



## North East Beach Safety Council

Meeting held at Adventure Sunderland.  
On Friday 24 March 2006.

**PRESENT: 24** representatives attended, schedule attached.

ITEM	DISCUSSION
1.	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</b>            Ian Rainer – East Riding of Yorkshire            Angela Fairness - Centre of Vocational Excellence            Ian Graham – Wansbeck District Council            Niall Benson – Durham Heritage Coast            Mike Bill – Humber MRCC            Barbara Pike - Environment Agency            David Reed – North East Linkinshire Council            Ian Robson – Northumberland County Council            Fred Walkington - East Riding of Yorkshire Council            Mark Ellis - M. C. A            Debbie Wood - Hartlepool Borough Council</p>
2.	<p><b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:</b>            Held 11 November 2005 at RNLI Divisional Base, Stockton. Accepted as a true record.</p>
3.	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA:</b></p>
3.1	<p><b>RNLI – LAUNCHING ACROSS RESORT BEACHES:</b> East Riding of Yorkshire Council will liaise directly with the RNLI division base who will try to resolve the problem.</p>
3.2	<p><b>MOBI MATS:</b> Discussions took place regarding mats that can be rolled out across soft sand to allow access to wheelchairs and pushchairs. Information had been received from some beaches on the South coast that had used them and found the movement and storage a problem. Wheelchairs that are designed for use on sand are going to be tried at Whitby. The results of this trial will be discussed at the next meeting.</p>
3.3	<p>Mr A. Cranson from Blyth informed the meeting on behalf of Angela Fairness that the Coastal Zone Management NVQ creation was going well with levels 2 &amp; 3 on schedule to be ready for this September. The level 4 will however take a couple of years, as it requires creating from scratch.</p>
4.	<p><b>PRE SEASON REPORTS:</b>            Reports were given by the following:            North Tyneside Council – Marcus Jackson            South Tyneside Council – Allan Maving            Blyth Valley – Arthur Cranson            East Riding of Yorkshire Council – Chris Ward            RNLI South Coast Lifeguards – Steve Wills            Easington District – Geoff Phillips            Scarborough Borough Council – Martin Watherston            Sunderland City Council – James Keillor            H.M. Coastguard – Stuart McGill            RNLI North Region – Adrian Carey            Berwick Upon Tweed – Gary McBride            Redcar &amp; Cleveland – Paul Castle</p>

	The reports from these organisations that have been received are attached.
5.	<b>NATIONAL BEACH SAFETY COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE:</b> The chairman gave a brief summary from the National meeting that had been held earlier in the week at Poole. A copy of the minutes is attached for information.
6.	<b>RESCUE EQUIPMENT REVIEW:</b> Mr Steve Wills the Beach Safety Manager for the RNLI explained that the aim of the public rescue equipment standard was to research develop and produce a national industry standard for public rescue equipment. A copy of the project brief is attached for information.
7.	<b>EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS LIST:</b> Any new suppliers that can be added to the “Approved Suppliers List” for all North East Beach Safety Council members to consider using should be sent to the Secretary.
8.	<b>ENCAMS update:</b> Unfortunately no representative from ENCAMS attended the meeting so no update was available. A report is to be requested in future if no representative is planning on attending.
9.	<b>COASTAL BIRDS – Bird Flu Precautions:</b> The problems that this disease could cause, especially to the coastal areas and the associated wildlife, were discussed. Guidelines are sketchy at present with each Authority conducting their own risk assessment and procedure. Guidance can be attained from the Defra web site.
10.	<b>NBSC WEB SITE INFORMATION:</b> Members were asked to send the following information to David Walker, Information Officer, Water and Leisure Safety at The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents ( <a href="mailto:djwalker@rospa.com">djwalker@rospa.com</a> ) Name of Organisation, Area of coast under your management and the activities and sports catered for, any key links to local information, and one or two images to go on the North East Regions web page.
11.	<b>PWC – CONTROL MEASURES:</b> A working group consisting of Representatives from the Councils of North Tyneside, South Tyneside and Sunderland along with the Environment Agency, RNLI, Coastguard and Marine Police was set up to deal with the escalating problem of jet skies and fast craft along the coast. Mr Allan Maving from South Tyneside gave a report into the work being carried out by this group, a permit scheme that is working at Blyth and North Tyneside is to be implemented at South Tyneside. The PWC road show is also going to tour any marine themed events to promote good practice. The marine police are to look at implementing a control scheme for PWC which would work like the Motorbike system, where if you are stopped for doing something wrong they will refer you to a briefing course which will cover safety and rules that the PWC helm is required to follow. All local authorities have signed up to support this scheme. It was agreed that with Byelaws being very difficult to create, this sort of proactive approach was an excellent control measure, especially with tighter control on the slipways. Redcar is installing barriers across their slipways to try to control access to the water. Liaison with the Coastguard PWC officer was suggested for all to consider for further information and assistance.
12. 12.1	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS:</b> <b>EXPANSION OF GROUP:</b> A proposal had been received to expand the group to include the North West coast from the Scottish border to the Welsh border. The pros and cons of this proposal were discussed and it was agreed to leave the North East group as it stands. Mr T. Clare volunteered to investigate what interest there was from the relevant West Coast Authorities and whether they would be interested in creating their own group or joining a North of England group.

12.2	RNLI ROADSHOW: Mr T. Clare informed the group that the RNLI Sea Safety road show was in the northern region in August. Any organisation interested in booking the road show for their venue should contact him directly.
12.3	NATIONAL MEETING VENUE: Mrs P. Wilkinson asked the chairperson if the proposal to move the National Meeting round the country making it easier to attend had been broached at the National meeting. Paul Castle stated it had and the venue would remain on the south coast as Southern Coast Authorities had indicated that they would not attend if they had to travel a great distance. It was mentioned however that the next meeting would be in Stafford after the RoSPA Water Safety Congress.
12.3	LIFEBUOYS WITH SENSORS: The use of a newly promoted system that sends an electronic message to alert the control point that a lifebuoy had been removed from its holder was discussed. The consensus of opinion was that the system seemed very expensive and any development of rescue equipment as described in item 6 should be completed prior to considering this type of system.
13.	DATE, TIME, VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING: Friday 20 October 2006, at North Tyneside (venue to be confirmed). 10.45 for a prompt 11.00 start.

Dave Evans from Ocean Safety addressed the members and displayed the equipment that his company can supply. Paul Castle thanked Mr Evans for attending.

Thanks go to Sunderland City Council, Resorts staff for providing the venue, lunch and tour. After the meeting, members enjoyed a tour round the Sunderland coast and facilities.

Attendance List:

Paul Castle (Chairman)	Redcar and Cleveland District Council
Ash Curle (Secretary)	Sunderland City Council
Warren Taylor	North Tyneside Council
Marcus Jackson	North Tyneside Council
Dave Evans	Ocean Safety
Penney Wilkinson	South Tyneside Council
Allan Maving	South Tyneside Council
Arthur Cranson	Blyth Valley
John Tuttiett	Blyth Volunteer Lifeboat Service
Andy Barker	Blyth Volunteer Lifeboat Service
Kirsty Dingle	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Chris Ward	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Tony Clare	RNLI
Steve Wills	RNLI
Geoff Phillips	Easington District Council
Kevin Mullender	Easington District Council
Ian Crampton	Cosalt International Ltd
Si Bristow	Sunderland City Council
James Keillor	Sunderland City Council
Martin Watherston	Scarborough Borough Council
John Stansfield	Scarborough Borough Council
Stuart McGill	H. M. Coastguard, Sunderland
Adrian Carey	RNLI – DDI / N
Gary McBride	Berwick upon Tweed Borough Council