



PORTLAND HARBOUR AUTHORITY LIMITED



Local Notice to Mariners

No 16/2017

SMALL VESSELS

Persons in charge of small vessels are reminded of their requirement not to impede the safe navigation of commercial / naval vessels when they are in, entering or leaving North or East Ship Channel.

When commercial / naval vessels are transiting or manoeuvring within Portland Inner Harbour it is the duty of small vessels to keep clear at all times. It is strongly recommended that small vessels transiting past East Ship Channel maintain a minimum distance of 0.5 nm (5 cables) from Fort Head, which is generally sufficient for departing commercial vessels to have line-of-sight with transiting small craft.

Attention is drawn to the use of Port Traffic Signals on Fort and 'C' Heads as described in LNTM 15-2017. Commercial movements may still take place in the absence of a Pilot Boat patrolling the entrances to the Inner Harbour.

LNTM No 03/2012 is hereby revoked

A 'small vessel' means any vessel of less than 20 metres in length and includes a ship, boat, raft or watercraft of any description, however propelled or moved, and includes non-displacement craft and personal watercraft.

The Portland Harbour Revision Order Schedule 1 Part II Paragraph 7 states "the master of a small vessel shall not hamper the safe passage of any vessel greater than 20 metres in length which is in, entering or leaving a fairway or which is under way within the inner harbour"

This Notice is issued under the powers vested by the Portland Harbour Revision Order 1997.

Captain M Shipley
General Manager (Marine)
9th January 2017

Owners, Agents, Yacht Clubs and Recreational Sailing Organisations should ensure that the contents of this notice are made known to the Masters or persons in charge of their vessels or craft.