

 Edit all



# Standards > OLR > 040940

## 040940



GIN or all 0's if no GIN \*

040940



OLR Status

Closed with Action



Name \*

**Name**



Site/ Area \*

Dover



Date of Incident or Event \*

20/11/2021



SAR Zone \*

14



Watch

1 (A)



Incident, Exercise or OSPR

Incident



Incident Code

VAID



Incident Phase

Distress



Qualifying Incident

No



Was there a fatality?

No



IMR Completed?

No



NICE Recordings required?

No



**AIS Recording Required?**

No



**Incident Summary**

Enter value here



**Reviewer Observations**

MIGRANT INCIDENT IN THE DOVER STRAIT IN THE NORTHERN PART IN THE VICINITY OF THE SANDETTIE WEST BUOY. RNLI RAMSGATE WERE PAGED AS UKBF ASSETS WERE RESTRICTED DUE TO THEIR WORKING HOURS AND DOVER MRCC ONLY HAD UKBF VALIANT AVAILABLE AT THE TIME, RAMSGATE RNLI WERE THE CLOSEST AVAILABLE ASSET AT THE TIME. INITIAL CALL FROM THE DLA RESPONDING TO THE PAGE REFUSED THE TASKING STATING "THAT IF UKBF WONT ATTEND THEN WE WONT GO AFLOAT EITHER." AFTER THIS INITIAL CALL A CONVERSATION WAS HELD WITH THE SMC AT THE TIME IN SOLENT WITH DOVER MRCC REGARDING THIS, THE SUGGESTION FROM THE SMC WAS TO SPEAK TO THE DLA AGAIN AND INFORM HIM THE REASON FOR THE LACK OF UKBF ASSETS. A FURTHER PAGE WENT IN TO SPEAK TO THE DLA OF WHICH HE WAS INFORMED THAT THE REASON UKBF ARE NOT OUT IS DUE TO THEIR RESTRICTED WORKING HOURS AND NO ASSET AVAILABLE UNTIL 6AM. DLA RESPONDED AS SAYING " ITS UKBF NOT DOING THEIR JOB. WE ARE VOLUNTEERS. ALL THEIR CREW IS PAID TO BE OUT ITS GETTING RIDICULOUS". HE WENT ON TO SAY "IF THERES AN EMERGENCY AND YOUVE GOT PEOPLE IN THE WATER WE WILL GO AFLOAT BUT AT THE MOMENT I KNOW BY THE SOUND OF YOUR VOICE THAT THIS ISNT AN EMERGENCY" AND HE STATED THAT AT THIS TIME WE ARE STANDING DOWN.

AS A RESULT OF THIS DOVER MRCC WERE FORCED TO WAIT FOR HURRICANE TO BECOME AVAILABLE AT 6AM WHO WERE DELAYED A FURTHER 40 MINS, UNKNOWN REASON ATT.  
VALIANT WAS OFF FOLKESTONE DEALING WITH OTHER MIGRANT INCIDENTS

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See less



**What went well and why?**

MIGRANTS WERE RECOVERED BY UKBF HURRICANE.



**What didnt go so well?**

DELAYED LAUNCH OF HURRICANE AND THE REFUSAL OF THE RAMSGATE LIFEBOAT. AS LACK OF RESPONSE FROM AN ASSET FURTHER TIME WAS SPENT IN RELOCATING THE VESSEL.



**Date of OLR**

20/11/2021



**Deadline**

27/11/2021



**Discipline \***

Maritime



**Has a verbal debrief been conducted?**

No



**Stakeholders Consulted**

RNLI, Maritime Operations



**Details of debrief (if no debrief held, why was that?)**

Enter value here



**Overall, what could be improved and why?**

Enter value here



First Receiver \*

George Papadopoulos



First Receiver Comments

The issue with Ramsgate has been escalated with assistant director of policy & standards and RNLI. It was deemed as unacceptable and RNLI has taken action to ensure this never happens again.

As for UKBF asset availability, this is managed by BF on the basis of fatigue, end time of previous taskings and allowing enough rest time in between taskings. Furthermore, UKBF assets positioned in Ramsgate are bound by local tides.

Update - this issue has been raised higher up with RNLI via the assistant director of HMCG Policy and Standards. RNLI has taken action and reassured that this should not be an issue anymore. Dover MRCC teams aware.

[See less](#)



Positive Element \*

Policy



Areas of Improvement \*

Policy



Receiver Actions Completed

Agreed that RNLI will be providing HMCG with resource availability prior to days of significant migrant activity. RNLI managers have also reassured HMCG that similar occurrences should not take place again and RNLI will respond to distress migrant incidents.

[See less](#)



Commander Feedback/ Second Receiver Feedback

Conversations have taken place with RNLI managers regarding this incident and the current challenge to the volunteer lifeboat crews in the South East. Consideration is being given to scheduling some down time for some lifeboats with cover coming from flanks during that period. A series of table top exercises are planned to take place next week (2nd Dec) to consider response to some of these possible scenarios where maritime rescue assets may not be readily available.

[See less](#)



Standards Comments

MRCC Dover and the RNLI have agreed to provide the MRCC with resource availability prior to days of predicted significant migrant activity. RNLI managers have reassured HMCG that there will be no further occurrences of the RNLI not responding to migrant incidents. No further action required in response to this OLR.

[See less](#)



Date Read by Standards Officer

Enter value here



Forwarded to Staff Officer or Other Department

Enter value here



Date sent to Staff Officer or other Department

Enter value here



Staff Officer/ Other Departments Comments



Closed date

04/01/2022



Nice Recordings

—



**Attachments**

Add or remove attachments