



## Marine Notice No. 61 of 2020

*Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishers, Yachtsmen and Seafarers*

### Changes to Irish Coast Guard VHF working channels

Further to [Marine Notice No. 36 of 2020](#) issued on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020, and [Marine Notice No. 44 of 2020](#) issued on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020, the Irish Coast Guard would like to draw attention to changes that have been made to the VHF working channels used for communications with the public.

The Irish Coast Guard has upgraded radio equipment at a number of the VHF network remote locations in recent months. Following these upgrades, the table below sets out the detail of the new working channels that are now in operation.

Site	Radio Call Sign	Old Channel	New Channel
Howth Hts	<i>Dublin Coast Guard</i>	CH83	CH03
Rosslare Hts	<i>Rosslare Coast Guard</i>	CH23	CH05
Mine Hd Hts	<i>Mine Head Coast Guard</i>	CH83	CH03
Cork Hts	<i>Cork Coast Guard</i>	CH26	CH02
Bantry Hts	<i>Bantry Coast Guard</i>	CH23	CH05
Valentia Hts	<i>Valentia Coast Guard</i>	CH24	CH62
Shannon Hts	<i>Shannon Coast Guard</i>	CH28	CH64
Belmullet Hts	<i>Belmullet Coast Guard</i>	CH83	CH63
Clifden Hts	<i>Clifden Coast Guard</i>	CH26	CH03
Malin Hd Hts	<i>Malin Head Coast Guard</i>	CH23	CH05
Scalp Mountain	<i>Malin Head Coast Guard</i>	CH85	CH01
Glen Hd Hts	<i>Glen Head Coast Guard</i>	CH24	CH03

*Hts = High Transmission site*

Site	Radio Call Sign	Current Channel	
Carlingford	Carlingford Coast Guard Radio	CH04	No Change
Wicklow	Wicklow Coast Guard Radio	CH02	No Change
Mizen Head	Mizen Head Coast Guard Radio	CH04	No Change
Galway	Galway Coast Guard Radio	CH04	No Change
Clew Bay	Clew Bay Coast Guard Radio	CH05	No Change
Donegal Bay	Donegal Bay Coast Guard Radio	CH02	No Change
Lough Ree	Lough Ree Coast Guard Radio	CH62	No Change
Lough Derg	Lough Derg Coast Guard Radio	CH61	No Change

**Note: Channel 16 is not affected by these changes. Channel 67 is also available when required but may not be actively monitored at all times.**

A map showing the radio sites including the new channels is enclosed at Appendix 1 to this Marine Notice.

The updated information is also available on the gov.ie website and the Safety on the Water [website](#). If you have further queries, please contact the Irish Coast Guard at [admin@irishcoastguard.ie](mailto:admin@irishcoastguard.ie)

A Guide to transmitting VHF Distress alerts and calls is also enclosed at Appendix 2 to this Marine Notice.

Note: Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

Irish Maritime Administration,  
Department of Transport,  
Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

16/12/2020

Encl.: Annex

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice, please contact:  
The Marine Survey Office, [MSO@transport.gov.ie](mailto:MSO@transport.gov.ie)  
For general enquiries, please contact the Maritime Safety Policy Division,  
[MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie](mailto:MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie)  
Written enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to:  
Dept. of Transport, Maritime Safety Policy Division, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.  
email: [MarineNotices@transport.gov.ie](mailto:MarineNotices@transport.gov.ie) or visit us at: [www.gov.ie/transport](http://www.gov.ie/transport)

# IRISH COAST GUARD

## MARINE VHF COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK



### Checklist of Basic Requirements and Advice

- Wear a Lifejacket
- Check the Weather and Tides
- Pre-Departure Safety Checks
- Designated Person Ashore
- VHF primary means of communication
- Phone in watertight pouch

See Gov.ie-Safety on the Water to learn more

Malin Head Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 05, DSC 70

**VHF Channel 16 is for Distress Safety and Calling DSC Channel 70 is for DSC Distress Alerting**

Malin Head MRSC

Glen Head Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 03, DSC 70

Malin Head Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16** and 01  
Local for Lough Swilly and Lough Foyle

Donegal Bay Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 02, DSC 70

Belmullet Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 63, DSC 70

Clew Bay Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 05, DSC 70

Clifden Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 03, DSC 70

Carlingford Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 04, DSC 70

Dublin Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 03, DSC 70

Galway Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 04, DSC 70

L. Ree Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 62

L. Derg Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 61

Dublin MRCC

Shannon Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 64, DSC 70

VHF Radio is the primary means of distress communication. It makes it possible to broadcast to, and receive from, all vessels and coast stations within the vicinity. This enables direct communication with the Coast Guard and other vessels in a position to render assistance in the event of an emergency. Mobile phones should not be relied upon as the only means of emergency communication at sea. Vessels operating on lakes, waterways and coastal waters that carry a mobile phone should ensure that it is fully charged and stored in a watertight container.

Wicklow Head Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 02, DSC 70

Rosslare Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 05, DSC 70

Valentia MRSC

Mine Head Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 03, DSC 70

Valentia Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 62, DSC 70

Cork Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 02, DSC 70

Galley Head Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**

Bantry Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 05, DSC 70

Mizen Head Coast Guard Radio  
VHF Channel **16**, 67, 04, DSC 70

Where necessary; vessels or persons in distress should use any means available to alert the Coast Guard and other vessels e.g. by activating an EPIRB and/or PLB, phoning for assistance. If you are in distress or see someone in difficulty, dial 999 or 112 and ask for the Coast Guard.  
Marine Safety Information (Weather Forecasts) broadcast at 0103, 0403, 0703, 1003, 1303, 1603, 1903, 2203 on Working Channels.

Dublin Controlled Radio Stations

Malin Head Controlled Radio Stations

Valentia Controlled Radio Stations

## Guidance on VHF Distress Alert Procedures

