



PORT INFORMATION NOTICE

No. 2 of 2020

DATE: 26 August 2020

WICK HARBOUR

(CHART 1462 REFERS)

Latitude 58° 26' North Longitude 003° 04' West

Maritime Declaration of Health COVID 19 - update

There is currently a significant outbreak of a novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) affecting the UK and a number of other countries, This situation has been declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern by the World Health Organization Emergency Committee, under the International Health Regulations.

A Maritime Declaration of Health (MDH) is required for all vessels on arrival from a foreign port.

However, in response to this situation regarding COVID-19, Health Protection Scotland and the Scottish Ports Liaison Network require a that information be submitted to the Scottish Port Health Authority of the ports in the table below in the following cases irrespective of whether the vessel is arriving from a foreign port or another UK port:

- Any commercial vessel that has visited another port within the last 14 days
- Any commercial vessel that has had a crew change within the last 14 days
- Any commercial vessel that has had a suspected/confirmed case in the past 14 days

The information we require is the same as that required in the current MDH and should therefore allow Port Authority to establish

- Any persons unwell during the voyage and/ or on arrival, and any sanitary measures taken in response to that illness
- Origin of the ship, when it left the origin port, and all ports where the vessel has docked during the 14 days prior to arrival.
- Any crew changes

Masters are required to submit the information electronically using the attached MDH form, where possible, for convenience.

Symptoms of COVID-19 may include fever or acute respiratory infection with at least one of cough, sore throat, or shortness of breath. The Master of the ship should consider these as grounds for suspecting the existence of a disease of an infectious nature in addition to those listed on the current MDH.

PLEASE NOTE IN ALL CASES OF ILLNESS WICK HARBOUR AUTHORITY MUST BE INFORMED IMMEDIATELY

Where a port operator or ship's agent receives notice that there are ill persons on a vessel then:

If the suspected case is a medical emergency,

You **must** call 999 for medical assistance and you **must** inform attending services that the case has originated from a COVID-19 risk area or has had contact with a confirmed case.

DO NOT disembark the patient or arrange alternative transport to a hospital until advised to do so. Also ask the Harbour Master to inform the NHS Public Health (local Health Protection Team) and the Port Health Authority (the local authorities).

If the suspected case is not seriously ill you must notify the relevant NHS Health Protection Team on (See list below). Contact details for the case must be provided with sufficient information to allow the Health Protection Team to determine follow up action. This will include symptoms, duration, contacts and travel history. DO NOT disembark the suspected case.

Further information can be found on the [Health Protection Scotland](#) and [World Health Organization](#) websites.

Please note Highland Council, Environmental Health are the Port Health Authority for the following port/location

The following are the contact details for submitting your Maritime Declaration of Health:

Port/Location	Telephone Number	Email Address
WICK HARBOUR	01955 602030	office@wickharbour.co.uk
HIGHLAND COUNCIL PORT HEALTH	01349 886606	envhealth@highland.gov.uk

Radio Channel for Harbourmaster: Channel 14

Further Information:

Health Protection Scotland

<https://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/a-to-z-of-topics/wuhan-novel-coronavirus/>

<https://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/web-resources-container/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-risk-areas/>

World Health Organization

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>