



Department
for Transport

To: Consultees

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Dear Sir/Madam

18 August 2015

**CONSULTATION DFT 2015-13
GUIDANCE ON HARBOUR CLOSURE ORDERS AND PILOTAGE
FUNCTION REMOVAL ORDERS FOR ENGLISH HARBOURS AND WELSH
NON-FISHERY HARBOURS**

The Marine Navigation Act 2013 created two new processes allowing the relevant administration in England, Wales and Scotland to make an order revoking a harbour authority's status as either a Statutory Harbour Authority under the Harbours Act 1964 ("the 1964 Act") or a Competent Harbour Authority for the purposes of the Pilotage Act 1987 ("the 1987 Act").

This consultation seeks your views on a draft Guidance document on how these processes will be implemented at harbours in England and non-fishery harbours in Wales. Part A of the document covers statutory guidance on the circumstances in which a harbour closure order will be made under section 17A of the 1964 Act. In doing so the Secretary of State must have regard to the "underlying purpose" defined as "the purpose of permitting or requiring harbour authorities to cease to maintain harbours which are no longer commercially viable or necessary". Part B of the document is non-statutory guidance on the process that will be followed for applying for a pilotage function removal order under section 1(4A) of the 1987 Act.

This consultation will run until Tuesday 13 October 2015.

Responses and any questions or comments should be sent to the following e-mail address:

ports@dft.gsi.gov.uk

When responding, please quote "Ports Guidance DfT 2015-13" in the subject box. If you wish you may use the optional consultation response form that has been uploaded with the consultation document on the Department's website.

Alternatively responses may be sent by post to Caroline Wall at the above address. Paper copies of the consultation documentation are also available on request.

Yours faithfully

CAROLINE WALL
Ports Governance
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