

(1) Decision to Close

- (1.1) The decision to close the beach should be made by the Council Lifeguard, in consultation with the Patrol Captain
- (1.2) If the Patrol Captain feels that the conditions are unsafe or that the patrol cannot cope with the quantity of work required, they should speak to the Council Lifeguards about closing the beach
- (1.3) At no point may the patrol close the beach without Lifeguard permission, unless in the most extreme of circumstances (in which the Lifeguards are occupied, and cannot be contacted)

(2) Notification

- (2.1) The Patrol Captain should radio Surfcom to notify them that the beach has been closed. They should provide a brief reason; e.g. “dangerous surf”, “lightning”, “strong rips”.
- (2.2) The Patrol Captain should notify Surfcom if and when the beach is re-opened

(3) Patrol Responsibilities for Closed Beach

- (3.1) The IRB must remain in readiness on the beach at all times
- (3.2) Rescue gear should be deployed on the water’s edge at dangerous locations
- (3.3) The Patrol Tent should only be lowered if wind conditions make the raised tent a hazard
 - (3.3.1) If the tent must be lowered, the Patrol Captain should notify Surfcom [see NS Policy 10 – Patrol Tent]
- (3.4) The minimum number of Bronze holders—who include hold between them all necessary higher awards (IRBD, IRBC, ARTC, SpM, BBM)—must remain on patrol
 - (3.4.1) The minimum number required changes at different times of year—see NS Policy 07 – Lifesaving Service Agreement
 - (3.4.2) SRC members and excess Bronze members may leave, if the Patrol Captain is sure that the beach will not be re-opened during that patrol