



Pembrokeshire

5

## *Beauty in a Thriving Community*

Pembrokeshire County Council  
Cyngor Sir Benfro



Pembrokeshire County Council  
County Hall  
Haverfordwest  
Pembrokeshire  
Tel: 01437 764551  
Fax: 01437 776699  
enquiries@Pembrokeshire.gov.uk  
www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk

**The combination of wildlife and commercial bustle is typical of the county of Pembrokeshire, where the built and natural environments mix effortlessly into one and where history and heritage blend with the exciting opportunities of the future.**

Sitting in County Hall overlooking the Western Cleddau in the middle of Haverfordwest, it's possible to watch a seal feeding in the river as it winds its way through the town to the sea. Occasionally a cormorant will be spotted waiting patiently the top of the salmon ladder for its next meal, or a family of swans will glide by.

If you shift your gaze to the right you can see the attractive Riverside Shopping Centre, bustling with people buying local produce at the award winning Farmer's Market - renowned for its fine selection of local meat, vegetables and cheeses.

Tourists and holidaymakers appreciate Pembrokeshire for the natural beauty of its countryside and its many fine, golden beaches, as well as the warm welcome they receive from local people.

Many of these thousands of visitors walk at least a part of the 186 mile-long coastal footpath that passes through the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park – the only coastal national park in the UK. The lengthy trail takes in the coastal resorts of Tenby and Saundersfoot before approaching some of Britain's finest surfing beaches at Freshwater and

Newgale. It proceeds northwards past the picturesque village of Solva before arriving at St David's, the UK's smallest city and the home of Wales' most important cathedral, which nestles in a valley below the surrounding countryside.

From the coastal trail it is possible to look out to the islands renowned for the wildlife that lives both on their rocky outcrops and in the wild seas around them. The more adventurous can take a boat to these islands or join one of the dive schools that explore the waters off this most south westerly part of Wales.

---

**...from the coastal trail it is possible to look out to the islands renowned for the wildlife that lives both on their rocky outcrops and in the wild seas around them. The more adventurous can take a boat to these islands or join one of the dive schools that explore the waters off this most south westerly part of Wales...**

---

Pembrokeshire's interior is just as interesting as the coast with some of the country's finest dairy and beef herds grazing in green fields often in the shadow of the castle ruins that mark the legendary Lansker Line. This imaginary line marks the one-time battle scared frontier between the Celts and the Normans. The grandest castle is to be found in the town of Pembroke. This stone edifice has an important place in history. It was the birthplace of Henry Tudor - later King Henry VII – and was besieged by Cromwell in the Civil War.

Moving to the north of the County, the scenery is dominated by the brooding presence of the Preseli Mountains, where lurks the answer to a question that has baffled modern man for many years. Just how did our ancestors move the massive Preseli Bluestones from these hills to built Stonehenge on the Salisbury Plain? Was it a massive feat of primitive engineering or did nature lend a helping hand?

Some say that Pembrokeshire has always been the home of craftsmen and

Neyland Marina



engineers and it is true that engineers and engineering have shaped the County's development, including Isambard Kingdom Brunel. The great Victorian was responsible for the birth of Neyland when he chose the site as the point where his Great Western Railway would meet his impressive steamships.

Today's engineers work very near to this point on the Milford Haven waterway, where massive energy developments serving not only local but national needs are being located. It is estimated that about 20% of the UK's energy supply will soon come through Pembrokeshire. This will take the form of refined oil products, gas from the new LNG import and storage depots and electricity from what is planned to be the UK's largest gas fired power station, as well as exciting developments in wave and tidal flow generation technologies.

The demands of this energy industry now dominate shipping activity in the Milford Haven Waterway – the deep-water port described by Nelson as one of the finest natural harbours in the world. Once a small but important naval base, where warships and most of the royal yachts were built, it is now one of the UK's busiest ports, ranked fourth in terms of freight tonnages.

Geographically the waterway is a "ria" or drowned valley and, as well as its commercial activities, offers 24 miles of sheltered cruising water with numerous creeks or "Pills". Boating is a popular past time and the marinas at Neyland and Milford on its northern banks have long waiting lists, which should soon be eased by the development of a waterside residential complex with an associated marina at Pembroke Dock on the south.

Another new marina development is proposed at Fishguard where the current ferry port will be extended and a large number of berths created for leisure sailors.

All this commercial activity sits side by side with the coastal national park so it's no surprise that Pembrokeshire is a popular place for people to settle and set up their lifestyle businesses to complement the industrial area around Milford.

Surf Beach



# Pembrokeshire

## *Pembrokeshire: the New Energy Capital*



Pembrokeshire means different things to different people. To many it brings back memories of blissful summer holidays spent on one of the county's many fine beaches, or in the attractive countryside. To others it can mean healthy outdoor activities, climbing, canoeing, walking, rugby etc. and to others fine local foods served in friendly restaurants.

**W**hilst Pembrokeshire has these excellent green and healthy credentials it has also become a major part of the UK's energy supply chain. About a quarter of the UK's refined oil products originate from one of the two oil refineries that are located along the Milford Haven Waterway. In addition to the oil refineries the energy sector is being supplemented by the construction of two large LNG (Liquid Natural Gas) import, storage and regassification facilities. When completed in 2008 the output from these two facilities will be able to supply about 30% of the UK's gas requirements.

The availability of high pressure gas supplies attracted interest from Electricity Generators and RWE are awaiting consent from the Dept of BERR to build

the UK's largest gas fired power station on the site of a former oil fired power station in Pembroke.

...Pembrokeshire is an ideal location for businesses looking for plentiful supplies of energy or for companies looking to develop new low carbon energy technologies...

But not all of the energy developments taking place in Pembrokeshire are based on the hydrocarbon fuels. There are a number of interesting new energy technologies being developed and tested in the County.

All of this makes Pembrokeshire an ideal location for businesses looking for plentiful supplies of energy or for companies looking to develop new low carbon energy technologies.

The Energy Sector developed around Milford Haven because of the deep water port facilities, its westerly location close to major shipping lanes and the infrastructure that was established to distribute oil and electricity throughout the UK. Since then local industry has adapted and there now exists an excellent network of companies supporting the

Technium



# Pembrokeshire



Wavedragon

energy sector, such is the level of expertise in the county that engineering companies and others are exporting their services to other parts of the world.

At one time there were four oil refineries along the Haven waterway, but now there are only two. These facilities are now operated by Chevron and Murco (Murphy Oil). The deep waters of the Haven means the refineries are accessible to the largest supertankers and crude is bought from many parts of the world. The refined products produced here together with products stored at the SEM Group tank farm are mainly distributed by pipeline and sea to the UK, other parts of Europe and North America.

The accessibility by sea was also a major factor that attracted the Liquid Natural Gas companies to consider investing in Pembrokeshire. The larger of the two facilities under construction is the South Hook LNG plant, a joint venture involving Qatar Gas and Exxon whilst the smaller Dragon LNG project involves BG Group, Petronas and 4Gas (part of the Carlyle Group).

*This article was originally published in Invest UK.*



Growth Units at Technium

# The Port of Milford Haven

## *The Port of Milford Haven*

Ted Sangster Chief Executive, Milford Haven Port Authority



Milford Haven Port Authority

Milford Haven Port Authority  
PO Box 14  
Gorsewood Drive  
Milford Haven  
Pembrokeshire  
SA73 3ER  
Tel: 01646 696100  
Fax: 01646 696125  
enquiries@mhpa.co.uk  
www.mhpa.co.uk

Milford Haven, situated in Pembrokeshire in West Wales, is the fifth largest port in the UK and covers 60 square miles of waterway and 177 miles of shoreline. It is widely seen as an oil port but in fact is much more than that. Milford Haven is a trust port with a 50 year successful past and an even more exciting future.

The role that Milford Haven Port Authority (MHPA) plays in the local economy can be seen in the accompanying table which aptly demonstrates that the port is of significant and strategic value, not only in the local economy but in Wales and at UK national level.

As a trust port, MHPA is one of over 100 in the UK. In essence, a trust port can be defined as a commercial port business run for profit but not for dividend - there being no shareholders. Thus what characterises the business approach of the port is the importance given to the way in which it supports the local economy, through the success of its own operation, and the synergy that it brings to the local community, particularly in terms of economic development.

Ted Sangster



**...it supports the local economy, through the success of its own operation, and the synergy that it brings to the local community, particularly in terms of economic development...**

Milford Haven is a considerable oil port, the largest in the UK with two refineries on the waterway, Chevron and Murco (formally Total), as well as the UK's largest tank facility, run by SemLogistics. Collectively, these three facilities handle the equivalent of 29% of the UK's total oil consumption. As a bi-product of these refining processes, the equivalent of 15 % of the UK's Liquid Petroleum Gas consumption is also handled at the port, including imports and exports.

MHPA also provides and operates a range of other activities including a ferry terminal, in which the major customer is Irish Ferries on its twice daily service between Pembroke Dock and Rosslare in Southern Ireland. The Authority also operates a dry dock and a ship repair division, turning over £2.5 million per annum and capable of taking coastal tankers, tugs and a wide range of other commercial and leisure vessels. An increasing amount of general cargo is handled on the waterway, particularly at



# The Port of Milford Haven



Pembroke Port including sand, fertiliser, marine aggregates, agricultural materials, forest products. Heavy lift operations, supporting the engineering fabrication industry, whose market is throughout the UK and Northern Europe, also make use of the port facilities.

Within the 22 miles of waterway there are also over 1200 moorings together with two marinas, one of which is owned by the Authority itself. As part of the Authority's trust port status, significant emphasis is given to supporting the increasing recreational use of the waterway.

Milford Docks, which was bought by the Authority from private hands in the 1980s, is still the largest fishing port in Wales with almost 4500 tonnes being landed from the offshore fleets.

Nowadays, these fleets are characterised by the Spanish, French and Belgium rather than UK interests, although there remains a thriving local in-shore fleet. And within Milford Docks, a fantastic range of

infrastructure improvement has taken place over the past 10 years with a vibrant new on-shore culture emerging. A new commercial, residential and retail sector, together with a variety of leisure facilities (including Phoenix Bowl, a ten-pin bowling centre capable of rivalling any within the UK, both in terms of professional and recreational standards) have revived the area.

The other defining characteristic of being a Trust Port is that the Authority is required by statute to look very much at the long term and invest to meet not only current but also future needs. During the course of 2008 the Authority will conclude a purchase from the MoD for a base at Pembroke Port which was due to be closed. MHPA plan to develop this site utilising the additional jetty and land capacity provided in order to extend current activities whilst securing new commercial opportunities.

The major developments taking place in the port at present, however, are the

construction of two LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) terminals, one being Dragon LNG which is a partnership between BG, Petronas and Petroplus and the other is South Hook LNG which is a partnership between Qatar Petroleum, Exxon Mobil and Total. Both terminals are in their final stages of construction, and when they come on-stream and start receiving ships during the course of 2008 they will have the potential to deliver up to 25% of the UK's gas requirements. When this is coupled with the 20% of the UK's petrol and diesel already provided by the two refineries the strategic value of this port, in West Wales, at the centre of the UK economy, is amply demonstrated.