

NOTICE TO MARINERS L7 of 2020

ANCHORAGE BUNKERING OPERATIONS

Bunkering at Anchorages Outside Port Limits but Within the London VTS Area

Bunkering in the Tongue Anchorage may only be conducted by vessels/companies which have been approved by the Harbourmaster. Other organisations wishing to carry out bunkering operations outside of port limits but within the VTS Area should contact the Harbourmaster (Lower). Bunkering in the Margate Road anchorage is not permitted.

Notification to London VTS

All vessels intending to enter the London VTS area which are to be involved in ship-ship bunkering operations, shall provide standard pre-arrival and departure notifications via the PISCES system. Vessels carrying dangerous or polluting goods are required to declare them in advance of their arrival and departure.

In addition to the standard VTS reporting requirements, not less than 2 hours before bunkering commences, vessels intending to receive bunkers in Anchorages must notify London VTS of their intention to bunker and provide the following information in that notification:

- The location the bunkering will take place
- The type and quantity of bunkers to be received
- The expected time that bunkering will commence

Vessels must report to London VTS before the commencement of bunkering operations and give positive confirmation to VTS that their bunker checklists have been completed. Vessels must not commence bunkering operations without the permission of London VTS. Vessels must report to London VTS on completion of bunkering operations detailing the exact type and quantity of bunkers.

Additional Requirements

Bunkering operations must not commence or must be suspended if the local weather conditions exceed Beaufort Force 6, sea / swell heights in excess of 2m, and constant winds exceeding 27 knots. However, London VTS or the Master of the bunkering vessel may direct that bunkering operations be suspended in less adverse conditions if deemed necessary.

All vessels anchored for the purpose of bunkering are required to have their main engines available at immediate notice. In addition, they are required to exhibit code flag 'Bravo' by day and an all-round red light by night.

Whilst bunkering operations are in progress a 100m domain intrusion zone will be established around the vessel, which will be monitored by London VTS and by the vessel taking bunkers.

4 March 2020

Port of London Authority
London River House, Royal Pier Road,
Gravesend, Kent DA12 2BG

**Cathryn Spain - Harbour
Master (Lower)**



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PLEASE REGISTER VIA OUR WEBSITE www.pla.co.uk
**Telephone calls, VHF radio traffic, CCTV and radar traffic images may
be recorded in the VTS Centres at Gravesend and Woolwich**
All Current Notices to Mariners can be found here -
<http://www.pla.co.uk/Safety/Regulations-and-Guidance/Notices-to-Mariners/Notices-to-Mariners>

