

Telephone (office hours): 0191 553 2100 (Capstan House)
Telephone (24-hours): 0191 514 2752 (Local Port Services)
Facsimile: 0191 553 2120 or 2145
E-mail: wearboatsafe@sunderland.gov.uk

March, 2020

Dear Boat-owner,

“Wear Boat Safe Scheme”

You are receiving this letter as a boat-owner liable for the payment Harbour Dues for the year 2020/21.

The Port of Sunderland is committed to promoting the safe use of the harbour in accordance with its obligations under the Port Marine Safety Code, while at the same time adopting measures to enhance wider sea safety.

To support these objectives, the Port Board has agreed to offer pleasure boat owners subject to the payment of annual harbour dues, a **50 per cent discount** on charges payable, subject to compliance with the following **terms and conditions**:

1. That you agree to ensure that while your vessel is being used in the River Wear or at sea, the vessel will be equipped with basic safety equipment specified by the Harbour Master, namely:
 - Anchor with warp / chain.
 - Radar reflector.
 - Horn / whistle.
 - Man-overboard recovery equipment.
 - Kill cord (if outboard engine is primary means of propulsion).
 - Bailer / bucket.
 - Hand bilge pump.
 - VHF Marine radio (fixed or portable).
 - Working torch or spotlight.
 - Fire extinguisher.
 - First aid kit.
 - Temporary hull repair kit.
 - Approved lifejackets or buoyancy aids sufficient in number and suitable for all persons on board, including children.
 - Illustrated table of recognised life-saving signals.
 - **At least three** means for summoning assistance in the event of an emergency. These may include:
 - a. VHF Marine radio (fixed)
 - b. VHF Marine radio (portable)



- c. VHF Marine radio (fixed) DSC
- d. VHF Marine radio (portable) DSC
- e. Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB)
- f. Personal Location Beacon (PLB)
- g. Pyrotechnics (Distress flares)
- h. Mobile telephone

[A RNLI Sea Safety Officer can advise on appropriate equipment in this respect at your "Advice Onboard" session].

IMPORTANT:

It should be noted that the above are absolute basic minimum requirements and should NOT be interpreted as being an exhaustive list of safety equipment which may be required in all circumstances.

It is a condition of the "Wear Boat Safe Scheme" that all equipment carried will be kept in a serviceable condition and be fit for purpose. It is strongly recommended that relevant expiry dates and service due dates are complied with.

2. That since becoming the owner of the vessel, you have partaken *[or will partake prior to 02/07/2020]* in the RNLI's free "Advice Onboard" service and will provide the Port of Sunderland with a copy of the original "Advice Onboard" report issued by an RNLI Sea Safety Officer.
3. That I am aware that HM Coastguard's "Voluntary Safety Identification Scheme" (CG66) has now been discontinued and that it is strongly recommended that the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) "**Safe Trx**" app scheme be used as an alternative.

Further information can be found on the RYA website by following this URL link:
<https://www.rya.org.uk/knowledge-advice/safe-boating/keep-in-touch/Pages/safetrx.aspx>

While no documentary proof of subscribing to Safe Trx is required by the Port of Sunderland, a copy of relevant documentation would be appreciated to allow us to monitor take-up.

4. That all persons on board aged under 16 years of age will at all times when afloat wear an approved lifejacket or buoyancy aid.
5. That when using a tender or similar vessel for boarding or landing purposes, all persons on board the tender or similar vessel will wear an approved lifejacket or buoyancy aid.
6. You will allow the Harbour Master, his deputies or authorised assistants (including Water Patrol Officers) to inspect your vessel at any reasonable time within the statutory limits of the Port of Sunderland to ensure that items 1 and 4 of these terms and conditions are being complied with.



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This does not apply unless the owner or person authorised by the owner is on board **and** the vessel is engaged on a voyage.

For the purposes of these terms and conditions, a voyage includes: when a vessel is underway, ready to get underway, at anchor or on moorings immediately after a voyage.

To qualify for harbour dues discount under the Wear Boat Safe Scheme, you should complete the attached declaration form (MARINE 100). If the form is not fully completed, this could lead to your application for a discount being rejected. This should be submitted to coincide with the payment of your harbour dues.

If you are not the sole owner of your boat, you should first obtain the agreement of all other co-owners before completing the declaration. The person completing the declaration form is referred to as the nominated owner in such cases.

IMPORTANT: There is now only one form for registering with Wear Boat Safe Scheme. Please use only Form: **Marine 100 Ver 04/09.03.2020**. This is shown on the footer of each form. This form must be used for initial (first) registration and for renewal provided the applicant has successfully registered for the previous financial year. All earlier forms should be destroyed / deleted to avoid any confusion.

Non-compliance with any of these terms and conditions may lead to disqualification from the benefit of discounted harbour dues in the next financial year and indefinitely should a subsequent non-compliance take place.

The provisions of the scheme are unique to an individual boat and are not transferrable.

Registered fishing vessels or other craft used for commercial purposes are not eligible for discounted dues.

To arrange a RNLI "Advice Onboard" session, you should contact Mr Alan Dixon, RNLI Sea Safety Officer by email at: alandixon10@gmail.com. If you are a member of a boat club or berthed in Sunderland Marina, you should first liaise with your club secretary or Marine Activities Centre management (as appropriate) as group sessions may be arranged on your behalf.

All personal details received will be held strictly in accordance with GDPR requirements.

The Port of Sunderland believes that the "Wear Boat Safe Scheme" will make a key contribution to water safety and drowning prevention. By signing up, boat owners can make considerable savings to help offset purchase costs of additional safety equipment.

While it is proposed to continue the scheme until further notice, the Port of Sunderland will keep these arrangements under review while reserving the right to discontinue the scheme or vary its terms and conditions in future years.

It should be noted that under future Port of Sunderland byelaws, it is intended that



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the provisions of item 1 of these terms and conditions will become mandatory in law for pleasure boats and small commercial vessels (subject to certain exemptions). In addition, a calling-in procedure has been introduced, requiring all vessels navigating within the harbour to notify Port Control (Sunderland LPS) by marine VHF radio.

Completed "MARINE 100" declaration forms, together with completed RNLI "Advice Onboard" forms should be returned by one of the following means:

By post to: Wear Boat Safe Scheme, Port of Sunderland, Capstan House, Greenwells Quay, South Docks, Barrack Street, Sunderland, SR1 2BU; or

By hand to: Security Gatehouse at the above address (clearly marked "Wear Boat Safe Scheme"); or

By email to: wearboatsafe@sunderland.gov.uk (including scanned attachments).

Should you have any queries concerning this matter, please contact either Neil Mearns or Karen Lindsay on 0191 553 2100.

Note: If ownership of the boat has changed since submission of the original declaration, a new application must be made by completing the Wear Boat Safe Scheme Declaration Form (form MARINE 100) in full.

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Hunt
Port Director



Capt AK Ullah
Harbour Master

