

ASSOCIATED BRITISH PORTS

PILOTAGE DIRECTIONS FOR SHIPS TO BE NAVIGATED WITHIN THE AYR PILOTAGE AREA

Associated British Ports (“ABP”) in exercise of powers as a Competent Harbour Authority under the provisions of the Pilotage Act 1987 (“the Act”), and having carried out consultations required by the Act, give the following pilotage directions to ships to be navigated in the Ayr Pilotage Area.

1. INTERPRETATION

In these Directions:

1.1 “The Ayr Pilotage Area” means

- (a) So much of the River Ayr as defined in section 13 of the Harbour Amendment Act 1879 and amended by section 25 of the Glasgow and South Western Railway (AYR HARBOUR TRANSFER) Order Confirmation Act 1919.
- (b) Outer seaward limits extend to:
(Geographical references based on WGS 84 datum) namely:

A straight line drawn from the High Water mark (Latitude 55° 27'.94 North, Longitude 4° 38'.50 West) in a direction 270° (T) to a position 55° 27'.94 North, 4° 38'.60 West.

Then a straight line in a direction of 310°(T) to a position 55° 28'.25 North 4° 39'.25 West.

Then in a straight line in a direction of 055°(T) to a position 55° 28'.60 North 4° 38'.30 West.

Then in a straight line in a direction of 120°(T) to a High Water mark in position 55° 28'.49 North 4° 37'.90 West.

2. COMPULSORY PILOTAGE

ABP (A Competent Harbour Authority within the meaning of the Pilotage Act 1987) in the exercise of its powers under S.7 of that Act directs that on and from the coming into force of these Directions, Pilotage in the Ayr Pilotage Area shall be compulsory: -

- 2.1 Within that part of the Ayr Pilotage Area as far as, but not seaward of, the following lines, (geographical references based on WGS 84 datum) namely:

A straight line drawn from the High Water mark (Latitude 55° 27'.94 North, Longitude 4° 38'.50 West) in a direction 270°(T) to a position 55° 27'.94 North, 4° 38'.60 West.

Then a straight line in a direction of 310°(T) to a position 55° 28'.25 North 4° 39'.25 West.

Then in a straight line in a direction of 055°(T) to a position 55° 28'.60 North 4° 38'.30 West.

Then in a straight line in a direction of 120°(T) to a High Water mark in position 55° 28'.49 North 4° 37'.90 West.

which area shall be known as the “Compulsory Pilotage Area”.

- 2.2 A ship navigating or moving between tidal river berths, (which involves the shifting of mooring ropes between bollards ashore to affect the move) within any part of the Compulsory Pilotage Area shall be in the charge of: -
- (a) a Pilot authorised by ABP; or
 - (b) a Pilotage Exemption Certificate Holder authorised by ABP

With the exception: -

- (i) That subsections (1) to (4) of Section 17 of the Act shall not apply to a ship under 90 metres in length while being moved within the Griffin dock for the purpose of changing from one mooring to another mooring within the dock.

2.3 Stress of Weather

When, because of adverse weather and sea conditions, it is considered by the Harbour Master or his Deputy Harbour Master to be unsafe for a Pilot to disembark/board at the outer extremities of the Compulsory Pilotage Area, the Pilot may disembark/board inside the Compulsory Pilotage Area.

In assessing and in deciding upon the point at which the Pilot shall disembark/board, the Harbour Master or the Deputy Harbour Master of ABP shall consider the following factors:

- (i) The vessel's draught, size, cargo and characteristics including any feature of a vessel's construction which may make boarding or disembarking that vessel in adverse weather conditions more difficult or dangerous;
- (ii) The prevailing and forecast sea conditions;
- (iii) The prevailing and forecast tidal conditions;
- (iv) The prevailing and forecast weather conditions

2.4 Exemption

A vessel of less than 65 metres length shall be exempt from compulsory pilotage in the Compulsory Pilotage Area, unless carrying a bulk cargo of dangerous substances as defined and categorised in the Dangerous Substances in Harbour Areas Regulations 1987, carrying more than 12 passengers or deemed to be a potential hazard to safe navigation.

3. GENERAL

- 3.1 These Directions shall come into operation on 10th August 2020.
- 3.2 These Directions supersede the Directions issued 01st February 2016.

Byron O'Hanlon
Harbour Master Ayr & Troon
Associated British Ports
Ayr

Note

Details of Authorisation Procedures regulating Pilotage Exemption Certificates are set out in separate Pilotage Supplementary Provisions which do not form part of these Directions and a copy of which can be obtained from the Harbour Master at Ayr.

**PILOTAGE SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS REGULATING PILOT
AUTHORISATION PROCEDURES AND PILOTAGE EXEMPTION
CERTIFICATES (PECs) AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS**

1. PILOTAGE AUTHORISATION PROCEDURES

- 1.1 Pilots are authorised by ABP on the recommendation of the Harbour Master or his/her Deputy.
- 1.2 Authorisation follows successful completion of training as laid out by the Competent Harbour Authority followed by an oral examination, and on-board assessments.
- 1.3 Authorisation may be for the whole of the Compulsory Pilotage Area or any specific area and be restricted by the vessel's size, type and destination.

ABP may alter these Supplementary Provisions and the Schedule at any time.

2. PILOTAGE CLASSES

Pilotage Classes	LOA	draught
Class 1	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
Class2	≤95m	Unrestricted
Class 3	≤90m	5.5m

Restrictions may also be added with reference to Day time and Night-time navigation.

3. PILOTAGE EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES.

3.1 A bona fide Deck Officer with sufficiently high level of skill, experience, local knowledge and standing within the ships onboard command structure, of a ship of 65 metres or over but less than 90 metres in length, a ship of less than 65 metres carrying a bulk cargo of dangerous substances as defined and categorised in the Dangerous Substances in Harbour Areas Regulations 1987 and a vessel which carries more than 12 passengers which proceeds to or from sea, may apply for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate. They must satisfy ABP by examination that they have a sufficiently high level of skill, experience and local knowledge for them to be capable of piloting that ship (or any ships specified in the certificate) and that their knowledge of the English language is sufficient for that purpose. At the discretion of ABP, they may be required to attend before such of its Officers, employees or advisors as ABP shall from time to time specify. The provisions of Part I of the Schedule shall apply to Pilotage Exemption Certificates.

Vessels in excess of 90m in length are subject to compulsory pilotage.

3.2 Geographical Restrictions

Certificates will entitle the holders to pilot ships listed on their certificates either over the whole of the Compulsory Pilotage area or a specific area within the Compulsory Pilotage Area.

3.3 A Deck Officer of a ship applying for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate must produce evidence that during the twelve months prior to the application they have made a minimum of six voyages (6 trips in and 6 trips out) of which 2 are conducted during the hours of darkness over that part of the Ayr Pilotage Area to which the Certificate will relate as Deck Officer on ships of substantially the same class and report to Ayr Harbour their tripping number prior to the commencement of each qualifying voyage.

- 3.4 A Holder of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate applying for its renewal must produce evidence that during the twelve months prior to the application for renewal the holder has made at least three voyages (3 trips in and 3 trips out) of which at least 1 voyage is conducted during the hours of darkness over that part of the Compulsory Pilotage Area to which the Certificate relates as Deck Officer of the ship or ships named on the Certificate and will be required to attend before an Officer of ABP prior to its renewal.

4. **CHARGES**

- 4.1 The owner or operator of every ship whose Deck Officer holds a Pilotage Exemption Certificate for the Compulsory Pilotage Area shall, for each occasion on which such a Deck Officer may navigate their ship within any part of the Pilotage Area to which the certificate applies, in circumstances in which the employment of a Pilot would otherwise be compulsory, pay to ABP 10% of the pilotage dues which would have been payable in respect of the ship if a Pilot had been employed.
- 4.2 For the purpose of these Regulations, a complete movement shall mean the movement of a ship from the seaward limits of the Compulsory Pilotage Area to her place of destination within the Compulsory Pilotage Area or vice versa; and shall include any inter Port movements that form part of such a complete movement.
- 4.3 Each month ABP shall notify the holder of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate of the number of complete movements made by vessels pursuant to the Pilotage Exemption Certificate and shall invoice the holder of the Certificate and/or the owner/operator of the vessel for the charges due to ABP in accordance with these provisions. The invoice delivered by ABP in accordance with this paragraph shall be paid within 30 days of its date.

5. **AMENDMENTS TO PILOTAGE EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES**

5.1 The holder of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate may apply to ABP to add additional vessels to the Certificate. This application should be made in writing and be signed by the holder and be followed by an interview with the Harbour Master or their deputy. Provided ABP are satisfied that the additional vessel(s) is of a similar type, size, draught as the vessel in respect to which the Pilotage Exemption Certificate already relates, that the holder is familiar and satisfied with the onboard management arrangements, and that it is appropriate to do so, ABP may add the additional vessel(s) to the Pilotage Exemption Certificate.

6. **RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATES**

6.1 A Pilotage Exemption Certificate granted to a Deck Officer shall expire on the anniversary date of such certificate. Upon application, ABP may renew each year the Pilotage Exemption Certificate of a Deck Officer should ABP consider the holder still to be competent to fulfil their duties with efficiency. Notice of application for renewal of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate should be made to ABP not later than 1 calendar month prior to the expiry of the current Certificate.

6.2 A holder of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate shall attend an interview with an Officer of ABP prior to the renewal of their certificate.

6.3 ABP may, at its discretion, require that an applicant for renewal of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate shall submit them self for re-examination or practical review during river transit.

6.4 In addition to their annual review a holder of any Pilotage Exemption Certificate for five continuous years will be formally reassessed before the re-issue of the Certificate.

7. CONDITIONS OF USE

- 7.1 A Deck Officer holding a Pilotage Exemption Certificate shall not attempt to pilot any ship, whether belonging to the same owners or otherwise, even though the name of such vessel be on their Certificate, unless they are the actual Deck Officer and not merely performing a temporary service.
- 7.2 A “Deck Officer”, in relation to a ship, includes the Master and First Mate.
- 7.3 A Deck Officer holding a Pilotage Exemption Certificate shall comply with and be subject to the provisions set out in Part II of the Schedule.
- 7.4 Where it seems likely that formal disciplinary action may be taken against the holder of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate, the Harbour Master may suspend the PEC of the holder concerned for such period of up to 28 days, and if consideration is being given as to whether to revoke the certificate, this may be extended by a further, single 28 day period. The holder will not use their Pilotage Exemption Certificate during the period of suspension.
- 7.5 A Deck Officer holding a Pilotage Exemption Certificate and observing that a wreck or an alteration in a sand bank or channel has occurred, or that a wreck-marking buoy has been driven away or damaged, or that anything is out of place or is likely to affect the safety of navigation shall report the same as soon as possible to Ayr Harbour.
- 7.6 A Deck Officer holding a Pilotage Exemption Certificate shall, on notice attend any meeting of ABP as Competent Harbour Authority to which they may be summoned.

8. APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR PILOTAGE EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES

- 8.1 Any candidate wishing to undertake the Pilotage Exemption Certification process is advised to contact the Ayr harbour at the earliest opportunity to obtain the latest requirements and advice. The matrix in section 12 summarises the requirements for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate.
- 8.2 The prescribed Application Form (which can be obtained from the Ayr harbour along with all up to date qualifying criteria information) must be completed in English, typewritten or printed in block capitals throughout and submitted to the Harbour Master, Associated British Ports, Port Office, North Harbour Street, Ayr, Ayrshire, KA8 8AH, together with the appropriate fee.
- 8.3 All applicants for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate must produce to ABP an original or certified copy of a valid STCW 95 Certificate relevant for the vessels to be exempted.
- 8.4 Applicants must produce evidence of medical fitness, including eyesight, by a qualified medical practitioner equivalent to that required under the Merchant Shipping (Medical Examination) Regulations 2002 or, if for a vessel other than a UK registered vessel, the equivalent national maritime law certificate.
- 8.5 The Application Form duly completed must be counter-signed by the authorised signatory of the Owner or Operator of the vessel along with a declaration of understanding of the rules and limitations applicable to that Pilotage Exemption Certificate.
- 8.6 An Applicant for any Pilotage Exemption Certificate will be required to have their practical competencies examined on board their vessel during a transit on both an inward and outward act of pilotage in addition to any requirement to attend the Port Office at Ayr.

- 8.7 An applicant for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate must produce a certificate to confirm that they have been fully trained in Bridge Resource Management.

9. THE PROVISION OF PILOTAGE SERVICES

9.1 ESTIMATED TIME OF ARRIVAL AT PILOT BOARDING POINT

Vessels bound into the Ayr Pilotage Area requiring the service of a Pilot shall give 12 hours advance notification, either directly or through their appointed agent, of the estimated time of arrival (ETA), maximum draught and berth of destination within the Pilotage Area, and state whether a Pilot is required at the pilot boarding station.

A further estimated time of arrival should be sent direct by VHF radio not later than 2 hours before arrival at the pilot boarding station, and radio contact must be maintained if it is necessary to vary the ETA.

9.2 ESTIMATED TIME OF DEPARTURE OR VESSELS MOVING WITHIN THE DISTRICT WHICH REQUIRE THE SERVICES OF A PILOT

Outgoing vessels or vessels moving within the Ayr Pilotage Area which require the services of a Pilot shall give at least 12 hours' notice of their estimated time of departure (ETD).

9.3 DEPLOYMENT OF PILOT BOAT FOR BOARDING AND LANDING.

The pilot boat provided by the CHA will only put to sea when its services are required. There is no cruising or anchored pilot vessel. It is essential that advance notice of the need for the services of a Pilot be given.

9.4 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ETA/ETD REQUIREMENTS

Vessels failing to provide an ETA or ETD may be delayed in the event of a Pilot not being available.

10. **VESSELS EXEMPT FROM USING THE SERVICES OF AN AUTHORISED PILOT**

Vessels less than 65 metres in length not carrying a bulk cargo of dangerous substances.

Vessels less than 65 metres in length, carrying less than 12 passengers.

Vessels less than 90 metres in length, shifting in the Griffin Dock.

11. **PILOTAGE COMMUNICATION**

VHF channel 14 is used within the Pilotage area.

12. **PEC REQUIREMENT MATRIX**

The table below sets out the requirements for the issue of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate in the Ayr Harbour Pilotage Area. A Tick denotes that an item is a mandatory requirement.

REQUIREMENTS FOR AYR HARBOUR PILOT EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE (PEC)

REQUIREMENT	
TRIPPING NO. ISSUED BY HARBOUR	✓
PRE - PEC CHAT	Recommended
EVIDENCE OF TRIPPING ON RELEVANT V/L (MINIMUM 33% IN DARKNESS) CONSIDERATION OF FLOOD/EBB	✓
1 X ASSESSMENT TRIPS (IN & OUT)	✓
EVIDENCE OF MEDICAL FITNESS	✓
EVIDENCE OF CERT. OF COMPETENCY	✓
DECLARATION SIGNED	✓
PAYMENT	✓
ADDITIONAL VESSELS REQUEST	As applicable
ANNUAL RENEWAL	Visit required
EXAMINATION TO REQUIRED STANDARD	✓
GOOD COMMAND OF ENGLISH	✓

THE SCHEDULE

PART I

Criteria required prior to the issuing of Pilotage Exemption Certificates (PECs).

Scope

Applicants appearing for examination should be fully acquainted with the following subjects. This list is not exhaustive, and a candidate may be questioned on any other information, which is believed to be of relevance to the safety of navigation within the Ayr Harbour Pilotage Area.

Subject

- The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972 (as amended)
- The IALA Maritime Buoyage System A
- The Ayr Harbour Amendment Act 1879
- The Glasgow and SW Railway Order Confirmation Act 1919
- The current ABP Local Notices to Mariners for Ayr Harbour
- A general knowledge of the purpose of Ayr Harbour, including the VHF working frequency
- The Dangerous Substances in Harbour Areas Regulations as applicable to Ayr Harbour.

Local Knowledge and Experience

Applicants will be asked to demonstrate by oral examination a detailed knowledge of the Ayr harbour Pilotage Area.

Particular reference will be made to:

- Port and Pilotage limits of the Ayr harbour Pilotage Area
- Coastal Features at the entrance to Ayr harbour
- A general knowledge of tidal streams and their approximate directions and spring and neap tides.
- Demonstrate an ability to carry out passage planning taking into account passing through key areas i.e. Harbour entrance.

- Traffic movements in the River, and pilot boarding and disembarkation points.
- Name of dock and berths within the Harbour including a basic knowledge of their depths and standard manoeuvring methods employed, and any limitations. This is in order to satisfy ABP that the applicant can appreciate other events that are taking place in the Harbour.
- Applicants will be expected to demonstrate an ability to anticipate the actions of other Harbour users with reference to their navigational requirements.
- Knowledge of assistance and information, which may be obtained from Ayr harbour.

Detailed Navigation in the Ayr Harbour Pilotage Area Relevant to the PEC

The Applicant will be examined on those items from the list below which are relevant to the PEC area:

- The names and characteristics of all navigational buoys.
- The position and characteristics of all shore lights within the harbour and approaches.
- Names, location and characteristics of all leading lights, lights in line, and directional lights, including line of bearing and colour of light.
- Location and characteristics of the Block lights at Troon.
- The names of channels and shoal area.
- The magnetic variation to the nearest degree in the Clyde and its rate and direction of change.
- The minimum depth of water at chart datum that is likely to be encountered on passage.
- The ability to ascertain the rise of tide at point on passage and how to apply chart datum.
- An appreciation of squat and the use of underkeel clearances when passage planning.
- The ability to extract from the published chart, neap and spring tidal information for the times and range relevant to the passage.
- The general direction of tidal flow on the ebb and flood experienced during a transit of the area relevant to the PEC area being examined for.
- Any clearing marks, transits by day or night, or radar parallel indexing which may be used as an aid to safe navigation.

- The names and general location of all anchorages in the area of the PEC including any restrictions.
- Position of any pipelines and cables.
- General location of deposit grounds.
- Ship handling characteristics of vessels being examined for with regards to:
 - a) Whole harbour transit,
 - b) Including possible interaction with other vessels, and
 - c) Manoeuvring operations off the dock or berths.
- The use of tugs. To include:
 - a) Availability of tugs
 - b) Type of tugs
 - c) Bollard pulls
 - d) Communications (Terminology)
 - e) Manoeuvring
 - f) Tug restrictions
- Action to be taken by vessel in the event of an emergency on board.

The examination will normally be held in Port Office, Ayr, but may be held in other locations, including onboard the vessel depending on the circumstances of the case.

The Harbour Master / Deputy will conduct the examination.

Applicants are encouraged to visit Ayr Harbour Marine Department and discuss the exam, or any matter connected with pilotage in the harbour area. Appointments can be made by contacting Ayr Harbour.

PART II

PEC Suspension and Revocation Procedures including Casualty Procedure and Disciplinary Procedure

- 1) The Harbour Master (or his/her deputy) may by written notice suspend or revoke a Certificate from a Holder in the following cases:-
 - a) An event has occurred, whereby the Harbour Master (or his deputy) is no longer satisfied that the holder has proven they have the skill, experience and local knowledge sufficient for them to be capable of piloting the ship of which he/she is a Deck Officer.
 - b) The Harbour Master (or his/her deputy) thinks that the holder has provided false information with respect to their skill, experience and local knowledge.
 - c) If the Harbour Master (or his/her deputy) believes that the holder has been guilty of professional misconduct whilst piloting a ship.
 - d) Where it has been stated by notification that an authorised Pilot will not be required due to the ship being navigated under the conduct of a Certificate Holder and it is later determined that the pilotage was carried out by a person who was neither an authorised Pilot, nor acting in accordance with a Pilotage Exemption Certificate.

- 2) Where a ship being navigated under the conduct of a Deck Officer possessing a Pilotage Exemption Certificate ("The Certificate Holder"), is involved in an incident of a collision, grounding, loss of anchor, close encounter or any situation which would cause concern to a prudent mariner, then the Certificate Holder shall notify the Harbour Master immediately, and within 24 hours of the incident, and/or as directed by the Harbour Master, submit to the Harbour Master a Certificate Holder Incident Report Form.

- 3) Depending on the nature of the incident, an Incident Investigation will then be conducted by the Harbour Master (or his/her deputy) ("the investigators") who will, as quickly as possible, seek to establish all the relevant circumstances of the incident and if necessary interview all available witnesses. The Certificate Holder will make himself / herself available to answer such questions as the Investigators may put to him/her.

- 4) The Investigators will consider and discuss their findings with a view to recommending what action (if any) should be taken.
- 5) The options open to them will be as follows: -
 - a) To recommend that no further action by way of formal disciplinary action should be taken.
 - b) To recommend an oral reprimand, confirmed in writing, be given to the Certificate Holder as regards his future conduct.
 - c) To recommend that formal disciplinary action be initiated. This will normally occur where the Investigators consider that the Certificate Holder may have been guilty of incompetence or misconduct so as to merit consideration of possible suspension or revocation of his certificate (see Section 1 above).
- 6) Having regard to the Investigation Report and the recommendations, the Harbour Master or his deputy will decide what action, if any, shall be taken against the Certificate Holder.
- 7) In the event of it being decided to take no further action or to give an oral reprimand the Harbour Master or his deputy will advise the Certificate Holder of the decision and may convene a meeting with him to discuss any lessons to be learnt from the incident and/or administer the oral reprimand. The Investigation Report and the discussions will remain private to the parties involved.

8) Formal Disciplinary Action

- a) In the event of it being decided to take formal disciplinary action, the Certificate Holder concerned will be given written notice by the Harbour Master, or his deputy, of the fact that such action is being taken accompanied by a summary of the allegations to be raised and a copy of the Investigation Report. A date of hearing will also be given being not less than 21 days and not more than 42 days from the date of notice.
- b) The proceedings will be determined on behalf of ABP by a panel of three ("The Panel") consisting of the Personnel Manager of ABP (or any other person nominated by ABP from time to time), an authorised independent Pilot and a member of the local Chamber of Shipping.

- c) The Panel will determine matters based on the Investigation Report and the submissions to be made in connection therewith by the Harbour Master (or his/her deputy) and the Certificate Holder, either of whom for this purpose may be represented by a friend or lawyer.
- d) Having considered the Investigation Report and the submissions made, the Panel (if need be by a majority) will determine and announce whether incompetence or misconduct has been made out. It will then be open to the parties to make submissions as to possible penalty.
- e) The Panel may impose the following penalties:
 - i) A written reprimand
 - ii) Suspension of Certificate for a stated period of up to 28 days.
 - iii) Revocation of Certificate.
- f) A written reprimand will remain on the Certificate Holder's personal file for 3 years. If the Certificate Holder is involved in further disciplinary proceedings arising out of an incident occurring whilst the reprimand remains "live", then the existence of the reprimand shall be brought to the attention of the Panel dealing with the further disciplinary proceedings.
- g) If, having heard submissions as to possible penalty, the Panel are minded to suspend or revoke the Certificate, ABP shall give written notice to the Certificate Holder of its intention to do so, stating the reasons for which it proposes to act.
- h) Before the Panel makes a final decision as to whether to suspend or revoke the Certificate the Certificate Holder will be given a reasonable opportunity of making representations.
- i) Subject in the case of the penalties referred to in paragraphs (e) (i), (ii) and (iii) to any submissions by the Certificate Holder, the Panel will determine and announce the penalty to be imposed.
- j) There shall be no right of appeal from the decision of the Panel.

Byron O'Hanlon
Harbour Master
Associated British Ports
Ayr and Troon
01st March 2023