



Lyme Regis
Town Council



Lifeguards



Lifeguard Service Monitoring Report
9th December 2024

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1. Performance against contract

Service delivery

Scheme of compliment

Dates of operation:

[Please refer to season dates and staffing levels as provided at beginning of season in opening season date letter].

Season Dates and Staffing Overview 2024:

Area	Beach Name	Early Season	No LGs	Full Start	No LGs	Main start	No LGs	Peak start	No LGs	Peak Finish	No LGs	Main Finish	Full Finish	Late Season
WEST DORSET	Lyme Regis							06-Jul	2	01-Sep				

Hours of operation:

1000 – 1800hrs

Staffing levels:

The RNLI met the Lifeguard scheme of compliment (SoC) 100% in 2024 for Lyme Regis Beach. Easter Lifeguard inductions ran from Monday the 18th of March through to Tuesday the 26th of March for six returning 2023 Weymouth & West Dorset RNLI Lifeguards. A Selection Day (see annexure 1) was held on Sunday the 14th of April for eight applicants, where six gained either a full or part-time paid position for Peak Season. One volunteer Lifeguard Support and four volunteer Lifeguards were also a part of the 2024 team this year, with their help being invaluable, especially on busy days. During May there was a considerable change within the Supervisor team (see section 6 for RNLI management changes for further details), which required successful Senior Lifeguards, after an interview process, to step-up and cover in a Supervisor capacity as and when required. The Weymouth & West Dorset RNLI Lifeguards 'Weymouth Challenge' (see annexure 2) returned once again this year with the team competing in a fun fitness challenge and social event at Weymouth Main Beach on the evening of the 29th of August 2024.



[Photo: Weymouth & West Dorset 2024 Team, West Bay, Dorset]

Equipment summary by beach:

	Lyme Regis
ATV	-
Van	-
4WD	-
IRB	-
RWC	-
Boards	2
RNLI lifeguard facility	1 BLU



[Photo: Taken by Nathan Williams, RNLI Media Team - RNLI Senior Lifeguard Ben Greenslade carrying out a board patrol]

The Lyme Regis Beach Lifeguard Unit (BLU) was installed on the 18th of June so to be ready for the Peak Lifeguard service starting on the 6th of July 2024. The central location on the sandy beach allows for a high level of interaction with members of public that position themselves nearby. It also considerably lessens the risk of the Lifeguard Unit steps being undercut when spring tides coincide with large sea conditions/swell, which removes a substantial amount of sand from the beach along the wall that divides the sandy beach from the stoney beach. Being elevated also allows for a greater level of observation capabilities when scanning both the primary (between the red and yellow flags) and secondary areas (200metres laterally from the red & yellow flags and 400metres out to sea) of the beach. Lyme Regis Lifeguards respond to water related incidents using either a rescue tube or rescue board.



[Photos: RNLI Lifeguard Cole Dickinson watching over Lyme Regis Beach on the 2nd of August 2024 (Left), RNLI Lifeguard Abi Greenslade, Grade 3/Senior Lifeguard Xanthe Dyer and Senior Lifeguard Ben Greenslade, taken by volunteer RNLI Lifeguard Malcolm Greenslade on Sunday the 7th July 2024 (Right)]

Contract specification compliance:

The lifeguard service agreement contains a schedule of service specification. The below is a summary of how the RNLI performed against this schedule:

	Met	Exceed	Failed	Narrative
Carry out a risk assessment in respect of the patrolled beaches.	X			Lyme Regis annual RAs carried out on 11th November 2023, which covered the 2024 season
Provide a lifeguard service on the beaches covering a series of operational areas as agreed with the beach operator.	X			Service provided across the area as described in the 2024 service agreement.
Provide a lifeguard patrol during the season in accordance with the RNLI SOPs and LOPs.	X			Yes
Provide the lifeguard patrol in accordance with the criteria for Blue Flag or similar award.	X			Lifeguard service provided at agreed designated locations.
Instruct its lifeguards to observe high standards of courtesy and consideration towards members	X			No complaints
Notify members of the public of the relevant local byelaws, which relate to beach safety.	X			Yes
Inform the appropriate officer responsible for environmental services regarding any beach cleaning requirements or pollution incidents.	X			Yes
Complete incident reports, daily logs and staffing level records on a daily basis and included in an annual report to the beach operator.	X			Yes
Ensure that all public relations, incident data, publicity and media releases are agreed between the parties beforehand.	X			Yes

1. Service statistics

All incidents at Lyme Regis Beach were recorded on RNLI Lifeguard paper forms, which were specifically issued and stored in accordance with GDPR regulations. A description of each incident type is provided below:

Animals when a lifeguard rescues or assists an animal to safety.

Anti-social behaviour when a lifeguard takes action to deal with anti-social behaviour.

Assistance where a lifeguard aids a person in the sea who is at low risk but, if left, would be at risk.

Casualty care where a lifeguard formally assesses and/or treats a casualty according to RNLI casualty care protocols.

False alarm when a lifeguard responds to an incident where a person is believed to be in difficulty but upon arrival it is confirmed they do not require assistance.

Incident any situation that RNLI lifeguards are involved in.

Incident action the number of different ways that lifeguards deal with incidents. Any one casualty could receive multiple actions by lifeguards. Actions where no people are involved are also included.

Life saved where, if a lifeguard had not intervened, a life would have been lost.

Minor first aid where a lifeguard treats a casualty due to sickness or injury who is at low or no risk but who requires treatment to ensure the risk does not increase.

Missing/ found where a lifeguard assists in the location of children who have become separated from their parents/guardians, or other people who have been found or reported missing, including those who are known to be missing as a result of an incident in or on the water.

Near miss when a lifeguard observes an incident, event or condition that does not cause death or serious injury but has the potential to do so.

Non-aquatic assistance, including from sandbanks when a lifeguard assists a person that was not in the water, or clears a sandbank of people who are at risk and ensures they return to shore.

Other anything else that does not fit into the specified categories.

People aided the total number of people that lifeguards have aided.

Preventative action any action taken by a lifeguard that provides advice, guidance or direction to a person that mitigates against risk.

Rescue where a lifeguard responds to a person at risk and physically returns them to shore or transfers them to another rescue craft.

Search an organised search, with other search and rescue units, for a missing person either at sea or on land.

Table 1 shows a comparison of the types of incidents dealt with over the last five years, along with the total number of preventative actions. On the 12th of August 2024, **ONE LIFE** was **SAVED**; a 73yr old male who fell from the North Wall and sustained a significant head injury and suspected spinal injury. Lifeguards were first on-scene, where they quickly and safely established an effective airway so to prevent any worsening. Further details of this incident can be found in the next section of the report.

Year	Incidents	People Aided	Lives Saved	Rescue	Assistance	Casualty Care	Minor First Aid	Search	Missing/ Found	Non Aquatic Assist	Near Miss	False Alarm	Anti Social Behaviour	Animals	Other	Preventative Actions
2024	122	127	1	3	2	22	74	0	13	0	4	1	3	0	0	5,225
2023	117	179	1	0	3	10	74	0	20	2	52	2	2	1	14	7,791
2022	165	232	0	2	6	19	93	1	34	1	49	0	18	2	7	8,221
2021	117	117	0	0	2	11	84	3	16	1	0	0	0	0	0	7,691
2020	99	121	1	1	17	8	51	1	22	0	15	1	0	1	0	9,688
Total	620	776	3	6	30	70	376	5	105	4	120	4	23	4	21	38,616

[Table 1: A comparison of the types of incidents Lifeguards dealt with over the last five years along with total preventative actions at Lyme Regis Beach]

Graph 1 indicates the total number of incidents per year since the Lifeguard service started in Lyme Regis in 2007. 2024 recorded a very slight increase of 122 in comparison to 117 in 2023, however, this was still considerably lower than 2022. This could once again be down to poor weather conditions for the majority of the summer school holidays, with only one week of continued warm, sunny and settled conditions at the end of July and into August.

Incidents Per Year



[Graph 1: Total Lifeguard Incidents per year since the RNLI Lifeguard Service started at Lyme Regis Beach in 2007]

TOTAL INCIDENTS – Lifeguards responded to a total of 122 incidents at Lyme Regis Beach, which is the **25th busiest** out of all the **242 RNLI Lifeguard beaches** around the UK and Channel Islands in 2024. This is a considerable number for a Peak season (July/August) Lifeguard Service when in comparison to beaches that have Lifeguards on duty during the Easter School Holidays through to the October Half-Term.

MISSING/FOUND – Lifeguards helped to reunite a total of 13 missing or found children or vulnerable adults at Lyme Regis Beach during 2024, which is the joint **19th highest** number recorded out of the **242 RNLI Lifeguarded beaches** during 2024. The Lifeguards role during a missing person incident is to coordinate the initial information gathering, liaise with other emergency services and carry out a preliminary search. The Lifeguard Unit makes for a safe, open space for a found child to be cared for before being reunited. Lifeguards were backed up by a LRTC enforcement officer and/or seafront attendant if required, which was a great help.

Lifeguard Unit	Incidents	People Aided	Lives Saved	Rescue	Assistance	Casualty Care	Minor First Aid	Search	Missing/ Found	Non Aquatic Assist	Near Miss	False Alarm	Anti Social Behaviour	Animals	Other	Preventative Actions
	362	471	1	46	31	43	86	16	95	0	82	10	32	0	0	12,608
	360	415	1	89	25	34	185	0	80	0	0	2	0	0	0	5,987
	143	178	0	9	47	28	16	0	74	1	0	0	2	0	0	20,569
	161	166	0	7	12	15	49	4	68	1	5	0	5	1	0	13,559
	395	576	5	210	111	34	161	1	47	2	13	2	2	4	0	83,668
	135	138	0	5	8	14	71	1	42	0	0	1	0	0	0	13,909
	105	110	0	2	20	16	34	5	39	1	1	0	0	0	0	14,117
	74	80	1	2	12	10	22	0	35	0	0	2	1	1	0	7,970
	239	445	3	249	130	24	74	3	25	0	0	2	0	0	0	13,643
	102	102	0	1	13	10	51	0	23	1	2	0	0	0	0	9,597
	71	83	3	1	6	7	23	1	23	1	6	8	0	0	0	7,414
	184	258	0	35	81	17	107	0	23	0	6	0	0	0	0	24,570
	84	81	0	2	2	15	37	3	20	1	0	0	0	0	0	3,395
	93	108	0	3	5	8	57	5	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,554
	184	212	1	12	21	38	99	0	18	0	0	0	20	0	0	33,623
	37	41	0	3	10	5	3	2	18	0	0	0	1	0	0	14,094
	82	247	3	14	27	29	1	2	15	1	0	1	68	0	0	29,568
	106	129	1	9	24	10	61	1	14	1	5	0	4	0	0	9,182
	52	58	0	0	10	4	31	1	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	13,401
Lyme Regis (Cobb)	122	127	1	3	2	22	74	0	13	0	4	1	3	0	0	5,225

[Table 2: Top 20 out of 242 RNLI Lifeguarded beaches for Missing/Found incidents in 2024, with Lyme Regis circled]

CASUALTY CARE – Lyme Regis Beach had 22 Casualty Care incidents in 2024, which is the **9th highest** number of all **242 RNLI Lifeguarded beaches**. Further details of the specific incidents dealt with by the Lifeguards can be found in the next section of this report. 74 people were also treated with minor first aid during 2024, which is lower than in previous years. This could be a result of fewer beach visitors throughout the summer due to poor weather.

Lifeguard Unit	Incidents	People Aided	Lives Saved	Rescue	Assistance	Casualty Care	Minor First Aid	Search	Missing/ Found	Non Aquatic Assist	Near Miss	False Alarm	Anti Social Behaviour	Animals	Other	Preventative Actions
	291	359	2	90	37	45	181	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	28,736
	362	471	1	46	31	43	86	16	95	0	82	10	32	0	0	12,608
	184	212	1	12	21	38	99	0	18	0	0	0	20	0	0	33,623
	395	576	5	210	111	34	161	1	47	2	13	2	2	4	0	83,668
	360	415	1	89	25	34	185	0	80	0	0	2	0	0	0	5,987
	82	247	3	14	27	29	1	2	15	1	0	1	68	0	0	29,568
	143	178	0	9	47	28	16	0	74	1	0	0	2	0	0	20,569
	239	445	3	249	130	24	74	3	25	0	0	2	0	0	0	13,643
Lyme Regis (Cobb)	122	127	1	3	2	22	74	0	13	0	4	1	3	0	0	5,225
	162	192	1	33	28	19	100	0	9	0	0	0	0	3	0	18,224

[Table 3: Top 10 out of 242 RNLI Lifeguarded beaches for Casualty Care incidents in 2024, Lyme Regis circled]

Incident overview:

The following is a selection of the incidents that Lifeguards at Lyme Regis Beach responded to throughout the 2024 Lifeguard season. There are numerous more missing persons and minor first aids that have been recorded and in the overall years statistics that have not been cited below:

Tues 9th July - 14:05hrs

Lifeguards attended a **54yr old** diabetic male who **collapsed** at the Swim restaurant behind the Lifeguard Unit. The Lifeguards carried out **CASUALTY CARE** checks and reassured the casualty until the ambulance arrived.

Mon 29th July

14:55hrs - A **5yr old** boy fell whilst playing near the harbour and received a **large cut** to the **head**. The Lifeguards providing **FIRST AID**, cleaning the wound and recommended to the parents that they take the child to the Minor Injuries Unit providing them with a safe discharge form.

15:28hrs - A **2yr old** child was reported **MISSING** by his father to the Lifeguards at the Lifeguard Unit. Lifeguards noted down a description and prepared to start a search. A member of public not long after brought the child to the Lifeguard Unit at 15:35hrs and the Lifeguards were able to reunite him with his father.

Weds 31st July - 15:05hrs

Member of public alerted the Lifeguards to a **FOUND 3yr old** child who was on her own. A Lifeguard was able to encourage the child to walk with them back to the Lifeguard Unit after determining that she had lost her parent. The child then spotted her father at 15:20hrs on the beach reunited shortly after.



[Photos: RNLI Lifeguard Cole Dickinson (Top), Senior Lifeguard Ben Greenslade (Middle) and RNLI Lifeguard Jake Phare (Bottom), taken by volunteer RNLI Lifeguard Malcolm Greenslade on the first day of Peak season, 6th of July 2024 (Left). Busy Lyme Regis beach on the 30th of July 2024 (Right)]

Thurs 1st Aug

11:03hrs - Lifeguards noticed a **42yr old** woman who stumbled out of the water and then **collapsed** on the shoreline. Lifeguards quickly responded and carried out **CASUALTY CARE** checks where they found the casualty to be voice responsive and with a high capillary refill. The casualty complained of feeling faint with blurred vision. The Lifeguards administered Glucogel and prepared the Oxygen. The casualty's condition improved and stated that she had experienced a similar episode previously. Lifeguards monitored her until she was well enough to go home with a friend, as she did not wish for an ambulance to be called or go to hospital. A safe discharge form was provided before leaving the beach.

15:30hrs - An **11yr old** girl attempted to swim after a beachball, she became exhausted and struggled to return to shore. A Lifeguard attended on a rescue board to **ASSIST** her back to shore. Lifeguard gave safety advice to both the child and her parents.

Fri 2nd Aug - 17:09hrs

The Lifeguards were alerted to a **46yr old** woman who had recently been in the sea for a swim, she was suffering with an elevated heart rate and a rash all over her body, **possible anaphylaxis**. The Lifeguards carried out **CASUALTY CARE** checks, reassured and kept her warm. An ambulance was called, and the Lifeguards handed over to paramedics shortly after. Just after handing over the first casualty to the ambulance service a Police officer went to the Lifeguard Unit with a father and his **5yr old** son who had fallen off a wall further along the Marine Parade and sustaining a **head injury**. Lifeguards were able to ask the ambulance crew to check over the child, who was taken to hospital in the ambulance after the first casualty was well enough to go home with family.



[Photos: RNLI Lifeguard Cole Dickinson handing over casualty details to SWAST Paramedic and joint working with Police on the 2nd of August 2024]

Sat 3rd Aug - 17:30hrs

A family member alerted the Lifeguards to a **9yr old boy** with a diagnosis of autism who refused to leave the water and kept swimming further out. The aunt had entered the water to try and bring him back in. A Lifeguard responded on a rescue board. The boy refused help and kept dunking himself under water. The boy and his **35yr old** aunt both became tired, so the Lifeguard managed to persuade them to hold on onto the board. The Lifeguard then carried out a **RESCUE** and returned both exhausted casualties to shore and provided safety advice.

Mon 12th Aug

12:40hrs - A member of public alerted the Lifeguards to an **84yr old** woman who tripped and fell on the promenade. The lady was very pale and suffering from pain in her elbow. The Lifeguards carried out **CASUALTY CARE** checks, administered pain relief and treated her for a **possible fracture**. Her arm was supported by a triangular bandage before handing over to **Lyme Regis Coastguard Rescue Officers**.

14:00hrs - **West Bay Coastguard Recue Officers** requested that the Lifeguards assist them with a **FIRST AID** incident, a **35yr old** male casualty who was having a **seizure** after a fall at the top of the gardens. A Lifeguard attended with the responder bag and arrived on scene at the same time as an ambulance crew. Lifeguards cleared the beach for a potential Air Ambulance, but they landed elsewhere.

14:40hrs - A member of public alerted the Lifeguards to a **73yr old** male who had fallen 5ft from the harbour wall headfirst onto the rocks below. Lifeguards responded and carried out **CASUALTY CARE** checks, the male was found to be **'BIG SICK'** as **unresponsive** and had a compromised airway due to his position. The casualty had a **head wound, suspected spinal injury** and **fractured arm**. The Lifeguards carefully repositioned the casualty to **maintain an open airway**. The casualty had a high breathing rate and was alternating between pain responsive and voice responsive. Oxygen was administered, and as the casualty became more alert, he became agitated and tried to move. The Lifeguards fitted a spinal collar and used a spine board to get the casualty into a more comfortable position, allowing them to monitor him effectively. The casualty was reassured and continuously monitored by the Lifeguards. **Lyme Regis Coastguard Rescue Officers** responded and assisted the Lifeguards in clearing the beach to allow an **Air Ambulance** to land. The casualty was alert by the time the **Helimed Critical Care** team were able to evacuate the casualty from the beach.



[Photos: Devon Air Ambulance Critical Care team alongside Lyme Regis Coastguard Rescue Officers transporting the casualty to the aircraft (Left). RNLI Lifeguard Abi Greenslade (volunteering on day off), Lyme Regis volunteer RNLI Lifeguard Malcolm Greenslade, Senior Lifeguard Ben Greenslade, 16yr old volunteer Lifeguard Support Jude Harper (from Weymouth), RNLI Lifeguard George Kelman-Johns, RNLI Lifeguard Dean Thomas alongside covering RNLI Lifeguard Supervisor Lara Bruce who were all operational on Lyme Regis beach on the 12th of August 2024]

Fri 23rd Aug - 13:19hrs

A member of the public alerted Lifeguards to an unwell **72yr old** on the promenade. A Lifeguard responded and carried out **CASUALTY CARE** checks, the male had been stung by a bee in the mouth and was potentially having an **anaphylactic reaction**. The ambulance arrived on scene immediately after the Lifeguards carried out their checks where they handed over the casualty into the care of the paramedics and **AIR AMBULANCE Critical Care team**.

Sat 24th Aug - 16:03hrs

Lifeguards attended a **3yr old** female who was very hot, fatigued and had a chesty cough. The Lifeguard carried out **CASUALTY CARE** checks and administered oxygen due to a high breathing rate. The casualty was carefully cooled, and their breathing had settled prior to handing over to the ambulance service.

Wed 28th Aug

13:30hrs - Mother alerted Lifeguards that she was **MISSING** her **11yr old** daughter at 13:25hrs. Lifeguards commenced a search, whilst doing so mother found her daughter at 13:40hrs and brought her back to the Lifeguard Unit to let them know.

13:55hrs - Member of public brought a **FOUND 7yr old** child to the Lifeguard Unit. At 13:58hrs, having obtained a description of their family, one of the Lifeguards walked with the child back on the beach and found their parents at 14:00hrs.

16:05hrs - A **23yr old** male swimmer was struggling to return to shore. A Lifeguard responded on a rescue board to **ASSIST** them and then carried out some checks. The male appeared extremely tired and said they had a diagnosis of chronic fatigue syndrome. Both safety advice and a safe discharge form provided.

16:20hrs - Father of a **5yr old** child reported that he was **MISSING** his son to the Lifeguards at the Lifeguard Unit 16:35hrs, last seen at 16:20hrs. Lifeguards patrolled along with Lyme Regis Town Council staff. One of the LRTC Seafront Attendants found the child further down the beach and returned them to the Lifeguard Unit at 16:40hrs where they were reunited with his parents.

17:02hrs - A family friend reported that a **10yr old** child was **MISSING** at 17:00 to the Lifeguards at the Lifeguard Unit. Lifeguards started to search, when doing so a member of public found the child and took them to the Lifeguard Unit. The child was reunited with her parents at 17:07hrs.

Fri 16th Aug - 14:10hrs

The aunt of **MISSING 12yr old** child approached the Lifeguard Unit and gave a description who was last seen at 13:40hrs (half an hour ago). A Lifeguard went on patrol to Monmouth with the aunt to **SEARCH** along with a Lyme Regis Council Seafront Attendant. Lifeguards advised the aunt to return to where her car was parked in case the child returned there. Senior Lifeguard had phoned **Solent Coastguard** to inform them of the situation. Aunt phoned the Lifeguard Unit to say that she had found the child in the car park at 14:30hrs. Lifeguard confirmed this was the case and stood down their search, updating Solent Coastguard.

Tues 20th Aug - 11:04hrs

8yr old child approached the Lifeguard Unit in distress, Lifeguard collected as much information as possible from the **FOUND** child and then went with them to where they thought they based on the beach. Lifeguards were able to locate the child's grandmother and reunited the child at 11:13hrs.

Weds 28th Aug - 15:34hrs

Parents of a **MISSING a 6yr old** (last seen at 15:24hrs) alerted Lifeguards at the Lifeguard Unit. Lifeguards started a search and found the child not long after at 15:38hrs, where they were then able to reunite them with their parents.

3. Community engagement

Public engagement statistics:

RNLI Face to Face 2024

Location	RTW Messages	Youth Messages	Sign-Ups 2024
Lyme Regis Lifeboat Station	3221	2057	385

The table above shows the statistics (provided by the area RNLI Face to Face Manager, Rebecca Fox) of safety messages and sign-ups by the team based outside of Lyme Regis Lifeboat Station so far in 2024, including Peak season. The Respect the Water (RTW) and Youth Messages provided were relevant to Lyme Regis beach, primarily around the dangers of using inflatables at the beach along with the importance of always swimming at a Lifeguard beach and in between the red and yellow flags.



[Photos: RNLI Face to Face fundraisers based at Lyme Regis Lifeboat Station during 2024, taken by the RNLI Face to Face team]

National Television – BBC Breakfast

BBC Breakfast : Central London where there's a float to live ...

YouTube · Services will resume · 21 May 2024

YouTube



[Photo: Screenshot of RNLI Lifeguard Courtney Randino being interviewed for BBC Breakfast on the 21st of May 2024]

RNLI Lifeguard Supervisor Dom Fajkiel and Senior Lifeguard Courtney Randino had an opportunity to help launch the RNLI's Float to Live campaign alongside Helly Hansen at Sky Pool, Embassy Gardens in May 2024.

115 feet up in London skyline, global sailing brand, Helly Hansen joined forces with the RNLI, to launch its annual water safety campaign, "Float to Live" at the exclusive Sky Pool. Demonstrating vital survival skills in the iconic, see-through swimming pool, Dom, Courtney and a Helly Hansen sailing ambassador joined the BBC Breakfast team to show how to float in water, in a fully immersive environment. The event was also brought to life by a real-life account from a casualty who used floating to keep calm and safe, before an RNLI Lifeboat crew were able to rescue him. More photos can be seen in Annexure 3 of this report.





RNLI Meet The Lifeguards & Beach Safety Education 2024

Between the 15th to 19th, 22nd to 26th and 29th of April to the 3rd of May 2024, the interim weeks after the end of the Easter Holidays and start of Full Season, the Weymouth RNLI Lifeguard Team visited local **Primary & Secondary Schools** to deliver a ‘Meet the Lifeguards’ Beach Safety school talk programme to approximately 6,500 students. With an additional 250 children (Pre-school, Primary School and Weymouth College students) having an **ad hoc Beach Safety Talk** by operational Lifeguards at Weymouth Main Beach on quieter days during term-time. A **total** of around **6,750 students**.

2024	Meet the Lifeguards (Primary Schools)	Meet the Lifeguards (Secondary Schools)	Beach Safety Talks	TOTAL
TOTAL:	≈ 5,050	≈ 1,450	≈ 250	≈ 6,750

During all educational talks the aim is to explain what the ‘RNLI’ stands for, mentioning that the RNLI is a charity, the fact that the majority of Lifeboat crews (and some Lifeguards) are volunteers, what lifeboats do, what lifeguards do and how to work towards training as one locally through Weymouth Surf Life Saving Club, which beaches RNLI lifeguards work nearby and when, what to do if you get into trouble in water (FLOAT to live), the types of flags lifeguards use and their meaning, what to do if they see someone in trouble at the coast, ring 999 and ask for the Coastguard ASAP, and for the older students the dangers of rip currents and what to do if you get stuck in one along with the dangers of Tombstoning (highlighting the dangers of jumping in off the North Wall at low tide).



[Photo: Uniformed Protective Services Level 3 students visiting RNLI Lifeguards at Weymouth Main Beach, May 2024]



1



2



3

[Photos: 1. & 2. RNLI Lifeguards delivering a Beach Safety Talk at St Mary’s CE Middle School, Puddletown, 3. Beach Safety talk at Manor Park First School, April 2024]

Third party relationships:

Weymouth Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC), Est 2018

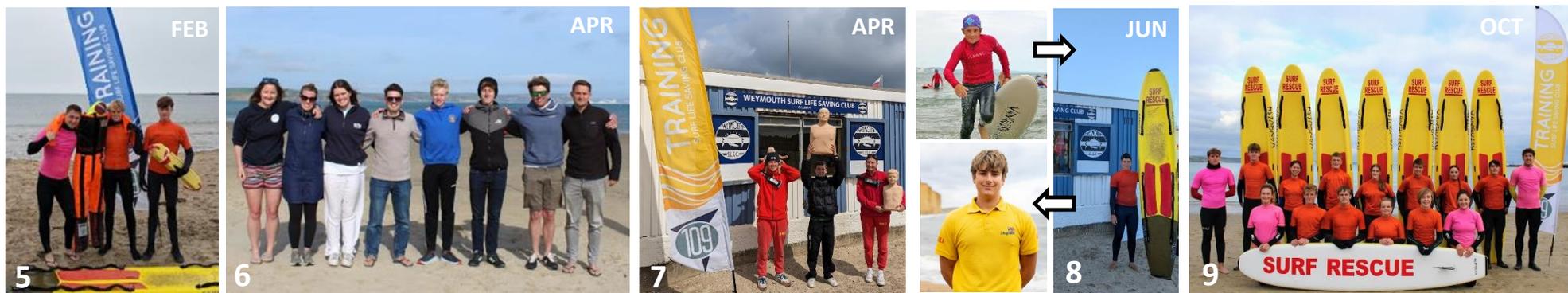
[47 x **Nippers** (7-12yrs), 35 x **Youth** (13-15yrs), 12 x **Seniors** (16-29yrs **non-RNLI**), 28 x **Seniors** (16-29yrs **RNLI Lifeguard team**), 30 x **Masters** (30yrs+) - **2024 TOTAL: 152**]

Weymouth SLSC continued pool training between January and March 2024, meeting monthly on Saturdays between 1230-1500hrs at Osprey Leisure Centre, Portland. This allowed an opportunity to carry out timed swims for those who had expressed interest in doing their Surf Life Saving Great Britain (SLSGB) Surf Lifeguard course to provide water safety for Nippers & Youth sessions and/or applying to work as a RNLI Lifeguard for Weymouth & West Dorset for the 2024 season.



[Photos: 1. Weymouth SLSC Clubhouse sunrise January 2024, 2. Youth members, 3. & 4. Nippers! Pool sessions at Osprey Leisure Centre during winter 2023/2024]

Nipper and Youth sessions started back throughout May to September on Weymouth Main Beach between 1800-1900hrs on Thursday evenings (see annexures 4 and 7) and Seniors (see annexure 8) 1900-2000hrs, along with ad hoc 18yrs+ Seniors and Masters 30yrs+ sessions (see annexure 9) on Tuesday evenings. Nipper numbers were capped once again so to allow new coaches to be trained up (see annexure 10). **21 new Lifeguards** were trained up this year with assessments running in February Half-Term, Easter Holidays and June, along with **2 newly qualified SLSGB Trainer Assessors**. All 2024 Weymouth & West Dorset Lifeguards are members of Weymouth SLSC, allowing them to keep their qualification valid. A 2024 volunteer RNLI Lifeguard Will Howard (see photo 8) started as a Nipper in 2018, progressed into Youth, is now a Senior member, and successfully passed his Lifeguard assessment in June 2024. In addition to Lifeguard training, Weymouth SLSC members also took part in a local Surf Life Saving competition in Poole (see annexure 5) along with an honorary club member representing Great Britain in the Lifesaving World Championships in Australia (see annexure 6). Weymouth Surf Life Saving Club have also been selected by Surf Life Saving Great Britain (governing body) to **host the National championships in 2025**, which is a very exciting opportunity for both the club and the Weymouth Town.



[Photos: 5. February Half-Term course, 2 new Lifeguards, 6. Easter course, 6 new Lifeguards, 7. New Lifeguard Support Jude Harper. 8. From Nipper to Youth and now qualified Lifeguard and RNLI volunteer Lifeguard Will, 9. October Half-Term Course, qualifying 6 new Lifeguards and trained up 5 more ready for an assessment in Feb 2025]

Weymouth & Portland Police

Strong links with Weymouth Police (both Response Units and Neighbourhood Police Team) remained in 2024 via ex-Weymouth & West Dorset Senior RNLI Lifeguards **PC Maddie Vincent** and **PC Charlie Frost** along with no longer PC Sandra Rigby, who is a very well-established RNLI Safeguarding Officer, since 2023. PC Vincent delivered a presentation to the Peak Lifeguards during inductions, discussing Child Exploitation & Sexual Offences, Bodies on the Beach, Lost or Missing People, Beach Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Byelaws, Lost/Found Property, Counter Terrorism, Pyrotechnics/Ordinance, Conflict Management and Reporting Incidents.



[Photos: 1. PC Vincent and Peak season Weymouth & West Dorset RNLI Lifeguards during inductions 2024, 2. & 3. Police response to a missing child incident at Weymouth Main Beach in May 2024, 4. Senior Lifeguard talking with a Weymouth PC mid-June after a spate of Anti-Social behaviour towards female RNLI Lifeguards in June 2024]



[Photo: Devon Air Ambulance and its Critical Care team responding to an incident at Lyme Regis beach on the 23rd of August 2024]

Lyme Regis Town Council Seafront
Attendant & Enforcement Officers



Lyme Regis
Town Council

Thanks once again to **Enforcement Officers** Alan Jefferies & Jennie West for their assistance throughout the season. Along with **Seafront Attendant** MJ (Matt Johnson) who was extremely helpful when the Lifeguards required any additional support, including opening the barriers for ambulances to gain access onto and off the seafront as well as assisting to search for missing children, or a found child parents. The RNLI Lifeguard team made good use of the council radio, which is especially helpful when extra help was required when dealing with a **Casualty Care incidents, Missing Persons, or Anti-Social Behaviour** on the beach. Peak season 2024 was particularly busy (in comparison with previous years), for incidents that required an Air Ambulance. Council staff were once again a huge help when it came to safely clearing an area for the aircraft to land.

Lyme Regis Coastguard Rescue Team (CRT)

Unfortunately, due to time constraints the Lifeguard team were unable to meet up with local CRT as part of their Peak season induction as per previous years. However, there was some very close joint working during a couple of incidents in 2024, and the CRTs help was extremely welcome and very much appreciated. The most serious of these incidents required Devon Air Ambulance to land on the beach and the casualty to be transported to the aircraft via a stretcher, something the CRT members were invaluable for. The plan is to arrange a joint exercise during the 2025 Lifeguard season with both Lyme Regis CRT and Lyme Regis Lifeboat.



[Photo: RNLI Lifeguards, Lyme Regis CRT and SWAST ambulance joint working at an incident on the 12th of August 2024]

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service

New for 2024 as part of Peak season inductions was a visit to **Poole Fire Station**, by invitation of **Barney Hedgecock** wholtime Firefighter and casual Senior RNLI Lifeguard for both the Poole Bay and Weymouth & West Dorset areas. Weymouth & West Dorset Peak RNLI Lifeguards were able to learn about Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service operational vehicles, equipment and capabilities, along with firsthand experience of Breathing Apparatus (BA) and Rope Rescue equipment. It proved to be a great **team building opportunity** as well as the potential to inspire progression towards joining the Fire Service, which has the ability to Lifeguard during the summer months where shift patterns allow.



[Photos: 1. Peak season RNLI Lifeguards with casual Lifeguard and Full Time Firefighter Barney. 2. New 2024 Weymouth & West Dorset RNLI Lifeguard and Lead Supervisor in BA sets. 3. Lifeguards kitted up ready up for abseiling. 4. Lifeguards abseiling and entering a training building in BA sets. 5. Lifeguards Fire Engine familiarisation]

Weymouth RNLI Lifeboat Station

This year marked **200 years** since the founding of the **Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)** with events organised both locally and nationally in celebration. The RNLI's 200th anniversary scroll arrived in Weymouth on April 25th 2024 (photos 2 & 3), and was signed by RNLI Lifeguard Supervisor Dom Fajkiel, Weymouth RNLI Lifeboat Shop Manager Sharyn Hibbs, Weymouth Lifeboat Visits Officer and Fundraiser Dave Carter and Andy Sargent, Coxswain of Weymouth Lifeboat. The scroll is inscribed with the RNLI's One Crew pledge, in which all participating stations promise to continue saving lives at sea for the next 200 years and counting.



[Photos: 1. RNLI 200th imagery, 2. Supervisor Dom Fajkiel signing the RNLI 200th anniversary scroll. 3. Weymouth Lifeboat Station personnel alongside Lifeguard Harry Hutchinson (in red) and Dom, helping to hold the scroll. 4. Two RNLI Lifeguards in the IRB taking part in a Parade of Sail on Tuesday the 14th of May 2024]

A Parade of Sail made up of 60+ vessels, including the Inshore Rescue Boat with RNLI Lifeguards Saffron Twigg and Molly Rose, was arranged for the 14th of May 2024. With the flotilla, led by Weymouth All Weather Lifeboat, mustering in Weymouth Bay before making way into the Harbour where a crowd had from, lining the quayside in support. RNLI Lifeguards also took part in Blessing of the Boats service and a fundraising Giant SUP race as part of Weymouth Lifeboat Week 2024.



[Photos: 5 & 6. RNLI Lifeguards George Kelman-Johns and Harry Hutchinson at the Blessing of the Boats service to mark the start of Weymouth Lifeboat Week. 7. Weymouth & West Dorset RNLI Lifeguard Team at Weymouth Lifeboat RNLi giant SUP race fundraiser. 8. Giant SUP race as part of Weymouth Lifeboat week 2024]

Lyme Regis RNLI Lifeboat Station

Thanks again to our colleagues at Lyme Regis RNLI Lifeboat Station for their support this year. With use of their Boathouse during Inductions to carry out theory training, an area to safely store Entonox as well as use of welfare facilities. Lyme Regis RNLI Lifeguards and Lifeboat Crew carried out two joint exercises (as per photos 1 to 7) this summer, and Lifeguards were kindly invited to a cream team as part of the RNLI's 200th 'One Moment One Crew' photo event (see next page).



[Photos: 1. RNLI Lifeguard Henry Birchall paddling out to perform a board rescue on a manikin casualty called 'Dead Fred'. 2. Lifeguard Henry transferring the manikin to Lyme Regis Lifeboat volunteer crew. 3. RNLI Lifeguard Cole Dickinson demonstrating how to FLOAT to Live with the RNLI Lifeboat crew encouraging members of public to do the same. 4. RNLI Lifeguard Cole Dickinson, covering RNLI Lifeguard Supervisor Courtney, RNLI Grade3/Senior Lifeguard Xanthe Dyer and Lyme Regis Town Crier Alan Vian shoreline after the FLOAT to Live demonstration as part of Lyme Regis Lifeboat Week 2024]



[Photos: 5 & 6. RNLI Lifeguard Cole Dickinson, Grade3/Senior Lifeguard Xanthe Dyer and volunteer RNLI Lifeguard Malcolm Greenslade on the North Wall prior to carrying out some volunteer training with Lyme Regis RNLI Lifeboat. 7. Lyme Regis RNLI Lifeguards and RNLI Lifeboat crew working together to safely extricate a casualty out of the water as part of a suspected spinal injury scenario from the North Wall on Tuesday 20th August 2024]



[Photos: Lyme Regis RNLi's current Lifeboat Crew, Lifeguards, Water Safety volunteers, Fundraisers, Shop Volunteers and their families joined with volunteers from previous generations for a 'One Moment One Crew' photo taken as close to 18:24hrs as possible on the 1.8.24 to mark the year the charity was founded (Left). Lyme Lifeguards Henry Birchall, Cole Dickison, Ben Greenslade, Xanthe Dyer and volunteer Malcolm Greenslade alongside RNLi Chief Executive Peter Sparkes (Right)]

Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance

It was unfortunately not possible to arrange a visit to the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance airbase this year (will aim to again in 2025) but ex-RNLi Lifeguard and **Critical Care Practitioner Lauren Dyson** Lauren kindly volunteered to attend and present at a at **RNLi Women in Search and Rescue (SAR) conference** held at the RNLi College in Poole in March that coincided with International Women's Day. This was a great opportunity for RNLi Lifeboat crews from around the UK to learn about the skills and equipment Air Ambulance Critical Care Teams can offer.



[Photos: Critical Care Practitioner Lauren delivering a presentation at the RNLi College on International Women's Day 2024 (Left). RNLi Women in SAR, including volunteers from Lifeboat Stations around the UK along with Lauren furthest on the left standing and Lead Lifeguard Supervisor Alice furthest on left kneeling (Right)]

4. Assistance required from the council

- Lifeguard service level agreement heading into 2025

5. Risk assessment

Risk assessment headlines:

Lyme Regis is a MEDIUM risk beach during PEAK season, a LOWER risk beach during EARLY / LATE season and a LOWER risk beach during WINTER.

During the assessment there were a number of hazards identified where the level of risk was felt to be high. Control measures should be considered. Priority hazards are:

- 3.2 Coastal defences
- 3.3 Jetties/piers

Full risk assessment review:

Last conducted: 28.10.24

Annual review:

Last conducted: 11.11.24

Signage review:

Last conducted: 02.07.10

Public rescue equipment review:

Last conducted: NONE

Recommendations for next year:

Regional level recommendations:

Review of both public rescue equipment and signage highly recommended

Beach level recommendations:

Review of both public rescue equipment and signage highly recommended

6. RNLI news and updates

RNLI management changes:



Regional Lifeguard Lead
Henry Sadler-Irvine



2024 Weymouth & West Dorset Supervisors
Courtney Randino, Lara Bruce, Alice Higgins (Lead) and Harry Hutchinson

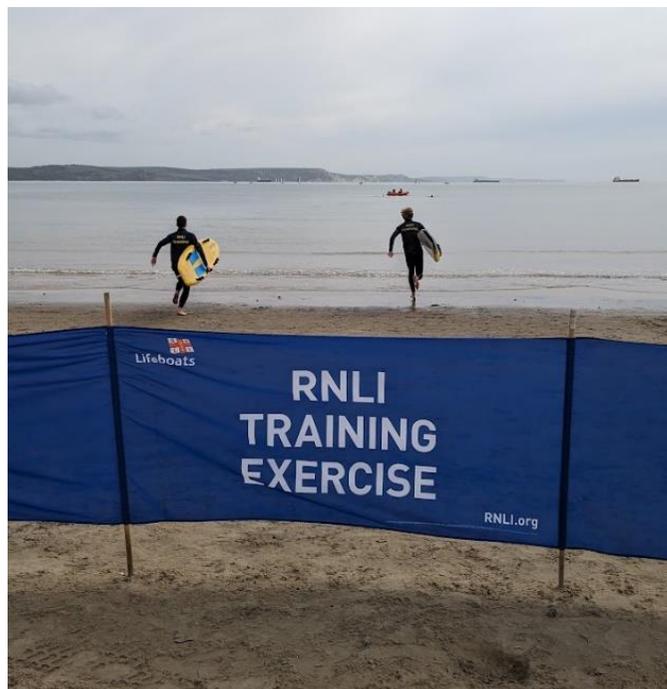


Supervisor (8.25months)
Dominik Fajkiel

Henry Sadler-Irvine continued as one of two Regional Lifeguard Leads for the Southwest Region, with Alice Higgins as the Weymouth & West Dorset Lead Lifeguard Supervisor. Dom Fajkiel started back for his 10th Lifeguard season in Weymouth & West Dorset as the 8.25-month Seasonal Supervisor in February 2024 but went on to leave this role at the end of May (staying on as a casual Senior Lifeguard for the area) so to be able to pursue another career opportunity. Local expressions of interest were asked for and interviews carried out for an 'acting up' Supervisor position so to cover the remaining Supervisor contracted hours. Returning Senior Lifeguards Courtney Randino and Harry Hutchinson were both successful, alongside Lara Bruce. Lara historically worked as a Lifeguard, Senior Lifeguard and Supervisor for the Weymouth & West Dorset area in 2010-2014 and then headed over to the Poole Bay area as a Lifeguard Supervisor. Lara went on to join the RNLI Service Information Team, where she was able to condense her hours as a Senior Data Support Assistant to be able to support the area on Mondays throughout May to October. Lara's experience alongside both Courtney and Harry's continued strong working relationships and enthusiasm made for a very smooth transition after Dom's departure.

7. Report annexes

Annexure 1: RNLI Lifeguards Weymouth & West Dorset Selection Day 2024



On Sunday the 14th of April eight applicants were put through their paces carrying out a:

- Board Rescue
- 400metre and 25m under water and 25m over 200metre pool fitness tests
- Team Challenge
- First Aid assessment

Split into two groups, all were scored individually for their performance and discussed by those facilitating the day. The effort shown by all who attending was brilliant, and we were able to offer 6 of the 8 either a full time or part time paid position for Peak Season - encouraging those who were unfortunately unsuccessful with a paid role to volunteer this year to gain valuable experience.



Annexure 2: WEYMOUTH CHALLENGE AUGUST 2024



Annexure 3 : MEDIA – FILMING FOR BBC BREAKFAST



BBC Breakfast : Central London where there's a float to live ...
YouTube · Services will resume · 21 May 2024



BBC Breakfast : Central London where there's a float to live ...
YouTube · Services will resume · 21 May 2024



Related topics
Royal National Lifeboat Institution
Q, ml

Annexure 4: WEYMOUTH LIFE SAVING CLUB – NIPPERS (7-12YRS)



Annexure 5: WEYMOUTH LIFE SAVING CLUB – SURF LIFE SAVING COMPETITIONS



Annexure 6: WEYMOUTH LIFE SAVING CLUB – SURF LIFE SAVING COMPETITIONS (WORLD CHAMPTIONSHIPS)



Annexure 7: WEYMOUTH LIFE SAVING CLUB – YOUTH (13-15YRS)



Annexure 8: WEYMOUTH LIFE SAVING CLUB – SENIORS (16-18YRS)



Annexure 9: WEYMOUTH LIFE SAVING CLUB – MASTERS (30YRS+)



Annexure 10: WEYMOUTH LIFE SAVING CLUB – SLISGB LEVEL 1 COACHING COURSE & AGM

