

NOTICE TO MARINERS M45 of 2019

MARGARETNESS TO PUTNEY BRIDGE REQUIREMENT TO USE THE AUTHORISED CHANNEL

For the purpose of clarification for Masters of vessels, attention is drawn to the requirement of PLA General Direction 36 to use the Authorised Channel.

This direction applies specifically between Margaretness and Putney Bridge and requires all Reporting vessels, as well as those vessels over 13.7m length overall to use the Authorised Channel. Exemptions from this requirement are granted in an emergency, for the purposes of overtaking or where permission has been granted by the Harbour Master, which maybe through London VTS. The specific detail of GD 36 is replicated below for guidance.

Practically this requirement ensures that larger vessels make use of the Authorised channel allowing separation from smaller vessels, such as recreational traffic, which would ordinarily navigate outside of the navigational channel.

To ensure compliance with this requirement, Reporting vessels and those vessels over 13.7m should not navigate inside moorings, such as Folly House, Chalkstones Hop Pole & Lower Gun Wharf moorings or river infrastructure such as the dolphin off the old Surrey Entrance.

General Direction 36 – Requirement to Use the Authorised Channel

(1) This Direction applies only to vessels navigating between the Margaretness Limit and Putney Bridge.

(2) Except in an emergency or for the purposes of overtaking, or with the Permission of the Harbourmaster, or when manoeuvring to or from piers, wharves, anchorages or other berths, all Reporting Vessels and Vessels of 13.7 metres or more in Length Overall must normally navigate only in the authorised channel as identified on PLA charts, and as required by Rule 9 of the International Collision Regulations.

(3) Where there is sufficient room, vessels less than 13.7 metres in Length Overall should normally navigate outside the authorised Channel unless constrained by their draught or otherwise restricted in Ability to manoeuvre, or in an emergency.

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BOB BAKER
CHIEF HARBOUR MASTER



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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**
All Current Notices to Mariners can be found here -
<http://www.pla.co.uk/Safety/Regulations-and-Guidance/Notices-to-Mariners/Notices-to-Mariners>

