

		OPERATION PROCEDURES
6		Transit to Launch Site

Launching requires only the minimum crew for boat and tractor and no shore crew are required, but may be helpful.

Launching the Rig

Shore crew should don high visibility vests.

The priority should be to prevent pedestrians from walking in front of the Rig as it leaves the boathouse, and to stop the traffic. One member of boat or shore crew should be positioned opposite the boat house, with good visibility of any pedestrians or traffic that may cross the boat house.

‘Shore crew’ refers to shore crew that are fully trained and qualified to participate in operations or have been given the authority to do so by the senior crew.

The Orange light should be switched on.

The tractor driver can give a blast on the siren to alert ALL that the Rig is about to exit the boathouse, particularly if no shore crew are available.

Other responding crew will also have the option of diverting to the Zebra Crossing then Slipway and Beach.

Boathouse to Slipway

The Helm assumes command of the launching operation until the boat departs from the launch vehicle.

Radio communication between helm and tractor driver should be maintained.

The ‘Rules of the Road’ must be observed, but other road users will generally give the launch vehicle priority.

Particular care should be taken at the Zebra Crossing.

The tractor driver should use the sirens at various stages if it is appropriate to do so (note - high risk person / possible suicide – do not use sirens)

Slipway

The rig will need to stop if the slipway post is up. This is also a very pedestrianised area.

If a member of shore crew has not been able to man the slipway before the rig arrives, a nominated crew member should get off the boat (having informed the tractor driver) to lower the post and at

the same time, request members of the public keep clear of the rig's route to the beach. Crew / shore crew should lead the rig down the slipway and onto the beach to marshal the public until it is safe to re-board before launching.

If there are no public to cause concern and the post is already down, the rig can proceed without stopping, but must take extreme care at the bottom of the slipway due to the blind spot at the end of the esplanade wall.

Beach

The Helm should agree with the tractor driver the route across the beach to the selected launch position, due to the conditions at the time.

At low tide the rig can drive directly onto the sand area before reversing into the sea. This is preferable due to the better visibility of public on the beach.

Crew / Shore crew may be required to marshal public on the beach.

When the rig reverses, a nominated crewman should take position in the bow to look ahead for members of the public and alert the tractor driver via the helm of any cause for concern. Particular care should be given to look over rises in the beach, which may be out of the tractor driver's line of sight.