

LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS No. 04 of 2020

Restrictions on Harbour Use During COVID-19 Response



At this time of national crisis, Littlehampton Harbour urges everyone to follow the Government's instructions to stay at home and help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Despite the good weather, this is not the time to take the boat out. That time will come again and we will welcome everyone back with open arms, but until then:

Stay at Home. Protect the NHS. Save Lives.

Mariners are advised that Government restrictions now in place to stop the spread of COVID-19 preclude the use of boats for sport, leisure or angling. In line with these instructions all Littlehampton Harbour marinas and yacht clubs have closed and the Town Quay is now closed to all leisure vessels including visiting yachts.

The harbour is maintaining its statutory open port policy by continuing to facilitate commercial vessels using the harbour - including local fishermen - and providing a limited conservancy patrol during the COVID-19 crisis. Please don't put additional strain on our emergency services by risking a lifeboat call-out.

Mariners should be aware that the Police have issued fines to leisure vessel users since the beginning of April for non-critical activity in multiple ports on the south coast. For the same reasons harbour users are urged not to visit their vessels except for critical maintenance. If vessel owners have particular concerns regarding the safety of their vessel they should contact the Harbour Office and/or their mooring operator to seek advice or support.

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.

Billy Johnson
Harbour Master, Littlehampton
9th April 2020