

Preparing for the arrival of the Queen Elizabeth Class carriers to Portsmouth

DIO is preparing Portsmouth for the arrival of the Queen Elizabeth Class Aircraft Carriers into HMNB Portsmouth in early 2017. This includes refurbishing the existing jetty and installing high voltage power cables and navigational aids.

- The length of the jetty is 276 metres – four times the length of HMS Victory.

The work will involve:

- 4000 metres³ of concrete being demolished
- 3,300 tonnes of new steelwork
- 2500 metres³ of new reinforced concrete
- 14 new piles as navigation aids to the inner and outer harbour
- 1.8km of new cables will be installed – double the length of The Mall in London

Queen Elizabeth Class statistics:

- 65,000 tonne displacement
- 280 metres in length
- 56 metres high
- Top speed of 25 knots
- 10,000 nautical miles range
- Crew 1,600 (Ship's company 679, Air wing 921)
- Compliment of 40 Aircraft (including the new VTOL F35b-Lightning Joint Strike Fighter and Merlin Helicopters)
- Ship defences include Phalanx automated close-in weapon systems

DIO will also be dredging the channel and harbour to ensure it's deep enough for the draught of the fully-laden Carrier.

