

2025 No. XXX

MERCHANT SHIPPING

**The Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or
Pleasure) Regulations 2025**

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The Secretary of State, after consulting the persons referred to in section 86(4) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995(a), and in the exercise of powers conferred by sections 85(1), (3)(a), (c) to (l) and (n) to (q), (5) to (7) and 86(1)(a), (b), (c) and (d) and 302(1) of that Act, and with the consent of the Treasury, makes the following Regulations.

PART 1
General

Citation, commencement and extent

1.—(1) — These Regulations may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 2025 and come into force on xxx 2025.

(a) 1995 c. 21. Sections 85 and 86 were amended by the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Act 1997 (c. 28), sections 8 and 29(2) and Schedule 7, Part 1. Section 85 was amended by the British Overseas Territories Act 2002 (c. 8), section 2(3). There are other amendments but none is relevant.

(2) These Regulations extend to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Consequential amendments and revocation

2.—(1) — The amendments listed in Schedule 1 have effect.

(2) The Regulations listed in the first column of the Table in Schedule 2 are revoked to the extent specified in the third column of that Table.

General interpretation

3.—(1) In these Regulations—

“anniversary date” means in relation to a large vessel the day and the month of each year which correspond to the date of expiry of the certificate of compliance which was issued following the initial survey of that vessel;

“certificate of compliance” means a certificate issued in accordance with regulation 14 (certificate of compliance in relation to large vessels)

“Certifying Authority” has the same meaning as in regulation 4 of the Merchant Shipping (Survey and Certification) Regulations 2015(a);

“code of practice” means—

(a) in relation to a large vessel, Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code(b) and includes a reference to any document amending or replacing that Code which is considered by the Secretary of State to be relevant from time to time and is specified in a Merchant Shipping Notice;

(b) in relation to a small vessel, the Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure(c) and includes a reference to any document amending or replacing that Code which is considered by the Secretary of State to be relevant from time to time and is specified in a Merchant Shipping Notice,

and any reference in these Regulations to the relevant code of practice is to be construed accordingly;

“large vessel” means a vessel which is not a small vessel;

“length” has the meaning in regulation 2(1) of the Merchant Shipping (Load Line) Regulations 1998(d);

“Merchant Shipping Notice” means a notice described as such and issued by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (an executive agency of the Department for Transport) and includes a reference to any document amending or replacing that notice which is considered by the Secretary of State to be relevant from time to time and is specified in a Merchant Shipping Notice;

“passenger” means a person other than—

(a) the master and the members of the crew or other persons employed or engaged in any capacity on board a ship on the business of that ship; or

(b) a child under one year of age;

“pleasure vessel” means—

(a) any vessel which at the time it is being used is—

(i) in the case of a vessel wholly owned by—

(b) S.I. 2015/508, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(c) Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code is available on <https://www.redensigngroup.org/media/yzlbtkyi/reg-yc-july-2024-edition-part-a.pdf> and in hard copy from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) of Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mca.gov.uk).

(d) The Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure is available on [] and in hard copy from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) of Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mca.gov.uk).

(a) S.I. 1998/2241, amended by S.I. 2000/1335, 2018/155; there is one other amending instrument but it is not relevant.

- (aa) an individual or individuals, used only for the sport or pleasure of the owner or the immediate family or friends of the owner; or
 - (bb) a body corporate, used only for sport or pleasure and on which the persons on board are employees or officers of the body corporate, or their immediate family or friends; and
- (ii) on a voyage or excursion which is one for which the owner does not receive money for or in connection with operating the vessel or carrying any person, other than as a contribution to the direct expenses of the operation of the vessel incurred during the voyage or excursion; or
- (b) any vessel wholly owned by or on behalf of a members' club formed for the purpose of sport or pleasure which, at the time it is being used, is used only for the sport or pleasure of members of that club or their immediate family, and for the use of which any charges levied are paid into club funds and applied for the general use of the club,

where, in the case of any vessel referred to in paragraph (a) or (b), no other payments are made by or on behalf of users of the vessel, other than by the owner; and in this definition "immediate family" means, in relation to an individual, the spouse or civil partner of the individual, and a relative of the individual or the individual's spouse or civil partner; and "relative" means brother, sister, ancestor or lineal descendant;

"seagoing" means going to sea beyond the limits of category A, B, C or D waters, as categorised in Merchant Shipping Notice 1837(M) Amendment 2(a);

"Small Sport or Pleasure Code Certificate" means a certificate issued in accordance with regulation 15 (small sport or pleasure code certificate);

"small vessel" means a vessel of less than 24 metres in load line length or, in the case of a vessel the keel of which was laid or which was at a similar stage of construction before 21st July 1968, less than 150 tons, where "similar stage of construction" means a stage at which—

- (a) construction identifiable with a specific vessel begins; and
- (b) assembly of that vessel has commenced, comprising at least 1% of the estimated mass of all structural material;

"surveyor" means a surveyor of ships(b), or any other person appointed by a Certifying Authority other than the Secretary of State, to be a surveyor;

"tons" means the gross tons, measured in accordance with the Merchant Shipping (Tonnage) Regulations 1967(c) as in force on 20th July 1968;

"valid" means in force.

(2) For the purposes of these Regulations—

- (a) any provision of the relevant code of practice which is expressed as a thing that "shall" or "should" be done is a requirement;
- (b) any reference in the relevant code of practice to "load line length" has the same meaning as "length" as defined in these Regulations;
- (c) where a vessel is operated by a person other than its owner, whether on behalf of the owner by a managing agent or some other person, or on that person's own behalf, a reference to the owner must be construed as including a reference to that person.

Application

4.—(1) These Regulations apply—

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- (b) Merchant Shipping Notice 1837 (M) Amendment 2 was published in July 2017 and is available on https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5e0dc468ed915d6a9760d451/msn_1837_-_amendment2_june_2017.pdf and in hard copy from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) of Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mca.gov.uk).
 - (c) A surveyor of ships is defined in section 256(9)(b) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995.
 - (a) S.I. 1967/172; relevant amending instrument is S.I. 1967/1093. The instrument was revoked by S.I. 1982/841 and is available on https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukSI/1967/172/pdfs/ukSI_19670172_en.pdf.

- (a) to United Kingdom seagoing vessels wherever they may be; and
- (b) to other seagoing vessels operating from United Kingdom ports whilst in United Kingdom waters,

which are in commercial use for sport or pleasure.

(2) These Regulations do not apply to—

- (a) vessels carrying more than twelve passengers;
- (b) pleasure vessels;
- (c) craft to which the Merchant Shipping (High Speed Offshore Service Craft) Regulations 2022(a) apply.

(3) Where persons are on board a vessel as a consequence of—

- (a) the vessel being in United Kingdom waters by virtue only of stress of weather or any other circumstances which the master, owner or charterer could not have prevented; or
- (b) an obligation laid upon the master to carry shipwrecked or other persons(b),

those persons are not to be taken into account for the purpose of determining the application to that vessel of any provision of these Regulations.

Exemptions

5.—(1) The Secretary of State, or a person authorised by the Secretary of State, may exempt from any requirement of these Regulations or Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code a large vessel or class of large vessel if satisfied that the conditions in paragraph (3) of chapter 1.10 (exemptions)(c) of Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code are met.

(2) The Secretary of State, or a person authorised by the Secretary of State, may exempt from any provision of these Regulations or the relevant code of practice a vessel engaged on a single voyage for the purposes of the sale, repair, trial or delivery of that vessel.

(3) The Secretary of State may, or a person authorised by the Secretary of State, may in exceptional circumstances not provided for in paragraph (1) or (2), exempt from any provision of these Regulations or the relevant code of practice a vessel or class of vessel if satisfied that compliance with such provision is either impracticable or unreasonable in the case of that vessel or class of vessel.

(4) An exemption under paragraph (1), (2) or (3) may be granted subject to such safety requirements as the Secretary of State thinks fit to ensure the overall safety of the vessel.

(5) An exemption granted under paragraph (1), (2) or (3) may, on the giving of reasonable notice, be altered or cancelled.

(6) An exemption granted under paragraph (1), (2) or (3), or an alteration or cancellation under paragraph (5), must—

- (a) be in writing;
- (b) specify the date on which it takes effect; and
- (c) specify the terms, if any, on which it is given.

(7) The requirement that the exemption granted under paragraph (1), (2) or (3), or an alteration or cancellation under paragraph (5), be in writing is satisfied where the text of the approval is—

- (a) transmitted by electronic means;
- (b) received in legible form; and
- (c) capable of being used for subsequent reference.

(b) S.I. 2022/41, amended by S.I. 2022/1219.

(c) Regulation 33 in Chapter V of the Annex to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (safety of navigation) places an obligation on the master to provide assistance to persons in distress at sea. This obligation is implemented in the Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/673).

(a) The Conventions referred to in paragraph (c) of chapter 1.10 are listed in Annex L to the Common Annexes, which is applied by Chapter 3 of Part A of the Red Ensign Yacht Code. The Common Annexes are found at <https://www.redensigngroup.org/media/1093/reg-yacht-code-january-2019-edition-common-annexes.pdf>.

(8) Where an exemption is granted subject to safety requirements under paragraph (4), the exemption ceases to have effect if those requirements are not complied with.

Equivalents

6.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), where the provisions of these Regulations or the relevant code of practice require that—

- (a) a particular fitting, material, appliance or apparatus be fitted on, or carried in, a vessel;
- (b) any particular arrangement be made on, or in relation to, a vessel; or
- (c) any particular provision be made in relation to a vessel,

the Secretary of State, or a person authorised by the Secretary of State, may approve any other fitting, material, appliance, apparatus, arrangement or other provision if satisfied by trials or otherwise that it is at least as effective as that required by these Regulations or the relevant code of practice.

(2) The Secretary of State, or a person authorised by the Secretary of State, may in relation to a large vessel approve any other fitting, material, appliance, apparatus, arrangement or other provision other than that required under Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code if satisfied that the conditions in chapter 1.8 (equivalent arrangements) of Part A of that Code are met.

(3) The Secretary of State, or a person authorised by the Secretary of State, may in relation to a small vessel approve any fitting, material, appliance, apparatus, arrangement or other provision other than that required under the Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport if satisfied that—

- (a) where the vessel used for a purpose described in paragraph 27A (sailing vessels engaged in racing activities) of the Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure, the conditions in paragraph 27A.1.1.2 of that Code are satisfied;
- (b) where the vessel is used for a purpose described in paragraph 27B (race support boats) of the Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure, the conditions in paragraph 27B.2.1 to 2.15 of that Code are satisfied.

(4) An approval given under paragraph (1), (2) or (3) may, on the giving of reasonable notice, be continued, altered or cancelled.

(5) Any approval given under paragraph (1), (2) or (3), or a continuation, alteration or cancellation under paragraph (4), must—

- (a) be in writing;
- (b) specify the date on which it takes effect; and
- (c) specify the terms, if any, on which it is given.

(6) The requirement that the approval referred to in paragraph (1), (2) or (3), or a continuation, alteration or cancellation in paragraph (4), be in writing is satisfied where the text of the approval is—

- (a) transmitted by electronic means;
- (b) received in legible form; and
- (c) capable of being used for subsequent reference.

Approvals

7.—(1) The Secretary of State, or any person authorised by the Secretary of State, may grant an approval in relation to a United Kingdom ship for anything in these Regulations or the relevant code of practice requiring to be—

- (a) approved by the Administration;
- (b) done to the satisfaction of such Administration; or

(c) acceptable to that Administration(a).

(2) Unless required to be approved under the Merchant Shipping (Marine Equipment) Regulations 2016(b), any equipment required by these Regulations and placed on board a United Kingdom ship must be approved by the Secretary of State, or any person authorised by the Secretary of State.

(3) An approval given under paragraph (1) or (2) may, on the giving of reasonable notice, be continued, altered or cancelled.

(4) Any approval given under paragraph (1) or (2), or a continuation, alteration or cancellation under paragraph (3), must—

- (a) be in writing;
- (b) specify the date on which it takes effect; and
- (c) specify the terms, if any, on which it is given.

(5) The requirement that the approval referred to in paragraph (1) or (2), or the continuation, alteration or cancellation under paragraph (3), be in writing is satisfied where the text of the approval is—

- (a) transmitted by electronic means;
- (b) received in legible form; and
- (c) capable of being used for subsequent reference.

PART 2

Survey and certification of large vessels

Initial surveys of large vessels

8.—(1) A large vessel must not—

- (a) be put into service; or
- (b) (if it is already in service) be enabled to continue in service,

unless the requirements in paragraph (2) are met.

(2) The requirements are that—

- (a) an initial survey has been carried out in respect of the vessel;
- (b) at the date of the survey the surveyor is satisfied that the vessel complies with all the requirements of Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code that apply to it(c); and
- (c) a certificate of compliance has been issued in respect of the vessel which is still valid.

Renewal surveys of large vessels

9.—(1) A large vessel must not be enabled to—

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- (b) The circumstances in which the approval of the Secretary of State is required in relation to United Kingdom ships are set out in Marine Guidance Note xxx; this is available on www.gov.uk/topic/ships-cargoes/m-notices and in hard copy from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) of Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mcga.gov.uk).
 - (c) S.I. 2016/1025, amended by S.I. 2019/470, 2019/1304 and 2020/1000; there is another amendment which is not relevant. Relevant standards are set out in Annex 1 to Merchant Shipping Notice 1874 (M+F) Amendment 7, which is available on https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1145632/MSN_1874_Amendment_7.pdf and in hard copy from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) of Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mcga.gov.uk).
 - (d) Chapter 30 of Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code refers to Annex N to the Common Annexes (<https://www.redensigngroup.org/media/1532/reg-yc-july-2024-edition-common-annexes.pdf>). Section N2 (survey, certification and accident investigations) refers to IMO Resolution A.1053(27), now superseded by IMO Resolution A.1156(32), which sets out survey guidelines applicable in relation to large vessels. Paragraphs 2.8.1 and 4.1 contain further information and guidelines in relation to initial surveys. IMO Resolution 1156(32) may be obtained in copy from the International Maritime Organization of 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR or from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) of Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mcga.gov.uk).

- (a) proceed to sea; or
- (b) (if it is already at sea) remain at sea,

after the date of expiry of a certificate of compliance issued in respect of that vessel unless the requirements in paragraph (2) are met.

(2) The requirements are that—

- (a) before the end of every period of five years beginning with the vessel's anniversary date, a renewal survey has been carried out in respect of the vessel;
- (b) at the date of the survey the surveyor is satisfied that the vessel complies with all the requirements of Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code that apply to it(a); and
- (c) a new certificate of compliance has been issued in respect of the ship following the relevant renewal survey which is still valid.

Annual surveys of large vessels

10.—(1) A large vessel must not be enabled to—

- (a) proceed to sea; or
- (b) (if it is already at sea) remain at sea,

after the end of the annual survey period unless the requirements in paragraph (2) are met.

(2) The requirements are that—

- (a) a relevant annual survey has been carried out in respect of the vessel;
- (b) at the date of the survey the surveyor is satisfied that the vessel complies with all the requirements of Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code that apply to it(b).

(3) In this regulation—

“annual survey period” means the period of six months beginning three months before each anniversary date.

Intermediate surveys of large vessels

11.—(1) A large vessel must not be enabled to—

- (a) proceed to sea; or
- (b) (if it is already at sea) remain at sea,

after the third anniversary date in respect of that vessel unless the requirements in paragraph (2) are met.

(2) The requirements are that—

- (a) an intermediate survey has been carried out in respect of the vessel during the intermediate survey period;
- (b) at the date of the survey the surveyor is satisfied that the vessel complies with all the requirements of Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code that apply to it(c).

(3) In this regulation—

“intermediate survey period” means the period of six months beginning three months before either the second or the third anniversary date.

(b) Paragraphs 2.8.3 and 4.5 of IMO Resolution A.1156(32) (see the footnote to regulation 8(2)(b)) contain further information and guidelines in relation to renewal surveys.

(c) Paragraphs 2.8.5 and 4.2 of IMO Resolution A.1156(32) (see the footnote to regulation 8(2)(b)) contain further information and guidelines in relation to annual surveys.

(a) Paragraphs 2.8.4 and 4.3 of IMO Resolution A.1156(32) (see the footnote to regulation 8(2)(b)) contain further information and guidelines in relation to intermediate surveys. Paragraph 4.3.1 describes the circumstances in which an intermediate survey may take the place of an annual survey.

Periodical surveys of large vessels

12. —(1) A large vessel must not be enabled to—

- (a) proceed to sea; or
- (b) (if it is already at sea) remain at sea,

unless the requirements in paragraph (2) are met.

(2) The requirements are that—

- (a) a periodical survey has been carried out in respect of the vessel during the periodical survey period;
- (b) at the date of the survey the surveyor is satisfied that the vessel complies with all the requirements of Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code that apply to it(a).

(3) In this regulation—

“periodical survey period” means—

- (a) in relation to a cargo ship safety equipment certificate(b), the period of six months beginning three months before either the second or the third anniversary date; or
- (b) in relation to a cargo ship safety radio certificate(c), means the period of six months beginning three months before each anniversary date.

Additional surveys of large vessels

13. —(1) This regulation applies to a large vessel when there is a report of an incident to which regulation 22(2) and (3) (incident reporting) applies.

(2) A vessel to which this regulation applies must not be enabled to—

- (a) proceed to sea; or
- (b) (if it is already at sea) remain at sea,

unless the requirements in paragraph (3) are met.

(3) The requirements are that—

- (a) a relevant additional survey has been carried out in respect of the vessel;
- (b) at the date of the survey the surveyor is satisfied that—
 - (i) the repair or renewal has been made effectively;
 - (ii) the materials used in, and the workmanship of, the repair or renewal are satisfactory in all respects; and
 - (iii) the vessel complies in all respects with all the requirements of Part A of Red Ensign Group Yacht Code that apply to it(d); and

the surveyor has issued a report to the Certifying Authority expressing the satisfaction required by sub-paragraph (b).

Certificate of compliance in relation to large vessels

14. —(1) A Certifying Authority must issue a certificate of compliance in respect of a large vessel where—

- (a) the Certifying Authority has been notified by a surveyor that the surveyor has carried out an initial or renewal survey;

(b) Paragraph 4.4 of IMO Resolution A.1156(32) (see the footnote to regulation 8(2)(b)) contains guidelines in relation to periodical surveys. Paragraph 4.4.1 describes the circumstances in which a periodical survey may take the place of an annual survey.

(c) Paragraph 2.8.2 of IMO Resolution A.1156(32) provides further information about the survey requirements for a cargo ship safety equipment certificate and cargo ship safety radio certificate.

(d) See the footnote to regulation 12(3)(a).

(e) Paragraphs 2.8.7 and 4.7 of IMO Resolution A.1156(32) (see the footnote to regulation 8(2)(b)) contain further information and guidelines in relation to additional surveys.

- (b) the notification described in paragraph (a) includes confirmation that, at the date of that survey, the surveyor is satisfied that the vessel complies with the requirements of Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code that apply to it; and
- (c) the prescribed fee has been paid to the Certifying Authority.

(2) In this regulation, “prescribed fee” means the fee prescribed by the Secretary of State under section 302 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 (fees)(a).

PART 3

Survey and certification of small vessels

Small Sport or Pleasure Code Certificate

15. —(1) A small vessel must not—

- (a) proceed or attempt to proceed to sea; or
- (b) (if it is already at sea), remain at sea,

unless the requirements in paragraph (2) are met.

(2) The requirements are that—

- (a) a survey has been carried out in respect of the vessel in accordance with section 4 of the relevant code of practice;
- (b) at the date of the survey the surveyor is satisfied that the vessel complies with all the requirements of the relevant code of practice that apply to it;
- (c) a Small Sport or Pleasure Code Certificate(b) has been issued in respect of the vessel which is still valid.

(3) The Certifying Authority may issue or endorse a Small Sport or Pleasure Code Certificate—

- (a) if satisfied that the requirements of section 4 of the relevant code of practice which apply to that vessel have been met; and
- (b) provided any fee described in section 4.2.1.3 of the relevant code practice has been paid.

(4) For the purposes of paragraph (3), the fee described in section 4.2.1.3 of the relevant code of practice means the fee prescribed by the Secretary of State under section 302 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 (fees).

PART 4

Survey and certification of all vessels

Duration and validity of certificates

16. Subject to regulations 18 (validity of certificates), 19 (cancellation of certificates) and 23(3) (deficient vessels)—

- (a) subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), a certificate of compliance issued in respect of a large vessel; or
- (b) a Small Sport or Pleasure Code Certificate issued in respect of a small vessel,

(b) Fees are prescribed in the Merchant Shipping (Fees) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/1104). There are amendments to the Fees Regulations, and any relevant to these Regulations are described in subsequent footnotes as appropriate.

(a) Regulation 21 requires small vessels to comply with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure. The requirements for the survey and certification of small vessels are set out in [Section 4] of the Code. The Code is available on [INSERT LINK] and in hard copy from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) of Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mcga.gov.uk). Fees are prescribed in the Merchant Shipping (Fees) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/1104). There are amendments to the Fees Regulations, and any relevant to these Regulations are described in subsequent footnotes as appropriate.

is valid for such period as is specified in the certificate, not exceeding five years beginning with the date of completion of the initial or renewal survey which immediately preceded the issue of the certificate.

(2) Where a renewal survey of a large vessel is completed after the date of expiry of a certificate of compliance, the new certificate is valid from the date of completion of the renewal survey for a period not exceeding five years from the date of expiry of the existing certificate.

(3) When a renewal survey of a large vessel is completed more than three months before the date of expiry of a certificate of compliance, the new certificate is valid for a period not exceeding five years beginning with the date of issue of that certificate following completion of the renewal survey.

Extension of certificates

17.—(1) A Certifying Authority that has issued a certificate in respect of a large or small vessel may extend the period of validity of that certificate for a period not exceeding three calendar months provided the conditions in paragraph (2) are met.

(2) The conditions are that—

- (a) the Certifying Authority has been notified by a surveyor that—
 - (i) in relation to a large vessel, a renewal survey has been carried out under regulation 9 (renewal surveys of large vessels); or
 - (ii) in relation to a small vessel, a renewal survey has been carried out under section 4.8 of the relevant code of practice; and
- (b) the Certifying Authority has notified the surveyor that the Certifying Authority is unable to issue a new certificate in respect of the vessel prior to the expiry of the existing certificate,

and in such a case the surveyor may endorse the existing certificate in accordance with the notification given by the Certifying Authority.

Validity of certificates

18.—(1) A certificate issued or endorsed in respect of a vessel ceases to be valid if—

- (a) the vessel is sold or there is a change of owner;
- (b) a survey is not completed within the period specified for it in regulations 8 to 13 (large vessels) or regulation 15 (small vessels);
- (c) the vessel does not meet all the requirements for the issue of that certificate;
- (d) a material change has been made to the vessel or its equipment without the written approval of the Certifying Authority that issued the certificate;
- (e) that certificate is replaced by a new certificate;
- (f) that certificate has expired;
- (g) the vessel suffers an incident which is not reported as required under regulation 22; or
- (h) the vessel, its equipment or machinery has sustained damage or is otherwise deficient since the completion of any survey required under these Regulations and the damage or deficiency is a material change.

(2) A person must not—

- (a) intentionally alter a certificate;
- (b) intentionally make a false certificate;
- (c) in connection with any survey required by these Regulations, knowingly or recklessly furnish false information; or
- (d) with intent to deceive, use, lend, or allow to be used by another, a certificate.

(3) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(d) and (h), a change is material if it affects, or is likely to affect—

- (a) the safety of that vessel;
- (b) the health and safety of any persons on that vessel; or
- (c) compliance with the requirements of the relevant code of practice that applies to that vessel.

Cancellation of certificates

19.—(1) A certificate may be cancelled by the Secretary of State if there is reason to believe that the certificate was issued on false or erroneous information.

(2) The Secretary of State may direct that a cancelled certificate is surrendered unless that certificate has expired.

(3) Any direction under paragraph (2) may require that the certificate must be surrendered within such time and in such manner as the Secretary of State sees fit.

(4) A person must not fail to surrender a certificate as required under paragraph (3).

PART 5

Requirements for large and small vessels

Requirements for large vessels

20.—(1) A large vessel must comply with each requirement in Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code applicable to it.

(2) Where a large vessel has been issued with a certificate of compliance, and that certificate is still valid, the Regulations listed in the first column of the table in Schedule 3 do not apply to the extent specified in the third column of that table.

Requirements for small vessels

21.—(1) A small vessel must comply with each requirement in the Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure applicable to it.

(2) Where a small vessel has been issued with a Small Sport or Pleasure Code Certificate, and that certificate is still valid, the Regulations listed in the first column of the table in Schedule 4 do not apply to the extent specified in the third column of that table.

Responsibilities of owner and master

22.—(1) The owner and master of any vessel that has been certified in accordance with regulation 14 (certificate of compliance in relation to large vessels) or 15 (small sport or pleasure code certificate) must ensure that—

- (a) the vessel and its equipment is maintained so as to ensure that the vessel in all respects remains fit to proceed to sea without danger to that vessel or persons on board;
- (b) after any survey of the vessel required by these Regulations has been carried out, no change is made in the structural arrangements, machinery, equipment and other items covered by the survey, without the approval of the Certifying Authority, except by direct replacement.

(2) Where an owner or master of a vessel issued with a certificate under these Regulations becomes aware that the vessel for which that certificate has been issued has been involved in an incident described in paragraph (4), the owner or the master must report the incident as soon as practicable to the Certifying Authority which issued the certificate.

(3) Where a report has been made under paragraph (2) a Certifying Authority must—

- (a) as soon as practicable, decide whether the vessel should be subjected to—
 - (i) in relation to a large vessel, an additional survey under regulation 13; or

- (ii) in relation to a small vessel, an emergency examination under section 4.9 of the relevant code of practice; and
 - (b) notify the owner and the master of its decision.
- (4) In this regulation “incident” includes—
- (a) any collision;
 - (b) any grounding except where this occurs as a part of the vessel’s intended operation;
 - (c) any fire;
 - (d) any event or sequences of events other than those listed in sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) which has occurred directly in connection with the operation of a ship that endangered, or if not corrected would endanger, the safety of a ship, its occupants or any other person or the environment involving—
 - (i) the hull;
 - (ii) the keel or keel attachments;
 - (iii) the rudder;
 - (iv) any other fitting that is below the waterline;
 - (v) the propulsion system, including the rig;
 - (vi) any steerage equipment;
 - (vii) any machinery; or
 - (viii) the failure of any other part which makes it unsafe to operate the vessel or compromises the safety of—
 - (aa) persons on board,
 - (bb) other vessels; or
 - (cc) the marine environment.

Deficient vessels

- 23.—(1) This regulation applies to a vessel where a surveyor determines that—
- (a) the condition of the vessel or its equipment does not correspond substantially with the particulars of the certificate issued in respect of the vessel;
 - (b) the condition of a vessel is such that it is not fit to undertake a voyage without danger to the vessel or to any person on board; or
 - (c) the vessel is not fit to proceed to sea without presenting an unreasonable threat of harm to the marine environment.
- (2) In the circumstances described in paragraph (1) the surveyor must—
- (a) immediately inform the owner or master of the corrective action which, in the opinion of the surveyor, is required;
 - (b) specify the period within which such corrective action should be taken; and
 - (c) where the vessel has a valid certificate, notify the Certifying Authority which issued the certificate in respect of that vessel that the owner or master has been so advised.
- (3) The Certifying Authority must suspend the validity of any certificate if the corrective action advised in accordance with paragraph (2)(a) is not taken within the time specified under paragraph (2)(b).
- (4) Where a Certifying Authority suspends the validity of the certificate issued in respect of a vessel the Certifying Authority must immediately give notice of such suspension to—
- (a) the owner of the vessel; and
 - (b) the Secretary of State.
- (5) Where the owner of the vessel is given notice of suspension, that owner must, as soon as reasonably practicable—

- (a) notify the master of the vessel in question of the suspension; and
- (b) where the vessel is in a port outside the United Kingdom, give notice of such suspension to the appropriate maritime authorities of the country in which the port is situated.

PART 6

Enforcement

Offences

24.—(1) If a vessel proceeds or attempts to proceed to sea or on any voyage, or arrives within United Kingdom waters, in breach of any of the requirements in or under these Regulations applicable to or in relation to that vessel the owner and the master are each guilty of an offence in respect of each case of non-compliance.

(2) Any contravention of regulation 18(2) (alteration etc. of a certificate) or 19(4) (failure to surrender a certificate) is an offence by the person in question.

(3) Any offence under paragraph (1) or (2) is punishable—

- (a) on summary conviction—
 - (i) in England and Wales by a fine;
 - (ii) in Scotland or Northern Ireland by a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum;
- (b) on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or a fine, or both.

(4) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under this regulation to prove that the person charged took all reasonable steps to avoid the commission of the offence.

Detention of vessels

25.—(1) For the purposes of this regulation, any reference to “the Act” is a reference to the Merchant Shipping Act 1995.

(2) A vessel which does not comply with the requirements in these Regulations or the relevant code of practice applicable to that vessel by virtue of these Regulations may be detained.

(3) Section 284 of the Act (enforcing detention of ship)(a) applies where a vessel is liable to be detained under this regulation as if—

- (a) references to detention of a ship under the Act were references to detention of the vessel in question under this regulation; and
- (b) subsection (7) were omitted.

(4) Where a vessel is liable to be detained under this regulation, the person detaining the vessel must serve on the master a detention notice which—

- (a) states the grounds for the detention; and
- (b) requires the terms of the notice to be complied with until the vessel is released by any person mentioned in section 284(1) of the Act.

(5) Subject to paragraph (6), section 96 (references of detention notices to arbitration)(b) and section 97 (compensation in connection with invalid detention of a ship) of the Act apply in relation to a detention notice issued pursuant to this regulation as they apply in relation to detention notices issued pursuant to section 95 (power to detain dangerously unsafe ship)(c).

(6) For the purposes of paragraph (5)—

(b) Section 284 was amended by Schedule 1 to the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Act 1997 (c. 28) and S.I. 2015/664.
 (c) Section 96(7) was amended by Part 1 of Schedule 10 to the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 (c. 15) and by Schedule 11 to the Constitutional Reform Act 2005 (c. 4). Section 96(10) was repealed by Schedule 4 to the Arbitration Act 1996 (c. 23).
 (a) Section 95 was amended by Schedule 1, paragraph 2 of the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Act 1997 (c. 28).

- (a) section 96 of the Act applies as if—
 - (i) subsection (3) were omitted;
 - (ii) the words “as a dangerously unsafe ship” in subsection (5) were omitted;
 - (iii) subsection (11) were omitted; and
- (b) sections 96 and 97 of the Act apply as if “the relevant inspector” means a person issuing the detention notice pursuant to this regulation.

(7) Subject to paragraph (8), where a non-United Kingdom vessel is detained, the Secretary of State must immediately inform the vessel’s flag administration in writing.

(8) If it is not possible to inform the vessel’s flag administration in accordance with paragraph (7), the Secretary of State must inform the Consul of the State of the flag administration, or in the absence of a Consul, the nearest diplomatic representative of the State of the flag administration.

(9) For the purposes of paragraphs (7) and (8), “flag administration” in relation to a vessel means the administration of the State whose flag the vessel is entitled to fly.

PART 7

Review

Review

26.—(1) The Secretary of State must from time to time—

- (a) carry out a review of the regulatory provision contained in these Regulations; and
- (b) publish a report setting out the conclusions of the review.

(2) The first report must be published before the end of the period of five years beginning with the date on which these Regulations come into force.

(3) Subsequent reports must be published at intervals not exceeding 5 years.

(4) Section 30(4) of the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015(a) requires that a report published under this regulation must, in particular—

- (a) set out the objectives intended to be achieved by the regulatory provision referred to in paragraph (1)(a);
- (b) assess the extent to which those objectives are achieved;
- (c) assess whether those objectives remain appropriate; and
- (d) if those objectives remain appropriate, assess the extent to which they could be achieved in another way which involves less onerous regulatory provision.

(5) In this regulation, “regulatory provision” has the same meaning as in sections 28 to 32 of the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 (see section 32 of that Act).

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

Date

Name
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Transport

(a) 2015 c. 26. There is another Act which amends section 28 but it is not relevant.

We consent

Date Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury

SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 2(1)

Amendments

The Merchant Shipping (Registration of Ships) Regulations 1993

1. The Merchant Shipping (Registration of Ships) Regulations 1993(a) are amended as follows.
2. In regulation 1(2), for the definition of “pleasure vessel” substitute—
““pleasure vessel” means a pleasure vessel as defined in regulation 3(1) of the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 2025;”.

The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations 1997

3. The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations 1997(b) are amended as follows.
4. In regulation 2(2), in the definition of “sea-going”, for sub-paragraph (a)(iii) substitute—
“(iii) a ship which is a large vessel within the meaning of regulation 3(1) of the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 2025 in respect of which a certificate of compliance has been issued in accordance with regulation 14 of those Regulations; or”.

The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Medical Certification) Regulations 2010

5. The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Medical Certification) Regulations 2010(c) are amended as follows.
6. In regulation 2, in the definition of “sea-going”, for paragraph (c) substitute—
“(c) a ship which is a large vessel within the meaning of regulation 3(1) of the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 2025 in respect of which a certificate of compliance has been issued in accordance with regulation 14 of those Regulations, or”.

The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Survey and Certification) Regulations 2013

7. The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Survey and Certification) Regulations 2013(d) are amended as follows.
8. In regulation 2(1), in the definition of “sea-going”, for paragraph (c) substitute—
“(c) a ship which is a large vessel within the meaning of regulation 3(1) of the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 2025 in

(b) S.I. 1993/3138, amended by S.I. 1999/3206; there are other amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(c) S.I. 1997/2962, amended by S.I. 2014/1614; there are other amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(d) S.I. 2010/737, amended by S.I. 2014/1614; there are other amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(a) S.I. 2013/1785, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

respect of which a certificate of compliance has been issued in accordance with regulation 14 of those Regulations; or”.

9. Omit regulation 3.

The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Minimum Requirements for Seafarers etc) Regulations 2014

10. The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Minimum Requirements for Seafarers etc) Regulations 2014(a) are amended as follows.

11. In regulation 2(1), in the definition of “sea-going”, for paragraph (c) substitute—

“(c) a ship which is a large vessel within the meaning of regulation 3(1) of the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 2025 in respect of which a certificate of compliance has been issued in accordance with regulation 14 of those Regulations; or”.

The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Recruitment and Placement) Regulations 2014

12. The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Recruitment and Placement) Regulations 2014(b) are amended as follows.

13. In regulation 2(1), in the definition of “sea-going”, for paragraph (c) substitute—

“(c) a ship which is a large vessel within the meaning of regulation 3(1) of the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 2025 in respect of which a certificate of compliance has been issued in accordance with regulation 14 of those Regulations; or”.

The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Hours of Work) Regulations 2018

14. The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Hours of Work) Regulations 2018(c) are amended as follows.

15. In regulation 2(1), in the definition of “sea-going”, for paragraph (c) substitute—

“(c) a ship which is a large vessel within the meaning of regulation 3(1) of the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 2025 in respect of which a certificate of compliance has been issued in accordance with regulation 14 of those Regulations; or”.

The Merchant Shipping Fees Regulations 2018

16. The Merchant Shipping (Fees) Regulations 2018(d), in Schedule 1 (fees under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995), in the table in paragraph 5 (fees for inspections, etc) of Part 1 (surveys, inspections and applications for exemption), are amended as follows.

17. In Section A (crew), in the entry for the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations 1997, in the third column, after “2022/1219” insert “2025/xxx”.

18. In Section B (crew accommodation), in the entry for the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Minimum Requirements for Seafarers etc) Regulations 2014, in the third column, after “2023/1216” insert “2025/xxx”.

19. In Section I (construction and equipment)—

(b) S.I. 2014/1613, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(c) S.I. 2014/1615, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(d) S.I. 2018/58, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(e) S.I. 2018/1104, amended by S.I. 2022/1169, 2022/1218, 2022/1219, 2022/1269, 2023/246, 2023/568 and 2023/1216; there are other amendments which are not relevant to these Regulations.

- (a) omit the entry for the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 1998;
- (b) in the entry for the Merchant Shipping (High Speed Craft) Regulations 2022(a), in the third column, after “2023/1216” insert “2025/xxx”;
- (c) at the end—
 - (i) in the first column, insert “The Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 2025”;
 - (ii) in the second column, insert “2025/xxx”;
 - (iii) in the third column, insert “None”.

20. In Section K (manning and certification), in the entry for the Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) Regulations 2022(b), in the third column, after “2023/1216” insert “2025/xxx”.

21. In Section L (survey and certification), in the entry for Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Survey and Certification) Regulations 2013, in the third column, after “2022/1342” insert “2025/xxx”.

22. In Section Q (registration), in the entry for the Merchant Shipping (Registration of Ships) Regulations 1993, in the third column, after “2023/35” insert “2025/xxx”.

The Merchant Shipping (High Speed Craft) Regulations 2022

23. The Merchant Shipping (High Speed Craft) Regulations 2022 are amended as follows.

24. In regulation 4(2), in sub-paragraph (h), for “a Code of Practice referred to in regulations 4 or 5 of the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 1998” substitute “regulations 14 or 15 of the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 2025”.

The Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) Regulations 2022

25. The Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) Regulations 2022 are amended as follows.

26. In regulation 54(2), for sub-paragraph (e) substitute—

“(e) vessels—

- (i) which are small vessels as defined in regulation 3(1) of the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 2025; and
- (ii) to which those Regulations apply.”.

SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 2(2)

Revocations

Regulations revoked	References	Extent of revocation
The Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 1998	S.I. 1998/2771	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) (Amendment) Regulations 2000	S.I. 2000/482	The whole Regulations

(b) S.I. 2022/1219, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(h) S.I. 2022/1342.

The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Consequential and Minor Amendments) Regulations 2014	S.I. 2014/1614	Regulation 11
The Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) (Amendment) Regulations 2016	S.I. 2016/353	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2018	S.I. 2018/242	Regulation 2
The Merchant Shipping (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendments etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018	S.I. 2018/1221	Paragraph 11 of the Schedule
The Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances and Arrangements) Regulations 2020	S.I. 2020/501	Paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of Schedule 1
The Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Regulations 2020	S.I. 2020/673	Paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of the Schedule
The Merchant Shipping (Radiocommunications) (Amendment) Regulations 2021	S.I. 2021/1316	Paragraphs 18 and 19 of Schedule 1
The Merchant Shipping (Cargo and Passenger Ship Construction and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2023	S.I. 2023/246	Paragraph 11 of the Schedule
The Merchant Shipping (Fire Protection) Regulations 2023	S.I. 2023/568	Paragraphs 6 to 8 of Schedule 1

SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 20(2)

Large Vessels

The provisions of the statutory instruments listed in the table are disapplied in relation to large vessels which have been issued with a certificate of compliance.

Statutory Instruments	References	Extent of disapplication
The Merchant Shipping (Cargo Ship Construction) Regulations 1997	1997/1509	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Fire Protection: Small Ships) Regulations 1998	1998/1011	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Radio Installations) Regulations 1998	1998/2070	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Load Line) Regulations 1998	1998/2241	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Minimum Requirements for Seafarers etc) Regulations 2014	2014/1613	Regulations 29(2) and 30
The Merchant Shipping (Survey and Certification) Regulations 2015	2015/508	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances and Arrangements) Regulations 2020	2020/501	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Regulations 2020	2020/673	The whole Regulations

The Merchant Shipping (Cargo and Passenger Ship Construction and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2023	2023/246	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Fire Protection) Regulations 2023	2023/568	The whole Regulations

SCHEDULE 4

Regulation 21(2)

Small Vessels

The provisions of the statutory instruments listed in the table are disapplied in relation to small vessels which have been issued with a Small Sport or Pleasure Code Certificate

Statutory Instruments	References	Extent of disapplication
The Merchant Shipping (Fire Protection: Small Ships) Regulations 1998	1998/1011	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Load Line) Regulations 1998	1998/2241	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Minimum Requirements for Seafarers etc) Regulations 2014	2014/1613	Regulations 29(2) and 30
The Merchant Shipping (Survey and Certification) Regulations 2015	2015/508	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Marine Equipment) Regulations 2016	2016/1025	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances and Arrangements) Regulations 2020	2020/501	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Regulations 2020	2020/673	The whole Regulations
The Merchant Shipping (Fire Protection) Regulations 2023	2023/568	The whole Regulations

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations revoke and replace the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 1998 (S.I. 1998/2771) to consolidate and update the requirements for vessels in commercial use for sport or pleasure. These Regulations apply, with certain limited exceptions, to United Kingdom vessels and to non-United Kingdom vessels when operating from United Kingdom ports in United Kingdom waters (regulation 4). These Regulations also make consequential amendments (Schedule 1) and revocations (Schedule 2) arising from the revocation of the Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations 1998.

These Regulations make specific provision for large vessels (24 metres or more in length) and small vessels (less than 24 metres in length). Large vessels are made subject to requirements in Part A of the Red Ensign Group Yacht Code (“REG Code”), and small vessels to requirements in the Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure (“SCV Code”). These Regulations give effect to the mandatory requirements in those Codes.

These Regulations provide for the granting of exemptions (regulation 5), the approval of equivalents (regulation 6) and the granting of approvals (regulation 7).

Part 2 (regulations 8 to 14) and Part 3 (regulation 15) makes separate provision for the survey and certification of large and small vessels respectively. Part 4 (regulations 16 to 19) makes provision for the duration and validity of certificates in respect of large and small vessels.

Part 5 (regulations 20 to 23) sets out the requirements governing large and small vessels. Regulation 20 gives effect to the REG Code and disappplies in respect of large vessels the requirements in the instruments specified in Schedule 3. Regulation 21 gives effect to the SCV Code and disappplies in respect of small vessels the requirements in the instruments specified in Schedule 4.

Part 6 (regulations 24 and 25) makes provision for enforcement. Regulation 24 makes it an offence by the owner and master for a vessel to proceed to sea in contravention of any of the requirements in or under these Regulations (including the requirements in the REG and SCV Codes). Regulation 25 contains power to detain vessels for breaches of requirements in or under these Regulations.

Regulation 26 requires the Secretary of State to review the operation and effect of these Regulations and publish a report on a date before the end of the period of five years beginning with the date on which these Regulations come into force, and at intervals not exceeding five years after that. Following a review, it will fall to the Secretary of State to consider whether the Regulations should remain as they are, or be amended or revoked. A further instrument would be needed to amend or revoke the Regulations.

The REG and SCV Codes are available from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) of Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mca.gov.uk) and on [INSERT LINKS].

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private or voluntary sector is foreseen.

An Explanatory Memorandum is published alongside the instrument on www.legislation.gov.uk.