



Inshore Lifeboat, at 11.58am on 20 August 2020

Swanage's D-Class inshore lifeboat (ILB) was tasked following a report of 2 kayakers that appeared to be stuck on the rocks near Ballard Point. A passing boat had called Solent Coastguard to raise the alarm.

Solent CG had initially tasked the volunteers from Swanage Coastguard to investigate but as they were unable to access the area they requested that the Swanage RNLI volunteers were paged too.

The ILB was launched and made their way across Swanage Bay to assess the situation. Once on scene the crew decided to anchor the ILB and veer down to a point where a crew member could swim ashore. Once in position a swimmer with a throw bag was deployed and he was able to swim ashore safely and have a chat with the two kayakers. They were both OK but getting cold as they had been in the water a couple of times and had been washed ashore on to the rocks.

A plan was formulated and one at a time the kayakers were fitted with lifejackets and swum out to the waiting ILB. Their kayaks were also pulled off the rocks and towed out to sea. The ILB then recovered its anchor and returned to the lifeboat station. On arrival one of the kayakers was treated for a cut foot that he sustained getting off the rocks, the other was offered a shower to warm up. With the situation resolved the ILB was recovered, re-fuelled, washed down, sanitised and made ready for service.



This year, Swanage's lifeboats have responded to 10 incidents together.

The Shannon class all-weather lifeboat has also launched to 16 incidents.

The D class inshore lifeboat has additionally launched to 14 other services.

This gives a total of 40 incidents responded to, so far, this year

