

Standing Notice to Mariners relating to Dangerous Goods in the Harbour Area

1. Authority

This Notice is issued by the Broads Authority in its capacity as the statutory harbour authority for the navigation area of the Broads, pursuant to its powers and duties under the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Act 1988 and associated legislation.

2. Legal Framework

The Dangerous Goods in Harbour Areas Regulations 2016 (SI 2016/721) (the Regulations) came into force on 1 October 2016, revoking and replacing the Dangerous Substances in Harbour Areas Regulations 1987. The Regulations implement a framework of safety provisions governing the carriage, loading, unloading, handling, and storage of dangerous goods within harbour areas.

For the purposes of the Regulations, “dangerous goods” means goods meeting the criteria for classification as dangerous under the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code, as further described in Part 1, regulation 5.2, encompassing substances that are explosive, flammable, toxic, corrosive, infectious, radioactive, or otherwise hazardous.

3. Powers of the Harbour Master

Mariners are hereby advised that, under Regulation 7 of the Dangerous Goods in Harbour Areas Regulations 2016, the Broads Authority Navigation Officer is empowered to give directions for the purpose of securing the health and safety of persons in or near the harbour area. In particular, they may:

- a) prohibit or restrict the entry into the harbour area of any vessel carrying dangerous goods;
- b) direct the movement, positioning, or departure of a vessel carrying dangerous goods within the harbour area;
- c) require that any vessel carrying dangerous goods display the appropriate flags and lights as specified in Schedule 1 to the Regulations; and
- d) take such other steps as are reasonably necessary to reduce the risk of a serious incident arising from the presence of dangerous goods within the harbour area.

Any direction given by the Navigation Officer under Regulation 7 is legally binding upon the master of any vessel to which it is addressed. Failure to comply with such a direction may constitute a criminal offence under the Regulations.

4. Pre-Notification Requirement

Masters of vessels intending to bring dangerous goods into the harbour area are reminded that the Regulations impose a duty to notify the Broads Authority in advance of arrival. Notification must include the nature and quantity of the dangerous goods, their IMDG Class, UN number, and the proposed berth or mooring.

Mariners should contact the Broads Control on 01603 756056 or broads.control@broads-authority.gov.uk at least 14 days in advance of any planned vessel movement to make the required notification.

Please contact the Broads Authority, Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 1RY Tel (01603) 610734 if additional information is required.

Navigation Officer

June 2026