

Guidance Notice

Local Tenders – Isles of Scilly

Introduction

Reference A gives information related to the local navigation requirements for the Isles of Scilly and provide details about the Local Knowledge Endorsements (LKEs) required to operate in the local area.

An LKE is required for areas which due to their features and characteristics can present a hazard to safe navigation. Boatmasters operating in such areas must be trained beyond what is required under generic licencing requirements.

Reference B states that The Isles of Scilly is an area where the Secretary of State has determined that an LKE is required. The area is defined as the waters within a line drawn from Bishop Rock Lighthouse to Scilly Rock, Round Island, White Island, Hanjague and around the South East of St Mary's.

All local launch skippers are required to hold a Boatman's Licence issued by the Isles of Scilly Council Local Authority as the MCA-recognised certifying authority.

Use of Vessel's Tenders and Lifeboats, including RIBS

Normally all transfers from the ship to the islands are carried out using local launches arranged through the port agent.

As the islands are a compulsory Local Knowledge area for boats carrying more than 12 passengers, use of ship's tenders is only permitted for vessels carrying less than 12 passengers.

Conditions for using ship's tenders are:

- The ship is anchored at St Mary's Roads not Crow Sound.
- Tender operations are from the ship to Carn Near quay on Tresco.
- Visibility and weather conditions allow safe operations.
- No more than 12 passengers on board

Local tenders are used instead for safety and security reasons:

- To transfer guests to another landing point on Tresco other than Carn Near quay.
- To transfer guests to all other islands.
- If Carn Near quay on Tresco is not visible from the ship (fog).
- If the ship is at Crow Sound anchorage.

All ship's tender vessels must comply with the relevant provisions of the Merchant Shipping Acts.

Ship's crew driving tenders are to hold suitable qualifications.



PLEASE NOTE: Where this document provides guidance on the law it should not be regarded as definitive. The way the law applies to cases can vary according to circumstances and, if you are unsure of your own legal position, you should consider seeking independent legal advice.

Reference:

- A. Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) Marine Guidance Note (MGN) 334 (M) "New National Boatmaster's Licence – Local Information and Local Knowledge".
- B. MCA Merchant Shipping Notice (MSN) 1583 (M) Amendment 1 "The Merchant Shipping (Boatmaster' Qualifications, Crew and Hours of Work) Regulations 2015".