

**Adventure Activities Licensing Authority  
Management Board Meeting  
1 October 2015**

**General Update for Members**

Gavin Howat, AALAMG  
(Cleared by: Alistair McNab)

Adventure Activities Network

The community web site continues to be well used. There are now 84 (up from 59) members registered. The community remains up to date with new material being added as needed.

The visitor statistics for the community for the last 6 months are:

Month	Visitors	Visits	Page Requests
April 15	3215 (544)	3408 (637)	7298 (3844)
May 15	3257 (630)	3539 (721)	8122 (4513)
Jun 15	2850 (609)	3024 (685)	6584 (4179)
Jul 15	2741 (620)	2974 (716)	6321 (3796)
Aug 15	2358 (517)	2550 (589)	5381 (3647)
Sep 15*	(747)	(853)	(5981)

These figures are genuine visits as they exclude visits from HSE staff and the site manager. Figures in brackets are previous year numbers where available. \* - figures not yet available

Enforcement Action

A number of incidents remain under investigation with AALS assistance to the investigators where needed. None of these currently involve licensable activities. Of particular note is the conviction of Essex County Council as a result of a novice climber falling 7.5 meters on an indoor wall due to poor belaying practices and inadequate supervision by the instructor. The council were fined £10,000 plus £2,559 costs and a victim surcharge of £120 for breaching section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974.

Other items of interest

Scotland – Scottish Ministers asked the Scottish Adventure Activities Forum to survey the activity industry in Scotland on the shape of a future regime for Scotland. The report is now with Scottish Ministers and it is available here - <http://www.thesaaf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/REVIEW-FINAL.pdf>

Zip wires – the latest edition of the UK Ropes Course Guide is now available here - <http://www.outdoor-learning.org/Portals/0/IOL%20Documents/AAIAC/UK%20Ropes%20Course%20Guide%202015.pdf>

Adventure Activities Industry Advisory Committee (AAIAC) – the new AAIAC had an initial members only meeting in September. Contact has been made with the new Chairman to establish communications between the new AAIAC and HSE. The committee has some administrative support from the Institute of Outdoor Learning.