



North East Beach Safety Council

Meeting held at Briardale Community and Training Centre
hosted by Blyth Valley Borough Council.
On 26 Sept 07

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ITEM	DISCUSSION																																								
	PRESENT: 25 representatives attended, schedule attached.																																								
1.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Received from:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%;">John Tuttiett</td><td style="width: 50%;">Blyth Volunteer Lifeboat Service</td></tr> <tr><td>Fred Walkington</td><td>East Riding of Yorkshire Council</td></tr> <tr><td>Mike Nicholson</td><td>Port of Tyne</td></tr> <tr><td>Niall Benson</td><td>Durham Heritage Coast</td></tr> <tr><td>Duncan Gomes</td><td>Durham Heritage Coast</td></tr> <tr><td>Mark Ellis</td><td>M.C.A</td></tr> <tr><td>Paul Chapman</td><td>M.C.A.</td></tr> <tr><td>Andrew Ashton</td><td>RNLI</td></tr> <tr><td>Adrian Carey</td><td>RNLI</td></tr> <tr><td>Tony Clare</td><td>RNLI</td></tr> <tr><td>Steve Wills</td><td>RNLI</td></tr> <tr><td>Paul Castle</td><td>Redcar and Cleveland B.C</td></tr> <tr><td>Allan Maving</td><td>South Tyneside Council</td></tr> <tr><td>Alan McPherson</td><td>Port of Tyne</td></tr> <tr><td>Sam Talbot</td><td>Castle Morpeth Borough Council</td></tr> <tr><td>Alison Ellis</td><td>ENCAMS</td></tr> <tr><td>Diane Cliff</td><td>ENCAMS</td></tr> <tr><td>Steve Graham</td><td>ENCAMS</td></tr> <tr><td>Barbara Pike</td><td>Environment Agency</td></tr> <tr><td>Ian Crampton</td><td>Cosalt Plc</td></tr> </table>	John Tuttiett	Blyth Volunteer Lifeboat Service	Fred Walkington	East Riding of Yorkshire Council	Mike Nicholson	Port of Tyne	Niall Benson	Durham Heritage Coast	Duncan Gomes	Durham Heritage Coast	Mark Ellis	M.C.A	Paul Chapman	M.C.A.	Andrew Ashton	RNLI	Adrian Carey	RNLI	Tony Clare	RNLI	Steve Wills	RNLI	Paul Castle	Redcar and Cleveland B.C	Allan Maving	South Tyneside Council	Alan McPherson	Port of Tyne	Sam Talbot	Castle Morpeth Borough Council	Alison Ellis	ENCAMS	Diane Cliff	ENCAMS	Steve Graham	ENCAMS	Barbara Pike	Environment Agency	Ian Crampton	Cosalt Plc
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	<p>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Held Wednesday 7 March 2007 at Seaham by Durham Heritage Coast was accepted as a true record.</p>																																								
3.	<p>MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA: All items were covered by the Agenda.</p>																																								
4.	<p>POST SEASON REPORTS: Reports were given by the following: North Tyneside Council – Marcus Jackson * Blyth Valley Borough Council – Arthur Cranson * Wansbeck District Council - Ian Graham Berwick Upon Tweed – Gary McBride Northumberland Coast A.O.N.B. - Ian Robson * Scarborough Borough Council – James Surtees * East Riding of Yorkshire Council – Chris Ward Police Marine Division – Ross Atkinson Easington District – David Walker Maritime and Coastguard Agency – Mike Bill South Tyneside Council – Penney Wilkinson * Hartlepool Borough Council – Debbie Wood * Sunderland City Council – Ash Curle * North East Lincolnshire Council - Robert Chalmers * Indicates that these organisations have forwarded a copy of their report as</p>																																								

	requested and a copy is attached for information.
5.	NATIONAL BEACH SAFETY COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE: The chairperson informed the meeting that the next National Meeting would be held on Monday 15 October 2007 at The Lifeboat College, Poole. Rob Chalmers from North East Lincolnshire Council indicated that he would be attending, and would report back to the next meeting. The comment was made that it is hard for Local Authorities to justify the expence, to travel such a long way just to attend a single meeting.
5.1	National Report for the Region: Members were asked to consider what information should be included in the report that is to be sent to the National meeting. Any suggestions or items for inclusion should be sent to the Chairperson or Secretary as soon as possible.
6.	RESCUE EQUIPMENT REVIEW: Members were made aware that the "Guide to Coastal Public Rescue Equipment" publication has been launched. The link is: http://www.rnli.org.uk/what_we_do/sea_and_beach_safety/beachsafety/public_rescue_equipment Alternatively, email beachsafety@rnli.org.uk and request a printed copy.
6.1	Ocean Safety – Sheila Williams: Information on a new product the SOS 400 was shared with the meeting. Further is available from Ocean Safety who is on the suppliers list.
7.	RNLI:
7.1	SEA SAFETY UPDATE: Unfortunately, Tony Clair was not able to attend the meeting, so no update was available.
7.2	RNLI North East Beach Lifeguard Partnership: Warren Taylor (chairman) from North Tyneside Council ran through a presentation that had been given by the RNLI to Peter Mooney– Sunderland City Council, Penney Wilkinson – South Tyneside Borough Council and himself. They had visited some beaches where the lifeguard service was provided by R.N.L.I. to assess the service, and had separately met with Carrick local authority officers to discuss the scheme. The three councils are investigating the possibilities of working with the RNLI in the future.
8.	ENCAMS update: Unfortunately, no representatives of ENCAMS could attend the meeting. Half a dozen members of NEBSC had attended the ENCAMS Quality Coast Award (QCA) review meeting. Concern was voiced that the awards seemed to be a money making process and not a tool for beach managers and Local Authorities to drive up standards also regarding the introduction of the scheme, particularly relating to rural beaches, lack of consultation with appropriate bodies, and the various categories used. An independent review has been requested by ENCAMS into the QCA scheme which will be led by Lee Harbour the Director of Projects at ENCAMS Tel: 01942612614 email: lee.harbord@encams.org all members with views on the scheme were encouraged to make contact by 10th October 2007. Please also forward a copy to the NEBSC Secretary ash.curle@sunderland.gov.uk so that a general response on behalf of N.E.B.S.C. to the National meeting can be made.
9.	P.W.C. – CONTROL MEASURES: Ross Atkinson from Northumbria Police (Marine Division) updated the meeting about the work currently taking place. Blyth, North Tyneside and South Tyneside Councils are working together to control launch sites. Prosecutions are possible but the Police rely on the support of the relevant Port Authorities to assist with any prosecution.
10.	BOAT LAUNCHING / BEACH VEHICLES: The issue of vehicles on the beach was discussed. Most local Authorities allowed some kind of vehicles onto their beaches in the form of beach cleaning vehicles, RNLI

	<p>Launching, Coastguard and Council Launch vehicles. These should all be covered by site risk assessments. The problems occur when public vehicles are permitted onto the beach as the beach owner or lease for the beach needs to be consulted. Gary McBride from Berwick has experience of these issues from Beadnell and offered assistance to Chris Ward from East Riding of Yorkshire Council.</p>
11.	<p>BEACH LIFEGUARD TRAINING: A question was discussed regarding Beach Lifeguard training and whether there is a minimum sea temperature for training lifeguards. Although there is a minimum temperature for Triathlon events, it was not known if the RLSS or SLA has recommended limits. The meeting agreed to request advice from these governing bodies and report back to the next meeting.</p>
12.	<p>ENFORCEMENT OF RULES: The problem of enforcement of rules on the coast was discussed. Most areas reported problems with Litter, Dogs and coastal activity zone enforcement. Some good practice was noted with the training of Community Police Support Officers (PCSO) being trained as lifeguards and patrolling the coast. Some Authorities experienced problems with dog ban zones being ignored by members of the public who know when staff go off duty. To counteract this, some Authorities are looking at Dog Control Orders to change the need for dogs to be on leads and the dates and times that, the bans are effective. A presentation had been given at the Encams seminar regarding the implementation of Dog Control Orders. Copies of this presentation are available from ENCAMS.</p>
13.	<p>COASTAL DEVELOPMENTS: Three developments along our coast were brought to the meeting's attention: Berwick: is looking at the development of a strategy for the town. This may include marina facilities; this is just at a feasibility study at present. Seaham: the area inside the north pier is being re developed. This area is not large but some marina facilities are envisaged. North Tyneside: Five sites on and around Tynemouth beach are currently being marketed as potential development opportunities, including the former outdoor pool and existing lifeguard base. Whitley Bay's coastal regeneration scheme including the Spanish City site is finally underway.</p>
14.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS:</p>
14.1	<p>Single Status: The implications of higher pay awards under the Single Status process for the Lifeguards in North Tyneside were discussed along with the implications this may have for the neighbouring Authorities.</p>
14.2	<p>Water Safety Education Resources: The provision of resources for safety talks to schools was broached. A. Curle from Sunderland expressed there thanks to the RNLI for the 12000 get splashed comics supplied to them each year for the Primary School children that receive the Water Safety Roadshow. Any supplier or organisation that has resources available was requested to let the Secretary know so all members could be informed.</p>
13.	<p>DATE, TIME, VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 13 March 2008, at South Shields (venue to be confirmed). 10.45 for a prompt 11.00 start.</p>

Deborah Jenkins from Leisurewatch, The Derwent Initiative gave a very informative presentation. They are an independent charity founded in 1983, which works to improve public protection, especially of children, by promoting joined up thinking about the problems of sexual offending.

Its aims are:

To identify gaps and problems

To devise strategies for filling gaps and solutions

To monitor and evaluate solutions

To ensure that changes in practice are enshrined in organisational structures.

They offer consultancy, training, project design and a number of public protection programmes tailored to specific situations.

With most coastal resorts experiencing problems of people taking pictures of children on beaches or similar situations, it was agreed that members would consider the initiative, look at the information on the web site and possibly even look at a region wide approach.

The chairperson thanked Mrs Jenkins for her presentation.

(www.thederwentinitiative.org.uk)

After the meeting and lunch, members enjoyed a tour round the Blyth Coast.

Thanks go to Blyth Valley Council, for providing the venue, lunch and tour.

Minutes compiled by A Curle

ash.curle@sunderland.gov.uk

Attendance List:

Warren Taylor (Chairman)

Ash Curle (Secretary)

Marcus Jackson

Gary McBride

Chris Ward

Penney Wilkinson

Mike Bill

Ian Robson

David Walker

Robert Chalmers

Arthur Cranson

Debbie Wood

Ian Graham

Ross Atkinson

James Surtees

Matt Jones

Robin Warrington

Michele Weedy

Hugh Stolliday

Deborah Jenkins

North Tyneside Council

Sunderland City Council

North Tyneside Council

Berwick upon Tweed Borough Council

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

South Tyneside Council

M.C.A

Northumberland Coast A.O.N.B.

District of Easington

North East Lincolnshire Council

Blyth Valley

Hartlepool Borough Council

Wansbeck District Council

Northumbria Police (Marine Division)

Scarborough Borough Council

Scarborough Borough Council

RNLI

Blyth Lifeguard and Swimming Club

The Derwent Initiative

The Derwent Initiative

Suppliers:

Jason Walker

Paul Morrell

Sheila Williams

Richie Moore

David Gilroy

Glasdon UK Ltd

Glasdon UK Ltd

Ocean Safety Ltd

Wearside Communications

Cosalt