

GALWAY HARBOUR COMPANY

LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS

No. 4 of 2020

TO ALL MASTERS, AGENTS, SHIP OPERATORS, SHIP OWNERS

The Irish Department of Health have issued guidance in relation to minimising the impact on Irish supply-chain workers during the Novel Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic. The guidance is specific to supply-chain workers for Freight & Haulage, Aviation and Maritime/Shipping.

The information below for Maritime/Shipping is extracted from the **COVID-19 Guidance for Supply Chain workers dated 16th March 2020**. There is a link to this guidance at the end of this notice.

“Maritime/Shipping

Essential workers should familiarise themselves with the guidance from the HSE

(<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html>). (Essential workers to include ship’s crew, ship management and persons involved in the maintenance or repair of critical infrastructure on-board ships or at ports.)

Crew should follow social isolation guidelines. This applies both when they are abroad and also at home. This means they should limit their contact with others to the greatest extent possible both during work time and when not working.

Operators should make sanitary facilities available for crew and passengers (e.g. hand washing facilities, hand sanitiser etc.).

Crew should follow handwashing and respiratory hygiene advice:

- wash their hands properly and regularly with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub
- cover mouths and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when coughing and sneezing
- put used tissues into a bin and wash their hands
- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.

While at sea, crew and passengers (if any) should remain apart if it is practical to do so.

Ferry operators should consider ensuring that crew wear protective gloves that are changed regularly when handling money (or cash transactions should be stopped) or when serving food.

If it is possible to do so, crew should avoid going onshore in continental Europe – they should remain on the ship.

If an essential worker feels unwell and is showing symptoms of fever (high temperature), cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, the person should remove themselves from the workplace, inform their line manager and be taken to an appropriately equipped isolation room and immediately contact the emergency services in the country of the next port of call.”

The full guidance for all supply-chains can be read in the following link:

<https://assets.gov.ie/71523/2151c443c92a45228cacf4e1757770df.pdf>

Captain Brian Sheridan
Harbour Master
Port of Galway
17/03/2020