

NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES FOR SKIPPERS OF RECREATIONAL CRAFT ENTERING, TRANSITING OR USING THE PORT OF LARNE

All vessel movements within Larne Port/Harbour and its statutory limits are regulated and managed by the Harbour Master through Larne Port Control.

Larne Port Control VHF Call sign is '**Larne VTS**'. and operates on **Ch. 11** and also may be contacted by telephone on **+44 (0) 2828 872179** for reporting and advice on passage through the Port of Larne.

The purpose of **Larne VTS** is to improve the maritime safety and efficiency of navigation, the safety of life at sea and the protection of the marine environment.

The Vessel Traffic Service (**VTS**) operations centre is manned **24/7** with Marine Officers trained to international standards utilising equipment for vessel tracking (radar, AIS, CCTV) and vessel communications (VHF, telephone).

Good Communication is the key to achieving this purpose for all port users and to enable this to happen all recreational craft entering, transiting or using the **Port of Larne** are requested to contact '**Larne VTS**' on approaching the following 2 reporting points (*please see Chartlet over leaf*):-

1. **No. 1 buoy** — when inbound from sea or outbound to sea.
2. **No. 7 buoy** — when you are leaving the Larne Lough heading seaward or after passing through the port heading south into the Lough.

Contact 'Larne VTS' on either VHF Ch. 11 or Telephone +44 (0)2828 872179

Larne VTS will give guidance on traffic movements and provide weather and tidal information on request. In the interest of maritime safety please follow any instructions given by **Larne VTS**.

All vessels, commercial and recreational, operating within the statutory harbour limits are requested to maintain a listening watch on **VHF Ch. 11** at all times; if it is necessary to change to another VHF channel, e.g. to call Belfast Coastguard, you should return to **VHF Ch. 11** as soon as that communication ends.

The principal navigational channel within the Larne Port starts from seaward at the approaches to No.1 buoy, passing Ferris buoy, No. 2 and No.4 beacons through to No. 7 buoy at the south end of the harbour.

This channel is in regular use by commercial vessels, primarily Ro/Ro ships but also other commercial traffic.

Navigation within the principal navigational channel is only permitted under power.

RECREATIONAL USERS OF THE HARBOUR ARE REQUESTED TO KEEP CLEAR OF THE PRINCIPAL NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL WHENEVER POSSIBLE, STAYING TO IT'S EAST SIDE, WELL AWAY FROM COMMERCIAL QUAYS.

When the principal navigational channel has to be crossed, this should be done as nearly as practicable at right angles and avoid crossing the bow of an on-coming commercial ship. Please contact '**Larne VTS**' before crossing the channel.

Jet skis are not permitted to operate within the inner port or the principal navigational channel, at any time.

Recreational users of the port area are advised to remind themselves of and observe, **RULE 9 and 18** of the International Collision Regulations and Local Notices to Mariners, which are available on the Larne Port website:

<https://www.portoflarne.co.uk/>

Stuart Wilson,
Harbour Master, Larne Port

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LARNE PORT

GUIDE TO PORT ENTRY TO LARNE LOUGH FOR RECREATIONAL CRAFT



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