

**Minutes of NZSAR Council**  
**9:30am – 10:00am Wednesday 28 November 2018**  
**Chancellor 6, Level 16, James Cook Hotel**  
**147 The Terrace, Wellington**

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

Peter Mersi welcomed all attendees to the NZSAR Council meeting.

**Present:** Peter Mersi (MOT), Duncan Ferner (NZSAR), Mike Hill (RCCNZ), Lt Col Ant Blythen (NZDF), Harry Maher (DOC), Paul Turner (FENZ), Chris Scahill (Police)

**2. Apologies:** Ian Coard (Independent), Tusha Penny (NZ Police), Rhys Jones (FENZ), Graeme Harris (CAA), Keith Manch (MNZ)

**3. Minutes of previous Council meeting**

**Action:** Replace Evan Williams with Ant Blythen in previous minutes.

#	Item	Actions & Decisions	Responsibility	Actions Taken/Status
7a	NZSAR Risk Matrix - SAR Funding	<b>Action:</b> Further engagement with other agencies involved in BePA report.	Secretariat	Engaged and report updated
7b	NZSAR Risk Matrix – SAR Technology	<b>Action:</b> Explore SAR application for spontaneous volunteer’s opportunity.  Council <b>approved</b> the removal of SAR Technology Risk Treatment 2018/09/C ‘Identification (and possible support) of incident management team support software’.	Secretariat	Investigation ongoing.  Treatment removed
8	SAR Secretariat Review	<b>Action:</b> Secretariat to collate the evaluations and advise MOT.	Secretariat	Completed
10a	NSSP Training 17/18 report	<b>Action:</b> FENZ to brief on COP project.	FENZ	Completed
10c	Finances 2017/18	Council <b>accepted</b> the proposed use of funding and <b>agreed</b> with the application to carry forward surplus.	Secretariat	Funding carried forward

11b	SAR Prevention – Henley Hutchings Report	<b>Action:</b> Secretariat undertake further engagement with agencies and update the report as required.	Secretariat	Completed
12	NZSAR Operation Mangatawai	<p>Council <b>accepted</b> the report and <b>directed</b> the Secretariat to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• invite Police and MNZ to examine recommendations, implement them and report back to Council.</li> <li>• establish a system for monitoring the outcomes of such reviews. An oversight of all recommendations showing whether they are closed/still under action/still being reviewed should be set up as part of the Actions Register.</li> </ul>	Secretariat	<p>Completed</p> <p>Under Action</p>

#### 4. SLA monitoring report: July to September 2018

**Approved:** The NZSAR Council approved the new SLA monitoring report layout.

#### 5. SAR Training

This paper updated Council members on developments for the funding of SAR training from 1 January 2019.

Options for the provision of training post SAR (ACE) (2019 – 2020) were discussed. TEC will retain responsibility for funding.

The Training Governance Group's plan is to divide training into two parts: 70% LandSAR-only training; and 30% multi-agency training. There are a variety of remaining complications to resolve to enable training to be delivered in 2019. These include the finance model, access to existing intellectual property, negotiation of three separate agreements, overhead funding and the Secretariat's relationship with TEC.

The Council **noted**:

- a. The Minister of Education has delegated authority to TEC to purchase search and rescue (SAR) training (and Civil Defence Emergency Management (EM) training), for two years from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2020 as an interim arrangement.

- b. The NZSAR Secretariat is working with Ministry of Transport and Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) officials on arrangements for 2019/20 SAR training funding, reporting and delivery.
- c. The NZSAR Secretariat proposes to formally engage LandSAR NZ and Tai Poutini Polytechnic (in the first instance) to manage the delivery of specified courses in 2019 once secure funding and agreed accountabilities have been established.
- d. The proposed division of training responsibility.
- e. The likelihood that the resolution of funding and operational arrangements will take time making the commencement date of SAR training in 2019 uncertain.

#### 7. **LandSAR NZ Board update**

The Council considered a short paper that advised them of turbulence within the LandSAR NZ Board.

Following discussion, the NZSAR Council:

- a. **Noted:** The simultaneous resignation of the LandSAR NZs Board's two independent members.
- b. **Noted:** The decision of the LandSAR NZ Board to merge with SARINZ, become a private training establishment and its intent to deliver training to non-SAR persons as a profit-making business.
- c. **Approved:** The NZSAR Council approved the dispatch of a letter to the Chair of the LandSAR NZ Board.

#### 8. **NZSAR Reviews update**

The Council considered a short paper which updated the Council members on the progress of NZSAR reviews.

Following discussion, the NZSAR Council **noted:**

- a. the completion of the Operation Wallis Review;
- b. the development of review recommendations register;
- c. the initiation of the Operation Morgan Review;
- d. the 2018/19 review of the Police SAR function; and,
- e. an IPCA investigation is underway in relation to some aspect of Operation Mangatawai.

#### 9. **Civil Aviation Bill**

The Council considered a paper which informed them of the development of the Civil Aviation Bill (CAB) to replace the Civil Aviation Act 1990 (CAA).

Following discussion, the Council **noted:**

- a. The Ministry of Transport will engage with the NZSAR Secretariat and other relevant SAR agencies during the development of the Civil Aviation Bill,

- b. The Secretariat will keep the Council apprised of any proposed changes to the legislation that may affect the SAR system.

10. **General Business**

- a. Temporary NZSAR Secretariat location. The NZSAR Secretariat has temporarily moved to co-locate with RCCNZ at Avalon until late February 2019. The NZSAR Council expressed thanks to RCCNZ for accommodating the NZSAR Secretariat until their permanent move in February 2019.
- b. Helicopters. The Council discussed implications of the change to the helicopter ambulance and SAR helicopter system. The Council were advised that GCH have increased prices for helicopters by \$2000 per hour (was \$4000 per hour, now \$6,000 per hour). They were also briefed on developing operational concerns which have the potential to negatively impact the ability of the SAR sector to deliver effective SAR services.

**Actions:**

- a. The two coordinating authorities are to record all instances where the changes to helicopter arrangements are impacting on SAR services.
- b. NZSAR, Police and RCCNZ are to prepare a combined paper for the next NZSAR Council meeting outlining the operational issues and an analysis of the actual or potential impact due to the changes in helicopter arrangements.

**Conclusion.** The meeting ended at 10am.

Peter Mersi  
Chair  
NZSAR Council

#	Item	Actions & Decisions	Responsibility	Actions Taken/Status
3.	Minutes of previous Council meeting	Replace Evan Williams with Ant Blythen in the previous minutes.	Alannah Rogers	Completed
4.	SLA monitoring report July to September 2018	The NZSAR Council examined the new style SLA monitoring report.		Approved
6.	LandSAR NZ Board update	Send letter to LandSAR NZ Board Chair.	NZSAR Secretariat	Sent
10.b.	Helicopters	The two coordinating authorities are to record all instances where the changes to helicopter arrangements are impacting on SAR services.	Police, RCCNZ	Under action
		NZSAR, Police and RCCNZ are to prepare a combined paper for the next NZSAR Council meeting outlining the operational issues and an analysis of the actual or potential impact due to the changes in helicopter arrangements.	NZSAR, Police and RCCNZ	See Item 15