

PORT OF SUNDERLAND

NOTICE TO MARINERS

ENGLAND NORTH EAST COAST

NEW WEAR CROSSING - CLOSURE OF RIVER TO NAVIGATION

Ref. No. 02 of 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that continuing construction operations at the New Wear Crossing site between Castletown and Pallion, Sunderland (Lat. 54° 55.015' N Long. 01° 25.431' W / OS Grid Ref NZ 370 581), have necessitated the closure of the River Wear to all waterborne traffic (*) until further notice.

No vessel or craft should make any attempt to pass the New Wear Crossing site in either direction due to obstructions caused by barges, cranes, structures, cables, etc.

(*) Notice to search and rescue vessels:

In the event of a requirement to provide a waterborne response to any life-threatening emergency, it may be possible for small low air-draught search and rescue craft to pass through the bridge site, subject to the following considerations:

- The state of the tide
- Weather / visibility conditions
- A dynamic risk assessment being undertaken to identify the most appropriate route, which may involve passing beneath and lifting cables
- Attention to any lifting or mechanical operations taking place
- Communication with any construction staff present, either verbally or via Marine VHF Channel 14 (“Wear Crossing Safety”)

Extreme caution must be exercised during the hours of darkness.

It is recommended that in the case of Northumbria Police Marine Unit and Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service Swift Water Rescue Team, alternative boat launching and recovery sites (eg Hylton slipway, Claxheugh) upriver of the New Wear Crossing be assessed as soon as possible as an alternative to transiting through the bridge site.

This notice supersedes all previous Notices to Mariners relating to navigation at the New Wear Crossing. A further Notice will be issued once there is any change to the navigational status.

Additional information can be obtained from Local Port Services, Port Control, Sunderland, on 0191 514 2752 or Marine VHF Channel 14.

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Dated the 5th day of February, 2017.