

Shire of Broome
PO Box 44, Broome WA 6725
Phone: 08 9191 3456
Fax: 08 9191 3455

MEDIA RELEASE



28 October 2016

For immediate release

Lifeguard season draws to a close

Lifeguards will go off duty on Sunday 30 October after a busy season patrolling Broome's spectacular Cable Beach.

The annual patrols began at Easter and Shire of Broome Manager Sport and Recreation, Casey Zepnick, said it was a busy year that included the successful appointment of Surf Life Saving WA mid-season to provide lifeguard services until 2019.

Mr Zepnick said that more than 126,000 people visited Cable Beach during the 2016 season and lifeguards performed 12 rescues, attended one major first aid incident and 219 minor first aid incidents, carried out more than 6650 preventative actions including warning swimmers, surfers and other beachgoers of rips, rocks and other hazards, and undertook net drags for marine stingers twice a day.

Lifeguards were again assisted by Broome Surf Life Saving Club volunteers who ran Sunday patrols.

"Once again lifeguards have helped keep Cable Beach safe for the many tourists and locals who enjoy spending time here," Mr Zepnick said.

"The transition to SLSWA providing lifeguard services to the Shire of Broome went seamlessly, with the only change the public would have noticed being the switch from blue lifeguard uniforms to the traditional red and yellow."

SLSWA Lifesaving Services Contract Manager, Peter Scott, said they were pleased to be awarded the Broome Lifeguard Service.

"As the largest provider of paid lifeguard services in WA, it means the community and visitors to the world-renowned Cable Beach receive a seamless and integrated beach safety service with the consistent application of standards, procedures and equipment," Mr Scott said.

"It also provides the community with a great opportunity to build a sustainable beach safety service by providing local surf club members with pathways that build upon their skills and experience with the potential for local employment."

ENDS