

LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS

06-07-2020

Managing COVID-19

This Local Notice to Mariners supersedes previous Notices to Mariners that were issued specifically with regard to the management of COVID-19 within the jurisdiction of the harbours at Aberdyfi, Abermaw (Barmouth), Porthmadog and Pwllheli.

In accordance with The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations 2020, as amended Gwynedd Council as the Competent Harbour Authority for the harbour of Porthmadog, and the Statutory Harbour Authority for the harbours of Pwllheli, Abermaw (Barmouth) and Aberdyfi hereby gives further notice that restrictions in regard of vessel movements, activities and shore facilities are amended as follows:-

- 1. The owner of a pleasure craft and/or crew members are permitted unrestricted access the harbour or marina facility for the purpose of visiting, maintaining, inspecting or sailing their vessel.*
- 2. Boat owners or their crew/guests who intend to reside on board a boat overnight or for any part of the hours of darkness are required to ensure that all persons on board the vessel comply with Wales Government Guidelines in relation to residing in temporary accommodation.*
- 3. Local Park and Launch service providers are authorised to launch vessels on behalf of their clients provided that the Park and Launch operator ensure compliance with Council registration requirements.*
- 4. Licensed Passenger Ferry Vessels authorised to ply for hire by virtue of the Public Health Acts Amendments Act and hold a valid Proprietor's License and whereby the navigator holds a valid Boatman's License will be authorised to operate in accordance with the terms of the License.*
- 5. Commercial vessels such as registered Fishing Vessels and registered and licensed Angling Vessels are permitted to operate in accordance with the terms of the License.*
- 6. Any vessel can be launched or recovered and moored independently into harbour waters by prior consent of the Harbourmaster.*
- 7. The Harbour Authority will authorise for a vessel that has been towed to the harbour with a private vehicle or towed by hand to be launched from a designated slipway. The vessel must be duly registered with Gwynedd Council. For the harbours of Aberdyfi, Abermaw and Porthmadog boat launching and recovery will only be permitted during favourable tide times and tidal heights.*
- 8. Personal leisure activities intended to be undertaken for exercise such as windsurfing; dinghy sailing; kayaking; canoeing; surfing; paddle boarding (SUP) and rowing are permitted within harbour waters. Commercial Watersports coaching activities and coaching sessions are permitted provided that consent from the Harbour Authority has been granted and that such commercial operators ensure compliance with Wales Government Guidelines and their respective Governing Body requirements.*
- 9. Mariners are advised that all activities should be undertaken within the individual's personal level of competency and that the activity should not be undertaken if there is any risk of requiring assistance from the emergency services.*

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Managing COVID-19 (continued)

- 10. Shore facilities such as toilets and showers, remain restricted. Harbour users should be aware of limitation of on shore facilities and should ensure compliance with social distancing requirements when entering the facility.*
- 11. All visitors to a harbour or marina are required to ensure compliance with Wales Government social distancing and hand sanitisation guidelines.*
- 12. Navigators of all vessels are advised to navigate with extreme caution at sea; in the harbour's channel and within the approaches to each harbour. This requirement is due to sudden and undetected movements in the course of the relevant harbour's navigable channel.*

This Notice to Mariners has been issued with regard to the safety and well-being of local residents, staff and harbour users; to minimise the potential requirement for assistance from the emergency services such as the RNLi and Coastguard volunteers; to reduce the spread of the Covid-19 virus within our community and to save lives.

The Harbour Authority will be undertaking further planning work to ensure its harbour management functions and arrangements fully comply with the all relevant Covid-19 Regulations and in compliance with the published Port Marine Safety Code.

For further information please contact the Maritime Unit or your local Harbourmaster.

This Notice to Mariners will be further updated as Wales Government Guidelines are amended.

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