

NOTICE TO MARINERS No.M70 of 2011

KINGS REACH

BLACKFRIARS RAIL AND ROAD BRIDGES

NIGHT TIME ARCH CLOSURE TO NAVIGATION

This Notice supersedes Notice to Mariners M3 of 2011 which is now cancelled, and should be read in conjunction with NTM M71 2011.

Further to Notice to Mariners M4 2010 and M71 2011, 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 navigable arch **may** occur between 23:30 to 06:30 Monday to Friday and 23:30 to 09:00 Saturday & Sunday.
2. Reporting vessels giving 24 hours notice may request the Harbour Master to delay this earlier closure up until 0030.

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

When two navigable arches are closed to navigation, local traffic control will be established from a Port of London Authority Harbour Services 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 follows:

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

Arches closed to navigation will be marked on the downstream side of the Blackfriars Rail Bridge and from the adjacent arch on the upstream side to 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.

Because the craft involved will be working in the arches, it will not be safe to suspend the arch closure sign in the centre of the arch as required at Byelaw 29. Instead an arch closure sign will be displayed in such a position so as to be clearly visible to navigating craft.

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.

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

12 October 2011

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

**DAVID PHILLIPS
CHIEF HARBOUR MASTER**



EXPIRY DATE: 7 November 2011
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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