



SANDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

Press Release

SANDOWN SECURES SECOND SEASIDE SUMMER SUCCESS

Sandown are celebrating the award of the internationally prestigious Blue Flag award for the second year in succession. This internationally recognised accreditation has been awarded in recognition of the investment that the Town has made in Beach safety, with newly appointed IW High Sheriff, Mrs Kay Marriott JP, presenting the Flag to Sandown's reappointed Town Mayor Cllr Paddy Lightfoot.

The Town Council have invested in Beach Lifeguards, a new Lifeguard Station, beach cleaning, and marker buoys; as well as securing an accessible wheelchair, and commissioning a state of the art public convenience at Eastern Gardens.

High Sheriff Kay Marriott said 'Congratulations to Sandown for achieving the Blue Flag again, which is a tremendous success for a Town Council on the Island, and recognises the work of all involved in the application – the standards are really high'.

The Town Council have also secured funding to provide new projects for this year. These include:

A new defibrillator

Walkie-talkies for longshoremen and concessionaires, allowing us to further increase inter agency working and beach user safety

Litter picking A frames successfully used on other beaches around the country

Increased educational resources

Swim safe initiative provided by our lifeguards

Potential funding for additional beach focused youth provision

Town Mayor Paddy Lightfoot added 'The Town Council has tried to use its limited resources for the benefit of tourists and local residents, investing in a comprehensive programme of beach safety and educational activity, involving partner agencies and local stakeholders'.

Deputy Mayor Alex Lightfoot said 'Its fantastic news to have successfully received the Blue Flag award again, showing Sandown Town Councils commitment to one of our towns strongest assets, our beach. My thanks to the team, and all the partner agencies involved in this success.'

Mayor Paddy Lightfoot concluded 'The Town Council recognises the challenges that Sandown continues to face, and successes like the Blue Flag reflects the commitment we have to making progress, as well continuing to encourage others to make a similar commitment for the future of Sandown'.



Left to Right - Sandown Mayor Paddy Lightfoot, High Sheriff Kay Marriott, and Cllrs Ian Fletcher and Ian Ward BEM. Picture by Kevin Weeden