

Water Safety Ireland
Water Safety Guidance Note Number 6:
Management of Local Authority Slipways

Name of Working Group	Beach Safety Report Review Working Group
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Local Authority Slipway

**A man-made structure, under the control of the Local Authority and maintained by the Local Authority, providing a slope leading down into water, used only for the purpose of launching and landing water craft or for building and repairing them.*

1. Risk Assessment of Slipways

1.1 The Local Authority shall develop a register of known public slipways across the county under its control.

1.1 The local Authority can decide if a location is required to be risk assessed.
All risk assessment requests should be directed to the Chief Executive of Water Safety Ireland (WSI). The approved risk assessment report should be issued with the minimum of delay after the date of completion and review of the risk assessment. WSI shall ensure that any slipway risk assessment carried out is accredited by ILSE. The ILSE accredited Risk Assessor, shall be supplied with all necessary documentation and maps in relation to the DBA. The WSDO may accompany the risk assessor if considered necessary.

1.2 Local Authorities shall implement the recommendations of the risk assessment report within a reasonable period of time.

1.3 Where it considers it necessary, Water Safety Ireland itself may undertake a risk assessment in the interests of public safety and bring its findings to the notice of the appropriate authorities.

2. Inspection and maintenance of the Public Rescue Equipment (Ringbuoys) at the slipway

2.1 Where required by the risk assessment, public rescue equipment sited within the public amenity location adjacent to a slipway shall be inspected and maintained in accordance with the Public Rescue Equipment WSI Guidance Note No.1.

3. Water Safety Signage at the Slipway

3.1 Where required by the risk assessment, water safety warning signage shall be sited and maintained at the location. All signage shall comply with ISO and An Commissioner Teanga regulations in regard to the use of text (Gaeilge first followed by English text).

4. Slipway Inspection and Maintenance

4.1 A periodic inspection and maintenance programme shall be developed and undertaken by the Local Authority to ensure the safety of members of the public.