

## Sunk Centre Lightvessel Future Requirement 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021



The Lightvessel was placed at this station in June 2007 when the current Sunk Traffic Separation Scheme was established. Since January 2021 the Sunk Centre Lightvessel has been replaced by a Safe Water Mark buoy for operational issues.



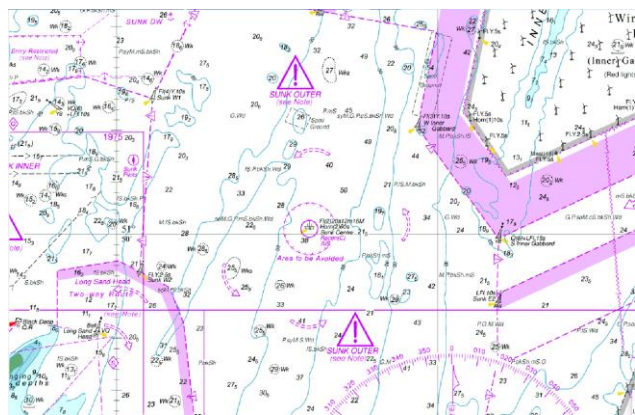
Trinity House have decided to keep the buoy in position for a few more months and seek comment on the buoy from stakeholders using the area.

This is with a view to permanently replacing the Lightvessel with this style of buoy.

The buoy currently on station has a lantern with a nominal range of 9 nautical miles and the same electronic aids to navigation as the Lightvessel has. These are the Automatic Identification System (AIS) displaying message 21, and a Racon.

The buoy does not have a hazard warning signal fitted unlike the Lightvessel.

This is an extremely busy area for vessels approaching, and leaving, ports in the Thames and Harwich Haven and it is recognised that a physical Aid to Navigation is required in this area to assist in the traffic flow and for position verification.



Trinity House are now opening a consultation period, until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, to solicit the views of maritime users in the area on the proposal to replace the Sunk Lightvessel with this type of buoy.

Comments can be sent by email to [navigation@trinityhouse.co.uk](mailto:navigation@trinityhouse.co.uk)

Alternatively written comments can be sent to: Navigation Directorate (Sunk LV)  
Trinity House  
Trinity Square  
Tower Hill  
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Captain Trevor B Harris  
Navigation (Examiner) Manager