

## Local Notice to Mariners

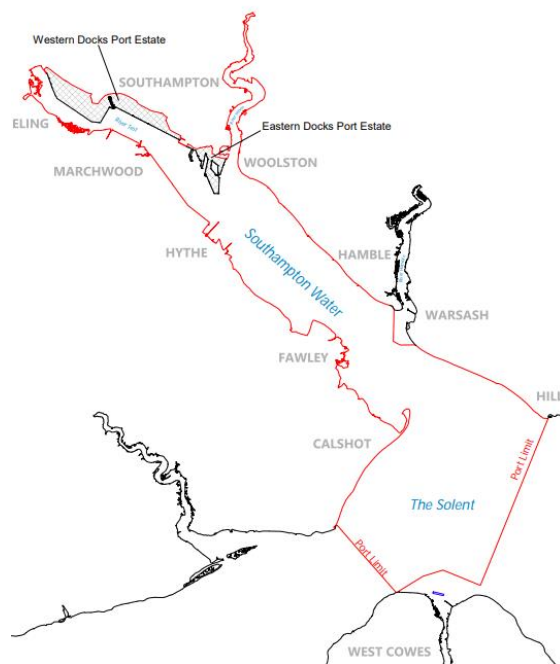
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### Commercial Craft Operators

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC) requires Harbour Authorities to ensure that commercial craft operating from and within the harbour are fit for purpose – i.e., properly maintained, equipped, and manned, and used only for purposes which they are capable.

All commercial vessel operators (undertaking paid work, training, or carrying fare paying customers) using watercraft, boats or vessels working within the Southampton Statutory Harbour Area (SHA) are therefore required to register their craft with the Port of Southampton on an annual basis providing all required information.



Please note that if the vessel in question is home ported outside of the Southampton SHA (as shown above) but operates commercially within it, this LNtM must be complied with.

This information should be provided at using [this link](#) or QR code.



The Statutory Harbour Authority may, where deemed appropriate, conduct inspections of such vessels, such inspections being based on national standards, laws and agreed codes of practice. The results of any inspection, and any limitations on the vessel's use, will be recorded and discussed with the vessel's owner and operator.

All vessels operating commercially within the Port of Southampton must now have an operational AIS transponder fitted (Class B Transponders are acceptable). Operators of very small commercial craft,

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which cannot reasonably achieve the fitment of an AIS transponder may apply for an exemption from this requirement (e.g. PWC's etc). To apply for an exemption, please submit an email to [HMsouthampton@abports.co.uk](mailto:HMsouthampton@abports.co.uk), with detail as to why the exemption is being requested.

**Note 1:** Commercial vessels on one way delivery voyages within, to or from the Southampton SHA are exempt from the requirements to register using the commercial craft registration process.

**Note 2:** Vessels only attending Statutory Harbour Authority authorised events (Seawork and the Southampton International Boat Show) are exempt from the requirements to register using the commercial craft registration process, as they are covered by separate Harbour Authority agreements with the event organisers.

**Note 3:** Club operated vessels operating solely for the benefit of club members are not required to comply with the requirements of this LNtM. However, a club operated RIB being used for commercial activity, such as a powerboat training course will need to fully comply.

**Note 4:** Ship Assist Tugs authorised for use within the Southampton SHA and listed within LNtM 02 are able to apply for an exemption from the registration requirements of this LNtM (with the exception of the requirement above regarding operational AIS).

All information provided in response to this LNtM will be handled confidentially and in compliance with GDPR regulations.

Further information on any of the above can be obtained by contacting the Port of Southampton at [HMsouthampton@abports.co.uk](mailto:HMsouthampton@abports.co.uk).

**Steven Masters,  
Harbour Master**