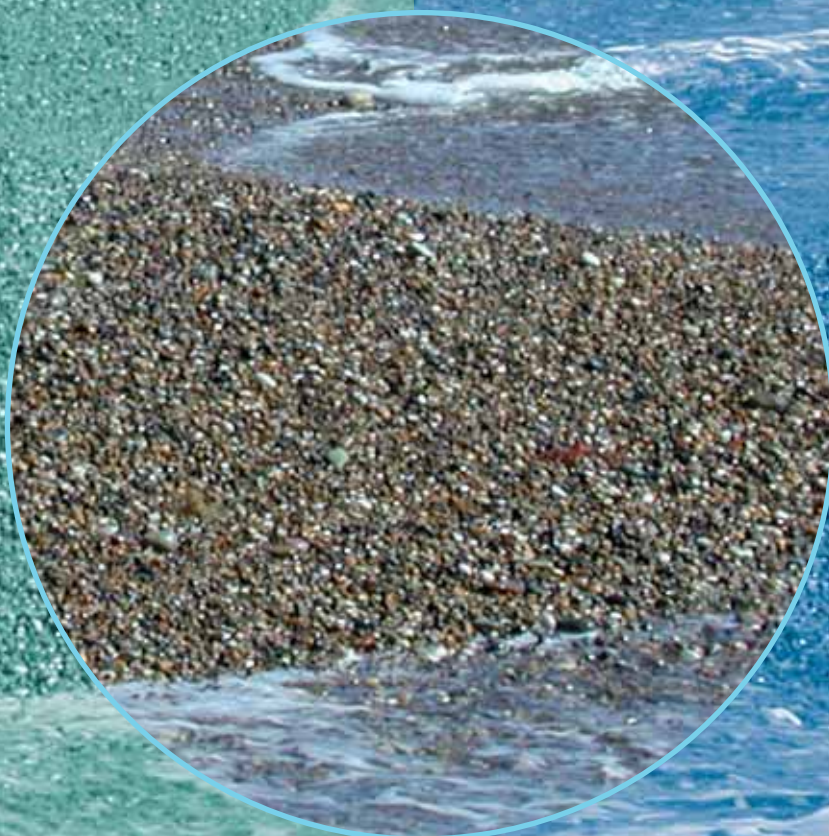


THE QUALITY OF BATHING WATER IN IRELAND

A Report for the Year
2006





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**THE QUALITY OF BATHING WATER
IN IRELAND**

A Report for the Year 2006

Published by the Environmental Protection Agency, Ireland.

The Agency personnel involved in the collation of data and the production and preparation of this report were Kirsty Nolan, George McHugh, Gavin Smith and Tom Stafford.





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SUMMARY

The European Union has prescribed mandatory and guide standards for the protection of public health.

Results collated by the EPA for the 2006 bathing season show that the quality of bathing water in Ireland is very good with 97% (127 of 131 sites) of bathing areas complying with the mandatory standards specified in the EU Bathing Water Directive. The sites which failed to comply with the minimum EU mandatory standard were: Balbriggan (Dublin Fingal) Malahide (Dublin Fingal), Clifden (Galway) and Dunmore East Main Strand (Waterford).

90% of bathing areas (118 of 131 sites) complied with the stricter guide values specified in the Directive. These guide values are quality objectives which all bathing sites should endeavour to achieve.

The number of sites complying with EU mandatory values in 2006 shows an increase of 1% when compared with 2005. There was also a 1% decrease in guide compliance from 91% in 2005 to 90% in 2006.

Out of the eighteen Local Authorities who have designated bathing areas within their functional areas, eleven complied fully with the EU standards (guide and mandatory) for all of their bathing areas. These were:

Cork County Council, Donegal County Council, Dun-Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council, Galway City Council, Kerry County Council, Louth County Council, Mayo County Council, Meath County Council, Westmeath County Council, Wexford County Council and Wicklow County Council.

While the quality of water at designated bathing sites is high, the number of designated sites remains low in comparison to other European countries. To ensure adequate protection of those using bathing areas, the current number of 131 designated sites needs to be increased and a target of 160 is proposed.

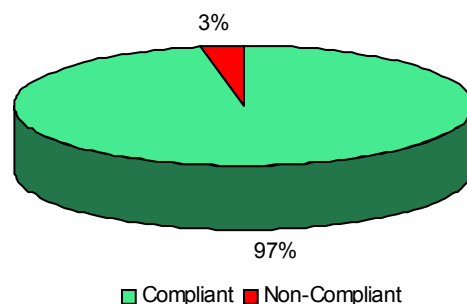


Figure 1: Compliance with EU Mandatory Values

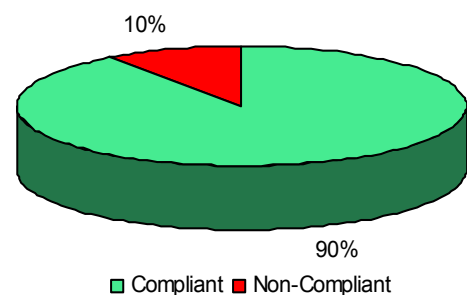


Figure 2: Compliance with EU Guide Values

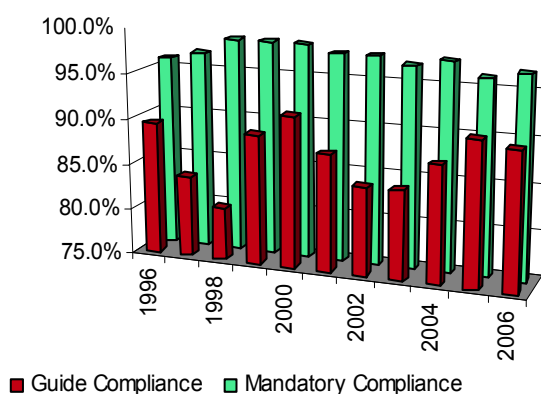


Figure 3: Compliance with EU Values 1996-2006

1. INTRODUCTION

The quality requirements for bathing water areas in Ireland are set out in the Quality of Bathing Waters Regulations 1992 (S.I. No. 155 of 1992) and subsequent amendments. These Regulations transposed the requirements of the EC Directive concerning the quality of bathing waters (76/160/EEC), the purpose of which is to ensure that bathing water quality is maintained and if necessary improved so that it complies with specified standards designed to protect public health and the environment.

Details of the National Limit Values, the European Mandatory and Guide values are summarised in Table 1.

There are currently 131 designated bathing areas in Ireland of which 122 are sea water bathing areas and 9 are freshwater bathing areas. These bathing areas are monitored to check the quality of the bathing water by the competent local authority on a fortnightly basis during the bathing season which extends from

Parameters ⁵	EC Directive concerning the quality of bathing waters 76/160/EEC		National Limit Values (S.I. No. 155 of 1992)
	G (Guide)	I (Mandatory)	
Microbiological:			
Total Coliforms (Number/100ml)	≤ 500 ¹	≤ 10,000 ³	≤ 5,000 ¹ ≤ 10,000 ³
Faecal Coliforms (Number/100ml)	≤ 100 ¹	≤ 2,000 ³	≤ 1,000 ¹ ≤ 2,000 ³
Faecal Strep (Number/100ml)⁴	≤ 100 ²		≤ 300 ³
Salmonella (Number/litre)⁴		0 ³	0 ³
Enteric viruses (PFU/10 litres)⁴		0 ³	0 ³
Physicochemical:			
pH⁴		6 to 9 ³	≥ 6 and ≤ 9 ³
Colour		no abnormal change in colour ³	no abnormal change in colour ³
Mineral oils (mg/l)	≤ 0.3 ²	no film visible on the surface of the water and no odour ³	no film visible on the surface of the water and no odour ³
Surface active substances (mg/l)	≤ 0.3 ²	no lasting foam ³	no lasting foam ³
Phenol (mg/l as C₆H₅OH)	≤ 0.005 ²	no specific odour ≤ 0.05 ³	≤ 0.05 and no specific odour ³
Transparency (m)	≥ 2 ²	≥ 1 ³	≥ 1 ³
DO (% saturation O₂)⁴	80 to 120 ²		≥ 70 and ≤ 120 ³
Tarry residues and floating material	Absence ²		no offensive presence ³

Note 1 ≥ 80% of Samples,

Note 2 ≥ 90% of Samples,

Note 3 ≥ 95% of Samples

Note 4: To be sampled where investigations show or where

there are other grounds for believing that water quality has deteriorated in respect of this parameter

Note 5: Additional parameters (Ammonia, Nitrogen (Kjeldahal), pesticides, heavy metals, cyanides,

Table 1: Quality Requirements for Bathing Water

the 1st June until the end of August each year. Monitoring commences two weeks before the start of the season. The minimum number of samples to be taken during the season is seven.

1.1 Compliance Assessment

The EPA assesses compliance with the National Regulations based on all the parameters which are required to be monitored under the Regulations. While the sampling and analysis criteria is similar under EU legislation, there are differences in the way in which compliance with the results of these parameters is interpreted. As a result, compliance figures for the National Regulations and the EU Directive may differ.

1.1.1 National Compliance

The National Regulations stipulate that each sample obtained must be analysed for the following 8 microbiological and physicochemical parameters:

- Total coliforms
- Faecal coliforms
- Colour
- Mineral oils
- Surface active substances
- Phenols
- Transparency
- Tarry residues, floating materials

Under certain circumstances, in particular where there has been a deterioration of water quality, both the frequency of monitoring and range of analytes must be increased. Similarly, where bathing water quality is found to be consistently of a very good quality, the monitoring frequency may be reduced to a minimum of four times during the bathing season.

In addition to the 8 compulsory parameters, there are a number of additional parameters set out in the Regulations which must be sampled where there are grounds for believing that there

has been a deterioration in respect of the parameter or substance concerned at the site.

Local Authorities must report the results of sampling to the EPA at the end of each bathing season.

1.1.2 EU Compliance

The parameters which are required to be sampled and analysed under EU Directive (76/160/EEC) are the same as those prescribed under the National Regulations. However, unlike National compliance which includes all parameters, EU bathing water compliance is based on a sub-set of these parameters.

The 5 parameters considered for EU compliance purposes are:

- Total coliforms
- Faecal coliforms
- Mineral oils
- Surface-active substances
- Phenol

The parameters transparency and colour are omitted for compliance determination.

There may be good reason for disregarding transparency and colour at seawater sites as turbulent seas may lead to a deterioration in both of these parameters and, as such results may not be indicative of the water quality.

This argument however is less applicable at freshwater sites as colour and transparency are indicators of the possible trophic status of the water.

2. SEA WATER BATHING AREAS

The number of designated seawater bathing areas remained at 122 in 2006.

2.1 Compliance with EU Directive

2.1.1 Mandatory Values

In total, 97% of designated sites (118 of 122) complied with the mandatory values laid down for the five parameters in 2006. This represents a marginal increase on the compliance rate of 96% in 2005.

Four bathing areas failed to comply with the mandatory values specified in the EU Bathing Water Directive and were as follows:

- Balbriggan (Dublin Fingal)
- Malahide (Dublin Fingal)
- Clifden (Galway)
- Dunmore East Main Strand (Waterford)

Balbriggan, Malahide and Clifden failed to meet the EU mandatory standard for both total and faecal coliforms while Dunmore East Main Strand failed to meet the standard for faecal coliforms.

2.1.2 Guide Values

In total, 91% of seawater bathing areas (111 of 122) complied with guide values specified in the Directive. This represents a 1% decrease compared to 2005.

A list of seawater and freshwater bathing areas which were non-compliant with mandatory and/or guide values in 2006 are outlined in Table 2.

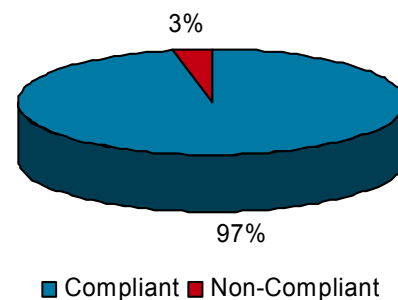


Figure 2.1: Seawater bathing area compliance with EU Directive mandatory values.

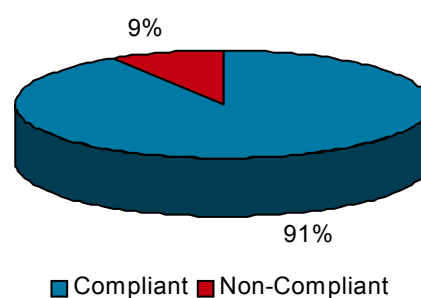


Figure 2.2: Seawater bathing area compliance with EU Directive guide values

2.1 Compliance with National standards

Of the 122 sites, 78% (95 of 122) complied with the National standard in 2006.

In addition to the standards for total and faecal coliforms set out in the EU bathing water directive, National standards include an additional microbial parameter faecal streptococci.

Nine bathing areas failed to meet the National standard for faecal streptococci. These were:

- Balbriggan (Dublin Fingal)
- Loughshinny (Dublin Fingal)
- Malahide (Dublin Fingal)
- Portmarnock (Dublin Fingal)
- Rush (Dublin Fingal)
- Sutton (Dublin Fingal)
- Clifden (Galway)
- Ardmore (Waterford)
- Tramore (Waterford)

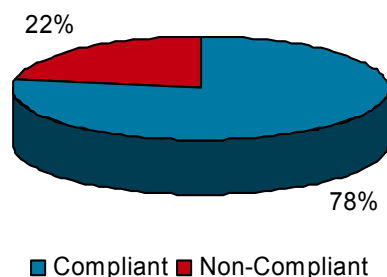


Figure 2.3: Seawater bathing area compliance with National standards

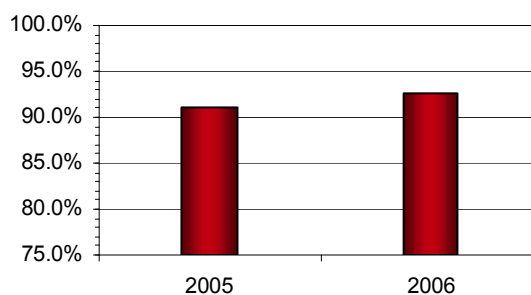


Figure 2.4: Seawater compliance with National standards for faecal streptococci

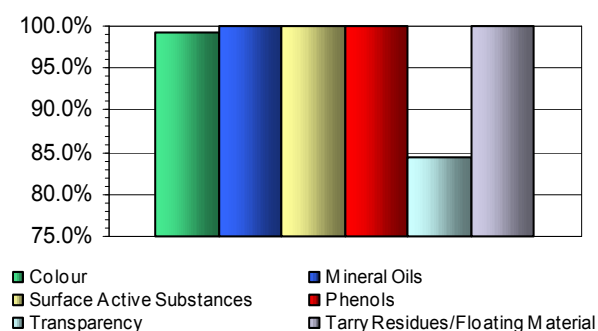
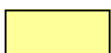


Figure 2.5: Seawater physiochemical compliance with National standards

Beach	Location	Water Type	Parameter which did not meet relevant value
BALBRIGGAN	Dublin Fingal	Seawater	Total Coliforms, Faecal Coliforms
CLIFDEN	Galway County	Seawater	Total Coliforms, Faecal Coliforms
DUNMORE EAST MAIN STRAND	Waterford County	Seawater	Faecal Coliforms
MALAHIDE	Dublin Fingal	Seawater	Total Coliforms, Faecal Coliforms
ARDMORE	Waterford County	Seawater	Faecal Coliforms
BALLYALLIA	Clare County	Freshwater	Total Coliforms, Faecal Coliforms
DOLLYMOUNT STRAND	Dublin City	Seawater	Faecal Coliforms
KEELDRA	Leitrim County	Freshwater	Total Coliforms
LOUGHSHINNY	Dublin Fingal	Seawater	Faecal Coliforms
SUTTON BURROW BEACH	Dublin Fingal	Seawater	Total Coliforms, Faecal Coliforms
NA FORBACHA	Galway County	Seawater	Faecal Coliforms
SPIDDAL	Galway County	Seawater	Total Coliforms, Faecal Coliforms
ENNISCRONE	Sligo County	Seawater	Total Coliforms

 bathing areas which failed both Mandatory and Guide EU Limit Values

 bathing areas which failed Guide EU Limit Values

Table 2: Seawater and freshwater bathing areas which failed to meet Guide and/or Mandatory EU Directive Limit Values in 2006

3. FRESH WATER BATHING AREAS

The number of designated inland bathing areas remained at nine in 2006.

3.2 Compliance with EU Directive

During the 2006 bathing season all 9 fresh waters sites complied with EU mandatory limits set out for the five parameters:

- total coliforms;
- faecal coliforms;
- surface active substances;
- mineral oils; and
- phenols.

In total, 78% of freshwater bathing areas (7 of 9) complied with guide values specified in the Directive. The same two sites also failed in 2005 as follows:

- Ballyallia (Clare County)
- Keeldra (Leitrim County)

Both sites failed to meet the EU guide standard for total coliforms, while Ballyallia also failed to meet the standard for faecal coliforms.

3.1 Compliance with National standards

In 2006, 67% (6 of 9) of designated freshwater sites complied with the limit values set out in the National Regulations. The non-compliant bathing areas were:

- Loughrea Lake (Galway County)
- Portumna (Galway County)
- Keeldra (Leitrim County)

Loughrea lake failed for dissolved oxygen with Portumna and Keeldra failing on transparency. Transparency is more relevant to inland bathing sites as it may be indicative of the pollution status of the waterbody.

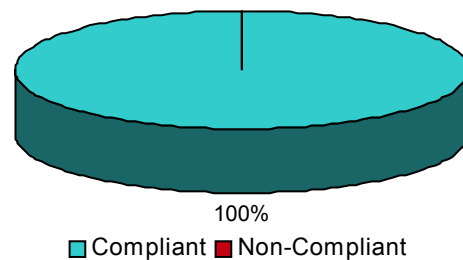


Figure 3.1: Fresh water bathing area compliance with EU Directive Mandatory Values.

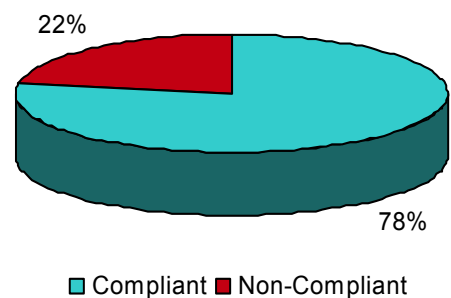


Figure 3.2: Fresh water bathing area compliance with EU Directive Guide Values

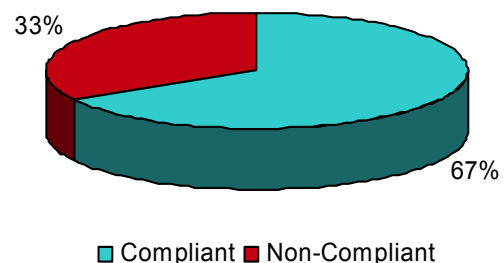


Figure 3.3: Fresh water bathing area compliance with National standards

4. DISCUSSION

4.1 Bathing Water Quality 2006

Overall, there was 97% compliance (127 of 131 sites) with the minimum mandatory standards specified in the EU Bathing Water Directive, while 90% of bathing areas (118 of 131 sites) complied with the stricter EU guide values. These guide values can be regarded as quality objectives which all bathing sites should endeavour to achieve. In comparison to 2005, the number of sites complying with EU mandatory values showed an increase of 1%. There was a 1% decrease in guide compliance.

77% (101 of 131 sites) of bathing areas complied with the National standards. This represents a 5% decrease in quality compared to 2005.

The results for the 2005 and 2006 bathing seasons are summarised in Table 3.

4.1.1 Status Changes

The status of 11 bathing sites in relation to EU standards changed between 2005 and 2006 as outlined in Table 4.

Improvements in water quality were noted at 6 sites, with four of the sites being brought into compliance (Merrion Stand, Sutton Burrow Beach, Na Forbacha and Ardmore) and the remaining three moving from the mandatory compliance category to the stricter guide compliance category (Sandymount Strand, and Portmarnock).

Water quality at the remaining five sites showed a decrease with three of the sites falling out of compliance with the EU standards (Balbriggan, Malahide and Dunmore East Main Strand) and two sites falling from guide compliance to mandatory compliance (Dollymount and Enniscrone).

	Sea Water		Freshwater		Overall	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Number of sampling points	122	122	9	9	131	131
Number of points complying with EU mandatory values	117	118	9	9	126	127
Percentage compliant with EU mandatory values	96%	97%	100%	100%	96%	97%
Number of points complying with EU guide values	112	111	7	7	119	118
Percentage compliant with EU guide values	92%	91%	78%	78%	91%	90%
Number of points complying with National limit values	100	95	7	6	107	101
Percentage compliant with National limit values	82%	78%	78%	67%	82%	77%

Table 3: EU Bathing Water Compliance Status in 2005 and 2006

Local Authority	Bathing Water Area	Status 2005	Status 2006	Trend
Dublin City Council	Merrion Strand	N.C	G.C	↑
Dublin City Council	Dollymount Strand	G.C	M.C	↓
Dublin City Council	Sandymount Strand	M.C	G.C	↑
Fingal County Council	Balbriggan	M.C	N.C.	↓
Fingal County Council	Malahide	G.C	N.C	↓
Fingal County Council	Portmarnock	M.C	G.C	↑
Fingal County Council	Sutton, Burrow Beach	N.C	M.C	↑
Galway County Council	Na Forbacha	N.C	M.C	↑
Sligo County Council	Enniscrone	G.C	M.C	↓
Waterford County Council	Ardmore	N.C	M.C	↑
Waterford County Council	Dunmore East, Main Strand	G.C	N.C	↓

Table 4: Bathing Areas which experienced a Status change in relation to EU standards between 2005 and 2006

G.C. Guide Compliant (indicates water of good quality)

M.C. Mandatory Compliant (indicates water of acceptable quality)

N.C. Non-Compliant (indicates water of insufficient quality - does not comply with either the EU mandatory or guide values)

4.1.2 Persistent Failures

An analysis of returns for all bathing areas over the the period 2002-2006 ranks the following bathing areas as the poorest performers in terms of overall compliance with the bathing water standards:

- Dublin Fingal Balbriggan
- Dublin Fingal Sutton, Burrow Beach
- Galway CC Clifden
- Waterford CC Ardmore
- Galway CC Spiddal, Main Beach

The Quality of Bathing Waters Regulations 1992 require that where waters at a bathing area do not comply with the standards the local authority shall “give such public notice of that fact as it considers appropriate” and “take the

necessary measures to ensure that the standards are complied with...”.

As the purpose of the Bathing Water Regulations is the protection of human health, local authorities should ensure that where any bathing water sample fails the mandatory bathing water standards that the public are made aware of this fact by means of information notices posted at the bathing area. Such notices should be conspicuous and alert the public of risks posed to their health by bathing in these waters. Alerts may also be provided on local radio and the local authorities website where deemed appropriate.

4.2 Enforcement Actions

The Office of Environmental Enforcement (OEE) within the EPA is responsible for the enforcement of EPA licences issued for waste, industrial and other activities. In addition, it also exercises a supervisory role in relation to the environmental protection activities of Local Authorities. This ranges from providing advice and guidance, through to auditing performance, and where necessary, issuing legally binding Directions.

Following last years *2005 Quality of Bathing Water Report*, the OEE issued statutory notices under Section 63 of the EPA Acts 1992 and 2003 to four Local Authorities (Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council, Galway County Council and Waterford County Council) for bathing sites

where municipal sources was the suspected cause of deteriorated water quality.

Table 5 summaries the statutory notices issued to the four Local Authorities for bathing waters which did not meet the EU mandatory standard in 2005. Similar enforcement activities are being undertaken by the OEE for the four sites which failed the EU mandatory standard during the 2006 bathing season.

Responsible Local Authority	Bathing Area	Reason for Statutory Notice	Action Taken/To be Taken by Local Authority
Dublin City Council	Merrion Strand	Failed EU Mandatory Standard for Total and Faecal Coliforms	Dublin City Council and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council are investigating mis-connections and storm water overflows in each of their functional areas.
Fingal County Council	Sutton Burrow Beach	Failed EU Mandatory Standard for faecal coliforms and surface active substances.	Fingal County Council proposes to upgrade the Mayne Bridge Pumping Station including connection of sewage discharging off Howth Head to Ringsend by 2007 as part of the Dublin Bay Project.
Galway County Council	Clifden Beach	Failed EU Mandatory Standard for faecal coliforms.	The EPA issued a Direction to Galway County Council under Section 63(6) of the EPA Acts requiring certain actions to be carried out. Construction of a new plant is proposed for late 2007.
	Na Forbacha	Failed EU Mandatory Standard for faecal coliforms.	Galway County Council plan to investigate single house treatment systems and licensed discharges as possible sources of contamination.
Waterford County Council	Ardmore Beach	Failed EU Mandatory Standard for faecal coliforms.	Waterford County Council was recommended by the EPA to carry out specific actions following a site inspection in September 2006. A new treatment plant for Ardmore is included in The Water Services Investment Programme 2005 –2007 as part of a grouped towns and villages sewerage scheme.

Table 5: Section 63 Notices Issued for Failing EU Mandatory Standard for 2005

4.3 Number of Designated Bathing Areas

There are 131 bathing sites designated in Ireland. Per head of population this places Ireland mid table in European rankings. The number of designations has not increased since the late 1990's. With increased emphasis on water-based leisure activities, there is a need to increase the number of designated bathing sites to ensure adequate protection for those using the sites.

The Agency's Strategic Framework "2020 Vision" recognises the importance of this issue and has specified a target of increasing the number of designated bathing sites to 160.

4.4 New Directive concerning the quality of bathing water

Back in the 1970's, the importance of having adequate protection for both bathers and the environment was highlighted. This resulted in the adoption of the Bathing Water Directive (76/160/EEC), which was one of the first pieces of European environmental legislation.

Since the early 1970's significant advances have been made in terms of both technical and environmental management of water quality. This resulted in the European Commission putting forward a proposal in 2002 for a new Directive on bathing water quality. The aims of the proposal was to: tighten but simplify the health standards for bathing waters, to improve the management of bathing sites, the provision of public information, and to streamline water quality monitoring programmes.

The new Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) was adopted in February 2006, with Member States having until March 2008 to comply with its provisions. The overall objective of the revised Directive remains the protection of public health whilst bathing. In addition, it also offers an opportunity to improve management practices at bathing sites and to standardize the information provided to bathers across Europe.

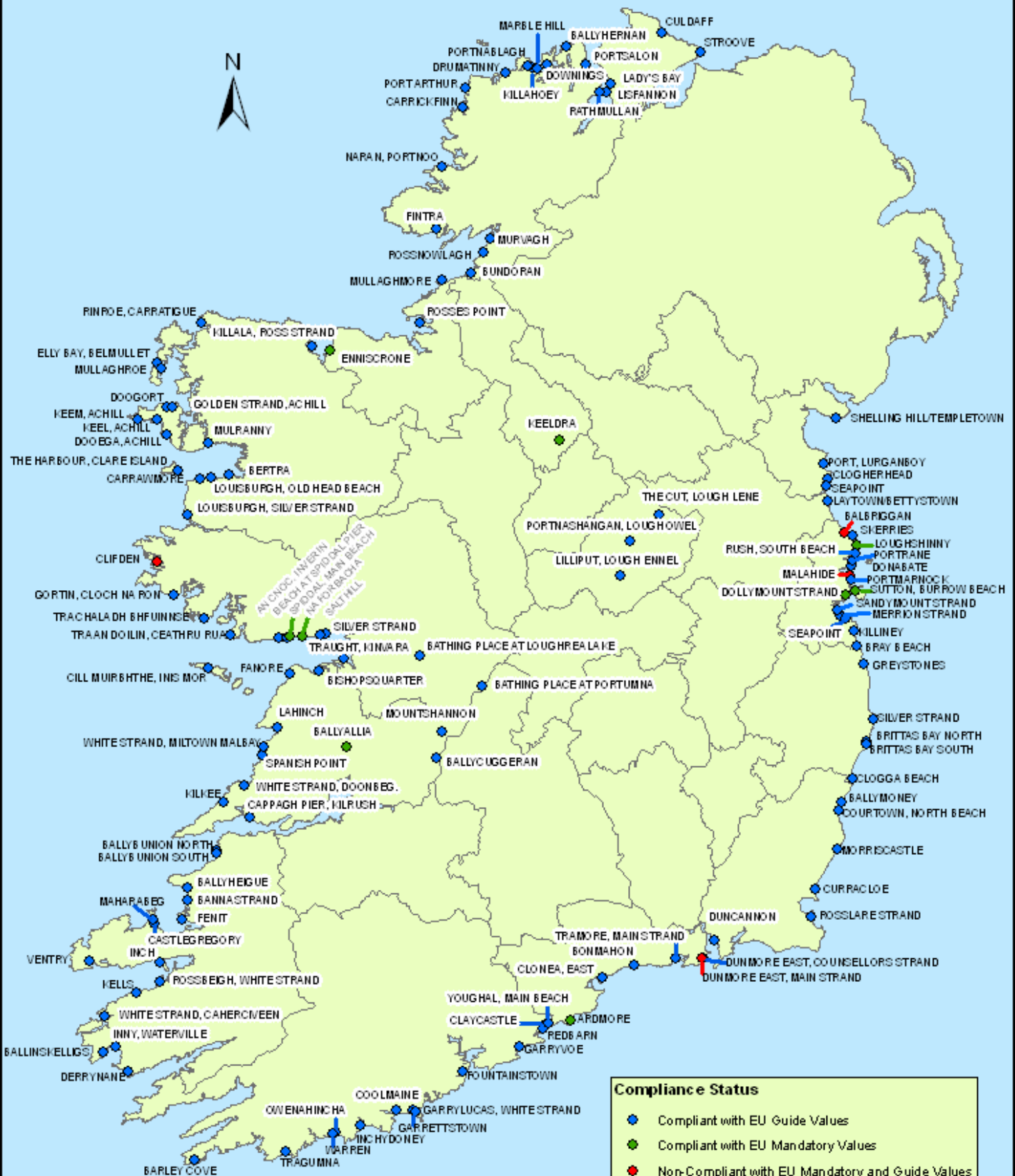
With regard to monitoring, the new Directive reduces the number of parameters requiring measurement from the previous nineteen to just two microbiological indicators of faecal contamination, *E. Coli* and Intestinal Enterococci. This reduction is in recognition of the fact that faecal material is the primary threat to swimmers. It also sets different standards for inland and coastal bathing sites.

The new Directive provides a classification system for water quality at bathing sites with sites being classified as either poor, sufficient, good and excellent. In addition, classification at each site will be determined on the basis of three or four years monitoring data instead of a single year's result as is currently the case. Thus, this new form of classification will be less susceptible to bad weather or one-off incidents.

The new Directive also requires that bathing waters shall be identified annually. This shall be done for the first time before the start of the 2008 bathing season.

Management plans for each site are also required to be developed to minimize risks to bathers based on an assessment of the sources of contamination that are likely to affect it.

In addition, the new Directive also aims not only to increase the amount of information available to the public but also to actively and promptly disseminate this information through the use of appropriate media, including the Internet. Authorities are encouraged to translate this information into various languages.



Appendix 2: EU Compliance Rates For Bathing Areas (1995-2006)

Ireland	Total	C(I) %	C(G) %
Sea Water			
1995	108	98.1	87.9
1996	115	95.6	89.5
1997	115	96.5	83.5
1998	121	98.4	80.2
1999	121	98.3	89.3
2000	121	98.3	91.7
2001	122	97.5	87.7
2002	122	97.5	83.6
2003	122	96.7	83.6
2004	122	97.5	87.7
2005	122	95.9	91.8
2006	122	96.7	90.9
Freshwater			
1995	9	100.0	88.9
1996	9	100.0	88.9
1997	9	100.0	88.9
1998	9	100.0	88.9
1999	9	100.0	88.9
2000	9	100.0	88.9
2001	9	100.0	100.0
2002	9	100.0	100.0
2003	9	100.0	100.0
2004	9	100.0	88.9
2005	9	100.0	77.7
2006	9	100.0	77.7

C(I) Mandatory Compliant C(G) Guide Compliant

Appendix 3: Roles and Responsibilities

The Local Authorities, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government each have specified roles in the administration of the legislation concerning the quality of bathing waters.

Local Authorities

Sampling and Investigations

Local Authorities are required to sample (or arrange for the sampling of) waters at the bathing areas for which they are responsible. These samples must be taken at specified locations, at a required frequency and as far as possible, analysed using specified methodologies. Local Authorities are also responsible for conducting periodic investigations of conditions which may affect the quality of bathing waters for the purpose of determining the volume, nature and effect of all potentially polluting discharges at the bathing areas.

Where bathing waters do not comply with the specified standards, Local Authorities are required to give public notice of this fact and to undertake the necessary measures to ensure compliance with standards. However, deviations of water quality standards caused by floods, other natural disasters or abnormal weather conditions should not be taken into consideration in determining compliance with the standards.

Access to Information

Each Local Authority involved in sampling of water at the designated bathing areas must establish and maintain a register of sampling results which should be made available for inspection by any person during office hours.

During the bathing season, the results of sampling should be displayed at or near the bathing area or alternative arrangements should be made for their availability to the public at the area concerned. The results displayed should be updated regularly, at least every four weeks and location of the sampling point(s)

should be indicated on a map displayed at or near the bathing area.

Reporting of Results

Local Authorities are required to forward monitoring results and reports annually to the EPA at the end of the bathing season. A new web based reporting system was set up in 2003 to help streamline this reporting process.

Environmental Protection Agency


The role of the Environmental Protection Agency is to collate the water quality results from each local authority involved and to compile a national report, which is sent to the European Commission. The results from 2006 which were sent to the European Commission in December 2006 are incorporated in this report, which also includes additional explanatory material for the general reader.

This national overview, together with similar reports from other member states are assembled into one single European-wide document, which is published annually by the Commission.

An additional role extended to the Environmental Protection Agency in 2001 is the authorisation of departures from bathing water quality standards under specific circumstances. Prior to 2001, the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government had this responsibility.

A departure may be granted on condition that it does not constitute a public health hazard. The granting of the departure may also be subject to conditions specified by the EPA and may be restricted to a specified time period.

In addition, the Office of Environmental Enforcement within the EPA exercises a supervisory role in relation to the environmental protection activities of Local Authorities. In this regard, the OEE may as part of their enforcement activities, issue notices under Section 63 of the EPA Acts 1992 and 2003 for bathing sites which do not



meet specified standards.

Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government

The role of the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government includes the preparation of the National Regulations and their updating according as the need arises.

Blue Flag Beaches

The Blue Flag Scheme is a voluntary scheme administered in Ireland by An Taisce and at International level by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). To receive a blue flag, a bathing site, in addition to maintaining a high standard of water quality, must meet specified objectives with regard to the provision of safety services and facilities, environmental management of the beach area and environmental education. The Environmental Protection Agency has co-operated with An Taisce to check that all water quality results obtained by both organisations for the 2006 bathing season are comparable. The analysis of bathing water in respect of the Directive is separate from, although complementary to, the European Blue Flag Scheme.

Appendix 4: Compliance Status for designated bathing areas in 2006

<i>Responsible Local Authority</i>	<i>Bathing Area</i>	<i>Compliance With:</i>		
		EU Mandatory	EU Guide	NLV
<i>Clare County Council</i>	Ballyallia Lake, Ennis	√	x	√
	Ballycuggeran	√	√	√
	Bishopsquarter	√	√	√
	Cappagh Pier, Kilrush	√	√	√
	Fanore	√	√	√
	Kilkee	√	√	√
	Lahinch	√	√	√
	Mountshannon, Lough Derg	√	√	√
	Spanish Point	√	√	√
	White Strand, Doonbeg	√	√	√
	White Strand, Miltown Malbay	√	√	√
<i>Cork County Council</i>	Barley Cove	√	√	√
	Claycastle, Youghal	√	√	√
	Coolmaine	√	√	√
	Fountainstown	√	√	√
	Garretstown	√	√	√
	Garrylucas, White Strand	√	√	√
	Garryvoe	√	√	√
	Inchydoney	√	√	√
	Owenahincha	√	√	√
	Redbarn	√	√	√
	Tragumna	√	√	√
	Warren	√	√	√
	Youghal, Main Beach	√	√	√

<i>Responsible Local Authority</i>	<i>Bathing Area</i>	<i>Compliance With:</i>		
		EU Mandatory	EU Guide	NLV
<i>Donegal County Council</i>	Ballyhernan, Fanad	√	√	√
	Bundoran	√	√	√
	Carrickfinn	√	√	√
	Culdaff	√	√	√
	Downings	√	√	√
	Drumatinny	√	√	√
	Fintra	√	√	√
	Killahoey	√	√	√
	Lady's Bay, Buncrana	√	√	√
	Lisfannon	√	√	√
	Marble Hill	√	√	√
	Murvagh	√	√	√
	Naran, Portnoo	√	√	√
	Port Arthur, Derrybeg	√	√	√
	Portnablagh	√	√	√
	Portsalon	√	√	√
	Rathmullan	√	√	√
	Rossnowlagh	√	√	√
	Shroove	√	√	√
<i>Dublin City Council</i>	Dollymount Strand	√	×	×
	Merrion Strand	√	√	√
	Sandymount Strand	√	√	√
<i>Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council</i>	Killiney	√	√	√
	Seapoint	√	√	√

<i>Responsible Local Authority</i>	<i>Bathing Area</i>	<i>Compliance With:</i>		
		EU Mandatory	EU Guide	NLV
<i>Fingal County Council</i>	Balbriggan	x	x	x
	Donabate	√	√	x
	Loughshinny	√	x	x
	Malahide	x	x	x
	Portmarnock	√	√	x
	Portrane	√	√	x
	Rush, South Beach	√	√	x
	Skerries	√	√	x
	Sutton, Burrow Beach	√	x	x
<i>Galway County Council</i>	An Cnoc, Inverin	√	√	x
	Bathing Place at Loughrea Lake	√	√	x
	Bathing Place at Portumna	√	√	x
	Beach at Spiddal Pier	√	√	x
	Cill Muirbhte, Inis Mor	√	√	√
	Clifden	x	x	x
	Gortin, Cloch Na Ron	√	√	√
	Na Forbacha	√	x	x
	Spiddal, Main Beach	√	x	x
	Tra An Doilin, Ceathru Rua	√	√	√
	Tra Chaladh Bhfuinnse	√	√	x
	Traught, Kinvara	√	√	√
<i>Galway City Council</i>	Salthill	√	√	x
	Silver Strand	√	√	x

<i>Responsible Local Authority</i>	<i>Bathing Area</i>	<i>Compliance With</i>		
		EU Mandatory	EU Guide	NLV
<i>Kerry County Council</i>	Ballinskelligs	√	√	√
	Ballybunion North	√	√	√
	Ballybunion South	√	√	√
	Ballyheigue	√	√	√
	Banna Strand	√	√	√
	Castlegregory	√	√	√
	Derrynane	√	√	√
	Fenit	√	√	√
	Inch	√	√	√
	Inny, Waterville	√	√	√
	Kells	√	√	√
	Maharabeg, Castlegregory	√	√	√
	Rossbeigh, White Strand	√	√	√
	Ventry	√	√	√
	White Strand, Caherciveen	√	√	√
<i>Leitrim County Council</i>	Keeldra, Cloone	√	x	x
<i>Louth County Council</i>	Clogherhead	√	√	√
	Port, Lurganboy	√	√	√
	Seapoint	√	√	√
	Shelling Hill/, Templetown	√	√	√

<i>Responsible Local Authority</i>	<i>Bathing Area</i>	<i>Compliance With:</i>		
		EU Mandatory	EU Guide	NLV
Mayo County Council	Bertra	√	√	x
	Carrawmore	√	√	√
	Doogort	√	√	√
	Dooega, Achill	√	√	√
	Elly Bay, Belmullet	√	√	√
	Golden Strand, Achill	√	√	x
	Keel, Achill	√	√	√
	Keem, Achill	√	√	√
	Killala, Ross Strand	√	√	√
	Louisburgh, Old Head Beach	√	√	√
	Louisburgh, Silver Strand	√	√	√
	Mullaghroe, Belmullet	√	√	√
	Mulranny	√	√	x
	Rinroe, Carratigue	√	√	√
	The Harbour , Clare Island	√	√	√
Meath County Council	Laytown/Bettystown	√	√	√
Sligo County Council	Enniscrone	√	x	x
	Mullaghmore	√	√	x
	Rosses Point	√	√	√
Waterford County Council	Ardmore	√	x	x
	Bonmahon	√	√	√
	Clonea, East	√	√	√
	Dunmore East, Counsellors Strand	√	√	√
	Dunmore East, Main Strand	x	x	x
	Tramore, Main Strand	√	√	x
Westmeath County Council	Lilliput, Lough Ennel	√	√	√
	Portnashangan, Lough Owel	√	√	√
	The Cut, Lough Lene	√	√	√

<i>Responsible Local Authority</i>	<i>Bathing Area</i>	<i>Compliance With:</i>		
		EU Mandatory	EU Guide	NLV
<i>Wexford County Council</i>	Ballymoney	√	√	√
	Courtown, North Beach	√	√	√
	Curracloe	√	√	√
	Duncannon	√	√	√
	Morriscastle	√	√	√
	Rosslare Strand	√	√	√
<i>Wicklow County Council</i>	Bray Beach	√	√	x
	Brittas Bay North	√	√	√
	Brittas Bay South	√	√	√
	Clogga Beach	√	√	√
	Greystones	√	√	√
	Silver Strand	√	√	√

USER COMMENT FORM

Completed comments to be forwarded to: The Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Protection Agency, PO Box 3000, Johnstown Castle Estate, County Wexford.

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