



Maritime and Coastguard Agency

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## **The Merchant Shipping (Passenger Ships on Domestic Voyages) Regulations 2000**

Sea Areas - Council Directive 98/18/EC

Notice to Owners, Operators and Masters

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### *Summary*

This Statutory notice sets out the sea areas around the United Kingdom as is required by Article 4.2 of Council Directive 98/18/EC of 17 March 1998 on Safety Rules and Standards for Passenger Ships

#### Key Points

- The notice augments S.I. 2000 No. 2687 The Merchant Shipping (Passenger Ships on Domestic Voyages) Regulations 2000.
- Although four classes of ship operation are identified in the Directive, only sea areas "C" and "D" require geographical identification.

1. The Merchant Shipping (Passenger Ships on Domestic Voyages) Regulations 2000 implements Council Directive 98/18/EC on "Safety Rules and Standards for Domestic Passenger Ships".

2. These Regulations identify four domestic passenger ship classifications as follows: Classes A, B, C and D, as in the Directive. Classes B, C and D are equivalent to Class III, Class VI, and Class VI(A) passenger vessels respectively.

3. The Annexes to this Merchant Shipping Notice set out the geographical extent of EC sea areas "C" and "D" identified as applicable in waters around the United Kingdom. These sea areas are given statutory force by way of Regulation 3(2) of the Merchant Shipping (Passenger Ships on Domestic Voyages) Regulations 2000.

4. The classification of ships Class C and Class D is based on the distance "from the line of the coast, where shipwrecked persons can land corresponding to the medium tide height", i.e. mid-point between High Water Springs and Low Water Springs, except where such plying limits are truncated by contours indicating a probability of exceeding a specified "significant wave height".

5. Specifically, the sea areas EC/C and EC/D are truncated by contours indicating a probability of exceeding a particular significant wave height of 10% over a one year period or over a specific restricted period of the year for operation exclusively in such a period.

6. The Maritime & Coastguard Agency commissioned the Marine Consultancy Service of the Meteorological Office to investigate significant

wave height in waters around the United Kingdom. The Project Report No. 422 forms the basis of this Notice. The Project Report is available from the Marine Information Centre at Spring Place (Tel: 02380 329295; Fax: 02380 329298).

7. Sea areas "EC/C" and "EC/D", are as defined, within the Directive, as follows:-

**Sea Area EC/C:** Sea areas where the probability of exceeding 2.5 m significant wave height is smaller than 10% over a one year period for all year round operation, or over a specific restricted period of the year for operation exclusively in such a period (e.g. summer period operation), not more than 5 miles from the line of the coast, where shipwrecked persons can land, corresponding to the medium tide height.

**Sea Area EC/D:** Sea areas where the probability of exceeding 1.5 m significant wave height is smaller than 10% over a one year period for all year round operation, or over a specific restricted period of the year for operation exclusively in such a period (e.g. summer period operation), not more than 3 miles from the line of the coast, where shipwrecked persons can land, corresponding to the medium tide height.

(Note - in relation to the words "where shipwrecked persons can land", it would be for the

owner or operator of the vessel to be satisfied that people could be evacuated on any of the routes to be operated on and have the appropriate procedures in place).

8. (a) The term "Sea Areas", is as defined and described in this MSN (section 7) for the purpose of the Directive 98/18/EC.

(b) The term "Port Waters", within the context of the Directive and the Merchant Shipping (Passenger Ships on Domestic Voyages) Regulations 2000, is interpreted by the United Kingdom as having the same meaning as "categorised waters". For the extent of Port Waters within the United Kingdom, reference should be made to MSN 1719 (M) - Categorisation of Waters.

(c) "Sea Areas" are found to seaward of "Port Waters (categorised waters)" and the two areas should not be confused.

9. The designations shown in Annex 1 are for all of the year, those in Annex 2 for the summer, which means the months of April to October, inclusive.

10. This Notice will come into force at the same time as Merchant Shipping (Passenger Ships on Domestic Voyages) Regulations 2000.

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October 2000  
MS 26/7/37

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Environment, Transport and the Regions*

**ANNEX 1 - "All Year" Operation**

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
<b>United Kingdom Mainland:</b> <b>1. South Coast:</b>		
Lands End to North Foreland	Nare Point to Dodman Point Dodman Point to Gribbin Head Hope's Nose to Straight Point Straight Point to Beer Head The Nothe, Weymouth to Redcliff Point	Black Head to Bolt Head  Start Point to Portland Bill  Portland Bill to North Foreland

<b>2. East Coast:</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
North Foreland to Duncansby Head	Forness Point to Colne Point  Buckie to the Ord of Caithness	North Foreland to Buchan Ness  Kinnaird Head to Duncansby Head

<b>3. North Coast:</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
Duncansby Head to Cape Wrath (excluding the Orkney Islands and the Shetland Isles)	No Sea Area EC/D	No Sea Area EC/C

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- Notes -
1. All directions are anti clockwise unless otherwise stated.
  2. Sea Areas EC/C and EC/D may run to seaward of categorised waters unless otherwise stated.

**ANNEX 1 (Continued) - “All Year“ Operation**

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
<b>4. West Coast:</b> a) Cape Wrath to Mull of Kintyre (excluding the Outer Hebrides, The Small Isles, Coll, Tiree, Iona and Colonsay)		
On the Mainland:	Longa Island in Loch Gairloch, to An Fhaochag, (57° 04'N 005° 47.8'W), by Dun Ban Bay	Rubha Reidh (57° 51.5'N 005° 48.7'W) to Mallaig and within an area east of a line joining Point of Sleat to Ockle Point, Ardnamurcham Peninsula  Auliston Point, Sound of Mull to Rhunahaorine Point, Kintyre, in the Sound of Gigha
On the Isle of Skye:	Eilean Flodigarry clockwise to Kilbeg Point (50° 05.25'N 005° 52.2'W) including Rona, Raasay and Scalpy	Waternish Point clockwise to Strathaird Point/Rubha nah-Easgainne (57° 07.6'N 006° 05.0'W)
On Jura and Islay:	No Sea Area EC/D	Northernmost point on Aird of Kinuachdrachd, Jura (56° 07.8'N 005° 41.2'W) clockwise to Ardmore Point, Islay
<b>4. West Coast:</b> b) Mull of Kintyre to Lands End		
On the Mainland:	No Sea Area EC/D	Carradale Point clockwise to Corsewall Point on the Rhinns of Galloway  Corsewall Point on the Rhinns of Galloway to Carmel Head on the Isle of Anglesey
On the Isle of Arran:	No Sea Area EC/D	Whitefarland Point clockwise to Dippen Head

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**ANNEX 1 (Continued) - “All Year“ Operation**

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
In Cardigan Bay:	No Sea Area EC/D	St Tudwal’s Island to Strumble Head
In the Bristol Channel:	Mumbles Head to Foreland Point	Caldey Island to Hartland Point

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
<b>5. The Orkney Islands:</b>		
	No Sea Area EC/D	<p>Within a line from :-</p> <p>Start Point, Sanday to Burgh Head, Stronsay</p> <p>Lamb Head, Stronsay to Auskerry Light to Point of Ayre, Deerness</p> <p>The Causeways connecting the Mainland, Burray and South Ronaldsay</p> <p>Hoxa Head, South Ronaldsay to Stanger Head, Flotta to Cantick Head, South Walls</p> <p>Bu Point, Hoy to Point of Oxan, Graemsay to the Ness, Stromness</p> <p>Point of Hisber, Mainland to Moa Ness, Rousay</p> <p>Saviskaill Head, Rousay to Point of Huro, Westray</p> <p>Weather Ness, Westray to Red Head, Eday to Whale Point, Sanday</p>

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
<b>6. The Shetland Isles:</b>		
	No Sea Area EC/D	<p>Within a line from :-</p> <p>Blue Mull, Unst to Papil Ness, Yell</p> <p>Heoga Ness, Yell to Funzie Ness, Fetlar</p> <p>Strandburgh Ness, Fetlar to The Nev, Unst</p>

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**ANNEX 1 (Continued) - “All Year“ Operation**

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
<b>7. The Outer Hebrides:</b>		
In the Little Minch		Tolsta Head, the Isle of Lewis to Rubha Mhic Gille-mhicheil, North Uist
Isle of Lewis	From Chicken Head on the Eye Peninsula to Kebock Head	
Isle of Harris	Within an area west of a line joining Rubh Uisenis to Rubha Bhocaig	
The Small Isles	No Sea Area EC/D	No Sea Area EC/C
Coll & Tiree	No Sea Area EC/D	No Sea Area EC/C
Iona	No Sea Area EC/D	No Sea Area EC/C
Colonsay	No Sea Area EC/D	No Sea Area EC/C

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
<b>8. Scilly Isles:</b>		
	No Sea Area EC/D	No Sea Area EC/C

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
<b>9. Northern Ireland:</b>		
	No Sea Area EC/D	Inishowen Head to Ballyaghan Point

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**ANNEX 2 - "Summer Only" Operation (April to October Inclusive)**

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
<b>United Kingdom Mainland: 1. South Coast:</b>		
Lands End to North Foreland	<p>Black Head to Rame Head</p> <p>Berry Head to Blacknor Point, Portland</p> <p>Grove Point, Portland to Rope Lake Head</p> <p>Anvil Point/Durlston Head to Category D waters in Western Solent (Hurst Point)</p> <p>From Category D waters in the Eastern Solent to Selsey Bill</p> <p>Selsey Bill to Newhaven</p> <p>Easternmost Martello Tower, Pevensey Bay (50° 49.3'N 000° 23.3'E) to North Foreland</p>	Tater-du, Cornwall to North Foreland passing to the south of the Isle of Wight

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
<b>2. East Coast:</b>		
North Foreland to Duncansby Head	<p>North Foreland to (the harbour at) Southwold</p> <p>Gibraltar Point to Flamborough Head</p> <p>Hartlepool to Seaton Point (Northumberland)</p> <p>Fast Castle Head to Buchan Ness</p> <p>Scar Nose, Banffshire to Clyth Ness, Caithness</p>	North Foreland to Duncansby Head

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ANNEX 2 (Continued) - “Summer Only” Operation (April to October Inclusive)

Region & Location	Sea Area EC/D	Sea Area EC/C
<b>3. North Coast:</b>		
Duncansby Head to Cape Wrath	No Sea Area EC/D	Duncansby Head to Faraid Head, Caithness

Region & Location	Sea Area EC/D	Sea Area EC/C
<b>4. West Coast:</b>		
a) Cape Wrath to the Mull of Kintyre (excluding the Outer Hebrides, The Small Isles, Coll, Tiree and Colonsay)		
On the Mainland:	Rubha Reidh (57° 51.6'N 005° 48.7'W) to Rubha Reamhar, Mallaig (56° 59.4'N 005° 50.5'W)  Auliston Point, Sound of Mull to Rhunahaorine Point, Kintyre including Lismore, Kerrera, Seil, Luing	Cape Wrath to Rubha Aird Druimnich (56° 47.1'N 005° 57.9'W), Loch Ceann Traigh, Ardnamurchan  Sròn Bheag(56° 41'N 006° 08.6'W), Ormsaigmore, on the south side of the Ardnamurchan Peninsula to Pendene, Cornwall, including Ghiga, the Isle of Arran and Anglesey
On the Isle of Skye:	Waternish Point clockwise to Rubha Phoil (57° 03.6'N 005° 53.6'W), Armadale including Rona, Raasay and Scalpy	Neist Point, clockwise to Point of Sleat and within an area east of a line from Point of Sleat to Rubha nah-Easgainne (57° 07.6'N 006° 05.0'W)
On the Isle of Mull:	Rubha nan Gall, Tobermory, clockwise to Rudha Dubh, Loch Buie, Mull	Ardmore Point clockwise to Rudha Ardalanish on the Ross of Mull
On Jura:	Northern most point on Aird of Kinuachdrachd, Jura, (56° 07.8'N 005° 41.2'W) clockwise in the Sound of Jura and west in the Sound of Islay to Carraigh an t- Sruith, north of the Feolin Ferry	

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**ANNEX 2 (Continued) - “Summer Only” Operation (April to October Inclusive)**

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
On Islay:	Rubha a’Mhail, north of the Feolin Ferry, Port Askaig south to Rubha Liath (55° 43.4’N 006° 01.7’ W)	
b) Mull of Kintyre to Lands End		
On the Mainland:	From Farland Head to the Heads of Ayr  Mull of Galloway to Barsalloch Point  Cairn Head to Dunrod Point, Galloway  Hilpsford Point Cumbria to Rossal Point, Lancashire  Stanner Point, Lancashire to Point Lynas, Anglesey  Mochras Point, Anglesey to New Quay Head, Cardigan Bay	Sròn Bheag (56° 41’N 006° 08.6’W), Ormsaigmore, on the south side of the Ardnamurchan Peninsula to Pendene, Cornwall, including Ghiga, the Isle of Arran and Anglesey
On the Isle of Arran:	Whitefarland Point to Kingscross Point	
In the Bristol Channel:	Worms Head to Bull Point	No Sea Area EC/C

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**ANNEX 2 (Continued) - “Summer Only” Operation (April to October Inclusive)**

Region & Location	Sea Area EC/D	Sea Area EC/C
<b>5. The Orkney Islands:</b>		
	No Sea Area EC/D	<p>a) North and West of the Orkney Isles to the south and east of a line bounded by :- Dennis Head, North Ronaldsay to Mull Head, Papa Westray to Noup Head, Westray to Costa Head, Mainland</p> <p>b) South of the Orkney Isles within a line bounded by :- Brough Head, Mainland to Rora Head, Hoy and within 5 miles of a line joining :- Rora Head, Hoy to Tor Ness, Hoy to Old Head, South Ronaldsay</p> <p>c) East of the Orkney Isles from Start Point, Sanday to within 5 miles of a line joining :- Auskerry Light to Copinsay Light to Old Head, South Ronaldsay</p>

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ANNEX 2 (Continued) - “Summer Only” Operation (April to October Inclusive)

Region & Location	Sea Area EC/D	Sea Area EC/C
<b>6. The Shetland Isles:</b>		
	No Sea Area EC/D	<p>a) Within a line from :- Lamba Ness, Unst to Head of Hosta, Fetlar to Skaw Taing, Whalsay Within a line from :- Clett Head, Whalsay to Score Head, Brassay Within a line from :- the south end of Ness of Sound, Mainland to Kirkabister Ness, Bressay</p> <p>b) St. Magnus Bay within a line from :- Matta Taing, Mainland to Fogla Skerry, Papa Stour to Skerry of Eshaness, Mainland</p> <p>c) Ronas Voe within a line from :- Galti Stack, Mainland to Ketligill Head, Mainland</p>

Region & Location	Sea Area EC/D	Sea Area EC/C
<b>7. The Outer Hebrides:</b>		
In the Little Minch	Rubha an Tiumpain on the Eye Peninsula, the Isle of Lewis to the entrance to Renish Point, South Harris	The Butt of Lewis south to Ushenish, South Uist
The Small Isles	No Sea Area EC/D	No Sea Area EC/C
Coll & Tiree	No Sea Area EC/D	No Sea Area EC/C
Colonsay	No Sea Area EC/D	No Sea Area EC/C

Region and Location	Sea Area EC/D	Sea Area EC/C
<b>8. Scilly Isles:</b>		
	No Sea Area EC/D	No Sea Area EC/C

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**ANNEX 2 (Continued) - “Summer Only” Operation (April to October Inclusive)**

<b>Region &amp; Location</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/D</b>	<b>Sea Area EC/C</b>
<b>9. Northern Ireland:</b>		
	Runaby Head to Burr Point	No Limits

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