



The dotted lines mark the general boundaries between the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres (MRCC's). The positions of the VHF radio aerials is also shown along with the working channel *generally* used for broadcasting the maritime safety information broadcast, after the initial announcement is made on channel 16.

Maritime Safety Information Broadcasts

New schedule effective from 1st February 2007. All times are local 'clock' time year round and not universal time (GMT) as previously.

MRCC	B	C	A	C	B	C	A	C
Shetland	0110	0410	0710	1010	1310	1610	1910	2210
Aberdeen	0130	0430	0730	1030	1330	1630	1930	2230
Forth	0130	0430	0730	1030	1330	1630	1930	2230
Liverpool	0130	0430	0730	1030	1330	1630	1930	2230
Clyde	0210	0510	0810	1110	1410	1710	2010	2310
Stornoway	0110	0410	0710	1010	1310	1610	1910	2210

A = Full broadcast including; new inshore forecast and outlook, gale warnings, shipping forecast, navigational warnings, subfacts / gunfacts (where appropriate), 3 day fisherman's forecast (when & where appropriate).

B = New inshore forecast plus previous outlook and gale warnings

C = Repetition of inshore forecast and gale warnings as per schedule A or B broadcast plus strong wind warnings (F6 or above).

Top Tips for receiving maritime safety information broadcasts by VHF Radio

Get up high – don't sit in your tent in a high sided cliffy bay and expect to hear the broadcast. Walk up a small hill or if you're afloat at the time of the broadcast ensure you're in open water and in reasonable line of sight of a coastguard VHF aerial.

Switch on your radio slightly early and be patient – if there's an incident in progress which the coastguard centre is dealing with, then the maritime safety information broadcast may be slightly delayed.

Bear in mind that VHF radio signals are affected by atmospheric conditions – settled periods of weather allow the signals/transmissions to travel further, and foul weather can decrease the range of the signal/transmission.

Holding your handheld radio in an upright manner is a more effective position for your radio to receive and send radio signals/transmissions.

The new maritime safety information broadcast will be broadcast at local time. This means that unlike the current broadcasts which are broadcast at universal time (GMT), the broadcast will always be made at the same time – so no confusion when clocks go back or forward!

Have a notepad or piece of paper at hand to write down the forecast down along with a sharp pencil or working pen. Develop your own shorthand system e.g. so rather than trying to write down Southerly 6 decreasing 4, you could note down S6 dec 4.