
Police Boat Codes, Amendment 2 (PBC2)

Notice to all Police Forces, Certifying Authorities and Boatbuilders.

This notice should be read with the Police Boat Codes, Amendment 2.

This MIN expires 1 October 2015

Summary

This Marine Information Note introduces the Police Boat Codes, Amendment 2 (PBC2) which replace the Codes of Practice for all Police Craft.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Police Boat Codes (known as PBC2) provide a standard for the construction, machinery, carriage of equipment, manning, survey and certification of Police Boats. These Codes replace the existing Codes of Practice for all Police Craft that were published in 2001.
- 1.2 PBC2 provides a set of updated standards for boats that are used by Police Authorities throughout the United Kingdom.
- 1.3 The drafting of the Codes was undertaken by an Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Working Group, with assistance from the MCA.

2. The Codes of Practice

2.1 There are 5 new Police Boat Codes:

- Code of Practice for the construction, machinery, survey and manning common to all police vessels - referred to as the Police Boat Common Code.
- Code A – A Code of Practice for the construction, machinery and equipment of police launches operating up to 60 miles from a safe haven.
- Code B – A Code of Practice for the construction, machinery and equipment of police rigid inflatable boats and other similar vessels which proceed to sea up to 60 miles from a safe haven.
- Code C – A Code of Practice for the construction, machinery and equipment of police launches operating on inland and tidal waters and which may proceed 3 miles to sea from a safe haven.

- Code D – A Code of Practice for the construction, machinery and equipment of police rigid inflatable boats and other similar vessels operating on inland and tidal waters and which may proceed up to 3 miles to sea from a safe haven.

2.2 PBC2 extends the certification of police boats from the existing 12 mile territorial waters limit to 60 miles from a safe haven.

3. Survey and Certification

3.1 Existing Small Commercial Vessel Certifying Authorities, other than Local Authority Certifying Authorities, may conduct the survey and certification of vessels under the PBC2. Contact details for the Certifying Authorities can be found in MIN 365.

4. Commencement

4.1 PBC2 has a commencement date of the 1 December 2009. Where contracts have been signed before the 1 October 2010 for new vessels to be built, they may continue to use the previous Police Boat Codes as a suitable standard and follow the phase out requirements within PBC2. Those vessels should have their keels laid, or be at a similar stage of construction before 1 January 2011.

5. Publication

5.1 The Police Boat Codes of Practice (PBC2) and Annexes can be downloaded from the MCA website – www.mcga.gov.uk .

More Information

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File Ref: MS 183/02/003 Part 2

Published: October 2010
Please note that all addresses and telephone numbers are correct at time of publishing

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*An executive agency of the
Department for
Transport*