

| Water Safety Ireland Water Safety Guidance Note Number 5: Local Authority management of a public amenity location adjacent to an aquatic environment | |
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| Name of Working Group | Beach Safety Report Review Working Group |
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Public amenity location adjacent to an aquatic environment

** Public amenity location adjacent to an aquatic environment is a location under the control of the local authority and maintained by the local authority on a regular basis and where the public are invited to enter and enjoy e.g. picnic areas adjacent to river or lake or sea or canal. Bathing does not occur at this location but there may be a risk to public safety due to proximity to the open water course.*

1. Risk Assessment of Public amenity location adjacent to an aquatic environment

1.1 The local Authority to develop a register of known public amenity locations adjacent to an aquatic environment across its county and under its control.

1.2 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 public amenity location adjacent to an aquatic environment 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.

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

1.4 Where it considers it necessary, WSI 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 Public amenity location adjacent to an aquatic environment

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

3. Water Safety Signage at the Public amenity location adjacent to an aquatic environment

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).