

# SHANNON FOYNES PORT COMPANY

## NOTICE TO MARINERS

### NOTICE NO. 5 OF 2026

(Notice No. 5 of 2025 is replaced)

## SHANNON ESTUARY

### **Vessels arriving/sailing in ballast – Responsibility of Masters to ensure safe condition**

A number of vessels arrive to /depart from the Shannon Estuary in ballast. It is increasingly evident that many vessels are taking insufficient ballast. As a result, such vessels are a potential hazard to navigation and pose an increased risk of an incident occurring, either during berthing/unberthing or during their transit along the Estuary.

Masters must be cognisant that the Estuary and approaches are exposed to strong winds and tides.

In circumstances where it is deemed that a vessel is insufficiently ballasted appropriate to sea and weather conditions, the planned berthing/unberthing may be cancelled until such time as vessel is suitably ballasted. All costs incurred as a result of such a delay will be borne by the vessel.

Further information is available via Marine Operations (069 – 73103) or the Duty Harbour Master (087 – 2542266).

Signed

Michael Kennelly  
Harbour Master  
Shannon Foynes Port Company

01<sup>st</sup> January 2026