



DROWNING ACCIDENTS

Atlantic awareness

Continued from front page

Where is most dangerous?

Tenerife held the unfortunate record for the number of drownings in 2016, with a total of 21 lives lost, 20 people seriously injured and 13 search and rescue operations launched. Gran Canaria followed with 19 deaths, 14 seriously injured and eight rescue operations.

The areas which saw most fatalities were Adeje in Tenerife and Pájara in Fuerteventura, which each saw five bathers drown. Two deaths occurred at Playa de La Arena on the west coast of Tenerife and the Jover natural pool near La Laguna, North Tenerife. In Gran Canaria, two lost their lives off the Playa

de Las Canteras beach in the capital. El Hierro had a clean slate – the only island in the archipelago to be able to make this claim.

"We have observed that while there are fewer bathers in northern areas, the proportion of people drowned there is higher", explained Quintana, who has created a map for the first time to illustrate the topic. He insists there is an urgent need for action in order to alert both tourists and locals to the hazards. Although he admits the statistics mean that only one person dies for every 350,000 visitors, given there are 15 million tourists visiting the Canaries and their beaches each year, he insists that even this percentage is too high. Often, it isn't the ocean



↑ A new map illustrates the danger

that causes the problem but people's behaviour. They enter the water despite high waves, allow their children to get out of sight, jump into unknown areas where they have no idea of the sea bottom or currents, or have too much to drink before bathing.

When sea conditions are not appropriate, or at night, directly after eating, or when feeling tired or weak, you shouldn't even think about going anywhere near the Atlantic. Quintana wants to ensure that all this information reaches bathers to reduce the number of accidents and reverse the rising tide of drowning statistics. For more information you can consult the campaign's Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/canarias1500kcosta.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Transparency under the microscope

Continued from front page

Transparency enhances credibility and is highly valued by the public. Voters are increasingly demanding that the work of their representatives is overseen and even regulated if necessary. The current theory is that the more transparency there is, the truer the democracy.

When results were published for Canarian boroughs with over 15,000 inhabitants, it could be seen that there are vast differences in levels of transparency throughout the Islands. As of May 2017, Ingenio in Gran Canaria had the honour of sitting at the top of the table.

The local administration fulfilled 89.4 per cent of the criteria and the borough as a whole notched up 135 points out of a possible 151 across all areas. In second and third places are La Laguna in Tenerife with 61.59 per cent, and Las Palmas de Gran Canaria with an unimpressive 54 per cent. These are the only municipalities within the so-called 'green areas' of transparency – the highest level attainable.

Showing lesser levels, yellow candidates on the Dyntra index include Arrecife in Lanzarote, and Santa Cruz and Los Realejos in Tenerife, which are all within the



Ingenio is the most transparent borough in the Canaries

41 to 49 per cent band. Areas achieving orange, between 20 and 40 per cent, include Tegui in Lanzarote; Los Llanos de Aridane (La Palma); Telde, San Bartolomé de Tirajana and Gáldar in Gran Canaria; and Arona, El Rosario, La Orotava and Güímar in Tenerife. There are 19 Canar-

ian boroughs in the red area, scoring a rather shameful less than 20 per cent on the transparency scale. These are: Santa Cruz and San Bartolomé in La Palma; Pájara and La Oliva (Fuerteventura); Yaiza and Tías (Lanzarote); Mogán, Santa Brígida, Agüimes, Puerto del Rosario, Arucas

and Santa Lucía de Tirajana in Gran Canaria; as well as the Tenerife boroughs of Guía de Isora, San Miguel de Abona, Puerto de La Cruz, Tacoronte, Adeje, Icod de Los Vinos and, with only 8.61 per cent, Granadilla de Abona.

On a national level, the majority of the autonomous regions

are in the top green and yellow areas. La Rioja is at the lower end of the register with 51.08 per cent and the Canaries are at 59.68 per cent. Looking at the 52 provincial councils, Gran Canaria is 10th in the green area for transparency, whilst Tenerife came 22nd, at the top of the orange field. All

others are located in the lower red ranks: Lanzarote (35th), La Palma (37th), Fuerteventura (44th), La Gomera (49th) and El Hierro (52nd).

If you wish to know more about the transparency of councils or specific regions, check out the Dyntra website at: www.dyntra.org.

THE BOX SALONS TENERIFE

If you've tried creams & potions in an attempt to rid yourself of unsightly fat & cellulite but haven't seen results.

Call us now - 922 090 099

We are so confident that you will see and feel a difference, your 1st treatment is free.

Cryotherapy wraps

Re-shaping your body at an affordable price



foreign language news

Foreign Language News
Calle Francisco Feo Rodríguez 6
E-38620 San Miguel de Abona
Tel. +34 922 750 609



Island Connections Media Group S.L.
CIF: B-38748315
Depósito Legal: TF-287/93

Print: Artes Gráficas del Atlántico S.A.,
Agüimes, Gran Canaria

Circulation controlled by 

Disclaimer:

Island Connections Newspaper is published and printed fortnightly by ISLAND CONNECTIONS S.L. Adverts, texts, photos or other parts of this publication are property of the publishers. They may not be used or reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any other form or means without the prior written permission of the publishers. This newspaper cannot be held responsible for the contents of articles supplied by our contributors or advertisers claims. The publisher reserves the right to refuse to publish adverts, texts or advertising

features. Advertisements once contracted cannot be cancelled and have to be paid in full. The publishers can not be held responsible for variation on colour printed in this newspaper. Advertising conditions are to be obtained in our offices.

Office hours:
Monday – Friday 9.30am – 4.00pm

Publishers: Tina Straub Schacher, Joe Schacher
Design team: Javier Gómez, Maribel Rodríguez
Editor: Andrea Abrell
editorial@v
Deputy editor: Lee Bullen
Editorial team: Xena Fox, Theresa Willson, Sheila Collis, Barbara Bell
Contributors: Chris Todd, Katy Kennedy, Sabine Virgin
Sales manager: Jamie Lee Armstrong
Tel. 616 460 728 · sales@icmedia.eu
Classifieds: classifieds@ic-news.com