

## Organisation of oil spill response in the UK



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## Phases of incident response



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## Search and Rescue



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## Salvage



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## At Sea Response



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**Shoreline Clean - Up**

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**Who is involved  
and who does what ?**

- 🔥 HMCG - Her Majesty's Coastguard
- 🔥 CPSO - Counter Pollution & Salvage Officer
- 🔥 SOSREP – Secretary of State's Representative
- 🔥 SCU – Salvage Control Unit
- 🔥 MRC – Marine Response Centre
- 🔥 SRC – Shoreline Response Centre
- 🔥 EG – Environment Group



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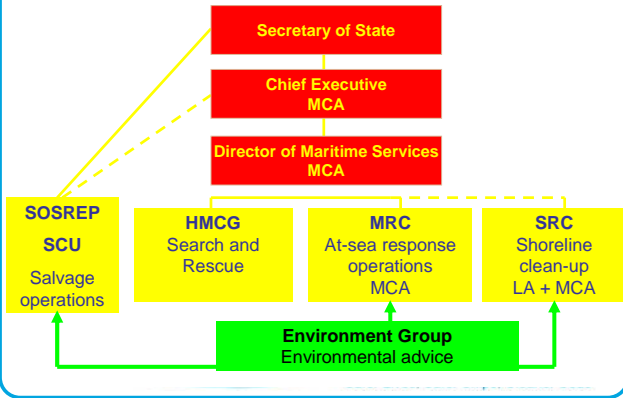
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**Command and Control**




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## UK oil spill response



- ◆ Each cell has a specific role
- ◆ Some cells make decisions and initiate actions
- ◆ Some cells have statutory powers, some do not
- ◆ Some provide advice to other units

Prime objective of all involved to minimise the potential effects of the pollution



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## HM Coastguard



- ◆ HMCG is most often the first organisation notified of an incident/oil spill at sea
- ◆ Primary function to co-ordinate SAR
- ◆ **In support of oil spill response:**
  - Provide communications, maritime safety information broadcasts,
  - Assists with deployment of ETVs, helicopters, and MCA Boats
  - Mobilise personnel to key locations
  - Provide local knowledge of area



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## Duty CPSO



- ◆ Make assessment of incident and assume responsibility for CP & S implications of incident
  - arrange to deploy assets
  - liaise with owners / operators
  - Inform relevant authorities / organisations
  - activate Marine Emergency Information Room (MEIR), if appropriate
  - contact CP Scientist
    - who will discuss with LA's and carry out any oil spill modeling
  - notify the MCA Media Team



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## SOSREP



- ◆ SOSREP
  - ◆ SOSREP has ultimate powers to intervene on behalf of Secretary of State for Transport in any salvage situation or situation where there is a threat of significant pollution
- ◆ Powers to issue Directions
  - ◆ require ships to be moved or not to be moved from a specific area or locality within UK Waters.
  - ◆ establish Temporary Exclusion Zone (TEZ)



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## Salvage Control Unit (SCU)



- ◆ Purpose of SCU is to support SOSREP by:
  - Considering information on progress of salvage
  - Evaluating all possible options
  - Interacting with on board Salvage Team
  - Providing feedback with other units such as MRC, MEIR, Environment Group
  - Facilitating the mobilisation of resources

Prime objective of all action is to minimise the risk of environmental pollution



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## SCU



- ◆ Membership:
  - SOSREP, Independent SOSREP Salvage Adviser
  - CPSO, Salvage Master, Harbour Master,
  - Ship owner/insurer representative,
  - EG Liaison Officer, Specialist Scientific Advisor, Health/Safety Adviser
- ◆ SCU is **NOT** a decision making body; decisions remain the responsibility of SOSREP



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## Marine Response Centre (MRC)



- ♦ Purpose of MRC is to:
  - Assess and monitor the situation at sea
  - Initiate and control aerial surveillance and dispersant-spraying operations
  - Initiate and control mechanical recovery options at sea



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## MRC



- ♦ **Members:**
  - CPSO
  - MCA Logistics Officer
  - Harbour representative, if a harbour is involved
  - Local Authority Officer to liaise with the SRC
  - Environmental Liaison Officer
  - MCA Public Relations Officer
  - Spill Response contractors



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## Shoreline Response Centre (SRC)



- ♦ Purpose of SRC is to co-ordinate and lead the on-shore response

- Determine the extent of the problem
- Agree a strategy and priorities
- Initiate response
- Obtain and allocate resources
- Determine methods of waste disposal
- Monitor progress
- Brief elected members, Ministers, VIPs, media



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## SRC



Local Authority personnel will be mainly concerned with shoreline clean-up

- ◆ EA / SEPA
- ◆ NE / SNH
- ◆ DEFRA / MS
- ◆ MMO / MS-ML
- ◆ Contractors
- ◆ ITOFF
- ◆ Oil & Gas UK
- ◆ GNN
- ◆ Red Cross
- ◆ St Johns Ambulance
- ◆ Oil Company
- ◆ HMCG / CPS
- ◆ Police
- ◆ UKPIA



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## Environment Group (EG)



- ◆ Function
  - To provide advice and guidance on environmental matters to SCU, MRC & SRC
- ◆ Role is purely advisory
  - EG has no formal powers (although members may have)
- ◆ MCA initiates then contacts:
  - Statutory Nature Conservation Body
  - Environmental Regulator
  - Fisheries Department



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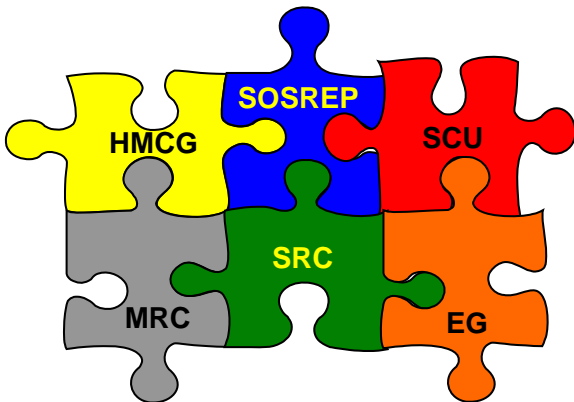
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