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| Item |  | Action |
| 1. | **Welcome and Introduction**  Michael Avril, chair of Water Safety Scotland, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for their efforts in attending. He mentioned a few new faces and a round-robin introduced new and old members.  **In Attendance:**  Becs Miller, RNLI  Christie Burnett, RoSPA  Dave Rossetter, Glenmore Lodge  Dean Cowper, Scottish Government  George Baggley, SFRS  Grant Murray, Scottish Water  Helen Miller, North Ayrshire Council  Karen Prior, West Dunbartonshire Council  Kenneth MacDermid, RLSS  Lee Heard, RLSS UK  Lisa Stuart, Safe-Tay  Michael Avril, RNLI  Helen Bowker, RLSS  Tim Doran, RNLI Lifeguards  Mike Garfitt RNLI  Carol Dick, Scottish Water (Go Safe)  Jeff Spencer, SFRS  Steve Muldoon, HMCG  Peter Stewart, HMCG |  |
| 2 | **Apologies**  Andrew Blake, Orkney Council  Andy Murray, Scottish Canoeing Association  Cheryl Smith, Aberdeenshire Council  David Birrell, Fife Council  Derek Wilson, SFRS  Elizabeth Lumsden, RoSPA  Frank Creighton, Outer Hebrides Council  Iain Mackinnon, Argyll and Bute Council  Jane Pritchard, Perth and Kinross Council  Jayne Smith, Scottish Swimming  John Reid, Highland Council  Malcolm Russell, Orkney Council  Murray Humphries, LochWatch LochAwe  Norman Patterson, Scottish Water  Paul Richardson, Scottish Borders Council  Stuart Stevens, SFRS  Yvonne Beresford, West Lothian Council |  |
| 3 | **Brief from the Chair**   * MA mentioned he had been working on seeking new group members and thanked the HM Coastguard for coming along. MA mentioned he had also been in contact with the RYA, who wish to begin attending in the New Year. * National Water Safety Conference, Durham: MA mentioned members from WSS attended the launch of the National Drowning Prevention strategy, which will be discussed today. Copies of the Drowning Prevention Strategy were handed out. |  |
| 4 | **Secretary Report**   * Water Safety Scotland Website: Please send company logos and projects/campaigns for 2016 calendar year. * Go Safe Scotland: CB mentioned Carol Dick, Scottish Water was in attendance who is leading on Water Safety for the [Go safe](http://www.gosafescotland.com/) online interactive resource, if you have any lesson plans/activities you can provide please contact carol direct ([Carol.Dick@scottishwater.co.uk](mailto:Carol.Dick@scottishwater.co.uk)). * See full secretary report: http://www.watersafetyscotland.org.uk/members/ | **ALL** |
| 5 | **Minutes from Previous Meeting Held on 16th June 2015**  A) Accuracy   * There were no amendments highlighted regarding the minutes of the fifth meeting   B) Matters Arising   * There were no matters arising from meeting * The minutes were proposed by Dave Rossetter and Seconded by Kenneth MacDermid |  |
| 6 | **National Drowning Prevention Strategy, Michael Avril**   * MA introduced the NWSF Drowning Prevention Strategy and mentioned it was a conglomeration of work from many different partners. * MA mentioned the WSS objects and reflected how similar they are to the proposed drowning prevention strategy |  |
| 7 | **Questions/Discussion- National Drowning Prevention Strategy**   * DR- We need to understand the benefit of the risk, risks need to be managed and benefits highlighted in terms of recreational activity * LH- Mentioned WSS were ahead of the game, it should be proposed as a call to action to start to input non-fatal data and lobby for the need to access and address such data. We should be collecting near misses and analysing activities. * HMCG- Do we have access to data that reflects near misses? * MA- There is still work to do; we have data on where accidents happen and what the factors were but not in every case. * HMCG- Different communications prevent consistent data- we are losing stats through multi-organisational input. * MA- WAID is improving vastly and is getting more resources put into it. * BM- Can we interrogate data? * MA- We are still unsure of what level of access we have as a group to WAID and are working on finding this out. * KM- There is a cost implication to WAID and this is what is placing barriers on access * DR- We need to have access to this data, if we are going to do something about it we need to know where the problems are. The Outdoor sectors are spending a lot of money on looking into near misses in recreational activities. * HMCG- Why can’t we access data? * MA- We are pushing for access for the group but as mentioned by Kenny there are cost implications. * DR- Can we get figures as to how much it costs? That would be useful to know. * LH- I think the problem with access lies more with inconsistency in inputting the data- it looses vigour if too many people are putting it in, in different ways. * LH- mentioned the data in the National Drowning Prevention Strategy is based on 5 year average. | **MA, KM, CB** |
| 8 | **Safe-Tay, Lisa Stuart**   * Lisa started off by thanking MA for inviting her along today and began talking about her brothers tragic drowning fatality and how her family pulled together to start Safe-Tay; a drowning prevention charity focused on preventing further drownings from happening in the River Tay in areas around Perth. * See LS presentation: |  |
| 9 | **Questions and Discussion- Safe-Tay**   * MA- When you were putting signage in did you think about putting in multi-lingual signs? * LS-We didn’t discuss this but wanted the signs to be pictorial. * HMCG- Having all signage with Gird References would be great * DR- Grid Reference is great if it is done correctly * HMCG- Did you have any issues with vandalism? * LS- Yes there had been a few cases, especially with people stealing the throw lines; they are still being removed 2-3 times a week. * BM- Suggestion to put dye pack on the throw line cases? If someone is struggling you won’t care if you get dye on you. * BM- The stats are pretty big, you mentioned 10 in one year, is there any specific reason for this high figure? * LS- We couldn’t work out why, but a lot of them were suicides. * GM- When did flood defences go in? (change in walls/fencing) * LS- 2005, incidents have been jumpers. * BM- Is your work involved with Primary Schools? * LS- Yes the Safe-Tay project is still promoted. |  |
| 10 | **National Awareness of everyday risks, Lee Heard**   * Lee Heard, RLSS UK looked into maintaining consistency in order to infiltrate key messages, he mentioned RLSS UK aim campaigns at compelling stories to target the correct audience. Lee went on to mention how we can deliver ‘the compelling story’ in Scotland. * Kenneth MacDermid, RLSS UK mentioned the national “Don’t Drink and Drown” campaign will be launched between the 25th-31st January 2016. Please support this event by sharing tweets, facebook messages or contact Kenny to come along and help out at Glasgow University. (KennyMacdermid@rlss.org.uk) | **ALL** |
| 11 | **Questions and Discussion- National Awareness of everyday risks**   * HMCG- I am shocked at the stats for swimming, if we have those in working environment (SFRS, Police) staying 3meters away from the water edge with floatation devices and full kit on but not going in, we can promote to the public that even with life saving equipment they still do not enter the water unless necessary. * MA- It’s about a change in attitudes and behaviours. |  |
| 12 | **Workshop: Scotland’s Answer to the Drowning Prevention Strategy**   * See workshop attachment on WSS website * Send in one key message from your organisation to go on the key messages document- 11th December 2016 * If you want to be part of the Educational sub group run by Kenneth MacDermid and Becs Miller please contact [watersafetyscotland@rospa.com](mailto:watersafetyscotland@rospa.com) * It was asked if Logo for WSS could be sent round the group | **ALL**  **ALL**  **CB** |
| 13 | **Date and Time of Next Meeting**   * The Next Meeting will be the **8th March 2015** * Future Dates for your diary:   7th June 2016  6th September 2016  6th December 2016   * If you would like to host a WSS meeting please email [watersafetyscotland@rospa.com](mailto:watersafetyscotland@rospa.com) | **ALL** |
| 14 | **Close**   * MA thanked everyone once again for their attendance * MA reminded everyone one to carry out action points required * MA asked if anyone had any suggestions for meeting speakers/themes to get in contact | **ALL** |