

Title: Suspension of port movements

Port: PORT OF DEVONPORT

References: *Marine and Safety (Pilotage and Navigation)*, Regulations 2017, Reg 63(1)
Ports Procedure Manual, June 2019, section 5.1 (Port Closure)

Direction: As a result of heavy rain fall and subsequent flood warnings now being issued from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM). As at 1130 hrs today (LT) Thursday 13th October, commercial movements in the Port of Devonport is hereby suspended until further notice, unless otherwise approved by the Duty Harbour Master via VTS.

Description:

In response to the BOM predictions and in anticipation of a significant flood event in the port similar to that of 2016, the shipping schedule was this morning altered and by 1100 hours this morning the port was cleared of commercial ships all movements had ceased. Significant heavy rains are forecast to continue to fall in the Mersey Catchment rivers with flood warnings predicted to remain in force for the coming days (anticipate Sunday am) and as such it is anticipated that this suspension will remain in force for this duration.

Continual monitoring

Suspension will be reviewed and updated twice daily, anticipate the review times to be (approximately) 0900 hrs and 1600 hrs (LT)

Information updates regarding the suspension will be promulgated by way of :

- Email from Harbour Master Team/ VTS
- A 'Notice Bulletin' on the Portmate Agent Portal, and
- AIS Transmission from the Devonport AIS Base station

Weather information and weather warnings will continue to be updated by VTS to our Marine stakeholders and are available from the BOM website.

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Lifting of suspension

The Harbour Master Team is currently collaborating both internally and with external agencies to ensure a proactive transition and return of shipping to the port. More information around this will be updated particularly as this weather event progresses, and we understand the full impact to the Mersey and Port waterway.

I make this direction under the *Marine and Safety (Pilotage and Navigation)*, Regulations 2017, Reg 63(1), as an authorised person appointed by the Marine and Safety Authority (pursuant to an Instrument of Appointment dated 28 June 2012) under section 44 of the Marine and Safety Authority Act 1997 (Tas).

If any person to whom this direction applies, does not comply with this direction, that person may be subject to penalty in accordance with regulation 63(3) of the Regulations.



Captain Wendy Doran
Harbour Master - Tasmania

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