

National Police Air Service response to Regulation 28 – Ivan Rumenov Ignatov ([REDACTED])

NPAS had 2 actions, one was joint with other agencies, and one was purely for NPAS.

The Senior Coroner requested a visit to NPAS Bournemouth to get a greater understanding of the work we do. This has been completed and there is an open invitation for any further visits that are required.

The second actions related to Section 5 subsection 2 part vi of the report and concentrated on the communication between the relevant emergency services. In brief, the home force, NPAS and HMCG all have access to Airwave and an Emergency Service channel should have been opened by the Home Force. This would have allowed the 3 services to communicate easily and is covered by the JESIP principles for matters of this type. RNLI do not have Airwave but have access to VHF which the HMCG also have so they are able to communicate in this way.

On liaising with HMCG the following actions have been agreed:

- A series of joint familiarisation briefings to be held between HMCG and NPAS - this will encompass all staff to ensure corporacy across both organisations and to reflect the fact that as a National Service, there may be occasions when landlocked bases do have to respond to incidents involving HMCG/ Water rescue. It will also include the Comms departments of both agencies.
- This familiarisation briefing will be considered for roll-out to Comms element of Forces where water-based rescue is frequent i.e.; South Coast, North Yorkshire, Northumberland, Lancashire to ensure they have awareness of each agency and capabilities of each. An approach for the same to be made to the RNLI.
- Work to be commenced to develop a joint "quick action card" which will be distributed to all Forces and which prioritises the need for the Host Force (in this case Dorset Police) to set an Emergency Services channel on Airwave which would allow early communication. We will be asking for Chief Coastguard and NPCC assistance to push this course of action.
- Monthly Comms meetings to be held between Head of Ops Centre/ Equivalent HMCG staff member to de-brief incidents of note and assess lessons learnt.
- Quarterly meetings between C/Insp Ops and Assistant Chief Coastguard to discuss any emerging themes, strategies and joint working opportunities.
- Reciprocal visits between the HMCG / NPAS Ops Centres - to be arranged.