



## Ports of Tilbury and Tilbury2 Notice to Mariners – No. 04 of 2022

### Tilbury Lock – Ebb Tide Docking Procedure

This Notice details the procedure and operational parameters for vessels docking in Tilbury Lock during the ebb tide. It is possible to dock both bow and stern first but the procedure and operational parameters change depending on the approach.

#### **Ebb Tide, Bow First Docking:**

- Vessels up to and including 156m Length Overall (LOA) and/or 8.0m or less draught are permitted to dock at any time on the ebb tide.
- Vessels between 156m and 166m LOA and/or over 8.0m draught are only permitted to dock up to one hour into the Ebb tide i.e. after High Water Tilbury with the permission of the PLA Duty Port Controller

#### **Procedure**

1. Confirm ETA and intended Ebb Tide approach with 'TILBURY CONTROL' on VHF 04, 1 hour before arrival
2. On the initial approach, vessels must manoeuvre alongside/ land on the lower arm before the roller fender system

**Vessels must not attempt to land directly on the roller fender system without going alongside the lower arm first**

3. If required, the vessel should deploy a spring line to the lower arm bollard, located on the knuckle
4. The vessel should manoeuvre upstream onto the first roller fender and continue upstream until the vessel is partially across the bell mouth with a safe swinging distance from the upper arm
5. Once in position, the Vessel should use the roller fender system to pivot around the lower arm knuckle
6. If deployed, the spring line should be released

**Any deviation from the ebb tide procedure must be discussed and agreed with the PLA Duty Port Controller prior to making any approach**

28/02/22

Port of Tilbury London Ltd  
Leslie Ford House  
Essex - RM18 7EH

Nick Evans  
Asset Manager Marine

EXPIRY DATE: N/A

A full list of current Notice to Mariners can be found at:-  
<https://www.forthports.co.uk/marine/tilbury-port-authority/>  
Telephone calls, VHF radio traffic, CCTV images may be recorded.





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**If the Pilot/Master and PLA Duty Port Controller agree a deviation, 'TILBURY CONTROL' must be contacted to authorise any deviation from the published procedure**

'TILBURY CONTROL' should be contacted on:

- VHF 04 or,
- +44 (0) 1375 852 456

#### **Ebb Tide, Stern First Docking:**

- Vessels up to and including 190.7m can apply for stern first docking
- Stern first docking must be authorised by the Port of Tilbury and the Port of London Authority. A request for stern first docking must be made in writing to:

[Marine.department@potll.com](mailto:Marine.department@potll.com) and,  
[harbourmasters@pla.co.uk](mailto:harbourmasters@pla.co.uk)

A stern first exemption requires an assessment from a Port of London Pilot. Requests for stern first assessments will depend on pilot availability.

For further information, please contact the Lock office on +44 (0) 1375 852456 or VHF 04.

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