HARBOUR CONTROL (VTS) DESIGNATION

Following a risk assessment the Board of Poole Harbour Commissioners have agreed to add Traffic Organisation Service (TOS) to the Poole Harbour Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) designation operated by our Poole Harbour Control. This has now been approved by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) and will come into force on the 9th April 2015.

**Information Service (INS)**

A service to ensure that essential information becomes available in time for on-board decision-making.

**Traffic Organisation Service (TOS)**

A service to prevent the development of dangerous maritime traffic situations and to provide for the safe and efficient movement of vessel traffic within the VTS (Harbour Control) Area.

This additional service type provides essential and timely information to assist the onboard decision-making process. It may involve the provision of information, advice and instructions. TOS primarily concerns the forward planning and monitoring of ship movements to maintain vessel safety and to achieve efficiency.

Please refer to the Admiralty List of Radio Signals Volume 6 Part 1 for further information which includes mandatory requirements for vessels over 25m LOA.

Mariners are reminded that Radar, AIS, CCTV, telephone and VHF channels are recorded.

**CAPT BRIAN MURPHY**  AFNI  HARBOUR MASTER

All Local Notices are available on the PHC website – [www.phc.co.uk](http://www.phc.co.uk).