

Exercise Celtic Coast 5th & 6th October

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Pembrokeshire County Council



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AIM

- To test Dyfed Powys Local Resilience Forum response arrangements to a maritime pollution incident involving both oil and Hazardous & Noxious Substances



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Objectives

- Validate & Test Plans
 - Dyfed Powys LRF Shoreline Pollution Plan,
 - West Wales Environment Group Plan,
 - Joint Major Incident Procedures,
 - Milford Haven Port Authority Emergency Response Plan
 - National Contingency Plan for marine pollution
- Exercise officers in their role and responsibilities in the event of a pollution response
- Put into practise beach master and SCAT (Shoreline Clean Up Assessment Team) training
- Test communication arrangements
- Test establishment, running of the different response cells and interaction between them
- Identify lessons learnt and integrate into contingency planning



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Exercise Methodology

- Live exercise in real time
- Different locations for different response cells
- Response cells were expected to interact & take operational decisions
- Formulate strategy for media, clean up priorities, sites operation, waste
- Formulate regular situation reports
- Establish Communication links between sites
- Log all actions and decisions
- Brief given to delegates before exercise



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Who was involved

- Around 450 people took part in the exercise
- 15 different organisations including :
 - MCA
 - Fire and Rescue Service
 - Local Authorities
 - Health Agencies
 - Police
 - SOSREP
 - Environment Agency and other environment groups
- 12 different locations
- 22 response groups



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Day 1 - Scenario

- Collision between an oil tanker and a container ship off the coast of Pembrokeshire
- Day 1 – 5th October
- Damaged oil tanker brought into Milford Haven Port following a collision with a container ship.
- Activation of the Port’s emergency response plan.
- The structural integrity of the tanker deteriorates and results in a Tier 3 oil pollution incident declared with activation of a Shoreline Response Centre and Silver in Pembrokeshire.

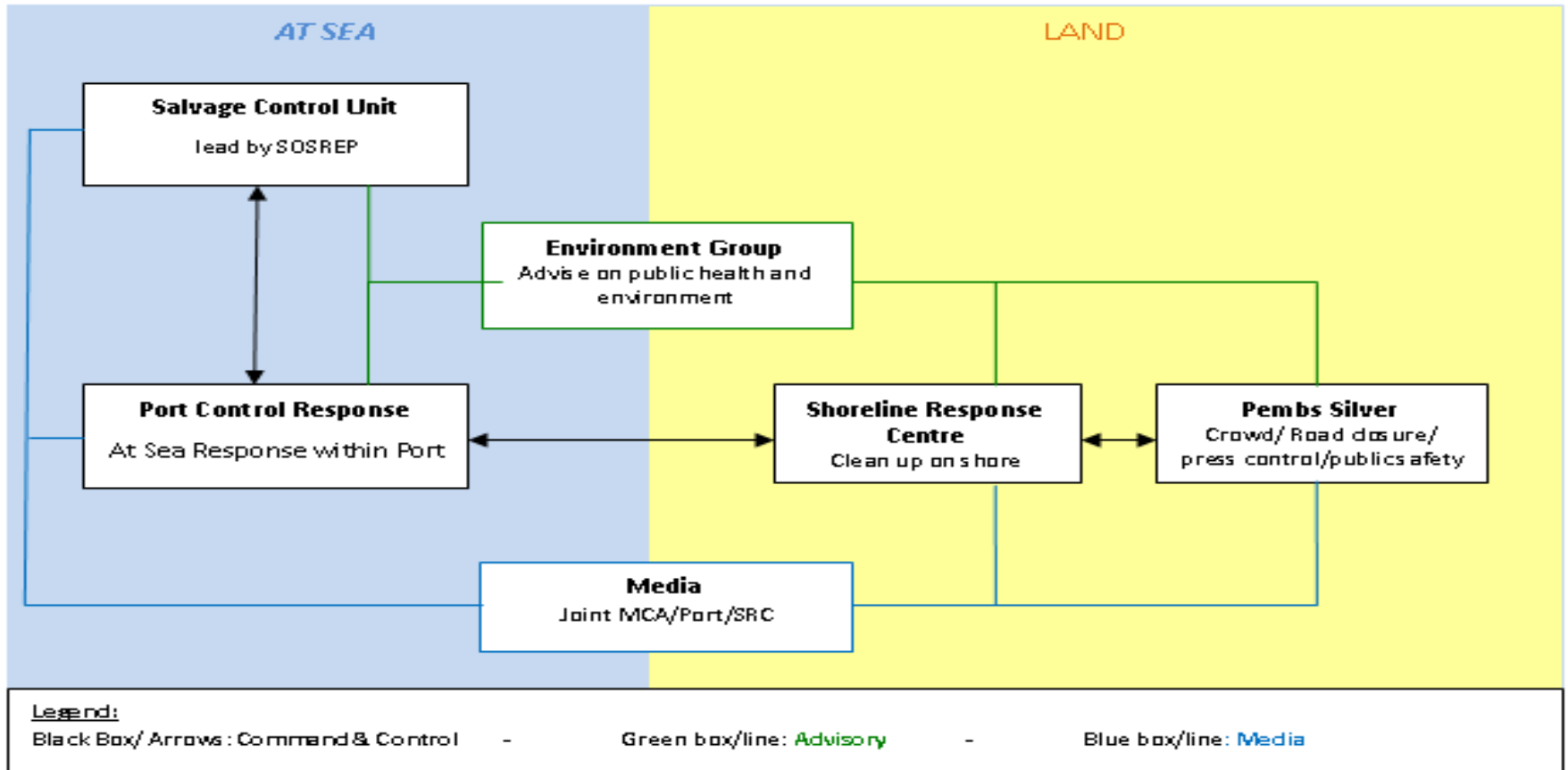


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Day 1 Structure



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Day 1 - Exercise locations

- Port Command & Planning / Salvage / Environment Group / media
@ Milford Haven Port Authority
- Shoreline Response Centre / Pembrokeshire Silver / Environment Group / media
@ Pembrokeshire County Council Thornton Offices
- Shoreline Clean Assessment team briefings
@ Milford Haven Port Authority
- Beach master briefings
@ Pembrokeshire County Council Thornton Offices



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ARCOPOL

Atlantic Regions COastal POLLution response

Port Briefing



Sea Response

Port Command



Port Media



Environment Group



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Day 2 - Scenario

- Collision between an oil tanker and a container ship off the coast of Pembrokeshire
- Day 2 – 6th October
- Shoreline Response Centre continued to manage the incident with live deployment of beach masters to the shoreline.
- Containers that had both inert and hazardous substances, which were lost by the second vessel during the collision on Day 1, washed up on the Pembrokeshire & Carmarthenshire coastline.
- Activation of Tactical Response /Silver, Strategic Coordinating Group and the deployment of a decontamination unit on the affected shore.



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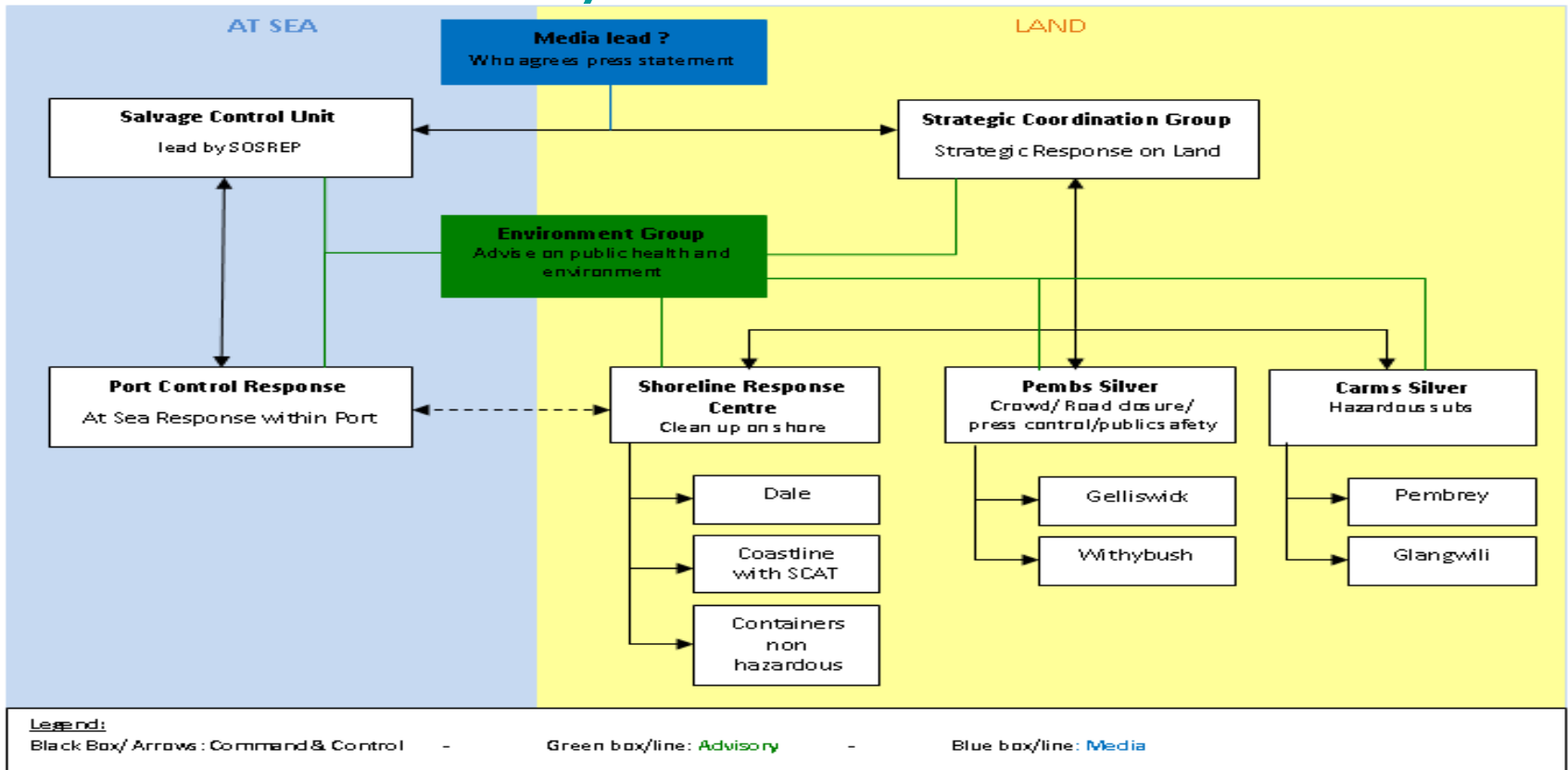
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Day 2 - Structure



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Day 2 – Exercise Locations

- Shoreline Response Centre / Pembrokeshire Silver / Environment Group
@ Pembrokeshire County Council Thornton Offices
- Decontamination sites – Bronze commands
@ Gelliswick & Pembrey
- Hospital Exercises A&E Departments
@ Glangwilli & Withybush
- Beach master site
@ The Gann, Dale. Pembrokeshire
- Strategic Coordinating Group / Carmarthenshire Silver
@ Dyfed Powys Police HQ Carmarthen



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ARCOPOL

Atlantic Regions Coastal Pollution response

SRC Briefing



De-con exercise



Beach master



Tactical Response – Silver



SRC



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What went well

- All Agencies participated - enthusiasm from responders - *real* incident pressure
- First time in England and Wales for an Oil and HNS maritime incident where SOSREP and the Police Constable were involved together
- Good Interaction in Port Authority - tasks completed, knowledgeable delegates
- Multi-Agency Media Cell in Port and in Tactical Response Group
- Use of Trained Loggists
- SOSREP attendance
- Environment Group active for two days- fulfilled the role of STAC - Health Professionals involved
- Waste team very proactive
- Biggest maritime exercise in Wales for ten years
- Sea Empress experience passed on



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What was difficult

- Technical team gave assumptions when knowledge was lacking
- Knowing who took primacy/lead – Chief Constable or SOSREP
- Difficult Shoreline Response Centre and Tactical / Silver communication link
- Uncoordinated documentation management / lack of status boards
- Shoreline Response Centre Management Team (Strategic) was reactive
- Lack of understanding of roles in Shoreline Response Centre
- Horizon Scanning
- No battle rhythm or Situation reports produced
- No clear roles for each tactical groups – counterproductive
- Lack of use of available reference materials, IT equipment
- MCA counter Pollution Scientist not available
- Handover information not completed
- Consideration of BCM
- Clarity on the issues of when declaring an SRC required, when impact is within the Port jurisdiction



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Initial Recommendations

- Water Resources Act & Environment Group advice
- Review the command and control structure – Silver and SRC
- Loggists grab bag / common methods
- Command centre administration / Use of Multi Agency IT – fit for purpose
- Media exercise programme
- Liaison Officer handover
- Waste management guidance / site plans
- Put in place ARCOPOL & lessons learnt into the plans
- Modelling of oil prediction to assist in formulating strategy
- Targeted competency training for all command centre staff – Shoreline Response Centre
- Social Media Policy/Management
- Multi Agency links with Welsh Government to be established
- Differences in NHS structures in Wales need to be factored in
- Environment Group/STAC roles and responsibilities require clarification
- The NCP needs to take account of the changing environment of devolution and the engagement with the devolved administrations



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What next

- LRF review underway
- Multi Agency De-Brief Report December 2011
- Forward lessons learnt to the review of the National Contingency plan
- Review command and control structure
- ACROPOL guidance incorporated
- Review our guidance to staff
- Annual Maritime training late Feb 2012
 - Incorporate lessons learnt
 - Detailed Training
 - Celtic Coast to be used as Model Exercise

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Thank You



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