



Associated British Ports - Lowestoft

**No 29
2020**

LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS

Lowestoft Harbour and Approaches – Management of Vessel Speed and Wash

Lowestoft port has in recent months experienced incidents involving excessive speeds, and/or close passing distances, within the Harbour and its approaches. These have resulted in vessel wash and/or hydrodynamic forces effecting other port users and operations.

Mariners and Port Users are reminded that the maximum speed limit within the harbour is 4 knots. However, this should not be regarded as a target speed. Also, at sea the wash from a vessel can be detrimental to other users when it strikes their craft or the shoreline.

Passage planning in confined waters should consider safe speed and be compliant with regulatory speed limits. During a passage the speed of the vessel should be closely monitored and adjusted as required.

The effects of vessel wash, and/or the magnitude of hydrodynamic forces between vessels, will depend on a complex array of factors, including, but not limited to the following:

- The speed of the passing vessel(s).
- The passing distance, (with reduced distance leading to greater hydrodynamic forces).
- The under keel clearance and variations in depth, (the smaller the under keel clearance the greater the hydrodynamic force).
- The design of the vessel hull.
- The relative displacement of both vessels.
- The orientation of the berth to the passing vessel.

Due care should be taken when passing vessels, whether in the approaches or in Harbour limits. Speed should be such to minimise the propagation of wash, whilst maintaining full control over the manoeuvrability of the vessel. Necessary reductions in speed should be made gradually and in good time as circumstances allow.

Mariners are advised that it is an offence to proceed at excessive speed where damage or risk of damage may be caused by wash or displacement. Caution should be exercised when passing piers, berth/moorings, beaches, recreational activities and any other areas involving property or persons. All vessels and craft should be operated in a courteous manner with consideration being given to other mariners.

(See also http://www.abports.co.uk/Marine/Short_Sea_Ports/Lowestoft/Notices_to_Mariners/)

Please contact Lowestoft Port Control, VHF Ch14, or Tel. 01502 572286, if further information is required.

Harbour Master

1st July 2020

<p>Notices to Mariners Currently in Force: 2006 No.5 2007 No.13 2009 No.19 2011 No.7, No.10, No.19 2012 No.3, 2013 No.17, No.19, 2015 No.24 2016 No.12 2017 No.5, No.22, No.24, No.32, No.34 2018 No.34, 2019 No.2, No.18, No.27 2020 No.1, No.5, No.10, No.12a, No.17, No.24, No.26, No.29</p>
