



QUEEN'S HARBOUR MASTER PORTSMOUTH

LNTM No 32/20

Latest Guidance for Recreational Boating During Coronavirus

1. **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** by the Queen's Harbour Master Portsmouth that following the Government's revised social distancing measures aimed at reducing the spread of the COVID-19 Coronavirus, we are continuing to regularly review our advice to recreational boaters in concert with industry bodies and the regional ports and harbours.

2. QHM Portsmouth continues to operate an open port policy and recognises that the Government guidelines have allowed people to return to water based activities. Many leisure facility providers and clubs within the Dockyard Port are either open or if not, are working through Government requirements issued by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sports. Further guidance about the phased return to outdoor sport and recreation can be found [here](#).

3. Individuals whose circumstances permit them access to the water are encouraged to consider the following:
 - Whether your activity is being carried out in conformance with Government regulations for social distancing and exercise, including on the shore when accessing the water?
 - Whether sufficient maintenance has been conducted on your vessel to ensure it remains serviceable and seaworthy, reducing the risk of needing external assistance?
 - Any other aspects which increase the risk of depending on emergency responders including experience levels and prevailing conditions.
 - The fact that at present there are no RNLI lifeguards on beaches and although volunteer lifeboat crews are fully operational should they be needed, it is important that anyone visiting the coast understands the risk and takes the necessary steps to keep themselves safe.
 - Guidance issued by the [Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs](#) should be consulted.

4. Government guidance continues to enforce that no-one is permitted to leave their home to stay at a second home overnight or for long periods of time. This includes remaining on your vessel for an overnight stay both alongside a berth or at anchor.

5. LNTM 30/20 is hereby superseded.

G A F Sherwood
Queen's Harbour Master

Owners, Agents, Charterers, Marinas, 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.