

HOLYHEAD LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS No 4/2009.

COMMERCIAL AND LEISURE DIVING OPERATIONS

Commercial Diving

Commercial is deemed to be any diving activity carried out for gain or favour. Commercial diving is not permitted within or near the approaches to the Harbour without the express permission of the Harbour Authority.

Before permission to dive is granted the contracting party (client) must satisfy the Harbour Authority that all legislative requirements have been met. Specifically the Harbour Authority will expect the client to have sighted the risk assessment, diving project plan, diving operation record, divers record books, and to have assured himself, as far as possible, that the diving operation will be carried out in a proper manner. The client should advise the diving contractor of any hazards that may be encountered during the diving operation. The clients permit to work should then be taken/faxed to Port Control.

If satisfied the Harbour Authority will issue a 'Port of Holyhead General Work Permit' to the contracting party, identifying any other known risks. Diving operations may then begin.

Divers entering or leaving the water must be reported to Port Control by VHF channel 14, as must the end of operations.

Port Control will keep the diving supervisor informed of any additional hazards to the diving operation.

This procedure is required to ensure that the Harbour Authorities obligations under the relevant legislation are complied with. You are referred to:- 'The Diving at Work Regulations 1997.' Statutory Instruments 1997 No, 2776.

Sports Diving

It is recommended that the start and finish of sport diving activities are reported to Port Control and Holyhead Coast Guard. Dive boats should monitor VHF channel 14 for shipping movements.

Divers should be aware of strong currents near the breakwater end and that large ferries, including fast craft, operate daily, in the area.

HSE leaflet: "Are you engaged in a diving project?"

It is recommended that anyone involved in a diving project has read the above document.

Holyhead Port Control maintains a listening watch on VHF channel 14

Tel: 01407 606700, Fax: 01407 606622

Captain B.A.McCleery
Harbour Master.
Holyhead.