

		OPERATION PROCEDURES
3	Local procedure	CALL-OUT AND PAGING

- When the Co-ordinating Authority (CA) has made the decision to alert Sidmouth Lifeboat of a call-out and bring us 'on service' they will activate one page to DLA pagers.
- The DLA will in turn call the CA and acknowledge the page.
- The CA may call the DLA and together decide whether to page the crew.
- The DLA should be in the Sidmouth area and have knowledge of the weather and sea conditions at the time. Only the Launch Authority on duty should respond to the page with a call to the CA.
- Authorisation to assemble should first be given by the Co-ordinating Authority.
- The first crewman to arrive at the boathouse (if the DLA is not there already) should call the CA for the task details. The CA will prefer to speak directly to a member of the crew manning the lifeboat if possible.
- The crew should not normally attempt to launch before the DLA has given his consent to do so.
- The Pre-launch requirements must be met.
- **SELF-LAUNCH**
Self-Launch should be effected only in urgent of scenarios. In the 'exceptional circumstances', **'Where there is direct knowledge of immediate danger to life and where any delay would substantially increase the risk of life being lost'** the DLA and Duty Coxswain may agree to launch without the consultation of the Coastguard.
- In all other cases the request to launch on-service must first come from the Co-ordinating Authority.
- Pagers must be maintained and tested no less than once a week.