



Bangor Harbour

Ship Bunkering Operations from Road Tankers

Guidance and Requirements – Version 3 (May 2026)

1. Document Control

Item	Detail
Document Owner	Harbour Master / Marina Manager
Approved By	Ards and North Down Borough Council
Version	3.0
Date Issued	May 2026
Review Frequency	Annual
Next Review Date	May 2027

2. Purpose

This document defines the mandatory procedures and standards for conducting bunkering operations from road tankers within Bangor Harbour.

It aims to:

- Ensure safe transfer of fuels
- Protect people, vessels, and infrastructure
- Prevent pollution of land and water
- Ensure compliance with Northern Ireland and UK legislation

3. Scope

Applies to:

- All road tanker to vessel bunkering operations
- All Road Tanker Operators (RTOs)
- Vessel crews, agents, and contractors

Exclusion:

- Road tanker bunkering to leisure craft is strictly prohibited
- Bunkering from private bowser is strictly prohibited



4. Legal Compliance

All operations must comply with relevant legislation, including:

- Merchant Shipping Act 1995
- Merchant Shipping (OPRC) Regulations 1998
- Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999
- Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) Regulations (NI) 2010
- Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road Regulations (NI)
- ADR (European Agreement on Dangerous Goods Transport)

Failure to comply may result in enforcement action.

5. Permissions and Notifications

5.1 Approval

All RTOs must obtain prior written approval from Bangor Harbour

Approval valid for 12 months

Renewal required 4 weeks before expiry

5.2 Notification Requirements

Daytime operations: As agreed with harbour

Night operations (sunset–sunrise):

One-off: 3–96 hours' notice

Frequent: Annual notification

5.3 Operational Consent

No bunkering shall commence without:

- Harbour approval
- Vessel Master approval

6. Operational Requirements

6.1 Fuel Restrictions

Flashpoint must be $\geq 60^{\circ}\text{C}$

Lower flashpoint fuels require special approval



6.2 Tanker Standards

All tankers must:

- Comply with ADR standards
- Be inspected and certified
- Be maintained in good condition

Carry:

- Spill response equipment
- Emergency Oil Spill Plan
- Valid insurance documentation

6.3 Personnel Competence

Operators must ensure:

- Drivers hold ADR certification

Staff are trained in:

- Bunkering procedures
- Spill response

A designated Person in Charge (PIC) supervises each transfer

7. Pre-Bunkering Procedure

A Bunkering Safety Checklist and Ship/Shore Checklist must be completed before transfer.

Required confirmations:

- Vessel readiness
- Product and quantity
- Transfer rate
- Vessel communication established (VHF Ch 11)
- Weather and conditions suitable
- Spill kits available and ready
- Drip trays positioned

No transfer shall commence without completion and verification.



8. Environmental Protection Measures

Equipment:

- Sorbent pads
- Booms
- Drip trays

Hoses:

- Inspected before each use
- Pressure tested annually

Under NI law:

- Pollution of waterways is a criminal offence

9. Bunkering Operations

During transfer:

- Continuous supervision required
- Driver must remain with tanker
- Vessel to maintain VHF communication with the Harbour
- Display warning signage
- Control transfer rate
- Secure hose connections

Transfer must stop immediately if:

- Leak or spill occurs
- Communications fail
- Unsafe conditions arise

10. Post-Transfer Procedure

Upon completion:

Confirm:

- Quantity delivered
- Transfer completion time
- Disconnect hoses immediately
- Check for spills or leaks
- Remove all equipment



11. Emergency Response

11.1 Spill Classification

- Tier 1: Minor, contained locally
- Tier 2: Requires external support
- Tier 3: Major incident

11.2 Immediate Actions

In the event of a spill:

- Stop transfer immediately
- Contain spill using onboard equipment
- Protect drains and watercourses

Notify:

- Bangor Harbour
- Vessel Master
- NIEA (if environmental risk)

11.3 Reporting

All spills must be reported immediately

Written report required within 24 hours

12. Oil Pollution Preparedness

Bangor Harbour operates under an Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (OPEP) in compliance with OPRC regulations

Operators must:

- Fully cooperate with harbour response
- Follow all emergency instructions

13. Prohibited Activities

Bunkering to leisure craft

Use of unlicensed or non-compliant tankers

Leaving tanker unattended

Operating without completed checklists



Operating in unsafe conditions

Bunkering from a private bowser

14. Documentation and Records

RTOs must retain:

- Safety checklists (minimum 3 years)
- Transfer records
- Inspection certificates
- Training records

Records must be available on request.

15. Charges

RTOs will be charged according to the Bangor Harbour tariff per litre.

16. Compliance and Enforcement

Non-compliance may result in:

- Suspension of approval
- Removal from harbour operations
- Reporting to regulators

Environmental offences may lead to prosecution under:

- Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999



Appendix 1 – Road Tanker Operator Declaration

Road Tanker Operator Declaration Form

Full Name:

Position:

Company Name:

Address:

Contact Number:

Email:

Declaration

I confirm that I have read and understood:

“Ship Bunkering Operations from Road Tankers – Version 3”

My company will comply with:

- All harbour requirements
- All Northern Ireland and UK legislation

All tankers:

- Meet ADR requirements
- Are properly maintained and certified
- Carry spill response equipment

All staff:

- Are properly trained
- Are competent in spill response

All operations:

- Will use completed checklists
- Will be supervised by a Person in Charge



In case of spill:

- Operations will stop immediately
- Harbour will be notified
- Report submitted within 24 hours

I understand failure to comply may result in removal of permission and legal action.

Signature

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

For Harbour Use

Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Approved By	_____
Expiry Date	_____



Appendix 2 – Oil Transfer Communication Policy

All oil transfers must be reported via:

- VHF Channel 11
- Telephone 02891453297

Information Required:

- Vessel name
- Berth
- Product type
- Quantity (litres)
- Start time
- Completion time

Emergency Reporting

In event of spill:

- Notify Bangor Harbour immediately
- Take action to prevent pollution

Contact Details

Harbour Office: +44 (0) 28 9145 3297

Harbour Mobile: 07764 313383

VHF Channel 11

Email: bangor.marina@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk