



LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS NO 14 OF 2006

RISK ASSESSMENT OF RECREATIONAL EVENTS

This notice is issued in association with Queen's Harbour Master (Portsmouth), ABP Southampton and the Harbour Masters of Portsmouth Commercial Port and Langstone. It is intended to give advice to event organisers on the requirement and scope of risk assessment and risk management in line with the principles of the Port Marine Safety Code (DETR March 2000).

This notice is to be read in conjunction with the document entitled – A Guide to Good Practice on Port Marine Operations (Section 7 Management of Navigation – Event Planning) DTLR March 2002. (www.dft.gov.uk) And the document guidance notes entitled 'Event Risk Assessment: A Brief Guide to Organisers' Procedure.' This latter document is available from the Harbour Offices listed above.

Your attention is also drawn to the advice issued by the Royal Yachting Association (www.rya.org.uk) on the preparation of risk assessments.

The risk assessment and the safety management of a particular event will be the responsibility of the event organiser.

All Event Organisers are requested to consult with the relevant Harbour Authority at the earliest opportunity prior to any event-taking place. For most types of events a formal risk assessment will be required. The contents of this risk assessment will need to be proportional to the event / activity

The event risk assessment should identify all risks concerned with the safe and efficient use of the harbour by all harbour users. Details of how the risk is to be controlled will be part of this assessment.

The formal risk assessment should be submitted not less than 4 weeks prior to the planned event to enable the harbour authority to comment and consult on this risk assessment. When the harbour authority is satisfied that all risks to harbour safety and port users have been effectively mitigated, formal acceptance of the risk assessment and authorisation for the event to proceed will be given.

Any requirement for the Harbour Authority to provide additional resources by the way of escort craft, navigation marks or promulgation of an Event Notice to Mariners will normally be at the expense of the event organiser.

Captain S McIntosh
Harbour Master, Harbour Office, Town Quay, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 7AS

Email: chc@cowes.co.uk

Internet: www.cowes.co.uk

04th January 2006