



National Coastwatch Fleetwood

EYES ALONG THE COAST



NCI FLEETWOOD TRAINING MANUAL

PART 2

NCI STRUCTURE & RELATIONSHIPS

Table of Contents

	Page Number
INTRODUCTION	1
STRUCTURE OF NATIONAL COASTWATCH	1
THE SEARCH AND RESCUE ORGANIZATION	2
HOLYHEAD COASTGUARD	2
COASTGUARD RESCUE TEAMS	2
COASTGUARD HELICOPTER	3
ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION	3
MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING	3



National Coastwatch Fleetwood

EYES ALONG THE COAST



NCI FLEETWOOD TRAINING MANUAL

PART 2

NCI STRUCTURE & RELATIONSHIPS

Introduction

Watchkeepers should understand the structure and procedures of NCI, both national and local. Most of this information is contained in the National and Station manuals which are available in the watchstation.

Structure of National Coastwatch.

National Coastwatch Institution is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

The object of the CIO is to assist in the protection and preservation of life at sea and along the United Kingdom coastline.

It consists of a number of watchstations located around the UK coast. These are administered by an elected team of Trustees.

The Trustees form an Executive Committee, and are assisted by appointed Officers with responsibilities for:

- Finance
- Corporate Communications
- Operations Support
- Administration Support
- New Station Development
- External Liaison
- Fund Raising



National Coastwatch Fleetwood

EYES ALONG THE COAST



Following an election by the members of a watchstation the NCI Trustees appoint a Station Manager (SM), whose appointment is confirmed after a satisfactory six-month probationary period.

The SM appoints up to 2 Deputy Managers (DM) and chairs the Station Management Committee.

Each Station is responsible for raising sufficient funds to cover its annual running costs. This is mainly through collections, donations, legacies, etc. It is an integral part of a watchkeeper's duties to assist with these fund-raising efforts.

Each watchkeeper is responsible for paying their own capitation (membership) fee which is determined by the national treasurer each year. This can be paid from station funds if it is agreed at the station's annual general meeting.

Watchkeepers must maintain up to date knowledge of NCI national and local policies that affect their effectiveness as a watchkeeper.

The Search and Rescue (SAR) Organisation.

There are various significant organisations directly involved with strategic UK SAR operations. It is essential that watchkeepers maintain the very best of working relationships with the local personnel of such organisations.

Holyhead Coastguard (HMCG).

In the Fleetwood area all SAR activities are coordinated and controlled by the Holyhead Coastguard Operations Centre. At very busy times Holyhead Coastguard may be assisted by other UK Coastguard Operations Centre.

Coastguard Rescue Teams (CRT).

Coastguard Rescue Teams (CRT) are made up of volunteers who are called out by the Operations Centres. They are situated at strategic locations around the coast and are equipped to deal with the risks associated with local shoreline activities and conditions.



National Coastwatch Fleetwood

EYES ALONG THE COAST



There are teams located at Knott End caring for the area north including The Lake District, and Fleetwood caring to the south to Southport. All CRTs have a search capability and in addition, many have a cliff and/or mud and shoreline rescue capability.

Coastguard Helicopter.

The local Coastguard rescue helicopter is based at Caernarfon Airport and its operations are coordinated mainly by Holyhead Coastguard.

Whilst on training missions it uses the callsign 'Coastguard 936'. If it is involved on operations it uses the callsign 'Rescue 936'. A second aircraft can be made available if required and would use the callsign '937' with the appropriate prefix.

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).

The RNLI is a voluntary organization whose purpose is saving lives and promoting safety at sea and on the inland waters of the UK.

It does this by providing and maintaining a fleet of Inshore (ILB) and all weather (AWB) lifeboats at strategic points around the UK.

RNLI Fleetwood have a Shannon class AWB and an ILB

Other organisations such as the Police, Ambulance and Fire and Rescue can often be asked by Holyhead Coastguard for their assistance.

Although Holyhead Coastguard is usually the first point of contact for NCI Fleetwood, circumstances may dictate that other emergency services need to be informed.

Memoranda of Understanding.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets out the operational working practices of HMCG and NCI that have been agreed by the NCI Chairman and the Chairman of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency.

It sets out how each organization should conduct its business on a day-to-day basis.

The MOU also sets out the requirements of Declared Facility Status (DFS).



National Coastwatch Fleetwood

EYES ALONG THE COAST



NCI Fleetwood is designated as having Declared Facility Status and may be called upon to make its watchkeepers and equipment available in any SAR situation.

A similar MOU between the UK Border Force and NCI has also been agreed, setting out how each organization conducts its working relationships.

Copies of the full MOUs are available in Part 1, section 3 of the NCI National Manual.



National Coastwatch Fleetwood

EYES ALONG THE COAST



INTENTIONALLY BLANK