

NOTICE TO MARINERS M10 of 2020

RICHMOND LOCK AND WEIR ADVANCE NOTIFICATION EMERGENCY RAISING OF THE WEIRS

This notice is also published as U5 of 2020

The Port of London Authority have reviewed and put in place contingency measures to ensure the continued operations of Richmond Lock & Weir. These contingency measures include; an increase in the number of trained lock keepers, isolating staff and alternative shift-patterns with reduced personnel.

However, despite these contingency measures and due to the unknown effects of Coronavirus on our operations, we have explored the option of additionally raising the weirs at Richmond Lock with the Department for Transport. This ultimate option has been granted, should we unfortunately be unable to keep our operations running successfully. This will allow the river to 'Draw-Off' between Richmond Lock and Teddington Lock at low water on each tide.

The 'Emergency Raising of the Weirs' will be advised in a supplementary Notice to Mariners at short notice, should it be necessary.

Should we enact this option, river users are reminded that the river will **NOT** be maintained at the nominal level of 1.72m above Ordnance Datum Newlyn and it is expected the riverbed will be exposed at low water.

Owners of boats and structures usually moored between Richmond Lock and Teddington Lock should act now, as to whether they need to move their vessels to a more suitable mooring or to assure themselves that their vessel is capable of taking the ground. Short-term moorings are of limited availability in the upper district.

River works licence holders and riparian landowners are reminded that any interference with the foreshore such as dredging, excavating or disturbing the riverbed requires a licence from the Port of London Authority. Environmental legislation provides for very high levels of fines when licensing requirements are not strictly adhered to.

Persons in charge of vessels are reminded to be aware of their wash, as boats and structures may be grounding during the low water.

Further information will be broadcast by **London VTS** on VHF channel 14.

For further information on short-term or visitor moorings, please visit:
www.boatingonthames.co.uk/Visitor-Moorings.

20 March 2020

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

**Mark Towens - Harbour
Master (Upper)**



TO RECEIVE FUTURE NOTICES TO MARINERS BY **E-MAIL**,
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](http://www.pla.co.uk/Safety/Regulations-and-Guidance/Notices-to-Mariners/Notices-to-Mariners)**

