

# FORTH PORTS LIMITED

NtM No 55 of 2022

24<sup>th</sup> June 2022

## NOTICE TO MARINERS

### FIRTH OF FORTH

#### **Forth Ports Marine: Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Guidance**

While restrictions in public life related to Covid-19 have been largely relaxed in Scotland over recent months, vessels arriving into the Firth of Forth are required to follow the below guidance in order to ensure the appropriate response to Covid-19 or any other infectious disease on-board can be determined.

A Maritime Declaration of Health (MDH) is required for all vessels<sup>1,2</sup> arriving from a foreign or UK ports, details of any Covid-19 infections must be included on the MDH. The MDH should be submitted at least 24 hours prior to arrival, where the passage time is less than 24 hours, it should be submitted on departure from the last port.

Vessels are reminded of their responsibilities to report infectious disease risks.

In addition to the Maritime Declaration of Health, the Forth Ports Covid-19 Assessment form is to be submitted to the Port Authority for review if there are Covid-19 cases on-board. (This can also be found as a standalone document on the Forth Ports Website: <https://www.forthports.co.uk/marine/permits-forms/>)

All information should be supplied to your appointed agent for forwarding to the relevant authorities for assessment.

In the event of an outbreak on-board, vessels are reminded that they must follow any instructions given by local Health Protection Agencies to allow for investigation and control of infectious disease. Covid-19 cases should continue to be reported, in addition to any other infectious diseases or circumstances that may lead to transmission of infectious diseases.

If there are outbreaks of Covid-19 or other infections on cruise ships with International itineraries then local Health Protection Teams should advise Public Health Scotland. Public Health Scotland will then confirm with the UK National Focal Point whether such incidents should be reported to them.

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#### **<sup>1</sup> For attention of Masters / Captains of smaller vessels:**

Using the scope of the Common European Reporting System reporting requirement this current Notice to Mariners applies to the following vessels (excepting vessels providing domestic ferry services):

- Ships of 300 Gross Tonnage and upwards;
- Fishing vessels, traditional ships and recreational craft, where the length of the fishing vessel, traditional ship, or recreational craft is 45 metres and above; and
- All ships engaged on international voyages

<sup>2</sup> Masters and skippers of pleasure craft - When arriving direct from outside the UK you must phone the National Yachtline on

**0300 123 2012. You will need to complete form C1331 and inform the Yachtline if there is any notifiable illness on board.** Refer to: Notice 8: sailing your pleasure craft to and from the UK - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Where a port operator or ship's agent receives notice that there are ill persons on a vessel then they should ask the Harbour Master / FTNS to inform the NHS Public Health (local Health Protection Team) and the Port Health Authority (the local authorities).

Masters are also reminded that should a crew member experience a reportable condition during the vessel's stay they must report this immediately to the Port Authority and Health Authorities.

The Scottish Government has published [guidance on international travel and quarantine](#).

The UK Government has published [guidance on international travel and quarantine](#).

We ask that the Master of the vessel submit the information electronically using the current MDH form, where possible, for convenience.

Symptoms of COVID-19 may include fever, cough or chest tightness, muscle pain, fatigue and breathing difficulty. The Master of the ship should consider any of these as grounds for suspecting the existence of a disease of an infectious nature in addition to those listed on the current MDH-

The following are the contact details for submitting your Maritime Declaration of Health:

Forth Ports	Telephone Number	Email Address	VHF Channel
FTNS	01324 498584 or 01324 498586	<a href="mailto:ftns@forthports.co.uk">ftns@forthports.co.uk</a>	'Forth Navigation' 71

Ports / Terminals	Port Health Authority Contact Details	NHS Public Health (local Health Protection Team) Contact Details
Grangemouth	Falkirk Council 01324 504982 (office hours) <a href="mailto:porthealth@falkirk.gov.uk">porthealth@falkirk.gov.uk</a>	NHS Forth Valley 01786 457283 (office hours ask for CPHM on Call) 01324 566000 (emergency out of hours – ask for CPHM on call)
Rosyth Crombie Babcock Braefoot Bay Inverkeithing Burntisland Kirkcaldy Methil	Fife Council 01592 583228 (office hours) <a href="mailto:food.advice@fife.gov.uk">food.advice@fife.gov.uk</a>	NHS Fife 01592 226435 (office hours) 01592 643355 (emergency out of hours – ask for CPHM on call)
Leith Granton Newhaven Hound Point South Queensferry	City of Edinburgh Council 0131 469 5751/5794/5934 (office hours) 0131 200 2000 (out with office hours) <a href="mailto:environmentalhealth@edinburgh.gov.uk">environmentalhealth@edinburgh.gov.uk</a>	NHS Lothian 0131 465 5420/5422 (office hours) 0131 242 1000 Edinburgh Royal Infirmary switchboard (emergency out of hours – ask for CPHM on call)

#### Further Information:

#### Health Protection Scotland

<https://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/a-to-z-of-topics/wuhan-novel-coronavirus/>

#### World Health Organization

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

#### UK Government

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-shipping-and-sea-ports-guidance/guidance-for-shipping-and-sea-ports-on-coronavirus-covid-19#what-you-need-to-know>

**Status of Previously Published Notices:**

No 10 of 2019 remains in force

No 04 of 2020 remains in force.

Nos 07, 14, 73 of 2021 remain in force

No 04, 17, 21, 26, 28, 29, 32, 42, 45, 49, 50, 53, 54 of 2022 remain in force

**Colin Campbell**

**Marine Compliance Manager**