



## All-Weather Lifeboat, on 25 August 2020

Two incidents kept our volunteer crew busy for four hours today, firstly, at 3.25pm, close inshore and then, at 4.39pm, much further offshore while storm Francis kicked up some challenging conditions.

The first call from the UK Coastguard came when several 999 calls reported two paddleboards floating out to sea from Studland. Reports varied, but it was clear that some people were in the water, so the all-weather lifeboat (ALB) launched and made best speed across the bay. Luckily, a training lifeboat '13-04' was in the area and had responded to the call, finding two paddleboards and three person in the water. They were all transferred to the ALB and taken back to coastguards waiting in Swanage.

Before the crew had stepped ashore a second tasking sent the ALB back to sea, this time 20nm offshore to where the passing MV 'Maasborg' had found a small fishing boat drifting. After a rough passage of around 45mins the ALB arrived at the scene and managed to get several close looks at the casualty boat. It appeared as though the boat had broken from a mooring (rather than had persons potentially lost overboard) so the UK coastguard were happy that no further search effort was needed. It was not safe to set up a tow, so the vessel was left to drift, the UK coastguard were given accurate position and drift data.

At 6.25pm the ALB left the scene for the shelter of Swanage Bay and the crew were ashore ready for the next incident at 7.30pm



**This year, Swanage's lifeboats have responded to 11 incidents together.**

**The Shannon class all-weather lifeboat has also launched to 19 incidents.**

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

**This gives a total of 44 incidents responded to, so far, this year**

