



Water Safety Scotland

Minutes of the 18th Meeting held

5th February 2019

RNLI, Ruthvenfield Grove, Perth

1100 - 1500

Item		Action
1.	<p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>Michael Avril (MA), chair of Water Safety Scotland (WSS), welcomed everyone to the 18th meeting of WSS.</p> <p>A safety briefing was given and round table introductions were made.</p> <p>Present:</p> <p>Steering Group -</p> <p>Chair: Michael Avril, RNLI Vice Chair: Stephen Lyon, RLSS UK Secretariat: Carlene McAvoy, RoSPA</p> <p>Members -</p> <p>Ross Greenhill, MCGA Dave Rossetter, Glenmore Lodge David Walker, NWSF John Ireland, Forestry Commission Hannah Blair, Pinkston Water Sports James Jopling, Samaritans Ronald Megaughin, Police Scotland Ben Liversedge, SFRS Stuart Ballantyne, Trossachs SAR Jane Campbell Morrison, AALS Jason Burns-Sweeney, Scottish Canals Jane Pritchard, Perth and Kinross Council Helen Miller, North Ayrshire Council Ian Prosser, STA (via Skype) Gena Falconer, (via Skype)</p> <p>Guests/Speakers</p> <p>Chelsea Charles, Visit Scotland Scott Fraser, RNLI Jacob Davies, RNLI Brian Robson, RNLI Karin Bloodworth, SEPA Lee Heard, RLSS UK Ruth Stidson, SEPA Laura Erskine, RNLI Brian Devlin, Trossachs SAR</p>	



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	<p>Chris Kirkwood, Scottish Canals</p> <p>In attendance</p> <p>Carolyn Reid, Water Safety Scotland/RoSPA</p>	
	<p>Apologies received:</p> <p>Clare Adamson, MSP Frank Creighton, Western Isles Council Shelley Hague, Angus Council Robert Hamilton, RH Swim Sheena Harper, RLSS UK Roger Lockwood, RNLI Peter Lorrain-Smith, Police Scotland/Mountain Rescue Elizabeth Lumsden, RoSPA Sharon Macdonald, Scottish Swimming Colin MacDougall, Tayside Multi-Agency Suicide Review Group Roddy MacInnes, Aberdeenshire Council Ross MacLeod, RNLI George Parsonage, Glasgow Humane Society Kevin Paterson, HM Coastguard Stewart Prodger, SEPA George Rawlinson, NWSF</p>	
2.	<p>Steering Group Report</p> <p>The full Steering Group Report can be accessed here.</p> <p>The main points can be found below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MA welcomed Stephen Lyon (SL) from RLSS UK as new Vice-Chair of Water Safety Scotland.• The online satisfaction survey sent out to members of Water Safety Scotland by RoSPA closed on 22/01/2019. The results can be viewed online here. Thank you to everyone who took the time to take part. Members to note that all ideas for future improvement are welcome.• MA attended the NWSF meeting on 5th December 2018.• The Steering Group has successfully expanded membership of Water Safety Scotland as evidenced by attendance at today's meeting. Members to contact secretariat if they have any issues	



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	<p>accessing the Members section of the website.</p> <p>MA had also attended opening event for salmon fishing season with Trossachs Search and Rescue team.</p>	ALL
3.	<p>Minutes from Previous Meeting held on 9th October 2018</p> <p>Accuracy:</p> <p>There were no amendments to the previous Minutes.</p> <p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the meeting.</p> <p>The Minutes were proposed by Ross Greenhill (RG) and seconded by Ben Liversedge (BL)</p> <p>The approved Minutes can be accessed here</p>	
4.	<p>Action Points</p> <p>The October actions list is available on the website here</p> <p>MA noted all actions were complete and extended thanks to all for contributions.</p>	
5.	<p>Visit Scotland presentation</p> <p>Chelsea Charles (CC) of Visit Scotland outlined plans for 2020 Year of Coasts and Waters, YCW2020. Her presentation covered background, objectives, scope, events, marketing & PR and key milestones. The presentation can be accessed here</p> <p>Members discussed the inclusion of safety messages and images. CC welcomed opportunity to liaise with WSS members on content and update the campaign working group.</p> <p>CC thanked members for the opportunity to update the group and expressed an interest in joining Water Safety Scotland.</p> <p>MA thanked CC and agreed to contact her about the membership process.</p> <p>It was agreed to form a small subgroup for YCW2020. Members</p>	ALL



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	<p>interested in joining to contact CR.</p> <p>CM added that 2020 would be a busy year for WSS and RoSPA on behalf of WSS are looking for support to resource funding a drowning prevention conference for Spring 2020.</p>	
6.	<p>RNLI campaign update</p> <p>Scott Fraser (SF), for Ross MacLeod, RNLI briefed members on development of new RNLI Life Skills paid media campaign due to go live late June 2019. He outlined campaign objectives, how they tie in with WSS objectives and how they sit within RNLI strategies.</p> <p>It will be a test campaign and the target audience is Mums of children age 4-11 years, so approx. 35-55 years, to empower parents, to increase awareness of relevance of safety messages to them and encourage them to share messages with their children and their networks.</p> <p>HP expressed concerns at proposed target audience. RS also noted balance of Dads v. Mums present at points of activity delivery.</p> <p>SF noted that the campaign had been tested and resulted in the chosen target audience.</p> <p>DW thought that a deliberately provocative campaign may encourage viewers to click into more positive messages for further information and that campaigners should not be afraid to use shock tactics.</p> <p>BL asked that since there had been no swimming lessons in schools over the last 20-30 years, would the campaign be taken into schools? He felt that school involvement/inclusion on curriculum would be important.</p> <p>BR agreed to feedback on Mums v. Dads audience. He noted that teaching is being pushed at every opportunity by Swim England. He also underlined the importance of teaching about cold water shock and that 18-35 year olds are main targets.</p> <p>RG noted that confidence does sometimes result in bravado. HP noted the need for sensible, positive interaction with water and SF felt the key point is improvement.</p> <p>DW agreed with the concerns voiced and noted that although the</p>	



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	<p>campaign may not be considered correctly targeted, it is necessary to have these conversations and take risks about what is said to audiences.</p> <p>BR noted that as well as immersive activity e.g. learning to swim, safety messages must also be underlined. Currently it is large commercial centres who want to engage, but as RS noted, you cannot buy safety training. He went on to ask anyone who can assist with Swim Safe to please get in touch.</p> <p>SF/RM will report on findings of test campaign at a future meeting.</p>	
7.	<p>Suicide Prevention Subgroup Update</p> <p>JJ noted that the National Suicide Prevention Action Plan had been published in August 2018. There will be a review of local authority plans and a call for information is out. This will be distilled and discussed at subgroup to identify best practice and areas where action is required. Materials will be produced around media reporting balance and subgroup will review to see where good practice is happening, or not happening. For example, there is work being done in Glasgow on phones. JJ also outlined a study done at Dundee University on suicide data over the last 50 years which might be of interest to the subgroup and suggested possibility of inviting author to a subgroup meeting.</p>	
8.	<p>Education Subgroup Update</p> <p>BL reported on behalf of the Education Subgroup.</p> <p>There was a good mix of members in the subgroup which had been discussing targeting getting swimming back into schools and would now take this forward with Stephen Lyon. The group had received an interesting presentation from Aberdeen Swim Group. DR noted the important role of outdoor education centres and the possibility of getting national governing bodies subgroup together. BR agreed this was an important point and would be happy to get behind any piece of work on standardisation which stops messages being subliminal and emphasises the life skill. JCM noted the COO group among governing bodies and DW added that 28th March is pencilled in to call in other governing bodies across the UK.</p> <p>RG felt it would be interesting to find out how much exposure children have to outdoor activities and JCM noted it was approximately 500,000</p>	



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	<p>from licensed providers. RG noted that groups such as the Scouts would not be included in those figures. JCM and BR to liaise on omnibus surveys. MA added that there had been problems getting information on how many school children can swim at the moment and that is being worked on by the Steering Group. RoSPA have prepared a survey for Local Authorities.</p>	
9.	<p>Data Subgroup Update</p> <p>CM updated the meeting on the Data subgroup which meets three times per year. The last meeting was on 22nd January. Minutes are available on the website</p> <p>Key actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter to Local Authority Chief Executives in Scotland asking if they would get involved and sign up to WAID and this is ongoing with SFRS. • NRS have signed up on the comparison project with WAID. • Group looking at comparative case study with Gillian Barclay on what happens after a fatality and the difference in law e.g. coroner v. procurator fiscal. All comparative research is online. 	
10.	<p>Policy Update</p> <p>There is currently no subgroup.</p> <p>RoSPA released 2018 update on Local Authority research. This can be downloaded here It shows that 40% of Local Authorities have a policy.</p> <p>RoSPA and RNLI will be holding a workshop in Perth on 9th April. Speakers will include Jane Pritchard from Perth & Kinross Council and Helen Miller from North Ayrshire Council as well as RoSPA and RNLI.</p>	CM/MA
11.	<p>NWSF Update</p> <p>Dave Walker (DW) updated the meeting on behalf of George Rawlinson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camber Sands – The net effect of the report to prevent future deaths was that the Coastguard commissioned a lawyer to review operations. This is at first stage but there will be 	



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	<p>recognition of substance and an opportunity to maximise on care and duties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWSF – New NWSF site looks and feels similar to WSS. DW will circulate and comments are welcome. • WAID – data website platform is ready and DW outlined web pages and simplified dashboard which will be developed in more detail over next 6 months. • Governance/New ToR – there had been significant work done on reviewing the lawyer’s report and working through the critical review. DW to draft new ToR for Forum and network looking at a plain English version with a target of Q1 2019. • Swim England – DW noted it was worth looking at the work they had done. • Next steps– 2018 stats are due for 1st May 2019 release. DW will liaise with comms team. <p>MA asked if there was any update on WAID resources and DW explained this was splitting into units with the biggest issue being data entry and whether to adopt the existing system or start afresh. There needs to be a review of cost benefits of data entry v. rebuilding.</p> <p>GDPR review didn’t cause any great concern but going forward it would. Back end of the data will close down. WAID as a service won’t change that much, it is backroom engineering. A re-build will be expensive or there could be a smaller re-build adaptation. It will be Chairs who will need to view.</p> <p>DW went on to explain taxonomy and new detailed level in version 2. e.g. accident suspected/accident confirmed. There will be very detailed information not for the public domain but for specialist groups.</p> <p>Challenge will be resourcing/population and testing what can be produced.</p> <p>DW noted that in addition to the possible Spring 2020 Conference mentioned by CM, the UK conference would take place 19-21 November in London.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing Safety at Inland Waters – a key piece of advice and a 	<p>DW</p>
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	<p>critical document for contact with dutyholders. The stance is more pro-risk, more fluid with legal analysis/case law examples, 'how to' guides, detail on controls. More information can be found here</p>	
12.	<p>Organisation/member Updates</p> <p>MCGA/RG:</p> <p>RG outlined change in way of gathering information e.g. inflatables – new system has entry for this. A lot of new information as from 27 December and a lot of it will go into WAID.</p> <p>RoSPA/DW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NOC have been working on management of safety equipment including case study of fatality on River Tummel.• DW sitting on British Standards working group on guidance on welded line snaps. Phase two will look at public equipment. A third phase <u>might</u> look at professional equipment.• Leisure awards – there have been a lot of high quality entrants and the judging phase will take place over the next couple of months. Entries will be peer reviewed and at the end there will be a small number of really good examples. <p>Forestry Scotland/JI:</p> <p>Scottish Water have put up a lot of signs but Forestry Scotland talking with them about management of water safety in addition to current work occupational health and safety focus.</p> <p>Pinkston Watersports/HB:</p> <p>As a new member HB was pleased to attend first meeting and observe format for future meetings.</p> <p>SEPA/KB:</p> <p>Working on education re flooding and preventing accidents with children. Would welcome any ideas about how we can fit into strategy.</p>	



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<p>Police Scotland/RM:</p> <p>Have developed a large footprint in comms. Happy to assist in spreading messages, as long as they do not conflict with PS messaging. Suicide prevention/vulnerability is an issue for PS and have offered team member for Suicide subgroup. Will be looking at prevention strategy before next meeting which should be ready by end March.</p> <p>Scottish Canals/JBS:</p> <p>Have been doing further work on risk assessment. Video content on website still to happen. Will be holding an event on 25th March at Maryhill.</p> <p>Perth & Kinross Council/JP:</p> <p>Noted that the policy document is helpful for new staff.</p> <p>North Ayrshire Council/AM:</p> <p>Continuing to do risk assessment and sometimes going to schools to promote messages.</p> <p>RLSS/LH:</p> <p>Implementation guide in draft form 1 is available on website, looking at launch by summer and will be about lessons learned.</p> <p>Thanked everyone who contributed to #DontDrinkandDrown which had resulted in 62m reach/750,000 footfall. There had been no drownings over the Christmas and New Year period.</p> <p>RNLI/LE:</p> <p>Engaged with 500,000 young people last year, mostly via volunteers.</p> <p>New events will include Safe Highlanders/SFRS. The focus for 2019 will include secondary school audiences. RNLI will have new resources which will support anyone, not just professionals/RNLI volunteers. Continue to look for new partnerships.</p> <p>SFRS/BL:</p> <p>142 incidents, down 4%. 30 fatalities, up 5%. Figures will be updated</p>	
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<p>at end of April.</p> <p>Starting a cadet scheme for 11-16/17 year olds who will be taught water safety. Every firefighter is trained in water safety.</p> <p>Happy to share any campaigns on social media channels.</p> <p>TS+R/ SB:</p> <p>Now in 21st year. Lots of lochs and rivers in catchment. There were three deaths last year so have decided this year to put together an action plan. BD appointed as water safety officer. There are ideal opportunities to highlight messages at events e.g. highland games. Will highlight water safety at education visits. Will be looking at compliance for own safety.</p> <p>Attended opening of salmon fishing season. Throwline training attracted over 25 people.</p> <p>AALS/JCM:</p> <p>Currently undergoing change. Tender for contract will be made public in March. There has been discussion around removal of licensing in the next few years with replacement by non-statutory scheme. Can provide link to update.</p> <p>JCM asked members if they were aware of 3words app. There was a general awareness. RG noted that positioning information from mobile phones was more useful and to his knowledge the app was not actively supported by any UK emergency services.</p> <p>STA/IP (via Skype)</p> <p>Looking to expand international learn to swim programme, 13-19 May, designed to share benefits of swimming and will include water safety messages. Have been approached by local authorities, schools, colleges and are going to try and bolster water safety messages and hope to share information with the group.</p> <p>WSS/CR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Logos, photographs and contact details requested for website	
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	<p>updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Event details requested for website calendar	
13.	<p>Close</p> <p>MA thanked everyone for attending. He also thanked the speakers and RNLI colleagues for attending and hosting the meeting and lunch.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held 11am-3pm on Tuesday 4th June 2019 and will be hosted by Scottish Canals at the Blueprint Room, Falkirk Wheel.</p> <p>If you are interested in hosting a meeting, please contact watersafetyscotland@rospa.com</p>	ALL