

NOTICE TO MARINERS No.M3 of 2011

KINGS REACH

BLACKFRIARS RAIL & ROAD BRIDGES

NIGHT TIME ARCH CLOSURES TO NAVIGATION

This Notice supersedes Notice to Mariner M78 of 2010 which is now cancelled.

Further and in addition to Notice to Mariners M4 of 2010, Contractors working on behalf of Network Rail will continue working at night in two closed navigable arches at Blackfriars Rail and Road Bridges until further notice, subject to the time constraints below.

1. Closure of a second navigable arch **may** occur forthwith between 0030 and 0530.
 - a. From **Friday 28th January 2011**, daily until further notice, these hours will be extended so that the second arch may close from 2330.
 - b. If the tide rises above (or is predicted to rise above) 6.2 metres between 2330 to 0030 the arch shall not close until 0030.
 - c. Reporting vessels giving 24 hours notice may request the Harbour Master to delay this earlier closure up until 0030.
2. Monday to Friday the closure shall extend from 0530 to 0630. From 0530 (but not before), reporting vessels giving 24 hours notice may request the Harbour Master to restore two open navigable arches.
3. Saturday and Sunday the night closure shall extend beyond 0530, to 0900. From 0530 (but not before), reporting vessels giving 24 hours notice may request the Harbour Master to restore two open navigable arches.

Outside these times **at least two arches will be maintained open to navigation.**

When two navigable arches are closed to navigation, local traffic control will be established from a Port of London Authority Harbour Service Launch operating in the area. Vessels wishing to pass through the remaining open navigable arch of Blackfriars Road and Railway Bridges or operating between London and Waterloo Bridges are to call "Thames Patrol" on VHF Channel 14 as follow:

- Inbound at London Bridge.
- Outbound at Waterloo Bridge.
- Prior to leaving a berth or mooring between London and Waterloo Bridges.

Arches closed to navigation will be marked on the downstream side on the Blackfriars Rail Bridge and from the adjacent arch on the upstream side of Blackfriars Road Bridge in accordance with the Port of London Authority River Byelaws 1978 (as amended) namely:

- By day, three red discs 0.6 metres in diameter at the points of an equilateral triangle with the apex downwards and the base horizontal.
- By night, three red lights in similar positions to the discs displayed by day.

Construction barges will display the lights and shapes as prescribed in Rule 27 of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972 namely:

- By day, three black shapes in a vertical line the highest and lowest of which are balls and the middle one a diamond.
- By night, three all round lights in a vertical line the highest and lowest of which are red and the middle one white.

In addition to closed arch signs suspended from the bridge arches and as back-up; an additional and highly-visible sign will be placed on the barge or barges at least 0.6m above the barge coaming to indicate the arch she is working in is closed.

Additionally, safety boats will be in attendance maintaining a continuous VHF watch on VHF Channel 14.

Further details will be broadcast by London VTS on VHF Channel 14.

Persons in charge of vessels are to navigate with particular care and proceed at slow speed when passing the works.

21 January 2011

Port of London Authority
London River House
Royal Pier Road
Gravesend, Kent DA12 2BG

**DAVID SNELSON CB FNI
CHIEF HARBOUR MASTER**



EXPIRY DATE: TBC
TO RECEIVE FUTURE NOTICES TO MARINERS BY E-MAIL,
PLEASE REGISTER VIA OUR WEBSITE www.pla.co.uk

Telephone calls, VHF radio traffic, CCTV and radar traffic images may be recorded in the VTS Centres at Gravesend and Woolwich.



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