

# Cruise expert joins Portsmouth International Port




Experienced cruise specialist Ian Diaper joins Portsmouth International Port as head of operations, a new role created to manage shore side activity.

Ian has spent over 40 years in the shipping industry, most recently as service delivery improvement manager for ABP Southampton.

As head of operations Ian will be responsible for overseeing the delivery of all shore side activity, making sure cruise customer requirements are met, while also looking at opportunities for growth.

Ian was one of the youngest captains on a British flagged vessel and has a significant experience of successful projects, including being part of the team who grew Southampton’s cruise calls to a record 500.

Mike Sellers, Portsmouth International Port said: “We are delighted to welcome Ian to Portsmouth, he has impressive shipping experience and knowledge, and will be a vital contribution to our senior management team.

“This new role is important because we want to be known as a Port that provides a strong cruise offer. We have successfully built other areas of our operation and need to make sure our reputation continues, but there is also the capacity and opportunity to develop our cruise position. Ian understands the cruise industry and is well respected by those working within it. This is an exciting time for the Port and we’re looking forward to seeing what happens throughout 2019.”

Ian has worked both land and water side, providing experience across all marine activities including stakeholder planning, berthing, pilotage, stevedoring, as well as necessary health and safety requirements.

Ian Diaper, Portsmouth International Port’s head of operations said: “Portsmouth has an enviable position as cruise turnaround and transit port, both in terms of infrastructure, closeness to the motorway, tourist opportunities, and economic benefits for the city and the port. There are also exciting opportunities to maximise the Port’s potential further, I can’t wait to work with the team here and push Portsmouth forward as a leading cruise port.”