The RNLI Council met at the RNLI Support Centre, Poole on Thursday 18 July 2019. This was the Annual Meeting for the purpose of appointing Trustees to the Board.

The Council welcomed the new Chief Executive Mark Dowie to his first Council meeting. Mark’s report provided Council members with a top line overview of activities in each area of the RNLI of particular interest or concern.

In particular, the agenda covered:

- Volunteer Code of Conduct and the Volunteer Commitment which is a statement of the hopes and expectations between the RNLI and its volunteers.
- The appointment of a new Trustee who would also chair the RNLI’s Audit and Risk Committee.
- The re-appointment of four Trustees on a rotational basis.

The Annual Meeting of the Council was followed immediately by the Annual RNLI Council Conference where Council members were able to attend syndicate sessions on a number of timely topics:

- Keeping our people safe
- Doing Things The Right Way – an integrated approach
- Coastal operations – the benefits so far of the Stabilisation programme
- Fundraising masterclass
- What effect does a rescue make?
- Partnerships with others

The next meeting of the Council will be in London on 31 October 2019.