



New Zealand Search and Rescue Council

Minutes of Meeting

**New Zealand Search and Rescue Council
Tuesday 26 February 2013, 8.30am
Boardroom, Ministry of Transport
Level 6, 89 The Terrace, Wellington**

Attendees:

Martin Matthews – MoT (Chair)
Keith Manch – MNZ
Air Commodore Peter Port – NZDF
Assistant Commissioner Nick Perry - NZ Police
Mike Eddington - DOC

Present:

Bruce Johnson – NZ Police
Nigel Clifford - MNZ
Duncan Ferner - NZSAR
Phil Burgess – NZSAR
Carl van der Meulen – NZSAR
Rachel Roberts – NZSAR
Amy Kirby – MoT (minutes)

1. Welcome

Martin Matthews (Chair) opened the meeting.

2. Apologies

Commissioner Marshall - NZ Police
Graeme Harris - CAA

3. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the Council meeting held 21 November were accepted as a true and accurate record and **approved** by the Council.

4. Matters Arising from the meeting of 15 August

• Item 5: Service Level Agreements

The Senior Advisor is to prepare a statistical report for the Council that includes trend analysis of historical SAR incident data.

Action taken: This was completed and will be addressed during the strategic planning session

- **Item 6: NSSP Review**

The Secretariat manager is to:

- Liaise with MoT on the process of establishing the NSSP coordinator as a permanent position.
- Establish the NSSP Coordinator position
- Make an appointment to the NSSP position

Action taken: Phil Burgess was appointed as NZSSP coordinator.

- **Item 7: Sector Update**

Discussion on how the Council can assist the sector creating efficiency gains during the strategic planning session

Action taken: This will be discussed as part of the strategic planning session

5. **Service Level Agreements monitoring report**

Carl spoke to this report. Points from this quarter to note:

- 9 lives saved
- 2,458 Coastguard volunteers responded to 645 non-SAR related calls for assistance during the quarter.
- Carl asked the Council to note there are inaccuracies in the Police reporting data due to the way the information is recorded.

6. **NZSAR Awards**

Council members were asked to note the recommendations made by a sub-group of the NZSAR Consultative Committee who reviewed the NZSAR Award nominations.

The following recommendations were made to the Council:

Gold Award

Awarded to Alan Deale, Phil Dwyer, Andrew Cronin and Jayden Strickland from the **Taranaki Rescue Helicopter Trust** for the rescue of ten people from Paritutu Rock on 9 August 2012

The Council **endorsed** this recommendation.

NZSAR Certificates of Achievement

- **Wanaka Police SAR** and **Wanaka LANDSAR** for their rescue of Dion Latta from the Mototapu Gorge on 1 January 2012
- **Coastguard South Taranaki, Opunake SLSC, Cape Egmont Sea Rescue, Opunake Boating Club, and Taranaki Police SAR** for their rescue of two fishermen from Opunake on 22 February 2012.

- Mark Cannell, Russell Clarke, Steve Oliver and Bruce Joy from the **Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust** for their rescue of a solo sailor from the yacht Frolic III on 3 March 2012.
- **Russell (Sherp) Tucker** from NZ Police for his services to SAR.
- **Gerry Prins** from NZ Police for his services to SAR.

The Council **endorsed** these recommendations.

The Council has asked that the Secretariat review the process and criteria selection for future NZSAR Awards.

Action – NZSAR Secretariat to review the NZSAR Awards policies and make recommendations to the NZSAR Council.

7. NZSAR Consultative Committee sector update

The Council had a short discussion on the sector update that was distributed prior to the meeting. The main points for the Council to note were considerable operational activity over the summer period, a range of 'continuous improvement' type initiatives are underway throughout the sector and Inspector Gerry Prins of the NZ Police resigned after a lengthy career.

The Council **Noted** the report from the NZSAR Consultative Committee.

8. Secretariat & NSSP update

Duncan updated the Council on the current NSSP. The programme is on track. Further discussion was held on the work being done by the consultant on the Wander project.

Some useful discussions have been held within the mentally impaired/Alzheimer's/dementia community regarding Wander SAR. The Police commented on work they are undertaking in this area too and wanted reassurance that all the right connections will be made going forward.

Action: The Secretariat is to continue to liaise with Police around Wander SAR developments.

9. General Business

- a) Fire Services Review: The Fire Review Panel report is complete. Recommendations of interest to SAR include:
 - Clarifying the mandate of non-fire emergencies and they relate to SAR
 - Discussion around the establishment of an Emergency Services Chief Executives Forum
 - Liability of volunteers in non-fire emergencies is limited.
- b) MetService Forecast Changes: Changes to the way weather forecasts are available impacts SAR because of the importance placed on safety messages that encourage checking the forecast before undertaking outdoor activities. Relevant SAR agencies have been consulted.

- c) National Bio-security Capability Network: MPI gave a presentation to the Consultative Committee at their last meeting, outlining the importance of having a strong link between SAR and plans for a national bio-security network. MPI were attracted to the concept of SAR being nationally available and believes this will be of great benefit to the Biosecurity network.
- d) Air Observers Review: The survey of trained air observers is now complete with 166 responses received. Work will now commence between RCCNZ and Police to better refine the quantity and quality of the training.
- e) RCCNZC Value for Money Review: The report is now finalised and is due to be signed off by the Steering Group. It will then be presented to the MNZ Board and then made available to the Council.
- f) Beacons: There has been a huge surge in beacon registrations, mainly due to the *High Country Rescue* TV programme that was aired through the summer holidays.
- g) RCCNZ MEOSAR Project: Nigel Clifford updated the Council. The project was due out for tender in November, however due to unforeseen delays in the process this has not yet happened. This will happen soon and the work is still on target for completion at the end of the financial year.

Next meeting:

Combined Council and Consultative Committee meeting – Tuesday 7 May (the NZSAR Awards are also being held that evening).

[Council Meeting later transferred to 17 May]

Meeting ended at 10.00am

Martin Matthews
Chair
NZSAR Council

Item	Decisions / Action	Responsibility
6	SAR Awards. NZSAR Secretariat to review the NZSAR Awards policies and make recommendations to the NZSAR Council.	Secretariat NZSAR
8	NSSP - Wander Search and Rescue. The Secretariat is to continue to liaise with Police around Wander SAR developments.	Secretariat Police