

# Pilotage Directions

These Pilotage Directions are laid down by Belfast Harbour Commissioners in the pursuance of their obligations under section 7 of the Pilotage Act 1987 to provide pilotage in the Port of Belfast and its approaches.

## Limit of Compulsory Pilotage Area

- 1 Compulsory pilotage will apply to all ships navigating inside the port limits, i.e. inside a line joining Grey Point and Carrickfergus Castle, subject to the following exemptions:
  - a) Ships less than 75 m in overall length;
  - b) Ships under 75 m and above, but under 100 m in overall length navigating in the outer harbour, i.e. seaward of No 18 beacon;
  - c) H M ships and foreign warships;
  - d) General Lighthouse Authority tenders;
  - e) Ships that are moving from one berth to another within a dock or within the same channel
  - f) Ships navigating to or from Carrickfergus Harbour
- 2 The exemption contained in sub-sections 1(a) and (b) will not apply to:
  - a) Ships with a Passenger Certificate
  - b) Ships carrying hazardous cargoes in bulk
  - c) Ships in ballast that are not gas free
  - d) Ships not fitted with a working radar installation when due to fog mist falling snow or heavy rainstorm or any other similar causes, visibility is less than 2.5 cables.
  - e) Ships or their tows, if any, having one of the following defects:-
    - i. Are unseaworthy in any respect, or
    - ii. Have defects to main engine, steering gear, or auxiliary machinery which may affect the manoeuvring of the ship, or
    - iii. Have inoperable capstan, windlass, mooring winches or anch ors that are not cleared or ready for user, or
    - iv. Have a list of over 5 degrees or are excessively out of trim, or
    - v. Have any hull or machinery damage which may effect the safety of the ship or the containment or safety of the cargo or bunkers
- 3 The Harbour Master may temporarily suspend any of these directions from time to time, without notice, as in his opinion, may be necessary.