

NOTICE TO MARINERS N°.16 - 2012

Commercial and Recreational Diving in Newhaven Harbour

Notice is hereby given that recreational diving is not permitted within the Harbour Limits under the Newhaven Harbour Byelaws and Port Safety Management System, and in order to facilitate the safe operation of vessels using the harbour, diving operations are also not permitted within the harbour approaches. Any vessel engaged in diving that raises the concerns of the Port Authority will be reported to the MCA for further investigation.

All commercial diving operations are regulated and enforced by the Health & Safety Executive and must meet the requirements of the Diving at Work Regulations 1997 and Approved Codes of Practice.

Permission to carry out a commercial diving project within the harbour and approaches must be obtained from the Harbour Master or his assigned Deputy prior to operations commencing. A Permit to Work system is in place for such operations. The Diving Contractor must appoint a single Diving Supervisor, who must provide the Port Authority with proof of his qualification and certificate of medical fitness, along with those of all in the dive team. He must also provide copies of the Diving Project Plan and Risk Assessments. Emergency contact details and means of communication with Port Control must be clearly stated.

The Permit to Work issued will only be valid for the times and dates entered upon it. All vessels involved must display signals as per the International Code and must maintain a VHF watch on channel 12. Communications must be established and tested with Newhaven Port Control, callsign "Newhaven Radio", on VHF Channel 12, and regular updates of the operations passed to them.

A Local Notice to Mariners will be issued in advance of the project to inform other port users of the dangers, and Port Control will inform users by VHF channel 12 as and when required throughout the project. When the nature of any known hazards change during the project, the Harbour Master or his assigned Deputy will immediately inform the Diving Supervisor.

Where the Harbour Master becomes aware that the Diving Regulations are not being complied with, he will immediately stop operations and notify the Project Client and the HSE Diving Team Enforcement Officers.

Mariners encountering any problems or requiring further information should contact Newhaven Port Control, Call sign "Newhaven Radio" – VHF Channel 12, or by telephone on 01273 612926.

Issued: 25th July 2012

Capt.Dave Collins-Williams Harbour Master

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Newhaven Port

www.newhavenportauthority.co.uk