



New Zealand Search and Rescue Council & Consultative Committee Meeting

Minutes of Meeting New Zealand Search and Rescue Consultative Committee Meeting Wednesday 2 August 2012, 1.00pm Ministry of Transport, Level 6, Novell House 89 The Terrace, Wellington

Attendees:

Carl van der Meulen – NZSAR
John Seward – RCCNZ
Harry Maher – LandSAR
Patrick Holmes – Coastguard
Darryl Carpenter – NZMSC
Duncan Ferner – NZSAR
Gerry Prins – NZ Police
Alison Goffin – NASO
Rachel Roberts – NZSASR

Paul Craven – RCCNZ
Nathan McMaster – NZDF
Colin Small – Coastguard
Phil Burgess – NZSAR
Mike Davies – DOC
Bruce Johnston – NZ Police
Brett Sullivan – SLSNZ
David Waters – Ambulance NZ
Amy Greig – MoT (Minutes)

1. Welcome

Carl van der Meulen opened the meeting and extended a special welcome to Alison Goffin from the National Ambulance Sector Office (NASO).

2. Apologies

Andy Kent – SLSNZ
John Scobie – LandSAR
Steve Kern – CAA
Geoff Pierce – NZDF
Jeff Sayer – AREC
Brendon Comerford – MOC
Lloyd Matheson – AIA

3. Minutes of meeting held on 9 May 2012

The minutes of the meeting of the combined Council and Consultative Committee held on 9 May 2012 were endorsed by the Consultative Committee for approval by the Council.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of meeting on 15 February 2012

Item 8 – Planning for 2012/13

The Secretariat to work with the NZ Police and wider sector to implement the approved SAREX support plan for 2012/13

Action taken: On agenda - item 9c (Training Coordinator Update).

Item 10 – Social Media

SAR Organisation will remind staff and volunteers about posting operational matters on social media networks.

Action taken: Completed.

Item 10 – Social Media

Members were invited to provide the Secretariat with their current social media policies and procedures so that they can be shared across the sector.

Action taken: To date, NZSAR have not received any social media policies or procedures to share with the sector.

Item 11- Sector Update

Members will include hyperlinks to AdventureSmart from the appropriate parts of their own websites.

Action taken: Most organisations have completed this, some still to progress.

**5. Joint Service Level Agreement monitoring report:
1 April 2012 – 30 June 2012 Quarter**

The summary report was distributed prior to the meeting. During the quarter there were 492 SAROPs, with 31 lives saved.

A comparison of this quarter to the same period for last year shows there was a slight decrease in the number of SAROPs. There was a decrease in the number of lives saved, an increase in the numbers of people rescued, and a significant increase in the numbers of people assisted.

2,398 Coastguard volunteers responded to 676 non-SAR related calls for assistance during the quarter.

There were two large land SAROPs (North Otago and Hunua Ranges) during the quarter.

Issues and Updates:

Coastguard:

Phil Pollero has been appointed to the newly established position of National Operations Manager.

The tightening economic conditions and increasing costs of business continue to be the major challenges facing Coastguard.

SLSNZ:

The Swim and Survive programme (learn to swim and water safety sector) has been under the spotlight with reviews of Swimming New Zealand and Water Safety New Zealand.

LandSAR:

LandSAR is progressing with defining a set of competencies for volunteers, to ensure national consistency in trained volunteers available to the coordinating authorities.

LandSAR remains engaged with the collaborative work on the AdventureSmart and Outdoors Intentions process.

NZSAR:

The Health and Safety study suggests there may be an H&S impact on future versions of the joint service level agreements.

6. Sector Update

The sector update was distributed before the meeting. The following updates were provided.

Ambulance NZ – there were 328 incidents recorded for the month of July that required an air service response.

Police – There appears to be some discrepancy around the statistical reporting from Police. Police and NZSAR will discuss this further outside of the meeting.

The Police have started a public education and awareness campaign around the use of Chinese lanterns.

Police have been dealing with large numbers of OIA requests recently, particularly a large request from the Southland Times regarding Foveaux Strait.

DOC – DOC have been working with Air NZ on their 'Great Walks in NZ' campaign, where details of NZ's great walks and relevant safety messages have been included in the in-flight magazine. This includes the Outdoor Safety Code.

7. NASO Update

Alison Goffin provided an overview on the role and work of NASO. NASO aims to help foster a consistent, national direction for NZ's ambulance services and coordinate funding from the main agencies that fund the ambulance sector.

NASO manages the implementation of the Strategy and funding and contracting for the Emergency Ambulance Services. Current projects include:

- Establishment of Clinical Desks in the three ambulance Communication Centres
- Dispatch Protocols for Emergency Air Ambulance Services
- New Service Agreement for EAAS commencing early 2013

NASO manages the contracts with ambulance providers including Ambulance Communications Centres, Emergency Road Ambulance Services: St John, Wellington Free, Emergency Air Ambulance Services (8 Trusts and two Trusts sub-contracted – collectively called the Air Rescue Group (ARG)).

NASO and the ARG work together and contribute to the Air Rescue Forum. The Forum may look to extend an invite to the SAR sector to participate in due course. For more information visit: www.naso.govt.nz.

8. National SAR Support Programme (NSSP) - Update

The NSSP for 2011/12 was successful, with the following key milestones achieved:

- Training Coordinator Appointment made
- 5 Advanced Air Observer courses held, 78 students in total
- 1 Basic Air Observers Course held, 38 students
- 3 On Scene Coordinator courses held, 59 students
- Marine SAR workshops held in Auckland, 88 people attended

- Back Country Technical workshop held in Christchurch in May, 22 people attended
- AdventureSmart phase 2 redevelopment completed and promoted
- Prevention Collateral fine tuned and distributed
- Outdoors intentions process – supported and implemented
- 11 SAREXs supported at a cost of \$45k
- SAR-NET trial phase complete
- Health and Safety study complete
- Admin and organising support rendered

The Wander Plan and Workshop was not completed due to varying circumstances, this will be looked at again this year. The SAR Managers Course redevelopment is partially complete.

NSPP Update for 2012/13 Update:

- Hoist Operators workshop (II), scheduled for August 2012 at Ohakea.
- Avalanche workshop – June 2013
- Admin and organising support – Viv Bracefield has been engaged to do this work.
- SAR-NET – deploy in September
- SAR Managers Training Development to be completed by early 2013
- OSC Course to be held on 11-15 November, 20 people expected to attend.
- Air Observers Basic Course – to be held May 2013, 27 people expected to attend
- 3 Air Observers Advanced Courses to be held, around 60 people to attend.
- MATEL Field telephone – awaiting progress report from NZDF
- AdventureSmart and VI Maintenance – contracted
- Collateral and Promotion work under way.
- SAREX Support - \$55k allocated to 18 SAREXs this financial year
- Mass rescue policy and mass rescue exercise progressing
- Evaluation/Moderation guidelines
- Debrief guidelines – Police and SAR considerations
- Per plan guidelines are underway
- Flight Tracking Devices – work has been contracted
- Risk Framework development initiated
- NSSP review initiated
- SAR Research
- Health and Safety implementation
- On line SAR training material

9. Training Coordinator - update

Guidelines for development

These are complete and ready to be distributed to the sector.

Hoist Operators Workshop

This is scheduled for 21-22 August at Ohakea. This workshop will be held in collaboration with NZDF - RNZAF, there appears to be a lot of enthusiasm for the workshop, 90 people expected to attend.

Planning for 2012/13

This is underway and the financial year is looking good. As a reflection of the Major SAREX Planning Meeting held on 28 March 2012, the training year is underway and planned SAREX are spread throughout the financial year and looking particularly good.

General

The training coordinator has been out and about within the sector a lot recently meeting key personnel in the sector and observing training SAREX's, courses and workshops which has been really useful in terms of networking and building relationships. The training coordinator is pleased with how this is going.

The training coordinator provided a useful update on the feedback he had from the Canterbury Police SAR coordinator, Ryan O'Rourke, on Op Swift, an Avalanche SAREX held in late June. Ryan arranged for the police photography unit to capture photos and video throughout the duration of the exercise. It should prove to be a cost effective and innovative way to capture the training, lessons learnt and events that went on during this large Avalanche SAREX.

10. Healthy and Safety

Purple Consulting were engaged to undertake a study of Health and Safety issues for the sector. The draft report was distributed prior to the meeting. The following points were raised during the discussion:

- The Committee agreed risk management and safety for individuals is paramount and a collaborative approach is desirable.
- There is a risk of duplication of effort by organisations to achieve similar and consistent H&S policies/processes across the sector. There needs to be open sharing and collaboration within the sector to reduce overall costs and time efforts wherever possible.
- One of the major areas of concern is around H&S requirements and processes for ad-hoc volunteers. This will be addressed by the coordinating authorities.
- The Secretariat will collate feedback on the draft report, and will present this to the Council. Purple Consulting is available to assist organisations in the development of their H&S policies and processes.

The Committee **endorsed** the study.

11. Mass Rescue Operations Policy

The policy is at a draft stage, and is going through the first rounds of consultation with some of the key stakeholders. It is more than NZSAR – this policy has the interest of DPMC, ODESC and the Public Safety Cluster – i.e. the whole of Government.

Carl gave a brief overview of the draft policy. Some of the key points of the policy include: Planning for People; Plan Integration; Multi-Incident, Multi-Agency response arrangements; and integrated response planning.

Any feedback on the draft policy is to be sent directly to the NZSAR Secretariat.

12. SAR-NET

Duncan provided a demonstration on how this collaboration tool works. This will be a great resource for online meetings, especially for those organisations who are financially stretched; it could significantly reduce the cost of travelling for meetings. The tool is expected to be active in September, and it will be provided to organisations within the sector. The NZSAR Secretariat will be seeking feedback on its utility.

13. General Business

Police SAR Review. This document will soon be distributed to the sector for feedback. Police would appreciate comments back within the next couple of days.

TEC Review. No further update was available.

SAR Prevention. This was covered earlier in the meeting.

Resilient Pamphlets. The NZSAR Secretariat was approached by Resilient offering counselling services for individuals who assist with traumatic/crisis type situations. The pamphlets were distributed at the meeting as an FYI for the group; any follow up is to be made directly to Resilient.

Beacons. Total NZ Beacon registrations is currently at 30,834.

Next Consultative Committee meeting:

Wednesday 7 November

Carl van der Meulen
NZSAR Secretariat

	Actions	Responsibility
10. Health and Safety	H&S feedback to be sent to the NZSAR Secretariat	All
	Study endorsed by the Committee	Secretariat
11. Mass Rescue	MRO feedback to be sent to the NZSAR Secretariat	All