

## **Covid 19 Advice to Boat Owners**

**Before putting to sea after such a long period of inactivity we recommend that boat owners should:**

- 1.** Take extra care to access their craft safely and in accordance with government guidance on travel and social distancing
- 2.** Carry out a check to ensure that their craft has remained seaworthy and mechanically sound
- 3.** Check that emergency equipment such as lifejackets, flares, VHF radio, PLBs etc. are still in working order and remain in date
- 4.** Give due regard to the prevailing and forecast weather conditions
- 5.** Pay due consideration to the risk that their activities may result in their having to depend on emergency services particularly at a time when social distancing is impacting on lifeboat crews, Coast Rescue Teams etc.
- 6.** Bear in mind that some marine leisure facilities in the area may still be closed and therefore unavailable
- 7.** Make sure you always have a means of calling for help (such as a VHF radio or mobile phone in a waterproof pouch) and keep it within reach.

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