



QUEENS HARBOUR MASTER  
PORTSMOUTH

**GENERAL DIRECTION 04/10**

**RO-RO FERRIES OVER 20,000 TONS GROSS - REGULATIONS WHEN MOVING IN  
PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR**

1. **Mariners are advised that The Queen's Harbour Master Portsmouth has made the following General Direction under the Dockyard Port of Portsmouth Order 2005** that whilst operating larger RO-RO Ferries in Portsmouth, the following regulations are in force;
  - a. When the wind speed, as indicated in QHM Harbour Control is less than 30 knots:
    - (1) The Harbour Control Officer is to arrange movements so that RO-RO ferries over 20,000 tons gross do not pass opposing traffic between the Outer Spit Buoy and the Ballast Pile.
    - (2) However, Isle of Wight ferries traffic and vessels less than 80 metres in length may be allowed to proceed at the discretion of the Harbour Control Officer.
  - b. When the wind speed, as indicated in QHM Harbour Control is more than 30 knots:
    - (1) The Harbour Control Officer is to close the Harbour to opposing traffic from 20 minutes before to 30 minutes after a large RO-RO ferry's reported time of passing the Outer Spit Buoy or slipping. The Harbour Control Officer may direct certain vessels to move or hold in the harbour during these periods.
    - (2) A RO-RO ferry over 20,000 tons gross is not to pass the Outer Spit Buoy inbound until its berth is clear.
    - (3) A MOD tug is to be in attendance during each movement. A second tug is available if requested by the Master.
  - c. At wind speeds of 45 knots and above a second tug will be allocated to the move by QHM Harbour Control.
2. The decision on how to employ allocated tugs remains with the Master. A Pilot is always available and may be requested to assist with tug control.

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[www.qhmportsmouth.co.uk](http://www.qhmportsmouth.co.uk)

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