

Dear Rita

In the spirit of open communication between Peel Ports and the Community Councils, I write to inform you of upcoming activity at Hunterston PARC.

As an operational port, we are pleased to confirm that Hunterston will be welcoming two drill ships, owned by the Valaris company, from December 28th 2020. These vessels, known as DS-4 and DS-8, will not be operational and will be entering Hunterston PARC for a lay-up period only.

They will be warm-stacked, meaning that the vessel is idle, with generators used only for occasional engine maintenance and with noise suppressors in place. A skeleton crew will accompany the vessels for ongoing maintenance only.

The ships will be berthed at the Hunterston jetty, one kilometre out from the coastline. We have been in contact with the Senior Manager/Protective Services at North Ayrshire Council as well as all local response teams, including the police and fire services.

I would emphasise that there will be minimal crew aboard these vessels, who all follow rigorous Covid-19 protocols. Public Health and other statutory bodies will be kept fully appraised and, like all of our other port locations, declarations of health must be obtained before any vessel is able to enter the port.

Following several years of decommissioning and site remediation, I am sure you will agree that the recent activity at Hunterston PARC is a real positive step to seeing the jetty return to duty and serving the maritime industry.

I trust that this notification keeps you abreast of the developments at Hunterston PARC and of our ongoing commitment to support the growth of the local economy for generations to come.

Jim Mc Sporrán,
Managing Director, Peel Ports Group, Clydeport