robust foundations for creating future business growth and profitability. This document sets out the key points of our strategy.

## OBJECTIVES : 2017-2021

### Grow and develop current IHT business

Since our expansion in 2008 we have attracted new business through the Port with the high standard of our facilities, commitment to safety and customer service. We now plan to grow and develop our general, bulk and liquid cargo businesses. Experience has shown that we must be in a position to respond quickly and effectively to business development opportunities both from existing port users and potential new customers. Recently we expanded one of our transit sheds to meet the requirements of one of our port users. Going forward it is vital that we remain flexible and grow with our valued customers while developing new services to attract new ones.

We have been extremely successful in attracting cargoes of wind farm machinery to the Port, largely due to our extensive laydown areas, state of the art heavy lifting quay facilities and excellent access to main roads. We plan to build on this success and become an essential part of the renewables supply chain.

### Lay robust foundations for creating future business growth/profitability

Opportunities exist in a variety of sectors which the Port plans to investigate both with existing port users and new customers. We aim to expand our commercial operations by increasing our trade across a variety of sectors.

We enjoy an unrivalled location at the mouth of the River Ness in the capital city of the Highlands with countless visitor attractions on our doorstep. One of our aims for the future is to make Inverness a “must do” port of call for smaller cruise operators and passengers. We plan to work with retail, tourism, leisure, arts and cultural organisations both in Inverness and across the Highlands to develop a niche service to the international cruise market.

## Increase IHT's "visibility" locally and nationally

The Port of Inverness is located at the very heart of the Highland Capital, the commercial centre of the Highlands as well as one of the most popular tourist destinations in the UK. We intend to promote and grow the Port by establishing strategic alliances and working partnerships with a range of organisations including local and national government; port users; other UK, Scandinavian and European port operators; vessel owners; shipping agents and businesses in the Highlands.

## Develop Harbour Gait

The land next to the Port was reclaimed as part of the larger North Longman expansion in 2008 and is known as Harbour Gait. Inverness Marina has been a tremendous success and our plans have always been to develop the area beside it with a high quality hotel along with leisure and tourism opportunities. Now the economic outlook has improved we plan to begin consultation with key stakeholders, neighbouring land owners and interested end users with a view to formulating a plan to progress the development of this area.

## Develop sea freight versus "road miles" debate as Transport Initiative

In the debate about moving freight off Scotland's roads, the benefits of short sea shipping services have not been fully explored. The Port plans to join with a range of interested parties, including shipping agents, ship operators and logistics operators, to engage with local and national government and promote the role shipping could play in future transport infrastructure policy.

# OBJECTIVES : 2022-2027

## Develop the turnover of the IHT business

We will build on our successes and continually review our operations to ensure maximum benefit to our stakeholders through efficient working practices, delivering a first class service and taking advantage of opportunities that arise going forward. We will continue to invest in our people to ensure that they achieve their maximum potential.

## Deliver a world class waterfront development

We own a considerable amount of prime land on the waterfront which we aim to transform into a fitting Gateway to the Highlands. We will work with stakeholders, independent developers and local and national government agencies to progress the development of a world class waterfront development. Our vision is to deliver an economic hub that will benefit not only the city but the wider Highland Region.

## Deliver the IHT Transport Infrastructure Initiative

We will continue to progress the debate on the benefits of short sea shipping through ongoing dialogue with stakeholders and all interested parties.

