

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM - 6 JUNE 2001

SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION COUNCIL - MEETING OF THE WATER AND LEISURE SAFETY COMMITTEE ON 28 MARCH 2001

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Forum of the business discussed at a meeting held at the McLaren Leisure Centre, Callander.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Water and Leisure Safety Committee is one of three organised by the Scottish Accident Prevention Council to deal with specific matters. East Ayrshire Council is represented at the quarterly meetings of the Water and Leisure Safety Committee by Councillor Jimmy Carmichael and William Stafford, Director of Community Services. Alison J Smith, Principal Officer - Licensing and Community Safety, deputised for William Stafford at the meeting on 28 March.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Before the meeting proper commenced members heard a presentation from Don Ferguson, Forward Planning Officer with Glasgow City Council on the subject of mountain safety. Mr Ferguson and a friend who are both keen hillwalkers have developed the Locator system which walkers and mountaineers can use to provide emergency services with essential information in the event of their being lost or injured. The Locator consists of a pre-printed pad in which route details, departure times etc are written. It is then placed in the glove compartment. A card confirming vehicle details is left by the home telephone so that emergency services can be advised of the Locator's presence. A mountain safety leaflet is also included. Although the system cannot guarantee rescue it should assist the rescue services.
- 3.2 The main item of business on the agenda was the Water and Leisure Safety Committee's contribution to the SA PC leaflet. A draft leaflet was placed before the members who made a number of comments and suggested amendments. On the whole the leaflet was well received.
- 3.3 The Chair reported on the National Water Safety Committee which he had attended in February .He indicated that the National Conference would take place in Blackpool in September at a cost of £325. The National Committee is attempting to clarify which central government department

has overall responsibility for water safety. The Chair also reported that, in England, a pilot scheme has commenced using lifeboats on inland waters.

- 3.4 The Chair also briefed members on the financial position of RoSPA and its impact on the SA PC. There had been a total of 13 staff redundancies across the UK, including two at SA PC in Edinburgh. It was the intention to appoint an assistant for Liz Lumsden, Home Safety Officer.

4. FINANCIAL/LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Nil.

5. CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The Water and Leisure Safety Committee meeting on 28 March enabled members to hear about developments in mountain safety; discuss the SAPC leaflet; learn of developments in water safety further afield and be updated on the position regarding staffing at SAPC.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Forum is invited to note the contents of the report.

William Stafford

Director of Community Services

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29 May 2001

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Agenda and papers issued in respect of Water and Leisure Safety Committee meeting on 28 March 2001.

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers detailed above should telephone 01563 576111 and ask for Mr John Crawford, Head of Protective Services or email at john.crawford@east-avshire.gov.uk.

AGENDA