

MARINE INFORMATION NOTE

PORT OF LIVERPOOL

INTERPRETATION OF SOUNDINGS ON HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY CHARTS

To enable plotting of soundings on the hydrographic survey charts published by The Mersey Docks and Harbour Company Limited, the survey area is divided into a grid. The grid size depends on the chart scale, but most 1:1250-scale charts are plotted using a grid with cells of seven metres square.

Based on the soundings within a cell (irrespective of its size), the shoalest sounding is identified and marked in its exact position within that cell. When the shoalest soundings within each cell of the survey grid are plotted on the chart, they appear unevenly spaced.

To determine the position of a sounding on a chart depends on whether the sounding is displayed in whole metres or metres and decimetres (decimetres are shown as a subscript numeral). For whole-metre soundings, the sounding position is on the left side of the numeral at its vertical midpoint. For metre-decimetre soundings, the sounding position is on the right side of the metre numeral at its vertical midpoint. In the examples below, the position of the sounding relative to the displayed numerals is the intersection of the horizontal and vertical lines.

