



# Memorandum

<b>To:</b>	Presidents, Captains, Secretaries, Clubs
<b>From:</b>	Simon Torsellini, Director Lifesaving and Education
<b>CC:</b>	BOM, LSEC
<b>Date:</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> October 2016
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<b>Subject:</b>	Sydney Branch Radio Network Upgrade

Dear Clubs

Surf Life Saving New South Wales (SLSNSW) recently informed Surf Life Saving Sydney (SLSS) that the switch to the new Digital network has been brought forward to the 7th November, 6 months earlier than expected.

The upgrade to the new digital radio network will improve radio coverage across the branch and provide clearer communications for clubs and support operations communicating with SurfCom. The new Network will also remove some of the radio black spots within the branch.

In the last 2 years, Clubs have been encouraged to purchase digital capable radios through various grants that have been made available to Clubs. Some clubs have fully replaced all their radios, while other clubs have started to phase out the old analog radio's for patrol use. The recommended SLNSW digital radio models that have been supplied to clubs have the capability to run both Digital and Analog channels when configured. The latest grant available sent to clubs by the lifesaving team was SLSA Circular (09/16-17), which is a Beach Safety Equipment Fund (BSEF).

Once the migration / switch takes place to the digital network, it will mean that only digital radios will have the capability to function on the digital network and that all analogue only radios will be made redundant for patrol use. Only Digital capable radio's will be able to communicate to SurfCom.

Analog Radios can still be used for line of sight communication on the beach for other activities like nippers, and members will be able to speak to the patrol on channel 2 if required.

In the SLNSW SOPS, under LS4 Obligations & Standards, LS4.3 CLUB PATROL REQUIREMENTS, a patrol is required to have a min. 3 Radios for Patrol. Currently in the branch, the majority of clubs have 5 or more digitals, with the RNP clubs having 3.

SLNSW has recommended that clubs have a minimum of five **(5)** digital radios for clubs between North Bondi and Cronulla, and three **(3)** for clubs in the Royal National Park.

If any Club feels that they don't not have enough digital radios to manage and support their beach, can you please contact the branch before 28th October or myself on 0414 375 508.

Clubs wishing to purchase more radio's can purchase these from Karera, who have kept a reserve stock for Sydney branch if required.

SLSNSW have advised that a representative from Karera will be going to each operational area, and reprogramming your existing radios to access the new digital network. This has been set for Wednesday the 9th November 2016, and there will be no charge to clubs. The Operational area locations for Waverley, Randwick, and Batebay, will be confirmed shortly.

Royal National Park Clubs will have the option to reprogram radios in one of the other 3 operational areas, or I will arrange another location that is suitable for those clubs.

I understand if this has taken many of you by surprise, as were we in the SLSS lifesaving team that we have reached this point earlier than expected. We are not the first branch in the state to move to digital, nor we are the first to do this type of switch. The Sydney branch digital network equipment has been installed already and tested, with further testing on the 7/8th November.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the implementation of the new Network, please don't hesitate to call me or contact the branch.

Regards

**Simon Torsellini**

**DIRECTOR LIFESAVING AND EDUCATION - SYDNEY**