



New Zealand Search and Rescue Consultative Committee Meeting

Minutes of Meeting

New Zealand Search and Rescue
Consultative Committee Meeting
Wednesday 15 February 2011 at 1.00pm
Conference Room Ministry of Transport
Level 6 Novell House
89 The Terrace, Wellington

Attendees:

Mike Davies – DOC	Patrick Holmes – Coastguard NZ
Bruce Reid – Coastguard NZ	Colin Small – Coastguard NZ
Rodney Bracefield – RCCNZ	Phil Burgess – NZSAR
Brendan Comerford – MOC	Paul Craven – RCCNZ
James Lamb – MOC	Gerry Prins – NZ Police
John Scobie – LandSAR	Darryl Carpenter – NZMSC
Rachel Roberts – NZSAR	Adam O'Rourke – NZDF
Hadyn Smith – LandSAR	Andy Kent – SLSNZ
Carl van der Meulen – NZSAR	Tony Wells – SARINZ
Duncan Ferner – NZSAR	David Waters – Ambulance NZ
John Yaldwyn – AREC	Viv Bracefield – NZSAR
Alan Walker – CDEM (visitor)	

Apologies:

Steve Kern – CAA	Iain Miller – Antarctica NZ
Brett Sullivan – SLSNZ	Jeff Sayer – AREC
Geoff Pierce – NZDF	Lloyd Matheson – AIA

1. Welcome

Carl van der Meulen opened the meeting and extended a special welcome greeting to:

Patrick Holmes, incoming CEO of Coastguard NZ
Adam O'Rourke, NZDF
Phillip Burgess, Training Coordinator NZSAR Secretariat

Farewell

Bruce Reid, CEO of Coastguard NZ, was given a farewell and thanked for his excellent work to Coastguard NZ, and the SAR sector in New Zealand.

2. Apologies

Apologies received as listed above.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 9 November 2011

The minutes of the meeting of the Consultative Committee held on Wednesday 9 November 2011 were approved, with corrections to misspelt names.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of meeting on 9 November 2011

- Item 4:** SAR & CDEM Engagement. On Agenda, Item 9
- Item 8:** TEC Review. On Agenda, Item 11c
- Item 9:** SAR Prevention. On Agenda Item, 11d
- Item 10:** Marine SAR Workshop – Table of Action Points to be updated
- Item 12:** Calendar 2012 is completed. Please advise further updates for the calendar to Phil Burgess.

5. Joint Service Level Agreement monitoring report: 1 October to 31 December 2011 Quarter

The summary report was distributed prior to the meeting. There was a total of 501 SAROPS, with 47 lives saved during the quarter.

A comparison of this quarter with the same quarterly period in 2010 shows that there was a 17% decrease in the number of SAROPS, with a 45% decrease in the number of people who required help from the SAR sector.

This is the second successive quarter in this financial year with a 17% decrease in the number of SAROPS conducted by the Coordinating Authorities.

6. Sector Update

The Consultative Committee sector update was circulated prior to this meeting. It was agreed that this will be the practice for future Consultative Committee meetings. Further discussion items to come out of the report were:

AREC

Some AREC members are reporting SAROP hours in LandSAR's reports to the Council. All issues regarding licensing and authorisations with regards to equipment are to be dealt with at the national level.

Mountain Safety Council

MSC are working through the bedding in of the revised Outdoor Intentions process. There is concern that funding for the Public Avalanche Advisory has not been secured for the 2012 season.

Coastguard NZ

Patrick Holmes has been appointed the new CEO and will take up the position on 5 March 2012. Maritime NZ has conducted a review which has resulted in unbudgeted safety and audit charges for Coastguard. Coastguard Southern Region has identified a perceived gap in the SAREX/IMTEX activity. If this is adopted nationally there will be an impact on national training funds.

SLSNZ

There will be three new General Managers appointed this week.

LandSAR

LandSAR raised a concern regarding the conduct of land based beacon searches. They would also like to see the development of an Air Observers course for land searches. These issues were addressed at a meeting with the Coordinating Authorities and NZSAR on 8 February. LandSAR is concerned about Intellectual Property principles being applied to public good activity.

7. National SAR Support Programme

SAREX support

An update was provided on the SAREX programme for the year. There is a need for the Police Districts to complete the planned and budgeted SAREXs. A planning meeting will be scheduled to plan the SAREX calendar for next year.

SAR Managers Training Development

There has been a three day workshop with all parties involved, which has resulted in a pathway forward to the pilot training course.

AdventureSmart

The development of the AdventureSmart website has progressed well. There is a focus with the website to target the inbound tourist. The Secretariat encourages all the organisations within the SAR sector to provide links to AdventureSmart from their own websites.

Prevention Collateral

Duncan provided an update on the production and distribution of prevention collateral. Feedback is requested on this, and information is needed for planning future production runs of collateral.

Air Observer training /refresher courses

RCCNZ provided an update on Air Observer training courses. Planning is underway for the course structure for the next two years. The focus will shift away from training new observers, and towards maintaining currency of trained observers. There will be a limited amount of new training each year to offset attrition of trained observers. This will lead to a tighter nominating process for course selection – courses will remain open to members of Police, LandSAR, Coastguard, and SLSNZ.

Alpine/Back Country workshop

This workshop is planned to be held in the South Island in May 2012 and will involve LandSAR, Doc and MSC. The purpose will be to advance Back Country SAR standards. The workshop will be sponsored by the NZSAR Council, and LandSAR will have the responsibility for organising it.

SARNET

A trial will be conducted on two web-based collaboration systems to evaluate and choose a preferred system. Following a decision there will be long term licensing to be organised.

8. NZSAR AWARDS 2011

Date: To be confirmed, likely to be Wednesday 2 May 2012

14 nominations have been received. A sub-group of the Consultative Committee will be asked to rank the nominations by Wednesday 22 February. The NZSAR Council will then make its final decision on recipients when it meets on Wednesday 29 February. The synopses of the nominations received were presented to the meeting.

The sub-group members are: Gerry Prins, NZ Police; Darryl Carpenter, MSC; Rodney Bracefield, RCCNZ; Brendan Comerford, MOC; Mike Davies, DOC (convenor); David Waters, Ambulance NZ.

9. SAR / CDEM Cooperation

The Secretariat presented a paper for endorsement by the Consultative Committee on *Enhancing Search and Rescue Sector Cooperation with the Civil Defence & Emergency Management Sector*.

The paper has been produced in an effort to enhance engagement at all levels between the two sectors. These are organised along dissimilar lines which leads to inherent variations in engagement around New Zealand. The paper incorporates feedback from Police and MCDEM.

The paper provides an outline of how enhancements to the relationships between SAR and CDEM sectors will be achieved, through an Engagement Model describing effective management at the local, regional and national level. A Practical Guideline is also included to assist engagement activities (for those who require it).

Feedback from the consultative committee was that the engagement model needs to clarify the importance of local territorial authorities, as the relationships need buy-in from the bottom-up. Radio communications sharing arrangements also need to be included as examples in the practical guideline.

Following endorsement of the paper by the Council, there needs to be a programme of engagement between the two sectors. It was suggested that this occurs with the Emergency Service Coordinating Committees, local, and group controllers. It would be beneficial to get MCDEM to endorse this paper as well as the Council. Alan Walker indicated that MCDEM will encourage closer engagement between the two sectors.

The Consultative Committee endorsed the paper.

10. Mass Rescue Operations Framework

The Secretariat will be presenting a proposal to the NZSAR Council on the development of a strategic policy for Mass Rescue Operations. The Consultative Committee was asked to provide feedback, and to endorse the proposal.

This work is necessary as there is a policy gap at the strategic level. One of the aims of the policy will be to clarify responsibilities for planning at the operational

level. The sector is also being asked questions about its ability to respond to a MRO situation as a result of the publicity surrounding the recent grounding of the *Costa Concordia*.

A New Zealand response to a MRO will likely overwhelm SAR resources, so there needs to be preparation at the national level. It was noted that it is very important that the public are able to observe that procedures and policies are being instigated by the sector.

In June there will be an international conference on planning for MROs Stockholm, Sweden. The Consultative Committee believes that NZ representation (from RCCNZ) at this conference will be beneficial.

The Consultative Committee endorsed the proposal.

11. General Business

a) Intellectual Property

The Secretariat Manager stated NZSAR's position that it will strongly resist any attempt at commercialisation of SAR Intellectual Property. NZSAR will share all information and endorses the sharing of material and ideas, as SAR is for the public good.

b) Police SAR Review

The Police SAR Review will be with the NZ Police Executive next Monday (13 February 2012).

c) TEC review of training for SAR sector

The TEC review paper of training for the SAR sector has not yet been presented to the Minister. The Secretariat will make information on this paper available as it comes to hand. It is envisaged that any changes would come into effect from January 2013.

d) SAR Prevention

There has been great consistency in the use and promotion of the safety codes over summer. This was noted in the various press clippings that have mentioned SAR prevention.

e) Planning for 2012/13

The Secretariat will facilitate a meeting of all agencies to plan SAREXs, air observers' courses, major joint activities, and conferences for the forthcoming year. The meeting will be held in Wellington on Wednesday 28 March. Participants are to provide their proposed plans and available dates for these activities to Phil Burgess (NZSAR Training Coordinator) by 21 March.

f) SARNET

As discussed earlier two versions are currently in trial. There is no software installation, but it needs internet, webcam, microphone and speaker. It works best with a headset.

g) MET Service

The Secretariat Manager reported that the MET Service is under funding pressure. MET Service has recently provided an update to the National Pleasure Boat Safety Forum on changes to marine forecasts. There may also be changes to long range forecast services for the land environment. These changes could impact on safe planning for longer duration recreational activities (tramping etc).

h) Meeting Format

There was some discussion on ensuring the format of the Consultative Committee meeting continues to meet the needs of the sector. It was agreed that sector updates will be provided in written format, so that more time in the meeting can be spent dealing with the strategic matters on the agenda.

Meeting closed at 16.10hrs

Next meeting

Wednesday 9 May 2012 (updated post meeting)

Combined NZSAR Council and Consultative Committee meeting

Carl van der Meulen
NZSAR Secretariat

Actions Arising		Responsibility
6. Sector Updates	To be provided to the Secretariat prior to each Consultative Committee meeting	All
8. NZSAR Awards	The Sub-Committee to rank the nominations received by Wed 22 Feb.	Sub-Committee
9. SAR/CDEM Engagement	All SAR sector organisations are to promote engagement and cooperation with the CDEM sector within their organisations. Engagement between the two sectors to be carried out at the local, regional, and national levels.	All
11. e) Planning for 2012/13	Proposed plans and dates for SAREXs, major training courses, conferences, and workshops to be provided to Phil Burgess by 21 March.	All