

LIAISON AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

**THE COMMUNITY RESCUE BOATS
IRELAND**

AND THE IRISH COAST GUARD (IRCG)

AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF

AN ADVISORY LIAISON GROUP

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ANNEX A List of Accepted CRBI Stations.

ANNEX B Operational Procedures and Equipment

- B1 Drogheda CRBI Station
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- B4 Banna CRBI Station
- B5 Ballybunion CRBI Station
- B6 Kilkee CRBI Station

LIAISON AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE COMMUNITY INSHORE RESCUE SERVICE (CIRS)
AND THE IRISH COAST GUARD (IRCG)
AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
AN ADVISORY LIAISON GROUP

1. STATUS

This paper establishes the terms of agreement between the CIRS and IRCG.

2. CIRS OPERATIONAL DETAILS, FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

The basic operational details, facilities and equipment for the stations in the CIRS are similar. However, due to their geographical positional requirements and individual purchase some variations do exist. A completed declaration from each station is at Annex B.

3. CIRS SEARCH AND RESCUE ROLE

The CIRS stations identified at Annex A have Rescue Units that are declared facilities of the Irish SAR Organisation. The Rescue Units are composed of trained personnel and provided with equipment suitable for the expeditious conduct of Search and Rescue Operations. To maintain the status of a declared facility the station must meet the requirements of IRCG.

4. CIRS RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of each station to:

- (a) declare the standard of capability of their declared facility;
- (b) maintain the declared facility to the declared standard;
- (c) inform IRCG immediately there is a change in the declared facility;
- (d) advise IRCG when the declared facility is launched on operation response or exercise and once launched place it under the Co-ordinating Authority of IRCG. Advice IRCG when the facility returns to station.
- (e) allow inspections when requested by the Community Inshore Rescue Service Advisory Group (CIRSAG); and

- (f) provide, in time for consideration by the CIRSAG at its annual October meeting, financial estimates for the coming year and receipts from the past year if they wish to apply for any grant-aiding that may be available.

5. IRCG LOCAL LIAISON

MRCC / MRSCs are responsible for maintained liaison with the CIRS stations located within their division and will nominate IRCG Liaison Officers to each CIRS station within the division.

Meetings with the Station Coxswain / Helmsman will be held six monthly, one at the MRCC / MRSC and one at the CIRS station.

6. IRCG & NSC RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of IRCG to assess the standards of performance of the declared facilities of the Irish SAR Organisation.

It is the responsibility of the National Safety Council (NSC) to inspect the CIRS stations and their Rescue Units in accordance with the Statutory Orders applicable and in compliance with the standards set down and to advise the Revenue Commissioners of the findings.

7. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY INSHORE RESCUE SERVICE

IRCG and NSC must adhere to the standards set down and as defined in order to certify a CIRS station. If the standards are not met, the facility under enquiry will not be recognised as a member of the CIRS, until, such time, as the required standards are realised to the satisfaction of the Advisory Group in consultation with the certifying authority.

8. CALL SIGNS

Every Rescue Unit will use the station name as its call sign when on service or exercise e.g. “Kilkee Rescue Boat”, “Ballybunion Rescue Boat”.

9. OPERATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. In accordance with international procedures marine communications will be
 - (a) Channel 16 or as directed by the co-ordinating MRCC / MRSC, and
 - (b) MF 2182 or as directed by the co-ordinating MRCC / MRSC.
2. In accordance with international procedures surface to air communications will be
 - (a) VHF / FM Channel 16, 67, 6 and the working channels of the co-ordinating MRCC / MRSC, and

(b) MF 2182 and the working channels of the co-ordinating MRCC / MRSC.

3. CIRS Rescue Units should have all personnel licensed for VHF operation.

10. COMMUNITY INSHORE RESCUE SERVICE ADVISORY GROUP (CIRSAG)

10.1 Standards

A Community Inshore Rescue Service Advisory Group is established to assist with standards for

- Continuous role training;
- Boat and boathouse equipment and maintenance;
- Operational procedures; and
- Crew qualifications.

10.2 Meetings

The CIRSAG will meet annually in October and will meet with the Community Rescue Service representatives in March.

10.3 Membership

The CIRSAG will have six members. The National Safety Council, the Irish Coast guard and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution will each nominate two members. The Director of IRCG will be one of the IRCG nominees and Chairman of the Group.

10.4 Outside Participants

The Advisory Group may invite outside personnel to attend their meetings as and when they deem it necessary.

10.5 Inspections and Performance

The standards of the CIRS stations will be monitored by inspections and performance assessments.

10.6 Practical Training and Advice

The CIRSAG will assist the CIRS with practical training and advice within the Department of Transport, National Safety Council and Royal National Lifeboat Institution Terms of Reference.

10.7 CIRS Administration

The Advisory Group will, as part of its annual agenda review submitted expenditure and receipts, consider future estimates for the individual stations and recommend grant-aiding for applicants if it is available.

11. INDEMNITY AND LIABILITY

In all cases indemnity and liability for CIRS stations rests with the individual CIRS agencies and not with the Advisory Group or its agencies.

This includes SAR tasking. The decision to undertake any task requested by IRCG (MRCC) also rests with the individual CIRS station, launching authority.

This Agreement is accepted by the undersigned

Inshore Rescue Service

Date: _____

Chris Reynolds
Director
Irish Coast Guard

Date: _____

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR COMMUNITY INSHORE
RESCUE BOAT SERVICES**

STATION: _____

1. Boat Type: _____ Age: _____
Fuel tanks (type & no): _____ Capacity: _____ (litres per tank)
Endurance: _____ (hours) Length O.A.: _____ Beam O.A.: _____
Pockets: _____ Grablines: _____ Handgrips: _____
Bellows inflator: _____ Self Bailers: _____
General condition: _____

2. Boat Equipment: (List and Number)

Painter: _____ Oars/Paddle: _____ Anchor & Cable/Rope _____
Mattress: _____ Compass: _____ Flares: _____ Date: _____
Fire Extn: _____ Survivor Bag: _____ Survivor Lifejackets: _____
Sea Anchor: _____ Lamp/Torch: _____ Charts etc: _____
W/T Pad: _____ First Aid Kit: _____ Resuscitators: _____
Engine Tools: _____ Engine Spares: _____ Sheer Pin: _____
Propeller: _____ Quoit & Line: _____ Knife: _____
Spare Propeller: _____ Boltcutters/snips: _____

3. Radio:

Type: _____ Channels: _____ W/T Case: _____
Aerial: _____

4. Trailer:

Launch Trolley: _____

5. Crew:

Number available: _____ Trained: _____
Radio Certs: _____ Age Group: _____
Callout System: _____ Callout Time: _____
Protective Suits: _____ Headgear: _____
Gloves: _____ Lifejackets, type: _____

6. Crew Training:

Launch/Recover Procedure: _____ Speed Turns: _____
Frequency: _____ Tow at Sea: _____
Speed Runs: _____ Use Sea Anchor: _____
Stop/Restart at Sea: _____ Recover Man Overboard: _____
Go alongside at sea
and transfer crew: _____ Use Radio at Sea: _____
Veer down on rocks
from anchor: _____ Manoeuvre in Surf: _____
Capsize Drill: _____ Crew – Fit Plug, Start Cord,
Prop, at sea: _____

7. Engine:

Type: _____ Number: _____

8. Housing:

Heating: _____ Dry: _____ Light/ESB: _____
Water: _____ Bench/Tools/Oils: _____
Fuel Bin: _____ Fire Extn: _____ Fire Blanket: _____
Base Radio: _____ Phone: _____
Notice Board & Crew Lists: _____
Log Books: _____ Equipment Manuals: _____
Charts: _____ Access to Sea: _____
Racks/Hooks for clothing: _____ Power Points: _____
Battery Charger: _____

9. Maximum Weather Conditions:

10. Maximum Sea Conditions:

11. Minimum Crew Afloat:

12. Numbers of Trained Crew Members:

13. Training:

14. Crew Callout System:

Type: _____

Dependability: _____

Response Time to Launch: _____

15. Launching Authority:

Honorary Secretary
Phone Number (Home):
 (Office):
 (Mobile):

D.L.A. (1)
Phone Number (Home):
 (Office):
 (Mobile):

D.L.A. (2)
Phone Number (Home):
 (Office):
 (Mobile):

Signed: _____
 Honorary Secretary

**NOTES ON OPERATIONAL DETAILS FOR INSHORE
COMMUNITY RESCUE BOAT STATIONS**

1. Details of Management Committee. Include Name and Addresses of Officers.
2. Call out procedures in detail.
3. Location of boathouse and distance from sea.
4. Call out time. Length of time taken from initial call-out to launching. State maximum time.
5. Geographical area of coverage (i.e. headland A to headland B).
6. Distance out to sea from coastline capable of being covered (i.e. 3 miles).
7. State maximum weather conditions capable of being operated in (i.e. not more than Beaufort?).
8. State maximum sea conditions capable of being operated in (i.e. not more than wave height?).
9. State minimum crew afloat (trained).
10. State number of trained boat crew members attached to the station.
 - A. Helmsman
 - B. Crew
 - C. Trainees
11. Training. Description of training and certificates received.

ANNEX B

**OPERATIONAL DETAILS OF INSHORE
COMMUNITY RESCUE BOAT**

STATION

- 1. Management Committee**

- 2. Launching Authority**

- 3. Call-out Procedure**

- 4. The Location of Boat House**

- 5. Call Out Time**

- 6. Area of Coverage**

- 7. Distance to Sea**