

138th UKMPA Conference

AND AGM

18-20 NOVEMBER 2026, BRISTOL, UK

CALL FOR PAPERS

The UK Maritime Pilots' Association (UKMPA) is pleased to announce the themes for its 138th Annual Conference, focusing on: "Salvage: Lessons, Leadership and Collaboration" and "Maintaining Best Practice in a Changing Maritime Landscape"

Examples of "Salvage: Lessons, Leadership and Collaboration" may include:

- Pilot involvement and decision-making during salvage operations
- Lessons learned from real-world incidents and near misses
- The legal relationship of Pilotage and salvage
- Coordination between pilots, salvors, and port authorities
- Evolving challenges in casualty response and emergency towage
- How shared experience and training enhance salvage readiness

Examples of "Maintaining Best Practice in a Changing Maritime Landscape" may include:

- Evolving pilotage practices and adapting to and embracing new technologies
- The human element: professional standards, safety, and accountability, check pilotage
- Training and mentorship to sustain professional excellence
- Sharing best practice between ports, pilotage organisations and similar industries
- Safeguarding reputation and maintaining public confidence in pilotage

Abstract submissions are now invited. We welcome papers that are non-commercial and that offer genuine professional insight, reflection, or innovation.

Submissions should include:

- The broad theme of your paper and how it relates to the conference topics
- A short statement on why your subject will engage attendees
- A brief biography of the author, including background and affiliations
- All submissions must be written in English

Please submit your abstract to events@ukmpa.org by 30th April 2026. Abstracts will be reviewed by the UKMPA Executive Committee and authors will be notified of the outcome in due course. Successful authors will receive detailed guidance on paper format, presentation style and timelines.

Final papers will be required by 30th August 2026

