

Water Safety Policy 2016



Water Safety Policy

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Information provided by RoSPA states that there are around 260 accidental drownings within inland waters in the UK every year and suggests that approximately 30 fatalities are within Scotland. Around 30% of these fatalities are attributed to participation in water sports. Although this indicates that the risk of accidentally drowning within inland waters is relatively low, it would clearly be preferable to see no fatalities.
- 1.2 All landowners have a duty of care under the Occupiers Liability Scotland Act 1960 to take reasonable steps to safeguard those on their land; and therefore Perth and Kinross Council should have a robust water safety policy and risk assessment procedure.
- 1.3 This Policy will ensure that the Council has effective, efficient and sustainable water safety management which will be applied consistently across Council land. It will also formalise the Council's position and assist dialogue with partners and response to the public.
- 1.4 Responsibility for water safety within parks and green open spaces lies with Community Greenspace and is risk assessment based.
- 1.5 Public rescue equipment (PRE) has been placed along Tay Street and around the bridges in Perth and near Woody Island through the Perth & Kinross Water Safety Partnership (PKWSP). This was in response to drownings in that area and associated public concern. The Partnership is currently progressing its 'Improvement Plan for Water Safety' which involves further placement of water safety signs (WSS) and PRE at locations identified by PKWSP on both Council and private land.
- 1.6 Drownings within Perth and Kinross have followed deliberate attempts to self-harm and deliberate entry to the water where the risk has been underestimated. Other fatalities have arisen from accidental falls, slips and trips from land into adjacent water. The number of water incidents associated with council land is unknown.
- 1.7 This Policy aims to reduce accidental and deliberate entry to water and use a risk assessment procedure to ensure the appropriate water safety response within the context of the character of the site. It aims to complement the work of PKWSP whose remit extends beyond land managed by the Council and links more closely to reducing attempted suicide.

2 Context

2.1 Council Responsibilities in Relation to Water Safety

- 2.1.2 Perth and Kinross is a largely inland area with many large lochs and rivers including the River Tay, which has the largest volume of water in the UK and becomes tidal at Perth.
- 2.1.3 Land owned by the Council often has water within or adjacent to it. It is managed for public use and enjoyment which has social, health and economic benefits to residents, visitors and businesses. Management also aims to enhance biodiversity. In some cases the design of land adjacent to rivers also accommodates flood prevention measures. The North Inch in Perth is adjacent to the River Tay and has a popular riverside path, running and cycle route, with viewing platforms and flood bund. The Birks of Aberfeldy, is an example of a countryside site where a path and viewpoints facilitate viewing of a series of spectacular waterfalls, and is a popular visitor attraction. Perth Lade Path and the riverside path linking Perth to Almondbank are shared use paths used for active travel contributing to public health and sustainability.
- 2.1.4 There are no designated bathing waters within Perth and Kinross and the Council does not provide public facilities for water sports.
- 2.1.5 The Council issues fishing permits for the River Tay in Perth. It also owns several slipways in Perth with authorised use by specific water sports clubs, as well as training by the emergency services. The main slipway on Tay Street is available for public use. The Council and jet skiers using the River Tay from the slipway have agreed a voluntary Code of Conduct to reduce disturbance to local communities. This Code of Conduct does not affect the Water Safety Policy.
- 2.1.6 Perth harbour is owned by the Council and is managed by a Harbour Master as a commercial area and is not accessible to the general public.
- 2.1.7 Although the Environment Service (TES) is largely responsible for the public realm other council services have roles with regard to water safety as outlined below.
- 2.1.8 Education and Children's Services (ECS) have an important role in water safety education within the classroom and through the work of the Outdoor Education Team. They provide teacher training for water safety and opportunities for schools, clubs and the public to develop water sports skills including rescue techniques. The annual 'SafeTaySiders' event for primary

seven classes promotes water safety to children at a key stage in their lives. Risk assessments are required for all out of school activities.

There are no water bodies within the school estate.

- 2.1.9 Housing and Community Care (HCC) have responsibility for liaison with PKWSP and the Council's work on mental health planning and suicide prevention. PKWSP brings together emergency responders (the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Police Scotland), the Council and charities such as Safe Tay and the Samaritans to implement an 'Improvement Plan for Water Safety'. The Partnership has placed WSS and PRE at key risk locations selected by the PKWSP. This includes locations known to be used for attempted suicides, most notably around the Perth Bridge area. HCC advise that some people entering water do so as a 'cry for help' and hope to be rescued. Samaritans signage which aims to offer support in moments of despair has also been placed. PKWSP is resourced and is responsible for the placement and ongoing maintenance of their WSS. PRE placed on Council land is installed and maintained by the Council. Community Wardens engage with the community to reduce vandalism to PRE where there is a problem.
- 2.1.10 Health, Safety and Wellbeing provide training for officers with responsibility for risk assessing sites. A General Risk Assessment (one day) course and an IOSH Managing Safely (one day for six weeks with final assessment) course are available. Relevant guidance documents are available on Eric including Slips, Trips and Falls.
- 2.1.11 Within the TES responsibilities for water safety are summarised below.
- 2.1.12 Roads and Structures (R&S) have responsibility for roads infrastructure including pavements and surfaced paths, bridges, and slipways. R&S do not carry out specific water safety risk assessment in relation to pavements and paths out with the design and construction stage, nor do they have responsibility for inspection or maintenance of existing water safety provision within the road corridor. Their approval is required in relation to placement of WSS and PRE within the road corridor.
- 2.1.13 Community Greenspace (CG) has responsibility for water safety within greenspace areas. The risk assessment procedure carried out by CG to date has been based on advice from RoSPA in 1993 and 2006. CG also administer fishing permits for council beats which include water safety advice for anglers.
- 2.1.14 Operations have responsibility for recorded inspection and replacing missing or damaged PRE. Spare PRE is kept in stock and carried so that replacements can be made during inspections.

2.2 Legislation and guidance

- 2.2.1 Appendix 1 shows the relevant legislation and guidance and the main issues arising in relation to the Council's Water Safety Policy.
- 2.2.2 As an owner of land, the Council has a duty of care under by the Occupiers Liability Scotland Act 1960. This specifies that a risk assessment procedure (RAP) should be used to ensure that reasonable steps are taken to reduce the level of risk, and advises that liability is reduced when the danger is brought to the attention of visitors. This is borne out by law cases such as Tomlinson v Congleton Borough Council (2003) in which the claimant sustained a broken neck after diving into shallow water having ignored signs stating 'Dangerous water no swimming'. Although the court initially imposed liability on the Council on the basis that their RAP was inadequate, this was later overturned. The final ruling asserted that there was no duty to take steps to prevent the claimant from diving as the danger being obvious. This ruling was taken with due regard to the wider social benefits of landowners facilitating access to water, without fear of litigation. This implies that the RAP controls should be placed largely where hazards are not obvious.
- 2.2.3 The Council has a duty to uphold the right of responsible access to most land and water given by the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. This Act and accompanying guidance places the responsibility for personal safety largely on the individual.
- 2.2.4 The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 places a duty on the Council to further the conservation of biodiversity which implies that water environments should be managed for wildlife as well as for public benefit.
- 2.2.5 The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1967 allows the Council to provide signage and rescue equipment at locations it considers appropriate. National signage standards ensure that signs are easily understood by most people.
- 2.2.6 National guidance from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) provides useful advice for local authorities in relation to managing water safety and explaining the level of risk based on numbers of water related incidents recorded.
- 2.2.7 The Council's Community Safety Strategy 2007-2012 developed by the Community Safety Partnership includes long term water safety outcomes to reduce the number of accidental drownings by 30%.

2.3 Recorded Water Rescue Incidences and Implications on Policy

2.3.1 UK accidental inland drowning

The numbers and types of accidental fatalities by drowning within inland waters is provided by RoSPA for the 2009 to 2011 period.

The main findings show:

- About 260 people drown accidentally in inland waters each year in the UK, of these approximately 30 occur within Scotland.
- About 30% of drownings arise from participation in water sports.
- Males drown twice as often as females; the male 15-30 year age group has the highest number of fatalities.
- Rivers are more hazardous than contained water features such as lochs.
- Falls into water while engaging in land based activities such as walking, running and cycling, results in the most fatalities of all activity groups (it is the largest activity group).

RoSPA stresses the need to increase public awareness of the potential dangers of land based activities adjacent to water in order to reduce accidents, and to reduce the numbers of people deliberately entering water without an awareness and consideration of depth, strong currents or cold temperatures.

2.3.2 Implications for the Policy

The Council should continue to educate the public in relation to the dangers of water, including appropriate placing of WSS, and should take reasonable steps to reduce the risk at the water's edge where slips and trips may occur and dangers may not be obvious. This can be achieved for example by establishing wide margins of long grass and other vegetation which dissuade people from accessing the water's edge; or where waterside access is desirable, to provide secure edges and barriers if appropriate.

2.3.3 Water rescue incidents in Perth & Kinross

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is trained and equipped as emergency responders for water rescue incidents. The SFRS has provided information on water incidents they attended within Perth and Kinross between January 2010 and April 2014. In this period 68 water rescues were attended, 38 of these were in moving water, there were 8 fatalities and 18 non-fatal casualties. No information is available regarding the circumstances of these incidents and how many people entered the water deliberately. SFRS has also provided information on two specific rescues which involved the use of PRE around the Perth Bridges. In two incidents in November 2013

and June 2015, police officers used throwlines to reach and hold casualties against the current until the SFRS completed the water rescues.

2.3.4 Implications for the Policy

Phoning the emergency services should be the priority for anyone witnessing an incident. This message should be prominent on all WSS and PRE. In addition PRE should be provided where there are known and recurring incidents of accidental or deliberate entry to water and condition allow for their effective use (see also 2.24 below).

2.3.5 Fatalities on land owned or managed by the Council

There is no record of the number of water related fatalities associated with Council land, however the incidents described below give an indication of how fatalities can occur.

2.3.6 Two fatalities resulted from accidental falls into water in 2002/3. A slip from stepping stones at Rumbling Bridge Gorge and a fall from height at Bruar Falls led to fatalities. Both sites are extremely popular, highly scenic gorge areas with precipitous sides in private ownership. The Council held management agreements for the paths (no longer in place at Bruar Falls) and following these fatal accidents path improvements, warning signage and improved site monitoring were implemented.

2.3.7 In 2013 a young man was swept away and drowned while attempting to wade across the River Tay from Woody Island in Perth to gain access to the Rewind event in Scone. Following this fatality the PKWSP placed WSS and PRE (throw lines) within this area.

2.3.8 Fatalities have also resulted from attempts to self-harm, most frequently associated with jumping from the Perth bridges.

2.3.9 RoSPA water safety guidance stresses the need for drowning prevention to dissuade people from entering the water and advises that rescue from water is a poor option and that PRE may delay calling the emergency services.

2.3.10 ECS Outdoor Education advise that public rescues are unlikely to be effective as considerable training is required to operate rescue aids effectively; in moving water the casualty is likely to be swept out of range downstream. The panicking casualty is unlikely to be able to catch a throwline and the witness should not put themselves at risk. The most effective course of action is to alert the emergency services while watching and shouting reassurance and encouragement.

2.3.11 Implications for the Policy

WSS should be placed at sites where there is deep and/or fast water to deter unwise entry into the water by warning of the hidden dangers of strong currents, deep or cold water.

Provision of PRE will be kept to a minimum and be provided only in situations where a rescue may be effectively achieved. For this reason PRE will not be used where:

- high falls may result in the casualty being unconscious or the rescuer placing themselves in danger (eg gorge situations).
- fast flowing water is likely to carry the casualty rapidly out of range of PRE.
- regular (weekly) inspection of PRE is not sustainable in remote locations.

2.4 The Council's Existing Water Safety Guidance and Procedures

- 2.4.1 RoSPA were commissioned by PKC to carry out water safety site assessments in 1993 and 2006. Their subsequent reports provided both general guidance based and site specific recommendations.
- 2.4.2 RoSPA stressed the importance of public education as the best way to improve water safety; and did not recommend PRE as a key risk control in isolation. Their approach to risk assessment included a banding guide to help identify the degree of risk based on site characteristics and suggest suitable controls.
- 2.4.3 The RoSPA report and general guidance formed the basis of the subsequent PKC Water Safety Guidance document. It recognises the importance of public education to deter entry into the water in the first place; and includes a site risk assessment based on a banding guide. Control measures to reduce the level of risk include:
- edge protection
 - warning signs
 - public rescue equipment (PRE)

2.4.4 Edge protection

The following design principles are followed as appropriate:

- 2.4.5. Water safety is increased by routing paths and other well used areas away from the water's edge, or by the potential provision of secure edges and/or barriers where public facilities are adjacent to a water's edge.
- 2.4.6 The management of vegetation at and near the water's edge can enhance water safety and can either facilitate or dissuade access to the water's edge.
- 2.4.7 Where direct access to the water's edge is considered integral to public amenity, vegetation is maintained to ensure the edge and water is obvious. This is most appropriate where there are shallow gradients and still, shallow water, and where there is a relatively small area at the water's edge, usually at ponds.
- 2.4.8 Where access to the water's edge is not considered essential and/or an extensive natural water's edge exists, vegetation is managed to create a wide margin of long growth (grass/wildflowers/shrubs) along the water's edge which discourages access whilst still retaining views of the water.
- 2.4.9 Aquatic and marginal planting at the edge of ponds can discourage access and encourage wildlife.

2.5.8 The design and management of public spaces also maximises the public use and enjoyment of the outdoors, enhances biodiversity and accommodates flood prevention where relevant; as well as incorporating the above water safety measures as appropriate.

2.5.9 Water safety signage (WSS)

In 2006 the Council, working within the Community Safety Partnership, introduced signage incorporating the 'Be Water Wise' message and placed it at appropriate locations. No WSS was placed within countryside sites where safety signage is of a general nature. In 2013 the PKWSP developed new signage for use at old and new sites with prominent advice to dial 999 including a space to enter the grid reference of the location.

Temporary warning signs may be placed when required in relation to algal blooms and ice within ponds on Council land.

2.5.10 Public rescue equipment (PRE)

Throw lines are located near to the water's edge as they are designed to be thrown at distance; and lifelines are only provided near the Queen's Bridge, Perth as they are better used from height, (they can only be dropped or thrown a short distance).

2.4.11 In a few circumstances the Council's response differed from the RoSPA recommendations, these are outlined below:

- barriers prevent accidental drops from height into water, such as Norrie Miller Park, do not include 'no climbing' pictograms on railings which were recommended by RoSPA. The Council considered that these signs were not required as the barriers prevent accidental falls and the risks of climbing were obvious.
- substantial barriers prevent accidental drops from height into water, including Tay Street and the bridges in Perth. RoSPA recommended no PRE in these situations on the basis that it is difficult to operate in these circumstances. The provision of PRE in these locations is in response to known incidents of people deliberately jumping into the water (tombstoning or attempting suicide) and the potential benefit of the PRE in these circumstances.
- PRE is provided without accompanying water safety signage. RoSPA recommended use of safety points incorporating both PRE and WSS. The Council has positioned WSS where most site users will see it, usually at main access points. PRE is located at the water's edge where it is readily available for emergency rescue.

- Equipped play parks near to rivers, including in Dunkeld Riverside Park. RoSPA recommended fencing off the play area from the river. The Council considers a fence is not essential on the basis that the river is highly visible and obvious; there are no steep drops to the water's edge; and the play area is located more than 6 metres from the river edge. The Council has placed WSS at access points to the park and has established a wide long grass margin at the riverbank to discourage access to the water's edge. Also the play area is designed to focus activity away from the water, provide equipment for the younger children at the furthest point from the river, and locate seating to accommodate parental supervision. There have been no recorded incidents regarding water safety at the sites.

2.4.12 In practice the Council has also recognised that the character and use of the countryside sites differs from town parks which can influence the application of water safety measures. When in the countryside it is reasonable to anticipate (and enjoy) a more informal approach to design, infrastructure and management. Also the very nature of the sites, such as informal paths in steep glens /gorges have inherent and obvious risks and due care is required.

2.4.13 Cost of provision and maintenance of WSS and PRE

WSS and PRE are relatively affordable to purchase and install. The estimated cost of installation of a sign or PRE is £150 per item. Signage is low maintenance and is inspected infrequently as part of wider site inspections. However the requirement to ensure PRE remains in working order requires regular inspections and substantial officer time and, where PRE is frequently vandalised or stolen, costs are significant. Records show that between 2010 and 2015 209 throw lines and 55 throw line housings were purchased at a total cost of £6,146.41. This is for 24 locations where PRE is provided: 8 locations on Tay Street, 5 within the North Inch, 2 within Norrie Millar and Bellwood Parks, 4 within Muirton near Woody Island (placed by PKWSP) and 5 within Kirkgate Park in Kinross.

Grounds Maintenance (GM) staff inspect and replace any damaged PRE on weekdays and both inspections and repairs are recorded. Street sweepers check the PRE within Perth at weekends. PRE at Muirton (placed by PKWSG) has been subject to repeated vandalism requiring frequent replacement by the Council. Community Wardens also inspect this PRE on behalf of PKWSP.

3 Development of Council Water Safety Policy

- 3.1 RoSPA's recently published 'Water Safety Policy in Scotland – A Guide' highlights the need for local authorities to have water safety policies. The guidance sets out key policy considerations and aims to promote consistency across local authorities.
- 3.2 This guide omits risk assessment based on a banding guide due to RoSPA's concern that too great a reliance was being placed on it, resulting in less consideration of individual site characteristics
- 3.3 The development of PKC's Water Safety Policy has reviewed the Council's previous Water Safety Guidance, RAP and practise utilising officer knowledge and experience; with due consideration to relevant legislation (summarised in Appendix 1) particularly the RoSPA guidance above and recognition of the ongoing work with the PKWSP.

4 Council Policy for Water Safety

- 4.1 In developing this policy it has been established that the Council's current approach to water safety is generally sound. As such this policy and the revised RAP contained within Appendix 2 will make little significant difference to existing management and provision. The new policy does however formalise the Council's approach to water safety offering consistency across the Council and will assist working with PKWSP.
- 4.2 The Council's approach to water safety is on the basis that people are responsible for their actions and safety where hazards are obvious. The Council will take measures to protect the public where indicated by the RAP, where hazards are not obvious and/or where there is an increased chance of entry to deep and/or fast water from an adjacent public facility such as a constructed path or viewing area. This may include the provision of barriers, WSS and PRE as appropriate. The Council will ensure that all sites with water have recorded risk assessments every 4 years.
- 4.3 This policy recognises that the character and use of the countryside sites differs from that of open spaces in towns which can influence the application of water safety measures. This principle has been the practice to date and is incorporated into the guidance notes of the revised RAP, Appendix 2; and particularly applies to informal countryside paths next to rivers and gorges, where, in many cases, it would be neither practical nor desirable to have barriers next to the path. However in some locations where the risk may not be obvious such as a concealed fall from a woodland path into a gorge it may be appropriate to have a discreet fence; or the incorporation of a barrier at constructed viewing point which is situated immediately adjacent to a deep or fast river (which would also act as a leaning rail to enjoy the view).

4.4 The measures to be taken arising from this Policy are summarised below. Where these result in a change to current practise, the change is identified and the rational for it is explained. In most cases operational responsibility lies with Community Greenspace, where this is not the case the responsible section or service is specified.

4.5. Public education

The Council will:

- continue to provide water safety education within appropriate learning environments to encourage people to behave responsibly and appropriately, primarily through the activities of ECS.
- continue to ensure that its website provides water safety advice, offers links to further information and is used to highlight particular high risk events and times.
- continue to provide anglers using Council fishing beats with water safety guidance when applying for a permit.

4.6 Site inspections

The Council will:

- continue to ensure officers responsible for undertaking RAP of greenspace sites follow the approved RAP guidance and have completed the Council's General Risk Assessment training.
- now carry out a RAP every 4 years for all sites where no significant change of conditions, or water safety incidents have occurred.
- now carry out a RAP for any site where a significant change of condition has occurred, within 1 month of the recorded change.
- now carry out a RAP for any site where a water safety incident has been reported, within 5 working days of the report being received.

The frequency of RAP site inspections is reduced to 4 years which is considered sufficient unless there is a significant site change or incident. These would be captured by 6 monthly general site inspections or by public reporting, either of which would trigger a new RAP.

4.7 Design and management of public open spaces

The Council will:

- continue to ensure design of public places, and in particular play areas, which are near to water bodies take water safety considerations into

account. Where play areas or paths are located near deep and/or fast water, a minimum separation margin of 6m for play areas and 2m for paths, from the water's edge will be ensured. These distances are based on current practice and experience.

- continue to ensure water safety is a key consideration in relation to design of ponds and other water features. Ponds will have gentle gradients, or where there is a vertical edge, such as at the South Inch Pond, the edge will be less than 0.5m above the water. Water will be shallow (0.65m or less) at edges and water plants will be established to dissuade entry to the water and encourage biodiversity as appropriate.
- continue to consider installing new barriers in relation to water safety, only in circumstances indicated by the RAP where there is a sheer or steep drop (60 degrees or more) into fast flowing and/or deep water from an adjacent (within 1 m) public facility such as viewing area. Designs will be appropriate to the risk and site character, robust and low maintenance.
- where access to the water's edge is considered integral to the amenity of the site, continue to manage water edge vegetation to ensure the edge is obvious, for example at ponds. This can be achieved by pruning or removal of obscuring trees or shrubs and/or the maintenance of a wide mown grass border.
- where access to the water's edge is not considered integral to the amenity of the site continue to manage water edge vegetation to discourage access, for example to separate a path from a natural riverbank. This can be achieved by the maintenance of a wide uncut margin of natural vegetation between the public facility and the water's edge.

4.8 Water safety signage (WSS)

The Council will:

- continue to place WSS in locations indicated by the RAP, being:
 - at slipways (facilities for managed access to water)
 - where deep and/or fast flowing water is adjacent to a public facility
 - where there are known and recurring incidents of entry to water
- continue to place and maintain WSS only at main site entrances or key points. Signs will therefore be visible to most users whilst minimising the number required, reduce clutter and maintain amenity. Waterside WSS may be required in some circumstances.
- now place WSS at countryside sites, water safety and general safety warnings will be included in the site welcome/information at the main access points

- now consider removing WSS at locations where the hazard is obvious and the risk is low, for example at ponds.
- continue to consider placing temporary signs when required at pond locations to warn people of the risk of toxic water and ice.

WSS will be placed at all greenspace sites as indicated by the RAP, including some countryside sites where no WSS may currently exist. In most cases WSS will be located at site entrances only. Guidance for where to place signs within sites will improve consistency of use of WSS on all sites and ensure most site users are made aware of the need to be careful around water.

4.9 Public rescue equipment (PRE)

The Council will:

- continue to place PRE at locations as informed by the RAP where:
 - there are known and recurring instances of accidental or deliberate entry to water
 - they are highly visible
 - they can be used effectively
 - they can be regularly inspected and maintained

PRE will not be used where:

- high falls are likely to be either fatal or cause very serious injury and the PRE would not be effective for rescue and could also put rescuers at risk
- fast currents would carry the casualty too quickly out of range of the PRE
- continue to ensure all PRE is clearly marked with instructions on use and that WSS is provided nearby.
- now remove PRE which is repeatedly vandalised and consider relocation or replacement with WSS.
- now consider removal or relocation of existing PRE within sites with multiple PRE to ensure the most effective and sustainable placement of PRE.
- now inspect all Council PRE on greenspace sites once a week between April and October and monthly between November and March, record any defects and replace with functional PRE. This responsibility lies with Operations.
- continue to inspect PRE on Tay Street daily throughout the year, record any defects and replace with functional PRE. This responsibility lies with Operations.

The change in PRE inspection frequency adheres to RoSPA guidance which advises that PRE should be checked weekly at well used locations in the summer and less often during the rest of the year. Consideration of location and an alternative safety method where PRE requires regular replacement also adheres to RoSPA guidance.

5 Conclusion

- 5.1 The Council's existing water safety management has been found to be sound and few changes will result from this policy. The Water Safety Policy will however formalise the Council's approach to water safety management. It will ensure that effective, efficient and sustainable water safety management be applied consistently across Council land assisting in future dialogue with partners such as PKWSP. This will increase clarity regarding responsibilities and avoid duplication of effort in relation to placement and maintenance of water safety provision on Council land.
- 5.2 In providing a policy the Council will meet RoSPA current guidance and continue to fulfil the Council's legal duty to take reasonable steps to safe guard people on it's land.
- 5.3 It aims to reduce accidental falls and deliberate entry to water.
- 5.4 Sites are risk assessed and control measures recommended with due recognition to its context and character. The RAP has been fully revised to provide clear guidance for onsite risk assessment. Appropriate water safety measures will be provided where hazards are not obvious and/or there is an increased risk of entry to water from an adjacent public facility such as a constructed path or viewing platform.
- 5.5 Water safety measures range from site layout/ design components, vegetated and constructed barriers, WSS to PRE.
- 5.6 WSS are generally located at site entrances. PRE are only provided where there are known and recurring instances of deliberate entry to water and where it can be used effectively and inspected and maintained.

Appendices:

Appendix 1- Summary of relevant Legislation and Guidance and Implications for the Council Water Safety Policy.

Appendix 2- Guidance for the Risk Assessment Procedure (RAP) for Water Safety.