

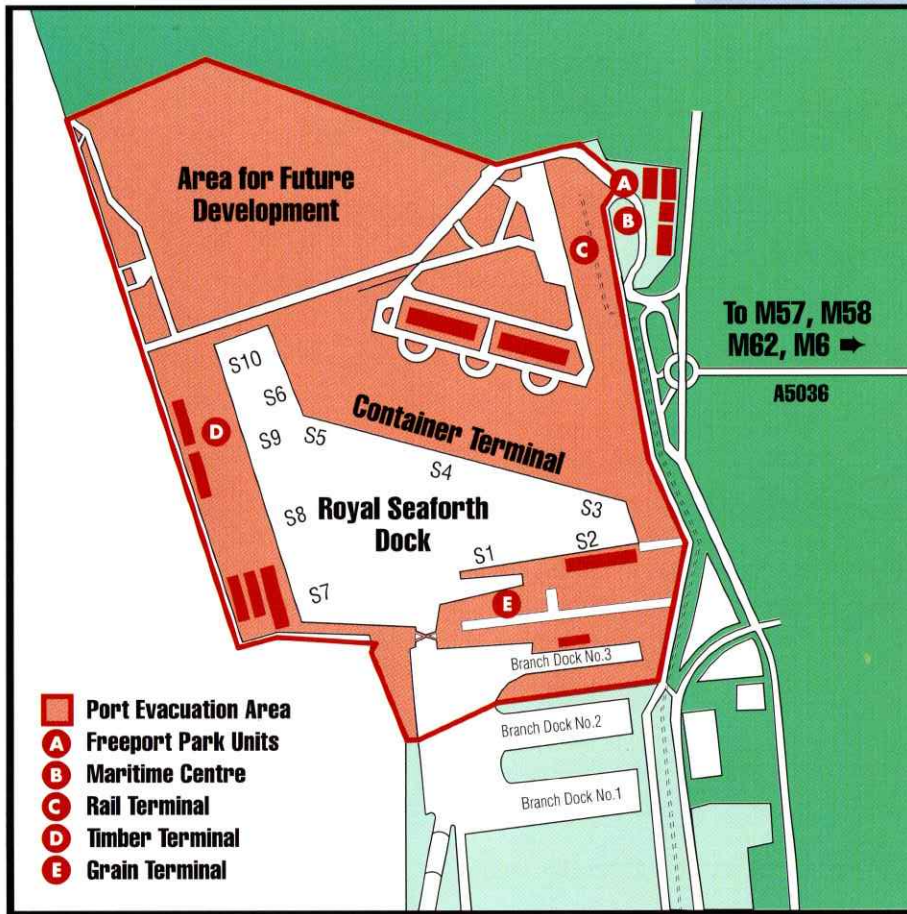
# Royal Seaforth Dock

## **EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS**

This is a  
Public Information Document  
prepared by  
The Naval Base Commander  
HM Naval Base Clyde  
Faslane  
in consultation with  
Mersey Docks & Harbour Company &  
Port of Liverpool Police  
for people working in the Royal Seaforth Dock

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## Port Evacuation Area

The port Evacuation marker shows that the area known as "Automatic Countermeasures Zone" lies wholly within the Royal Seaforth Dock.

## Introduction

1. This guide has been prepared by the Ministry of Defence in the interests of public information. It is addressed in particular to workers near to the submarine berths in the Royal Seaforth Dock. The guide complies with the requirements of the Public Information for Radiation Emergency Regulations 1992 and has been produced in consultation with the civil authorities in your area with responsibility for public safety.

## Liverpool Special Safety Scheme

2. Nuclear powered submarines of the Royal Navy are designed and operated to stringent standards of safety and have been operated without any form of nuclear accident for over 30 years. Whilst an accident to a submarine nuclear reactor is, by design, an extremely unlikely event, it is nevertheless Ministry of Defence policy that emergency procedures for the protection of the public should be available and exercised.

3. A detailed contingency plan for the area round the Royal Seaforth Dock - the Liverpool Special Safety Scheme - has been developed in conjunction with your local authorities. This plan gives full details of the measures required to protect you in the extremely unlikely event of a submarine reactor accident happening at the Royal Seaforth Dock. The possibility of an accident is extremely unlikely. Maintenance or repair work on nuclear reactors & associated safety systems is not permitted whilst a submarine is berthed at Liverpool. Similarly, the berth cannot be used by a vessel with a defect on its nuclear reactor.

This guide has been prepared by the Ministry of Defence in the interests of public information



Nonetheless, in accordance with National Policy, the Liverpool Special Safety Scheme (which is a public document and available in your local library) covers the extremely remote possibility of an accident requiring countermeasures beyond the 550 metres Automatic Countermeasures Zone by defining a countermeasures zone extending to 10 kilometres from the berths. If a hazard to the Public is identified, the Police in conjunction with the local authorities and other civil agencies will set in motion simple protective measures.

These countermeasures may include shelter, the taking of Potassium Iodate Tablets, food and drink restrictions or evacuation.

This plan gives full details of the measures required to protect you in the extremely unlikely event of a submarine reactor accident happening at the Royal Seaforth Dock.

4. In the light of the regulations this leaflet is being supplied to members of the public whose regular place of work lies within or just outside 550 metres from the submarine berths in the Royal Seaforth Dock. It is intended to provide individual members of the public with information on what action they may be advised to take in the extremely unlikely event of a reactor accident in the Royal Seaforth Dock. You may wish to keep it for ease of reference. You will also find enclosed some leaflets issued by the National Radiological Protection Board which give a general explanation of radiation and its effects and of national nuclear emergency arrangements together with a ready reference card on emergency actions.

5. It is emphasised that the guide is produced in the interests of greater public information and not because of any increased risk from submarine operations. It is also emphasised that there is no risk of an atomic bomb type explosion from nuclear submarine reactors - the design of the reactor makes this impossible.

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## What could happen in a Nuclear Submarine Accident

In the event of an accident involving a nuclear submarine reactor, people who are very close to the submarine could be affected by gamma rays (which are similar to X-rays). All radioactive material should be contained within the submarine. Only in the most extreme scenario may particles escape from the vessel.

Specialist monitoring teams, pre-deployed on-site, will detect any radiation or radioactive contamination and the police will, if necessary, set in motion measures to protect the public, as described previously.

### Alarms

In the event of a submarine nuclear reactor accident the area fire alarms in the port area will sound, these will be backed up by police loud hailer announcements.

In the event of a submarine nuclear reactor accident the area fire alarms will sound, additionally the Police will make loud hailer announcements within the 550 metre area.

## What you may need to do

If you are warned of a nuclear emergency, you should remain calm and follow this advice promptly but without rushing:

### Workers in the Port Evacuation Area

1. Evacuate the terminal by the best available route avoiding the submarine berth.
2. Take two Potassium Iodate Tablets given to you by the Port of Liverpool Police when you pass through the access control road blocks.
3. Go home and listen to public information broadcasts. You will be told of any further actions to be taken and when it is safe to return to work.

### Ships in the Port Evacuation Area

1. As far as practicable shut down ventilation, hatches, scuttles and openings etc. to minimise the ingress of radioactive material.
2. All personnel whose presence onboard is not absolutely essential should evacuate to the Canteen and Amenity block at the East end of Shed 2 as soon as possible.
3. Potassium Iodate Tablets will be delivered to the vessel with explanatory leaflet giving the recommended doses. All persons remaining onboard should be instructed to take these tablets immediately. There is no need to delay evacuation until you have the tablets, further stocks will be available at the Canteen Amenity block for those who are evacuated.
4. The Master or his representative should send a Liaison Officer to the Port Safety Panel Headquarters at the Port of Liverpool Police Headquarters.

If you are warned of a nuclear emergency, you should remain calm and follow this advice promptly but without rushing.



The following advice applies generally:

### **Shelter**

1. Once outside the Port Evacuation Area it is best to go indoors and stay there. Do not go outside where there may be an airborne radiation hazard.

### **Do not use the telephone**

(unless you need urgent help)

1. If such an emergency the telephone system may be overloaded.
2. If you must make a call, please be brief.

### **Listen to your local radio or television**

During an incident, emergency information and advice will be broadcast on your local radio and TV by official announcement. If possible, you should tune your radio to:

BBC Radio Merseyside FM 95.8 MHz AM 1485 kHz

Radio City FM 96.7

Radio City Gold 1548 kHz / 194 MW

watch your television.

### **Do not leave the area**

You will be much safer indoors. Do not leave the area unless told to do so by the police, in which case you should follow the advice given in the paragraph titled "What about evacuation?" If you try to leave earlier you may block the roads for emergency services.



**Shelter**



**Please do not use the telephone**



**Listen to your local radio or television**



**Do not leave the area**

### **Potassium Iodate Tablets**

At some time during the emergency the Health Authority may advise you to take Potassium Iodate Tablets. Stocks of the tablets are held locally and will be issued to people who need them. These tablets have the beneficial effect of helping the body to reject radioactive iodine which would be a constituent of any reactor accident contamination. The tablets are very small and the easiest way to take them is with a drink of some sort. They are unlikely to produce any side effects and will not interfere with any other medications. Detailed instructions will be given to you on a leaflet accompanying the tablets.

### **Food and Drink**

Food and Drink in your house and tap water supplies are most unlikely to be affected. Government agencies will provide advice on consumption of other foodstuffs such as freshly grown vegetables. This advice will be broadcast on your local radio and television. Advice will also be given to farmers, fishermen and other food producers.

### **What about Evacuation?**

All non essential personnel will be instructed to evacuate from the immediate area of the submarine.

### **Outside the Port Evacuation Area.**

In the event of an accident sheltering indoors, as described previously, is the right action to take immediately, unless you are specifically advised to the contrary.

Food and drink in your house and tap water supplies are most unlikely to be affected.

Sheltering indoors, is the right action to take immediately, unless you are specifically advised to the contrary.

It is most unlikely that in the event of an accident it will be necessary to evacuate people from their homes. However, should evacuation become necessary the Police will be responsible for contacting the residents concerned. Evacuees will be advised to use their own transport wherever possible, but transport will be arranged by the Police where necessary. The dangers arising from panic evacuation are far greater than the possible radiation hazards. The Local Authorities will make arrangements for feeding and accommodating all persons from the affected area, but families who may wish to stay with friends or relatives will obviously be free to do so. Special arrangements will be made by the Police and District Health Authority for the care of the aged, sick and disabled. Arrangements will also be made to ensure that family members not present at the time of the evacuation eg children at school, etc are reunited with their families. You should take your pets with you; arrangements will be made for them at the evacuation centre.

### **Re-entry to evacuated areas**

Re-entry to any evacuated areas during the areas will normally be restricted by the Police. Arrangements could be made, for example, for essential feeding of livestock.

### **End of the emergency**

As the emergency eases, there may well be some adjustments to these countermeasures until the point when the emergency is declared to be over. The public will be advised when special precautions are no longer required.


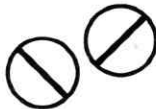




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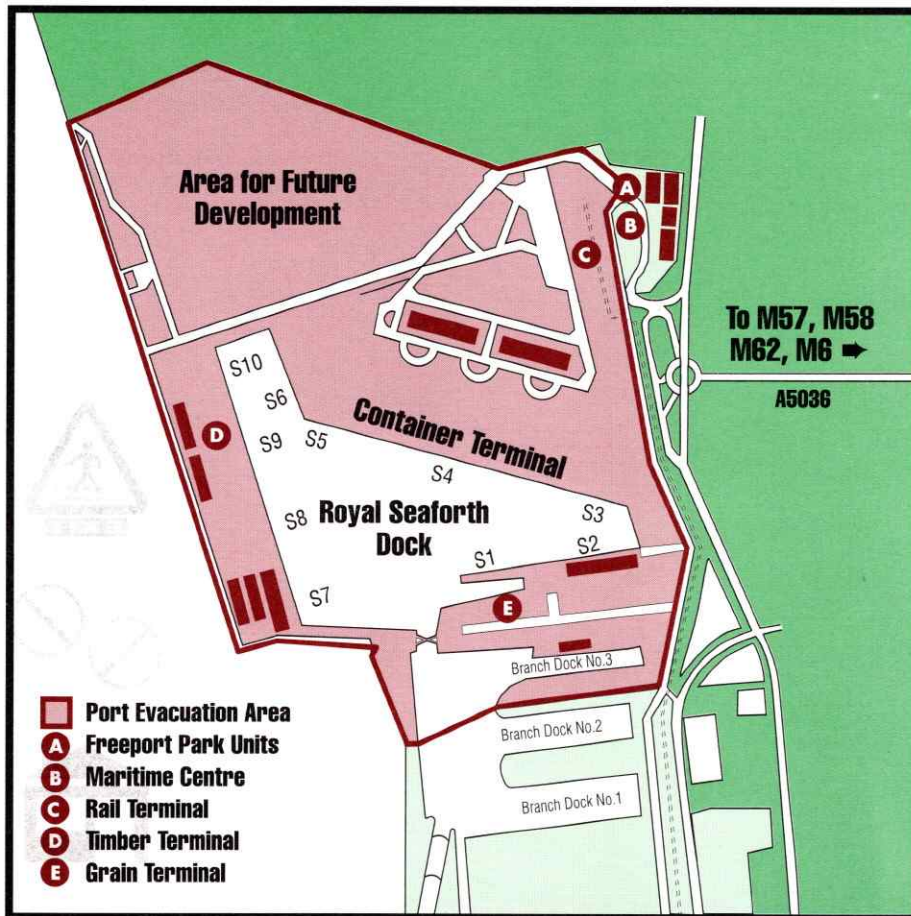
# **EMERGENCY INSTRUCTIONS**

## **For use in the event of a Nuclear Emergency at the Royal Seaforth Dock.**

If you hear the Fire Alarms and you receive  
warning of a nuclear emergency from the Police,  
remain calm and follow this advice:

<b>Evacuate the Terminal Port</b>	
<b>Take two Potassium Iodate Tablets</b>	
<b>Go Home</b>	
<b>Do not use the telephone</b>	
<b>Listen to your Local Radio or TV</b> BBC Radio Merseyside.....(FM 95.8 MHz AM 1485 kHz) Radio City .....(FM 96.7) Radio City Gold.....(1548 kHz / 194 MW)	
<b>Do not leave the area</b>	





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