



Date: 1 November 2025

DMR/RN/2025/07 – Issue of DSA02-DMR Defence Maritime Regulations 2026 edition

Implementation Date: 1 January 2026

Review Date: 1 January 2027

Summary

1. The purpose of this DMR Notice is to provide the Defence Maritime Domain with notice of the issue of DSA02-DMR – Defence Maritime Regulations for HS&EP 2026 Edition. Through the DMR Regulations Review Council these regulations have been reviewed and changes agreed. The 2026 edition takes effect on 1 January 2026. Changes that have been made are captured below.
2. Also, this notice serves to inform that the DSA03 Regulatory Terms and Definitions document has been up issued to align with DMRs branding and templates. This document will be published on the same website(s) as the DSA02 DMR regulations.

Introduction

3. To meet the requirements of the DSA Charter and the Secretary of State's (SofS) Policy Statements for Health and Safety and Environmental Protection, DMR provides regulation of MOD maritime activities. These regulations are reviewed annually.
4. The aim, through publishing the DSA02-Defence Maritime Regulations, is to aid the domain to meet the requirements of the SofS's direction in their Policy Statement.
5. A Regulations Review Council (RRC), made up of key representatives from across the Defence maritime domain, review the regulatory requirements and agree the regulation set. Nonregulatory changes listed at para 7 have been briefed to the RRC. Regulatory changes listed at para 8 have been endorsed by the RRC and minor amendments were approved internally to DMR.

Changes

6. The document has been updated to reflect the changes made in the publication of the 2026 edition of DMRs Regulations.
7. All changes have been approved by the DMR Head and where appropriate all changes which require council endorsement were approved at either the RRC which took place in December 2024 or June 2025.
8. A full summary of these changes is as follows:
 - a. Significant amendments around regulations 601, 602 and 603 around making the registration of vessels onto the Defence Shipping Register, transfer of ownership



while registered and disposal of vessels and removal from the Defence Shipping Register.

- b. Amendment to regulation 611, title and AMC 1 to remove reference to provenance dates, to assist with future proofing the regulation and AMC wording.
- c. Amendment to regulations 611 and 612 to reflect standardisation of terminology around defence maritime activity over MoD shipping activity.
- d. Amendments to regulation 611, 612, 615 and 616 to better reflect the requirement to carry liability certificates.
- e. Amendment to regulation 620 to better reflect the requirement around wrecks.
- f. Amendments in the 700 series to reflect a name change from Port Marine Safety Code to Port and Marine Facilities Safety Code.
- g. Amendment to reg 803 regarding the removal of the term CRO (Client Responsible Organisation).
- h. Minor amendment of regulation 201 AMC 3 to make clearer what is required of Accountable Persons, Duty Holders and Supporting Authorities.
- i. Minor amendment to regulation 401 to remove the term “each” accountable person, also standardisation of wording from “needed” to “required” in keeping with the rest of the regulations. Removal of AMC para 2. g. as this was a nugatory statement. Removal of last statement of AMC para 3 as this was not required.
- j. Minor amendment to regulation 608 to remove a previous piece of unnecessary provenance. Additionally, a change of wording from Combat Safety Summary to Survivability Case Summary.
- k. Minor amendment to regulation 903 for new DAO added to the regulation and to reflect that new charters have been issued.

Queries

8. Any observations or requests for further guidance on the content of this notice should be submitted by email to DSA-DMR-Group@mod.gov.uk.

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