

## [Mum and 5 year old rescued from quick sand at Blue Anchor Beach, Somerset](#)

The woman called 999 and asked for the Coastguard at 2.10 pm Saturday 8 February 2020, reporting that she was stuck in the mud, with her 5 year old daughter in her arms. She had been out walking her collie dog, who had safely made it to shore.

The coastguard operations room at Milford Haven sent two coastguard rescue teams from Watchet and Minehead, the coastguard helicopter and two RNLI lifeboats from Minehead to the scene.

Within 15 minutes the teams were at the beach but by this time the woman was up to her waist in mud and up to her chest in water. The girl was taken from her mother's arms by one of the coastguard rescue officers and brought to shore, whilst the mother was winched out of the mud by the helicopter, then taken to shore. Both were then handed into the care of the ambulance service, cold and shocked but otherwise uninjured.

"This must have been a really frightening ordeal for the mother and child, but the woman did exactly the right thing by calling 999 and asking for the Coastguard," says Neil Blewett, aeronautical operations controller for HM Coastguard. "We were able to get rescue resources out really quickly which was lifesaving for this young family – the woman was up to her chest in water when our teams arrived. Happily enough, our teams were able to locate them quickly and extract them within minutes.

"If you do get stuck in mud, try and spread your weight as much as possible and call for help immediately, by calling the coastguard on 999 or if you can't get to your mobile, shout for help. Before your set out, remember to check the tide times – there are tide tables online – and leave plenty of time to get back before the tide comes in."

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## [Latest updates on ministerial appointments: 13 February 2020](#)



This news story will be updated as details are announced.

- Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP remains Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and First Secretary of State
- Rt Hon Michael Gove MP remains Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office
- Rt Hon Priti Patel MP remains Secretary of State for the Home Department
- The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP as Chancellor of the Exchequer
- Rt Hon Robert Buckland QC MP remains Lord Chancellor, and Secretary of State for Justice
- The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of the Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP as Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. He will also be Minister for COP26

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## [New Assistant Chief Constable appointed](#)



The Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC) has a new Assistant Chief Constable, with Louise Harrison taking up the role from Monday 17 February.

Louise has 27 years' experience in policing, during which time she has undertaken a variety of uniformed and specialist-based roles. Her most recent role was as Strategic Regional Lead Officer within the Counter Terrorism North West collaboration for the Prevent strand of the CONTEST strategy.

Louise joins the CNC from Merseyside Police, where she had previously been a Strategic Firearms Commander and also the Local Policing Commander for the town of St Helens. Early in her policing career Louise served as a front-line authorised firearms officer and a sergeant in the mounted section amongst other roles.

CNC Chief Constable Simon Chesterman said: "Louise is a highly respected police officer and has a reputation for having an inclusive style of leadership, which will suit the CNC. I am delighted that such a high calibre officer has chosen to join the CNC and I am very much looking forward to working with her."

Assistant Chief Constable Louise Harrison said: "I am delighted to have been given this opportunity to join the CNC. I had some experience of working with CNC police officers in my previous role during operation Temperer and I was impressed with their professionalism and positive attitude. The CNC is a great organisation and I look forward to helping the force achieve its ambitions."

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## **Regions and small charities get bigger role in advising on charity accounts**

Fourteen members have been newly appointed to the committee that oversees the rules for how charities across the UK and Ireland report on their finances.

The move is part of an attempt to make the accounts of charities more user-friendly for the public, funders and others, and to make preparation easier for smaller charities. For the first time, the committee will include organisations which work closely with charities and have a working knowledge of charity accounts, as well as greater membership from smaller charities.

The Committee is known as the SORP Committee. The Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (the SORP) is the set of rules which governs charity financial reporting and accounting for charitable companies (which may be small) and larger charities with an income of £250,000 and more. The main purpose of the SORP Committee is to identify potential changes to the SORP and advise the charity regulators who make the SORP rules.

The previous committee had been in place for nearly 5 years and is being reformed following the [SORP Governance Review](#). Our intention is to improve the process and focus more on those reading and using charity accounts.

As previously, membership of the SORP Committee is drawn from all jurisdictions preparing accounts under UK-Irish accounting rules (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) which have a charity regulator – namely England and Wales, Scotland, the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland

### **CCNI's Myles McKeown, Joint Chair of the SORP Committee, said:**

The SORP has an important role to play in setting the accountancy standards for charities and, as highlighted by the recent governance review, it is vital the SORP develops in a way that meets modern expectations.

One key way to achieve this is to build a committee with as wide a representational viewpoint as possible, in particular from the individuals, groups and organisations which have practical experience of using the SORP.

In late 2019, a panel of representatives from the Charity Commission for England and Wales (CCEW), the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI) and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), alongside an observer member from the Charities Regulatory Authority (CRA), commenced interviews across the UK and Ireland to find potential new committee members.

Following that assessment process, the following applicants from each of the target representative group, have been appointed.

#### **Smaller charities:**

- Diarmaid Ó Corrbuí (Republic of Ireland)
- Tony Clarke (Northern Ireland)
- Neal Trup (England and Wales) and
- Michael Brougham (Scotland)

#### **Funders:**

- Max Rutherford (Association of Charitable Foundations, England and Wales)

#### **Commentator/academics:**

- Noel Hyndman (Queens University, Belfast, Northern Ireland)

#### **Auditors, preparers and organisations:**

- Daniel Chan (PWC, England and Wales)
- Carol Rudge (Grant Thornton, England and Wales)
- Gareth Hughes (Diocese of Down and Connor, Northern Ireland)

- Tom Connaughton (Charities Institute Ireland, Republic of Ireland)
- Caron Bradshaw (Charity Finance Group, England and Wales)
- Jenny Simpson (Wylie & Bisset LLP, Scotland)
- Joanna Pittman (Sayer Vincent, England and Wales)
- Tim Hencher (Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations).

The appointments mean the new committee will have a maximum membership of 14, ensuring a strong mix of individuals and organisations with the skills and capabilities to take the SORP forward.

**CCEW's Nigel Davies, Joint Chair of the SORP Committee, said:**

The recruitment campaign attracted high calibre candidates from across the board. We would like to thank everyone who took the time to apply – it really is heartening to see such interest in making charity financial reporting better.

**OSCR'S Laura Anderson, Joint Chair of the SORP Committee, said:**

We would also like to congratulate the successful appointees and we look forward to seeing the reformed committee commence work on developing an accounting framework that best serves the needs of charities and the wider public interest. This is an exciting step in the new SORP development journey.

For more information about the SORP, the SORP-making body and advisory SORP Committee, please refer to the [dedicated website](#).

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors:**

1. The SORP-making body is approved by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC) and its job is to oversee the development of the SORP and its publication and to ensure that the SORP is consistent with the FRC approved accounting standards.
2. The SORP is used by charities that prepare their accounts to give a 'true and fair' view in accordance with UK-Irish Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP).
3. The four charity regulators of the UK and Ireland are the Charity Commission for England and Wales (CCEW), the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI) and the Irish Charities Regulator (CR). The SORP-making body is made up of CCEW, OSCR and CCNI. The Irish Charities Regulatory Authority is an observer on the

SORP-making body.

4. The interview panel was made up of Laura Anderson from OSCR, Nigel Davies from CCEW and Myles McKeown from CCNI.
5. Adoption of the SORP is mandatory in the charity law jurisdictions in the UK but is currently voluntary in the Republic of Ireland. Jelena Griszenko from the Charities Regulatory Authority, was an observer on the Charities SORP Committee interview panel.

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## Offshore accommodation merger abandoned

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) has therefore today confirmed that it will be cancelling its Phase 2 merger investigation into the deal.

Both companies supply semi-submersible offshore accommodation support vessels (semi-submersible ASVs) to oil and gas companies. These are used to provide accommodation space for employees working offshore and are a key facility for some types of work in the UK Continental Shelf and the Norwegian Continental Shelf; for example, where the water is deep or where weather conditions are harsh and other types of vessel are not suitable.

The CMA launched a Phase 2 inquiry in September 2019 after initial competition concerns led to the proposed merger being referred to a group of independent CMA panel members for an in-depth investigation.

The CMA provisionally found in January 2020 that the merger may result in a substantial lessening of competition and customers may face higher prices, and/or lower quality when tendering for semi-submersible ASVs. The CMA had proposed that blocking the merger would be the only way of addressing these concerns.

This was one of several global mergers being investigated by the CMA. It worked with the Norwegian Competition Authority (NCA) on this case as it carried out a separate review into the deal. The NCA's decision to block the merger was being appealed to the Norwegian Competition Tribunal. As the CMA prepares to take on more global mergers alongside other regulators, this kind of global co-operation will become increasingly important.

Prosafe and Floatel have now decided not to continue with the deal. For more information, visit the [Prosafe SE / Floatel International Limited merger inquiry web page](#)