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The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea
Royal National Lifeboat Institution, registered charity number
(20003326) in the Republic of Ireland. Registered as a charity in England
and Wales (209603), Scotland (SC037736) and the Bailiwick of Jersey (14)
This information is for staff and volunteers to use when talking about the RNLI’s work.

Before speaking to the media, please contact the Media Engagement Team on +44 (0)1202 336789.

### MONEY IN 2018

- **Charitable spend**: €184.3M
  - Charitable spend (including capital spend) in 2018 was €184.3M, the equivalent of over €504,000 per day. This was an increase of €5.1M (2.8%) in comparison with 2017, as we strive to improve the lifeboats, equipment and working conditions for our crews to keep them safer than ever before.

- **Income**: €177.2M
  - The total net income available for charitable spend of €177.2M represents €210.3M of net income in 2018, less the €33.1M cost of generating income. This is a decrease of €10.4M (5.5%) in comparison with 2017, largely due to the first decline in legacy income for 5 years.

### Financial Health:

2018 was a challenging year financially for the RNLI. Our financial resources reduced by €32.2M in the year, €11.4M of which was a reduction in investments value in the uncertain economic climate. However, this was managed through our free reserves, and we remain in a healthy position at 10 months’ worth of charitable expenditure at the end of 2018.

### Give funds

As a charity we are reliant on voluntary donations to power our lifesaving work.

People donate and raise money for us in all sorts of ways. To donate, visit [RNLI.org/donate](https://www.RNLI.org/donate).

### Mayday

The money raised through Mayday, our yellow-themed annual fundraising campaign, pays for vital kit for our volunteer lifeboat crews.

Visit [RNLI.org/mayday](https://www.RNLI.org/mayday) for a fundraising pack.

### Gifts in Wills

Legacies are the RNLI’s lifeline. They account for more than 66% of net income, meaning that more than 6 out of 10 lifeboat launches are only possible thanks to gifts left to the RNLI in supporters’ Wills.

Visit [RNLI.org/legacy](https://www.RNLI.org/legacy).

### Membership

Many supporters give regularly through our membership options: Shoreline, Offshore, Governor, or Storm Force (for children under the age of 11). See [RNLI.org/membership](https://www.RNLI.org/membership).

### RNLI Shop

Our shops stock a range of products, with all profits going towards our lifesaving work. We also have an online shop at [shop.RNLI.org](https://shop.RNLI.org).

### Social media

Join more than 620,000 supporters following @RNLI across social media.

### Help us connect

If you have a connection with an organisation that could support the RNLI, our Corporate Team would love to hear from you – email us at corporate@RNLI.org.uk.

### Give time

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our charity, supported by expert staff working in partnership to enable communities to save lives.

- 95% of RNLI people are volunteers
- 5,500+ volunteer operational crew
- 3,500+ volunteer shore crew
- 178 volunteer lifeguards

Over 23,000 volunteer community fundraisers... plus thousands of other dedicated volunteers who raise awareness, give safety advice and help in our museums, offices, shops and visitor centres.

To see the ways you can get involved, visit [RNLI.org/volunteer](https://www.RNLI.org/volunteer).

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**WHO WE ARE**

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea.

We are separate from the Coast Guard and independent from the government.

### Vision

To end preventable loss of life at sea.

### Values

Our volunteers and staff strive for excellence and are expected to be trustworthy, courageous, selfless and dependable.

### Saving lives in more ways

- Thanks to your support, our lifesavers rescue thousands every year.
- Last year, we aided 41,619 people and saved 329 lives. Since we were founded in 1824, we have saved over 142,700 lives.
- But around 150 people still lose their lives in Irish and UK waters annually.
- And around the world, 320,000 people drown every year.
- So we’re working with communities and partners to prevent drowning tragedies.
- This prevention work is raising awareness, creating safer places and safer behaviour.

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**MONEY IN 2018**

- **Charitable spend**: €184.3M
  - 27% Lifeboat service
  - 53% Lifeboats, property and equipment
  - 12% Lifeguard rescue
  - 2% International
  - 6% Safety, education and awareness

- **Income**: €177.2M
  - 66% Legacies
  - 27% Donation
  - 3% Trading (net)
  - 2% Charitable trading
  - 1% Investments (net)
  - 1% Other

*Percentages are based on net income only.

**Financial Health**

2018 was a challenging year financially for the RNLI. Our financial resources reduced by €32.2M in the year, €11.4M of which was a reduction in investments value in the uncertain economic climate. However, this was managed through our free reserves, and we remain in a healthy position at 10 months’ worth of charitable expenditure at the end of 2018.

*For more detailed financial information, see our annual report*
The RNLI provides a 24-hour search and rescue service around Ireland and the UK up to 100 nautical miles offshore.

46 operational lifeboat stations around Ireland
59 lifeboats at our Irish stations
25 all-weather lifeboats, 34 inshore lifeboats
4 inland lifeboat stations in Ireland at Carrybridge, Enniskillen, Lough Derg and Lough Ree

2018 statistics
995 launches from lifeboat stations in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland
1,356 people aided
19 lives saved
4 people aided each day, on average

Lifeguard statistics
223 incidents
252 people aided
2 lives saved

**2018 Northern Ireland**

**Lifeguard costs**
Local authorities and beach owners contribute to the RNLI’s costs, which helps to cover lifeguard wages.

- Lifeguard inshore rescue boat €14,651
- Lifeguard full kit €983
- Binoculars €101
- Red and yellow flag €19
- Training for individual lifeguard annually €809

**Station running costs**
- Inshore lifeboat station annually €107,000
- All-weather lifeboat station annually €242,300

**Training costs**
- Average annual training cost for individual crew member €1,800

**Lifeboat costs**
- D class inshore lifeboat €58,604
- Shannon class all-weather lifeboat €2.5M

**Lifeboat cost**
- Inshore lifeboat crew member full kit €2,069
- Helly Hansen layered clothing and boots €1,435*
- Lifejacket €516
- Helmet €296
- Seagoing gloves €28

* This is the recommended retail price (RRP). We always seek to obtain the best price for all kit and equipment. Where possible we will negotiate a lower cost, so may not always pay the full RRP.

**Training**
In 2018, we helped:
- 15,793 children to learn to swim
- 76,952 children learn about water safety
- to keep 9,681 children safe from drowning by providing working parents with free, supervised childcare.

And we:
- supported a lifeguard service in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh, where lifeguards rescued 40 people and took 313,053 preventative actions
- briefed UN representatives from over 50 countries on drowning prevention.

**Costs**
In 2018, we spent €3.7M – about 2% of the RNLI’s total charitable spend.

**HISTORY**

*Republic of Ireland average (23 people) from Irish Water Safety (IWS) Incidents 2011–15. UK average (131 people) from the Water Incident Database (WAID) 2016–18.

Around 150 people die by accident in Irish and UK waters each year*. Around half never intended to enter the water.

Respect the Water is the RNLI’s national drowning prevention campaign. It highlights the risks, advises how to avoid danger and increases the chances of survival in an emergency.

Know what to do – visit RespectTheWater.com

We’re asking the public to help save more lives by sharing some simple survival skills:
- If you find yourself in the water unexpectedly, fight your instincts and float until the effects of cold water shock pass.
- If you see someone else in trouble on the coast, call 112 or 999 and ask for the coastguard.

**Activity tips**
- **Walking** – be wary of all edges around the sea and water; always take a means of calling for help, check the weather and tide times.
- **Swimming** – swim at a lifeguarded beach, between the red and yellow flags.
- **Angling from rocks** – always wear a lifejacket and carry a means of calling for help.
- **Scuba diving** – check that you’re fit to dive.
- **Sailing and motorboating** – always wear a lifejacket or buoyancy aid, ensure everyone onboard knows how to call for help, get appropriate training, and check your engine and fuel before every trip.

**Safety tips for kids**
If you are in and around the water, always remember to:
- stop and think
- stay together
- float
- call 112 or 999 and ask for the coastguard.

Find out more at RNLI.org/education.