

Ministry of Health, the Environment, Energy and Climate Change

PRESS RELEASE

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## **HUMPBACK WHALE IN THE BAY**

Following consistent reports of a juvenile Humpback whale in the Bay of Gibraltar, mariners are being asked to be extra vigilant whilst navigating in British Gibraltar Territorial Waters.

All whales are protected under Gibraltar law and our Cetacean Protocol. Under these laws, the free movement of cetaceans must be permitted at all times and in all directions without limiting their freedom of movement by intercepting their trajectory, cutting across their path or passing through one of their groups. Vessels are therefore being asked to provide these animals with a wide berth, defined in law as a 60m exclusion zone, to prevent disturbing them.

**Ends** 

Notes to Editors:

Further information on the Cetacean Protocol can be obtained from the Department of the Environment & Climate Change.