



Health and Safety policy for The Rivertime Boat Trust

Reviewed on	6 th February 2026
Reviewed by	Lucy Herbert / Tom Sowerby
Review due	6 th February 2027

Contents

Contents	Page
Introduction	1-2
Trustee Responsibilities	2
Rivertime Personnel Responsibilities	2
Risk Assessments	2
Training	2-3
Resolving Health and Safety Issues	3

Introduction

The Rivertime Boat Trust's (RBT) Trustee Board has overall responsibility for health and safety in the organisation and for ensuring that it fulfils all its legal responsibilities. RBT will do whatever it can to provide for the health, safety and welfare of all, staff, volunteers, and visitors and to set a standard of good practice in the voluntary sector.

Small Passenger Vessel operations are subject to the Health and Safety Regulation defined in the following document:

Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations 1997 (SI 1997/2962).

This regulation shall apply to the Trust small passenger vessel operation.

The commitment to health and safety is a management responsibility and it is the duty of our trustees and managers to uphold this policy and to provide the necessary funds and resources to implement it.

RBT will work in a way that tries to ensure that risks to staff, volunteers and visitors are always minimised.



Trustee Responsibilities

The Chair of Trustees is responsible for the implementation and monitoring of health and safety policies and recommending any changes that may be necessary. All accidents or unsafe incidents will be investigated, and any necessary action taken as soon as possible.

- Assessing the risk to the health and safety of RBT's employees, volunteers and visitors and identifying what measures are needed to comply with its health and safety obligations.
- Providing and maintaining 'Rivertime' and its other vessels, equipment, and systems of work that are safe and without risk to health.
- Ensuring that equipment is safe and well maintained.
- Providing information, instruction, training and supervision in safe working methods and procedures.
- Providing and maintaining healthy and safe places of work, including safe ways of entering and leaving its vessels.
- Encouraging RBT's employees and volunteers to co-operate in ensuring safe and healthy conditions and systems of work by discussion and effective joint consultation.
- Establishing emergency procedures as required.

Rivertime Personnel Responsibilities

- Complying with this Health & Safety policy.
- Staying up to date with all safety and emergency procedures.
- Taking care of themselves and others who may be affected by their actions or omissions.
- Using the appropriate forms to make a record of all accidents, incidents and near misses.
- Reporting all accidents, near misses and identifying any actions deemed as unsafe to the Managing Skipper / Chair of Trustees

Risk Assessments

The Trust will ensure that all premises and tasks are assessed in line with the current relevant legislation. Assessments will be reviewed when there is:

- An unsafe incident
- A change in legislation
- A change of premises
- A significant change in work carried out transfer to new technology or any other reason which makes original assessment not valid

Training

To comply with legislation and to promote the health, safety and welfare of staff and volunteers, health and safety training will be provided as follows:

- At induction and refresher training
- On transfer or promotion to new duties
- When new technology is introduced
- When changes are made to systems of work



- When training needs are identified during risk assessments.

Resolving Health and Safety Issues

Any employee or volunteer with a health and safety concern must report to the Operations Director.

If after investigation, the employee/volunteer is not satisfied with the outcome, they must refer the matter to the Chair of Trustees, boating@rivertimeboattrust.org.uk