

# Local Knowledge Endorsement Examination Guidelines



The below information is to assist any candidates wishing to sit a Local Knowledge Endorsement examination for Boat Masters Licence.

The candidate must have a full working knowledge of the River Medway, The Swale and their environs. The names of channels, reaches, creeks, berths, piers, jetties etc. must be known along with their locations. The nature of traffic patterns in the Medway District with regards to commercial vessels (including Chatham Docks and Locks), recreational craft, passenger vessels should be known and how particular situations would be dealt with (LNG). The following is a guide only but will form the basis for the LKE examination.

## **Legal obligations:**

Understanding of the Collision Regulations particularly with reference to parts that pertain to narrow channels, responsibilities between vessels etc. as they are applicable to the Medway District.

## **Publications (latest editions);**

- Medway Ports River Byelaws;
- General Directions for Navigation in the Medway Ports;
- Medway Notice to Mariners and NASBOs;
- Medway Ports Pilotage Directions;
- Medway and Swale Operational Rules and Guidelines;
- The Port Marine Safety Code.

With a good understanding of the following from the above publications;

## **LNG Operations and Procedures:**

- Berth Exclusion Zones
- Clear Channel Procedures and navigation in relation to LNGCs
- Expected Berthing Procedures and Manoeuvring of LNG Vessels

## **General;**

- The significance of a Harbour Master's Special Directions;
- Port Emergencies;
- Maritime security as related to the Medway and Swale area;
- Speed limits within the River Medway and Swale;
- Incident Reporting;
- VTS Reporting Points;
- Berth, Pier, Marina and Buoy Mooring names;
- Names of Channels, Reaches, Creeks etc;
- Names and Characteristics of Navigation Aids;
- Exclusion Zones and Clear Channel Requirements;
- Areas used for large commercial vessel operations;

# Local Knowledge Endorsement Examination Guidelines



- Significant Shoal and Critical Depths;
- Night navigation;
- Sound Signals;
- Special Signals;
- Long term and current river works and restrictions;
- Passage Planning;
- Bridges:
  - Bridge Names;
  - Controlling Heights;
  - Kingsferry Bridge communications procedures;
  - Signal lights and Sounds;
  - Air draft restrictions (calculate clearances) and Tide Boards.

## Medway VTS:

- Legal powers and levels of service;
- Contacting VTS/Peel Ports Medway;
- VHF Channels used;
- Special Directions;
- Communication procedures;
- Emergency procedures;