

NOTICE TO AGENTS, SHIP AND BERTH OPERATORS

NASBO No: 9 of 2018

Date of issue: 6th April 2017

Date of re issue: 2nd January 2018

To: All Ship's Masters, Agents and Vessel Owners

Re: Pilotage requirements for vessels shifting berth at Sheerness Docks

Incidents have occurred when vessels have been shifting short distances within Sheerness Docks. Investigation has revealed that on occasions problems have occurred due to the lack of communication or common language between ship's crew and the Port of Sheerness linesmen.

Following formal risk assessment by Peel Ports London Medway Pilot Management Committee and Navigational Advisory Panel, the Port of Sheerness gives notice that, as of the above date, Compulsory Pilotage requirements for all Sheerness berths will be varied as follows –

1. When a vessel is shifting berth such that **all** the vessel's mooring lines are let go from the shore – Pilotage is compulsory for all vessels.
2. When a vessel is shifting berth such that **all** of the vessel's mooring lines remain connected to the shore - Pilotage is not compulsory.
3. When a vessel is shifting berth such that **any** of the vessel's mooring lines are let go or shifted - Pilotage is compulsory for all vessels of 90 m LOA and above.

Compulsory pilotage means that the vessel is under the conduct of either an Authorised Medway Pilot or a Medway Pilotage Exemption Holder.

Pilots should be booked and confirmed through the usual process for obtaining the services of a Medway Pilot.

All compulsory pilotage requirements specified in the Medway Ports Pilotage Directions remain unchanged.



**Captain Ian Clark AFRIN AFNI
Manager Marine Operations**

2nd January 2018