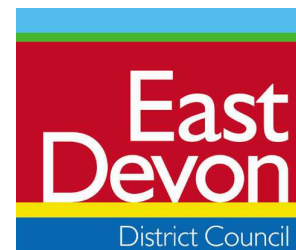




INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



News Service

20 July 2007

EMPHASIS REMAINS ON MONITORING AND CLEANING THE BEACHES

Council welcomes successful separation of MSC Napoli

EAST Devon District Council is delighted that today's (Friday) operation to split the hull of the Napoli into two sections has been successful.

EDDC Leader Councillor Sara Randall Johnson said on Friday afternoon: "We look forward to the next phase of the operation, which is currently being planned by our partners in the Maritime and Coastguard Agency.

"We would re-iterate our consistent message that the beaches of East Devon are open for business as usual and that people need to look for cautionary signs and use common sense to avoid any small amounts of oil that may come ashore.

"We are working in close co-operation with the salvage contractors and the Environment Agency to monitor the situation and we will respond swiftly to any significant changes in the current status of the beaches. We will have staff on duty on beaches over the coming weekend and beyond".

The Council understands that the stern section is to be stabilised and boomed where it is. It will later be dismantled in situ. It is expected that the bow section will stay anchored nearby for a few days until a ship recycling tender has been agreed, at which time the hull will be towed away to an as yet unknown destination port for dismantling.

More information can be found on the MCA website at:

<http://www.mcga.gov.uk/c4mca/mcga-home>

Or the EDDC website at:

<http://www.eastdevon.gov.uk>

Ends

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