



## COWES HARBOUR COMMISSION

### LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS No 11 of 2019

*(LNTM 32(T) of 2017 is hereby cancelled)*

#### Cowes Chain Ferry – Safety advice

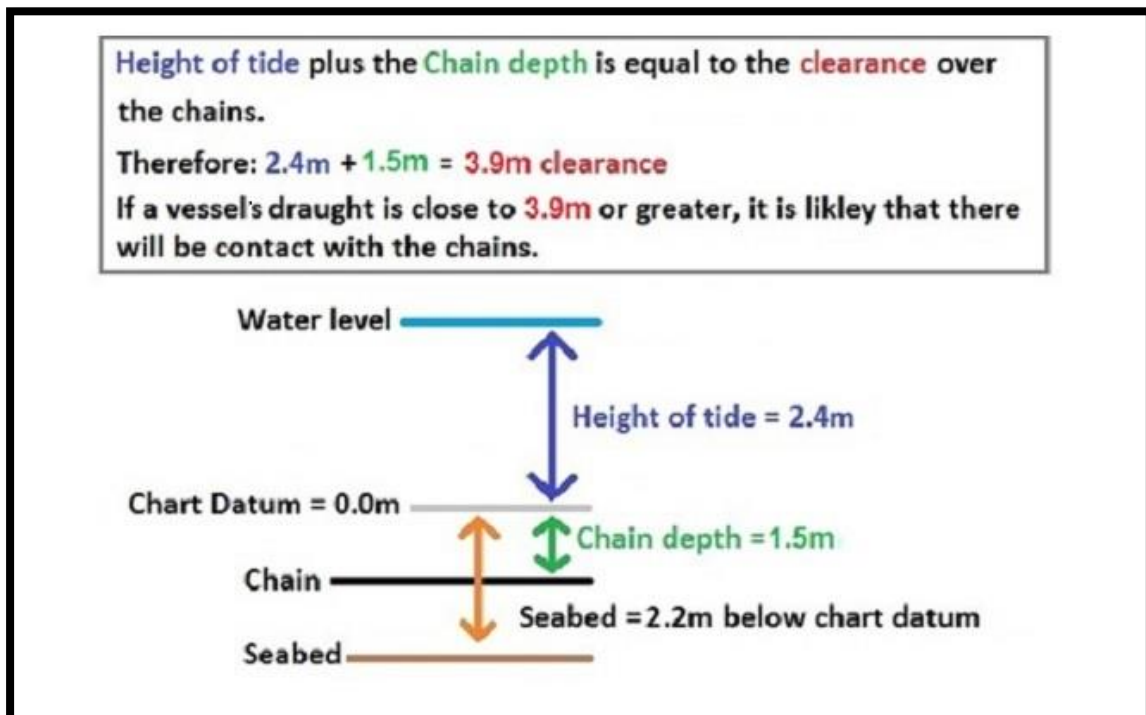
The Isle of Wight Council have confirmed that the Cowes Chain Ferry is to utilise a pushing vessel during spring ebb tides throughout the 2019 sailing season, to ensure that the minimum clearances over the chains are achieved whilst a long term solution is developed.

**All mariners are advised** that when passing the Cowes Chain Ferry, they shall navigate with particular caution. The following points shall be borne in mind when planning your passage and making your approach:

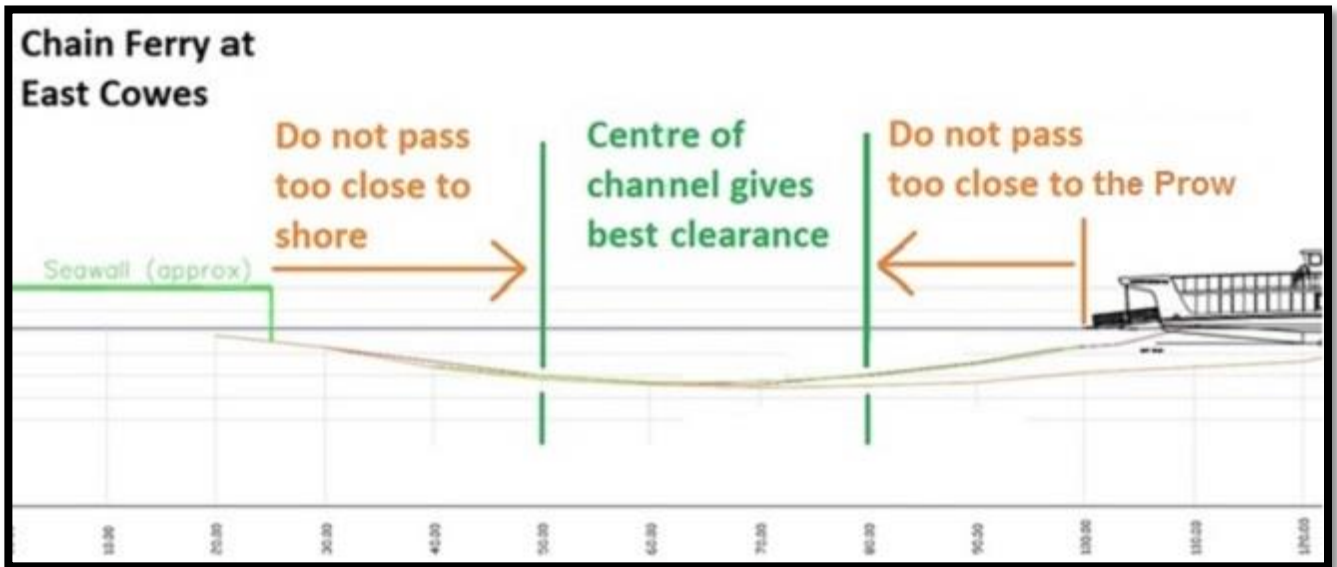
1. The Chain Ferry has right of way unless you contact them on VHF Ch. 69 to arrange an unimpeded passage.
2. Be aware of strong tidal flows, especially if travelling in the direction of tide and be prepared to give way to the Chain Ferry in plenty of time.
3. If the yellow lights are flashing, the ferry is about to move or is already moving, you must give way.
4. For calculating your clearance over the chains please use the following

**Maximum Permissible Draught = Actual Tide Height + 1.5 metres**

The following diagram depicts how to calculate the clearance over the chains:



5. Do not pass too close to the ferry or too close to the shore.



6. Do not pass the Chain Ferry when it is in motion as clearances over the chains are reduced.
7. If you must pass the Chain Ferry on strong ebb tides, please do so at slow speed and pass in the centre of the gap between the ferry and the shore.

Tide height can be found on the tide boards at Watchhouse beacon and 4A beacon to the North of the Chain Ferry and at the North End of Medina Wharf to the South. A live tide height can be found at [www.cowesharbourcommssion.co.uk](http://www.cowesharbourcommssion.co.uk) at the bottom of the 'Home Page', this is to be used with caution, please refer to the harbour tide boards for safe navigation.

For more detailed advice on current clearance depths, please visit [www.cowesharbourcommission.co.uk](http://www.cowesharbourcommission.co.uk)

**Capt. Stuart McIntosh**

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**29<sup>th</sup> March 2019**