

GUIDANCE NOTE 04/2021**VESSELS OF LESS THAN 24 METERS IN LENGTH IN COMMERCIAL USE
FOR SPORT OR PLEASURE**

To: OWNERS, MASTERS AND MANAGERS OF YACHTS INTENDING TO CHARTER.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Any yacht which intends to engaged in commercial activities is required to comply with the *Merchant Shipping (Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure) Regulations, 2002* ([The Regulations](#)).
- 1.2 The purpose of this Guidance Note is to confirm acceptable “Codes” that vessels of less than 24m may comply with to meet the requirements of the Regulations.

2. REGULATION 5 AND “THE CODE”

- 2.1 Regulation 5(3) of the Regulations requires that vessels of less than 24m in length comply “*with the provisions of the Code*”.
- 2.2 “Code” is defined in regulation 5(2) as –

“either “The Safety of Small Commercial Motor Vessels - A Code of Practice” or “The Safety of Small Commercial Sailing Vessels - A Code of Practice”, including any amendments thereto, published (or treated as being published) by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency of the United Kingdom, or such other Code as may be prescribed in substitution therefor.”
- 2.3 The Maritime and Coastguard Agency has also published [MGN 280\(M\)](#) (*Small vessels in commercial use for sport or pleasure, workboats and pilot boats – alternative construction standards*).
- 2.4 This Guidance Note confirms that the Cayman Islands Shipping Registry accepts MGN 280 (M) as “*such other Code as may be prescribed in substation therefor*” for the purposes of regulation 5 of the Regulations for vessels of less than 24m in length.