

2022 Assessment - Designation of Clontarf Boat Slipway as an EU Identified Bathing Water



Revision	Status	Date	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Approved by
1	Final	14/12/22	Emma Finlay A/Senior Executive Engineer Water Pollution Control Section	Roy O'Connor Senior Engineer Kevin Callanan, Senior Executive Scientific Officer	Marina Hennelly A/ Executive Manager (Engineering)

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	1
1.1. <i>Bathing water legislation</i>	1
1.2. <i>What is a bathing water?</i>	1
2. 2022 Period of Public Participation	2
3. Location proposed for designation	3
4. EPA assessment criteria	5
4.1. <i>Assessment Criteria</i>	5
4.2. <i>Overall Assessment</i>	7
5. Conclusion and Recommendation	13
Appendix 1 – Water Safety Ireland Risk Assessment	14

Table of Figures

Figure 1 Clontarf Boat Slipway (www.google.ie/maps).....	3
Figure 2 Boat Access to Slipway from Clontarf Road (South),	3
Figure 3 Boat Access from Slipway to Clontarf Road (North) (www.google.ie/maps)	3
Figure 4 Area proposed for consideration (note: not to scale, google.ie/maps).....	4

Table of Tables

Table 1 Criteria for the assessment of new bathing waters	6
Table 2 Assessment of Submission	11
Table 3 Assessment of Submission	12

1. Introduction

1.1. Bathing water legislation

The 2008 Bathing Water Regulations (SI No 79 of 2008) transpose the Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) into Irish law. These regulations apply much more stringent criteria than preceding bathing water legislation. In particular to the bacteriological quality of bathing waters, management and notification of pollution incidents with the aim of protecting bather health. The regulations define the bathing water season as the period between June 1st and September 15th each year.

Dublin City Council (DCC) is responsible for the designation and management of bathing waters. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for the classification of designated bathing locations and reporting of incidents and results to the European Commission.

Article 17 of the regulations requires DCC to encourage public participation in relation to the establishment, review and updating of lists of bathing waters. The reader is referred to EPA document '*Public advice on identifying new bathing waters*' for more information on the governing legislation, the role of the Local Authority and procedures relating to the designation of bathing waters.

1.2. What is a bathing water?

Article 4(2) of the 2008 Bathing Water Regulations states that;

“The bathing waters to be identified by a local authority shall be all elements of surface water where the authority expects a large number of people to bathe.”

The Regulations do not specify what constitute 'bathers' or 'large numbers'. While the European Commission considers that 'bathers' constitutes all users of a beach, Member States have generally interpreted 'bathers' as people in direct contact with the water for recreational use. The exception is for water sports such as kayaking, surfing, wind surfing, etc. Areas where these activities occur should be considered for identification as a bathing water *only* if bathing is also occurring at that location.

It is challenging to determine what constitutes 'large numbers'. Bather numbers can be influenced by factors such as tides, weather, facilities and accessibility. For the current designated Irish bathing waters, 'large numbers' can range from 5 upwards, depending on the location.

2. 2022 Period of Public Participation

DCC annually conducts a public consultation, typically during May or June. The public are encouraged and invited to comment on existing bathing waters and/or to propose new bathing waters to be considered for designation.

Any person, community body, public body or local authority can make a submission to have a bathing location considered for designation. However, the Local Authority must be satisfied that it meets the relevant criteria for classification as a bathing water. The Water Pollution Control Section manages this process on behalf of DCC.

The public participation campaign is advertised in various media streams including a national newspaper and on DCC's website. In 2022, the period of public participation was held from 09/05/22 until 09/06/22. A notice was published in the Irish Independent by the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) on Monday 09/05/22 and advertised in parallel on the DCC website. DCC set up a dedicated public participation [website](#) to assist the public in making a submission.

All submissions received by the Water Pollution Control Section are acknowledged by email typically on the same day it is received, or as soon as practicable thereafter. One submission was received during the 2022 public participation period, requesting the designation of the Clontarf Boat Slipway as a formal bathing water.

3. Location proposed for designation

The Clontarf Boat Slipway is located off the Clontarf Road (R807) immediately opposite the Clontarf Yacht and Boat Club (see Figure 1 below). The location can be accessed by various modes of transport including bike, foot, car and bus. A public pay and display (zone blue) carpark is situated immediately East of the slipway.



Figure 1 Clontarf Boat Slipway (www.google.ie/maps)

There is a separate entrance to the slipway for the transport of boats to and from the water (pictured below). This entrance is primarily utilised by the Clontarf Yacht and Boat Club.



Figure 2 Boat Access to Slipway from Clontarf Road (South),

Figure 3 Boat Access from Slipway to Clontarf Road (North) (www.google.ie/maps)

The slipway runs parallel to the seawall and is the main launching area for small sailing boats and motorised rescue craft. The jetty extends seawards beyond the slipway and is used to transfer rescue crews to their boats and to transfer sailing crews to the larger sailing cruisers that are moored offshore.

The Clontarf Slipway is an established boat slipway dating back to 1875, when the Clontarf Yacht and Boat club was founded. The slipway has grown in popularity for sea swimming, especially since the Covid pandemic where boating activities were temporarily ceased/reduced in frequency in accordance with government advice.

The area proposed for designation is the area in the immediate vicinity of the slipway. Access to the water at the proposed location includes two separate slipways and steps as outlined in Figure 4 below.

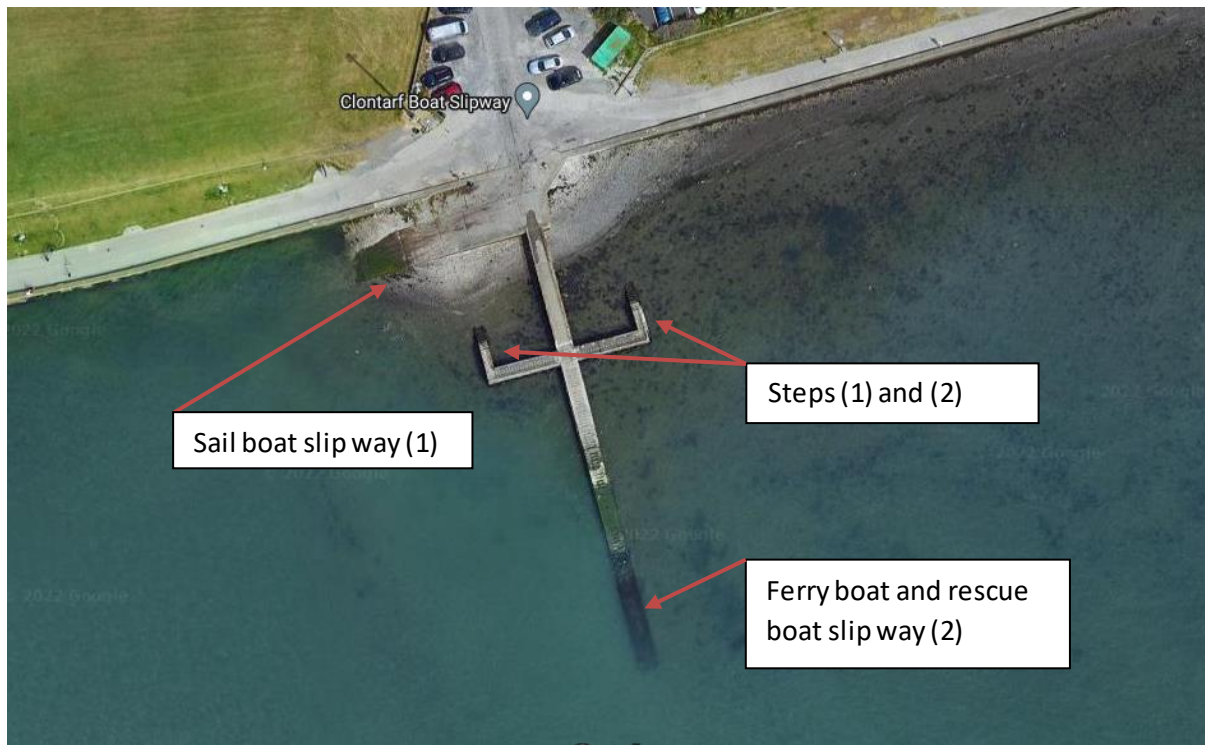


Figure 4 Area proposed for consideration (note: not to scale, google.ie/maps)

As per the EPA guidelines, consultation with pertinent stakeholders who may be impacted by designation is encouraged to be carried out as part of the public request for designation. No consultation with stakeholders was submitted with the request, nor when requested specifically by Dublin City Council.

The Clontarf Yacht and Boat club and their sailing activities would be directly impacted if bathing was to be encouraged at this location via formal designation. Dublin City Council sought comment directly from the stakeholder in relation to the submission for designation.

4. EPA assessment criteria

4.1. Assessment Criteria

The EPA's document '*A framework to assist Local Authorities in the assessment of submissions for the identification of new bathing waters*' which provides guidance on how to assess submissions in relation to the designation of new bathing waters. This is in accordance with the requirements of the Bathing Water Regulations (SI No. 79 of 2008) which transpose Directive 2006/7/EC into Irish Law.

Dublin City Council included all the criteria in the document when assessing the submission to designate Clontarf Slipway as an identified bathing location. The criteria utilised is summarised briefly in Table 1 below. For a full description of the criteria, the reader is referred to the aforementioned EPA's guidance document.

Criteria	Brief Description
Location	<p>Bathing area should be easily and readily accessible to the anticipated number of beach users/bathers without causing environmental damage.</p> <p>NPWS must be consulted where the proposed bathing area is within a designated natural heritage area (i.e. SAC, NHA, SPA, Natura 2000).</p>
Beach Users/Bather Numbers	<p>At least 2 survey days is advised to assess bather usage.</p> <p>Bathers are considered to be anybody interacting with the water, whether physically immersed, actually swimming or simply paddling.</p>
Car Parking/Facilities	<p>The beach should be adequately signposted</p> <p>There should be sufficient car parking facilities</p> <p>Picnic facilities should be considered</p> <p>Toilets should ideally be made available at the beach</p> <p>Adequate litter management facilities should be in place</p> <p>Animal restrictions should be considered</p>

Commercial Impacts	Consideration should be given to whether designation would impact negatively or positively on commercial activities.
Local Community Support	A submission should indicate the extent to which there has been any formal communication with stakeholders most likely affected should the area be designated.
Water Quality	Information on water quality or any potential pollution sources should be provided with the submission where possible. In the absence of information, the local authority should make arrangements to monitor the quality at the proposed location.
Signage/Other Information	Consideration needs to be given to the level and quality of existing signage and the cost of providing additional signage to meet bathing water signage.
Safety	Safety is a key consideration, not only in respect of the management of safe access to the bathing water and overall water safety, but also in respect of issues such as traffic management on access routes or in car parks as well as the safety of Local Authority staff when carrying out water quality monitoring. A formal risk assessment by Water Safety Ireland is strongly encouraged.
Planned infrastructure/MWTP developments	Consideration must be given to the potential positive or negative impacts of any known or proposed environmental, urban, or infrastructural changes on the proposed bathing area.
Costs	Consideration should be given to the costs associated with designation, including management of bathing water quality, installation of signage, safety equipment, lifeguards (where deemed necessary).

Table 1 Criteria for the assessment of new bathing waters

4.2. Overall Assessment

Dublin City Council reviews submissions received in line with the EPA guidance document and makes an assessment of the relative strength of each of the 10 criteria.

Each of the above 10 criterion are rated on a scale of 1 to 5, as follows:

- 1 – not suitable/low/expensive
- 5 – very suitable/high/inexpensive

The weighted score is the product of overall rating of each of the criteria (A) multiplied by the weighting factor provided by the EPA (B).

The EPA has proposed that a weighted score of 65 or higher is required for accepting the proposed location as an EU identified bathing area and a score of at least 50 is required for acceptance as an ‘other monitored water.’

However, the EPA has stated that the Local Authority may apply other criteria to the assessment, provided these additional criteria are fully justified. Dublin City Council has opted to apply greater emphasis to safety and water quality. This is based on risks associated with established boating activity at the proposed location and local knowledge of pressures on water quality. Consistently poor water quality poses a significant risk to bather health.

Factor	Rating (A) (1-5)	Weighting (B) (1-5)	Weighted score (A x B)	Comments
Location	4	3	12	<p>The location of the slipway is easily accessed by various modes of transport including public and private.</p> <p>The proposed location lies within the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary, a designated Special Protection Area and proposed Natural Heritage Area.</p>
Beach users / Bather numbers	3	4	12	<p>Bathing was reported in the submission as being popular at this location especially since Covid – 19 when sailings were reduced or ceased in line with government advice.</p> <p>Bather numbers were recorded by Dublin City Council during high tide on three separate occasions.</p> <p>A maximum of 12 and minimum of 0 bathers were recorded. The submission reported up to 20 people swim at the location at any one time during the bathing season.</p>
Car Parking / Facilities	2	2	4	<p>The location is not a beach and thus is not signposted.</p> <p>There is a pay and display car park with 36 spaces available to the public in the vicinity of the proposed location. A private car park is located next to the public car park which is limited to Dublin Bus employee's only.</p>

				No other facilities are available at the location.
Commercial impacts	2	1	2	The designation of the boat slipway as a bathing location could have a negative impact on established boating activities carried out from the slipway. No consultation was carried out as part of the public submission.
Local Support	2	1	2	One single submission was received to identify the location as a designated bathing water. No formal communication with groups likely to be affected by designation was provided with the submission. The Clontarf Yacht and Boat Club made a formal submission to Dublin City Council for consideration. The main concerns raised by the club related to safety of swimmers in the vicinity of sailing and power boats.
Water Quality	1	5	5	The water quality at the Clontarf Slipway was monitored for faecal bacteria, namely E.coli and Intestinal Enterococci in accordance with the Bathing Water Regulations SI 79 of 2008. Under the current EPA classification method, the likely water quality classification would be <i>Poor</i> . The bathing water has not met the minimum standard required under the Bathing Water Regulations.

				<p>Poor water quality poses a significant risk to bather health.</p> <p>Poor bathing water quality would result in a season long prohibition at the bathing location should it be designated.</p> <p>Pressures on water quality include but are not limited to urban wastewater and urban runoff. It is noted that Vernon Avenue waste water pumping station is located approximately 300m to the West of the proposed location.</p>
Signage	1	2	2	<p>Statutory bathing water signage would be required should the location be formally identified. Safety signage recommended by Water Safety Ireland would also need to be installed and any existing signage significantly upgraded to comply with current guidance.</p>
Safety	1	5	5	<p>An independent risk assessment was conducted by the International Life Saving Federation of Europe and Water Safety Ireland at the proposed location. The report took access, swimming conditions, existing infrastructure and activities into consideration.</p> <p>The report did not recommend declaring the location as a designated bathing location. In the interest of public safety, swimming should not be encouraged at this location, rather swimmers should avail of bathing</p>

				waters at the North Bull Wall and Dollymount Strand. The full report issued by Water Safety Ireland is attached in Appendix 1.
Planned Developments	1	1	1	There are no known planned developments for the proposed designated area.
Costs	3	3	9	The location would require being added to the routine bathing water sampling schedule. The location would require intensive health and safety measures to be implemented to ensure bather safety at this location, which would not be feasible given the existing boating activities.

Table 2 Assessment of Submission

Overall weighted score	54	The overall score does not meet the accepted score for acceptance as a designated bathing location. The location meets the minimum recommended scoring for identification as an <i>other monitored water</i> . However, in light of health and safety issues associated with the mixing of bathers and boating activities, in addition to poor water quality, Dublin City Council does not recommend identification of the location at this time.
Deferred pending additional data	Y / N	
Accepted as an EU identified BW	Y / N	
Accepted as 'other monitored water'	Y / N	

Rejected	Ⓚ / N	
General summary of the proposal and assessment outcome	<p>Safety is a key consideration of the assessment for a new location for designation. The location was deemed unsafe for bathing following a risk assessment by Water Safety Ireland.</p> <p>Furthermore, under the current EPA bathing water quality classification method, the likely classification would be <i>Poor</i>. The bathing water has not met the minimum standard required under the Bathing Water Regulations.</p> <p>It is not appropriate to encourage bathing at this location at this time. Bathers are encouraged to make use of existing identified waters located less than 1km away at the North Bull Wall and Dollymount Strand.</p>	

Table 3 Assessment of Submission

Signed: Emma Finlay
 Position: A/ Senior Executive Engineer
 Date: 20/02/23

5. Conclusion and Recommendation

During the 2022 period of public consultation, Dublin City Council received a single submission requesting that the Clontarf Boat Slipway be identified as an EU designated bathing water.

The submission was assessed in accordance with EPA guidance, with greater consideration given to bather safety and water quality based on local knowledge of pressures.

The result is that, while a score in excess of 50 was achieved using the EPA assessment, in light of health and safety issues associated with the mixing of bathers and boating activities, in addition to poor water quality, Dublin City Council cannot designate Clontarf Boat Slipway as an EU identified bathing area at this time. Instead, bathers are encouraged to utilise existing identified bathing locations at the neighbouring North Bull Wall and Dollymount Strand.

Signed: Marina Kennelly Date: 23rd Feb. 2023
A/Executive Manager (Engineering)

Appendix 1 – Water Safety Ireland Risk Assessment



**International Life Saving Federation
of Europe (ILSE)**

**DESIGNATED BATHING AREA
RISK ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Location: Clontarf slipway
Date: 18th November 2022
Assessor: Ronnie Horan

Risk Assessor name (Please print) Ronnie Horan

Risk Assessor's Signature 

Date of Submission: **03/01/2023**

This assessment has been checked by: Brendan McGrath 17th January 2023

2nd. Assessor: Brendan McGrath

Approved by: (Federation)

which is a Federated member of International Lifesaving Europe.

Signed on behalf of the above Federation:

Name (Please print):

Position in Organisation:

Signature:

Date:

1 Table of Contents

1	Table of Contents	3
2	Conclusions.....	4
2.1	ILSE recognised Lifeguarded Beach ILSE Lifeguarded Beach designation	4
2.2	Summary of Recommendations	4
2.3	Directions regarding the above mentioned recommendations Error! Bookmark not defined.	
3	Historical Data	5
3.1	Pre Site Visit	5
3.2	Site Visit	5
3.3	Type of DBA.....	5
3.4	Visits	6
3.5	Area Surveyed (Extent & Description)	6
4	Risk Assessment Report	7
4.1.1	Recommendations.....	7
4.2	Public Access.....	8
4.2.1	Description.....	8
4.2.2	Recommendations.....	8
4.3	Emergency Services Access	8
4.4	Public Rescue Equipment.....	9
4.5	Signage.....	10
4.6.3	Presence of Warning Signs	12
4.6.5	Presence of Mandatory signs	15
4.6	Safety Information Board	16
4.7	Hazards/Risks.....	17
4.8	Zoning	22
4.9	Lifeguard Provision	22
5	Appendices	25
5.1	Map to show extent of area surveyed.....	25
5.2	Photographs.....	26
5.3	List of persons.....	29
6	CONCLUSION	30

2 Conclusions

2.1 ILSE recognised Lifeguarded Beach

ILSE Lifeguarded Beach designation

ILSE Red Banner

<input type="checkbox"/>	will be awarded without any further action being required
<input type="checkbox"/>	will be awarded following the implementation of recommendations as below
<input type="checkbox"/>	will not be awarded because of one or more substantial or intolerable risks
Validity period: 3 Years	

2.2 Summary of Recommendations

Ref	Topic	Status
4.2	Public Access	satisfactory
4.3	Emergency Services Access	satisfactory
4.4	Public Rescue Equipment	see recommendations
4.5	Signage	see recommendations
4.6	Safety Information Board	N/A
4.7	Hazards/Risks	see recommendations
4.8	Zoning	N/A
4.9	Lifeguard Provision	N/A

3 Historical Data

3.1 Pre Site Visit

3.1.1 Documents and information received

Answer: Please enter yes/no/not applicable (n/a)

#	Have the following documents been received?	Answer	Comment
1	Copies of previous Risk Assessments (if applicable)	No	Not currently a DBA
2	Maps (Ordnance Survey and General)	Yes	
3	Local Contact(s) - (Details)	Yes	Emma Finlay DCC
4	Safety Signs Leaflet	No	
5	Normal Operating Procedure (where applicable)	No	N/A
6	Emergency Action Procedure (where applicable)	No	N/A
7	Accident & Drowning Statistics	No	
8	Blue Flag Held or applied for N/A	Held: N/A Applied for: N/A	

3.2 Site Visit

3.2.1 General Information

Name of area	Clontarf slipway
Region	Dublin
Country	Ireland
Requesting Authority	Dublin City Council

3.3 Type of DBA

- Beach
 River
 Lake
 Canal
 Quay
 Pond
 Other Slipway

Comments:

This is a launching jetty and slipway off the Clontarf road (R807) in North Dublin and is not currently a DBA.

3.4 Visits

Visit	Date	Start Time	End Time	High Water	Low Water
1	21/10/22	09:30	10:15	09:44	15:19
2	18/11/22	12:15	13:00	06:58	12:33
3					

3.5 Area Surveyed (Extent & Description as shown on map in 5.1)

This location is a jetty and launching slipway located off the Clontarf Road (R807) in North Dublin. It faces south looking toward Dublin Bay and Dublin Port. It is located across the road from Clontarf Sailing club (see map and photo 3).

The area is not currently a DBA. The slipway which runs parallel to the seawall is the main launching area for small sailing dinghies coming across the R807 from the club as well as for the club motorised rescue craft (see photos 4&5). The jetty extends seawards beyond the slipway and is used to transfer rescue crews to their boats and to transfer sailing crews to the larger sailing cruisers that are moored offshore (photos 6, 7, 8 & 9). It is noted that the access ramp can be covered at high tide (photos 1& 2).

The beach can be accessed at low tide via the slipway or from the steps on the access jetty (photo 10).

There is a pedestrian walkway and cycle track running parallel to the Clontarf Road which also gives access to the slipway.

The slipway and jetty are extremely busy on club racing and training days.

N.B An application has been received by Dublin City Council to make this location a DBA. This is not recommended due to the significant boating activities. See 4.1 on area usage and 4.1.1 recommendation 3.

4 Risk Assessment Report

4.1 Area Usage & Activities

Answer: Please enter yes/no

Do any of these activities occur?		Answer	Numbers/Comment (as observed on the day and the maximum on a busy weekend)
1	Swimming	No	Although some swimmers have been observed particularly during Covid, the area is not a DBA.
2	Surfing/Body boarding	No	
3	Windsurfing	No	
4	Sailing	Yes	N.B. This is the main launching area for sailing dinghies launching from the Clontarf Sailing club located across the Clontarf Road (R807).
5	Canoeing	No	
6	Water Skiing	No	
7	Power boating	Yes	The slipway is the launching area for club rescue boats. The ramp is also used for the transfer of cruiser sailors to their boats (anchored offshore) by the club punt and is extremely busy during club racing days and evenings with motorboats constantly approaching and leaving.
8	Jet Ski (Personal Water Craft)	No	
9	Scuba-diving/snorkelling	No	
10	Fishing	No	
11	Kiting (land and water)	No	
12	Other activities: _____	No	

4.1.1 Recommendations

1. See signage section 4.5.3.
2. Swimmers should be encouraged use the alternative DBA on the Bull Wall located

to the East or on Dollymount Beach itself.

3. Declaring this location as an official DBA is not recommended for the following reasons:

3.1. This is a very busy boating area, including the ongoing use of motor craft.

3.2. There are already other DBAs nearby.

3.3 There is an ongoing danger due to the influence of tides and rough seas.

4.2 Public Access

4.2.1 Description

1. Pedestrian access direct from the Clontarf Road to top of the slipway (photos 2 &3).

2. From the car park adjacent to the public walkway (see map).

3. From the pedestrian walkway running parallel to the sea wall from both directions (see map).

4.2.2 Recommendations

None

4.3 Emergency Services Access

4.3.1 Description

1. From Clontarf road direct to top of slipway via removable bollards (see photo3).

2. As per public access either from car park or via walkway from either side.

4.3.2 Recommendations

None

4.4 Public Rescue Equipment

Answer: Please enter yes/no/not applicable (n/a) to every question

		Answer	Comments
1	Is Public Rescue Equipment provided on, or close to, the designated bathing area? i.e. lifebelts, torpedo buoys, ropes, reel/line, throw bags etc.	Yes	RB1 (photo 11)
2	Is it clearly positioned visible and accessible?	Yes	
3	At a height of at least 1m above ground?	Yes	
4	Located at suitable intervals and locations? (approx 100m apart) where required	Yes	
5	In a good state of repair?	Yes	
6	Are items regularly inspected? (If so, how often?)	No	Not available
7	Are maintenance records maintained and up to date?	No	Not available
8	Is additional equipment required?	No	






4.4.1 Recommendations

1. Ensure procedure is put in place for regular inspection of the ringbuoys and that records are maintained.





4.5 Signage





4.5.1 Presence of prohibitive signs



Sign	No. ISO	ISO 20712 - 1 /7010	Present	Satisfactory	Recommendation
	WSP 001	No running	No	Yes	No
	WSP 002	No swimming	No	Yes	No
	WSP 003	No snorkelling	No	Yes	No
	WSP 004	No sub-aqua diving	No	Yes	No
	WSP 005	No diving	No	Yes	No
	WSP 006	No sailing	No	Yes	No
	WSP 007	No windsurfing	No	Yes	No
	WSP 008	No manually powered craft	No	Yes	No
	WSP 009	No mechanically powered craft	No	Yes	No
	WSP 010	No personal water craft	No	Yes	No
	WSP 011	No towed water activity	No	Yes	No
	WSP 012	No surf craft	N/A	N/A	N/A
	WSP 013	No outdoor footwear	N/A	N/A	N/A
	WSP 014	No jumping into water	No	Yes	No
	WSP 015	No pushing into water	No	Yes	No

Sign	No. ISO	ISO 20712 - 1 /7010	Present	Satisfactory	Recommendation
	WSP 016	No body-boarding	No	Yes	No
	WSP 017	No surfing between the red-and-yellow flags	N/A	N/A	N/A
	WSP 018	No kite surfing	No	Yes	No
	WSP 019	No parasailing	N/A	N/A	N/A
	WSP 020	No sand yachting	N/A	N/A	N/A
4.5.2. Recommendations: None					




4.5.3 Presence of Warning Signs

Sign	No. ISO	ISO 20712 - 1 /7010	Present	Satisfactory	Recommendation
	WSW 001	Warning; thin ice	N/A	N/A	N/A
	WSW 002	Warning; slipway	No	No	Yes
	WSW 003	Warning; towed water activity	No	Yes	No
	WSW 004	Warning; Surf craft area	N/A	N/A	N/A
	WSW 005	Warning; deep water	No	Yes	No
	WSW 006	Warning; shallow water (diving)	No	Yes	No
	WSW 007	Warning; Submerged objects	No	Yes	No
	WSW 008	Warning; sudden drop in swimming or leisure pools	No	Yes	No
	WSW 009	Warning; Unprotected edges	No	Yes	No
	WSW 010	Warning; unstable cliff edge	N/A	N/A	N/A
	WSW 011	Warning; unstable cliff	N/A	N/A	N/A

Sign	No. ISO	ISO 20712 - 1 /7010	Present	Satisfactory	Recommendation
	WSW 012	Warning; Sharks	N/A	N/A	N/A
	WSW 013	Warning; sewage effluent outfall	No	Yes	No
	WSW 015	Warning; strong currents	No	Yes	No
	WSW 016	Warning; boating area	No	No	Yes
	WSW 017	Warning; sand yachting	No	Yes	No
	WSW 018	Warning; incoming tides	No	Yes	No
	WSW 019	Warning; quicksand or mud/deep mud or silt	No	Yes	No
	WSW 020	Warning; kite surfing	No	Yes	No
	WSW 021	Warning; parasailing	No	Yes	No
	WSW 022	Warning; strong winds	No	Yes	No
	WSW 023	Warning; high surf or large breaking waves	No	No	Yes

Sign	No. ISO	ISO 20712 - 1 /7010	Present	Satisfactory	Recommendation
	WSW 024	Warning; deep shelving beach	No	Yes	No
	WSW 025	Warning; crocodiles, alligators or caimans	N/A	N/A	N/A
<p>4.5.4. Recommendations:</p> <p>1. Erect sign WSW002 'Warning slipway' and WSW016 'Warning boating area' and WSW023 'Large Breaking Waves' at top of slipway.</p>					

4.5.5 Presence of Mandatory signs

Sign	No. ISO	ISO 20712 - 1 /7010	Present	Satisfactory	Recommendation
	WSE 001	Public rescue equipment	No	Yes	No
	WSM 002	Wear personal floatation device	No	No	Yes
	WSM 003	Keep children under supervision in the aquatic environment	No	No	Yes
<p>4.5.6. Recommendations:</p> <p>1. Erect sign WSM002 and WSM003 at entrance to jetty and slipway area.</p>					

4.5.7 Other Signs Present – Yes Recommendations:

Specify

None

Emergency information sign (see photo 11)

 See recommendations**4.5.8 Further Recommendations**

None.

4.6 Safety Information Board

Description

Answer: Please enter yes/no

		Answer	Description
	Is there a safety information board provided at a local point within the main designated bathing area? If "YES" please specify from the list which follows, what is shown:	No	Not required as this is not currently a DBA
1	Location of Lifeguards?	N/A	
2	Patrolled bathing area(s)?	N/A	
3	Nearest telephone (mobile or landline)?	No	
4	Tide times?	No	
5	Zoned areas defined?	N/A	
6	Specific Local Hazards?	N/A	
7	Emergency Information?	No	
8	Activities prohibited	No	
9	Other? (please specify)	No	

4.6.1 Recommendations

None

4.7 Hazards/Risks

4.7.1 Description

The description represents an effect combined with a probability in the following scheme – please make a circle in the relevant box.

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness			
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful	
1	Wave profile i.e. surging, spilling, plunging Subject to large breaking waves when prevailing wind from the south coincides with high tide.	Yes	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate	
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial	
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable	
Probability Unlikely					Harmfulness Slightly Harmful			classification tolerable
What existing control measures are already in place?					See recommendations			
Boating activities are controlled by the Sailing club who adapt activities depending on conditions. See also recommendation 4.7.2 Rec 1.								

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness			
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful	
2	Unsafe access to the water	No	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate	
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial	
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable	
Probability Highly Unlikely					Harmfulness Slightly Harmful			classification trivial
What existing control measures are already in place?					N / A			

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness			
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful	
3	Unsafe exit from the water	No	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate	
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial	
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable	
Probability Unlikely					Harmfulness Slightly Harmful			classification trivial
What existing control measures are already in place?					N / A			

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness		
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful
4	Sinking Sand	N/A	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable
Probability Highly Unlikely			Harmfulness Slightly Harmful		classification trivial		
What existing control measures are already in place?					N / A		

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness		
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful
5	Cliff Falls	N/A	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable
Probability Highly Unlikely			Harmfulness Slightly Harmful		classification trivial		
What existing control measures are already in place?					N / A		

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness		
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful
6	Sand bars/banks	No	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable
Probability Highly Unlikely			Harmfulness Slightly Harmful		classification trivial		
What existing control measures are already in place?					Satisfactory		

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness		
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful
7	Caves	No	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable
Probability Highly Unlikely					Harmfulness Slightly Harmful		classification trivial
What existing control measures are already in place?					Satisfactory		

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness		
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful
8	Submerged Rocks	No	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable
Probability Highly Unlikely					Harmfulness Slightly Harmful		classification trivial
What existing control measures are already in place?					Satisfactory		

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness		
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful
9	Piers/Structures	Yes	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable
Probability Unlikely					Harmfulness Slightly Harmful		classification tolerable
What existing control measures are already in place?					Satisfactory		
Boating activities controlled by sailing club							

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness			
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful	
10	Groynes	No	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate	
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial	
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable	
Probability Highly Unlikely					Harmfulness Slightly Harmful			classification trivial
What existing control measures are already in place?					Satisfactory			

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness			
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful	
11	Tidal Cut off	No	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate	
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial	
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable	
Probability Highly Unlikely					Harmfulness Slightly Harmful			classification trivial
What existing control measures are already in place?					Satisfactory			

	Hazard/Risk	Present Yes/no			Harmfulness			
					Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful	
12	Rip and other strong Current(s)	No	Probability	Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate	
				Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial	
				Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable	
Probability Highly Unlikely					Harmfulness Slightly Harmful			classification trivial
What existing control measures are already in place?					Satisfactory			

¹ Slightly harmful	→	Minor injury – first aid administered at the scene
² Harmful	→	Major injury – requiring hospitalisation
³ Extremely harmful	→	Critical injury, likelihood of fatality

Action recommended following above assessment

Risk level	Action and timescale
Trivial	No action is required and no documentary records need to be kept.
Tolerable	No additional controls are required. Consideration may be given to a more cost-effective solution or improvement that imposes no additional cost burden.
Moderate	Efforts should be made to reduce the risk, but the costs of prevention should be carefully measured and limited. Risk reduction measures should be implemented within a defined time period. Where the moderate risk is associated with extremely harmful consequences, further assessment may be necessary to establish more precisely the likelihood of harm as a basis for determining the need for improved control measures.
Substantial	Activity should not be started until the risk has been reduced. Considerable resources may have to be allocated to reduce the risk. Where the risk involves activity in progress, urgent action should be taken.
Intolerable	Activity should not be started or continued until the risk has been reduced. If it is not possible to reduce the risk even with unlimited resources, activity has to remain prohibited.

Note: Tolerable here means that risk has been reduced to the lowest level that is reasonably practicable.

4.7.2 Recommendations – Refer to hazard number above for each recommendation.

1. See signage recommendation in 4.7.1 re: Large breaking waves (WSW023).

4.8 Zoning

Answer: Please enter yes/no

		Answer	Description
1	Is a zoning system evident, which segregates incompatible water-user activities?	N/A	Not required. Not currently a DBA
2	If Yes, is the system clearly designated by flags, booms, barriers, buoys, signboards or other methods?	No	
3	Are speed restrictions in place?	No	

4.8.1 Recommendations

None

4.9 Lifeguard Provision N/A

4.9.1 The existing provision

#	Answer
1	<p>Is the Designated Bathing Area patrolled by lifeguards during recognised periods?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>Comment: This is not currently a DBA</p>
2	<p>Is there a lifeguard station or stations?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>If so describe their location in relation to the bathing area(s):</p>
3	<p>Operating Times</p> <p>Hours: until N/A</p> <p>Dates: until</p> <p>Days per week: <input type="checkbox"/> Mo <input type="checkbox"/> Tu <input type="checkbox"/> We <input type="checkbox"/> Th <input type="checkbox"/> Fr <input type="checkbox"/> Sa <input type="checkbox"/> Su</p>
4	<p>Number of Life-guards on duty</p> <p>Morning: N/A</p> <p>Afternoon: N/A</p> <p>Evening: N/A</p>
5	<p>Are Lifeguards readily identified?</p> <p>N/A</p>
6	<p>Is lifeguard equipment identified within the scope of written operating procedures?</p> <p>N/A</p>

4.9.2 Recommendations

#	Answer
1	Necessity to patrol the Designated Bathing Area by qualified lifeguards during recognised periods? No Comment: Not currently a DBA
2	If yes, description of best location of a Station in relation to the bathing area(s):
3	Operating Times recommended
4	Minimum number of Lifeguards on duty
5	Lifeguard identification

Actual and recommended rescue equipment **N/A**

No	Description	Actual	Extra equipment Recommended (if any)	Remarks
1	Telephone		No	
2	Radio		No	
3	Sirens		No	
4	Megaphone		No	
5	Whistles		No	
6	Rescue tubes		No	
7	Torpedo buoys		No	
8	Throw lines		No	
9	Snorkeling equipment		No	
10	Rescue boards		No	
11	Powered Rescue Craft		No	
12	Jet ski		No	
13	Rowing Boats		No	
14	Lif jackets		No	
15	Headgear		No	

16	Protective Clothing		No	
17	Binoculars		No	
18	Blankets		No	
19	First Aid Supplies		No	
20	Stretchers		No	
21	Spinal Board		No	
22	Oxygen		No	
23	Spinal neck collar		No	
24	AED		No	
25	Transport vehicle		No	
26				
27				
28				
29				
30				

4.9.3 Site map to show positioning of personnel, lifeguard station and equipment as recommended

See appendix 5.1




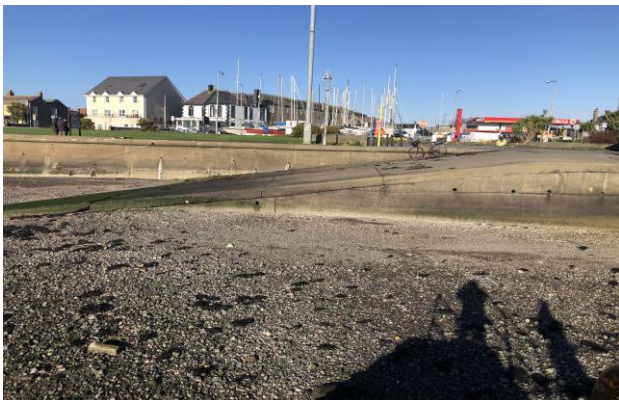
Appendices

4.10 Map to show extent of area surveyed



4.11 Photographs

Details of photographs taken.

#	Date/Location	Content
1	Clontarf jetty high tide.	
2	Clontarf jetty pedestrian access and RB1 high tide.	
3	Clontarf jetty pedestrian and boat access from Boat club across Clontarf Road (R807). Removable bollards in place to control vehicle access.	
4	Clontarf main slipway for boat launching.	

5 Clontarf main slipway 2.



6 Clontarf pedestrian access to main boat ramp.



7 Clontarf pedestrian access to main boat access ramp 2.



8 Clontarf pedestrian access to boat access ramp 3.



9	Clontarf boat access ramp (covered at high tide).	
10	Clontarf steps to beach from main jetty.	
11	Clontarf RB1 and Emergency information sign.	
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		

4.12 List of persons

List of persons that have assisted in supplying information for this assessment **such as Lifeguards, Members of the Public, Municipality Representative etc**

#	Name	Status	Addresses	Contact Numbers
1	Emma Finlay	Senior Executive Engineer	C/O Dublin City Council	
2	Ronan Kelly	Instructor WSI	C/O Watersafety Ireland	
3				
4				
5				
6				
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5 CONCLUSION

The International Life Saving Federation of Europe and Water Safety Ireland wish to thank all concerned for the cooperation given to the Assessor(s) in carrying out this Risk Assessment.

We especially thank all those without whose co-operation, help and assistance in giving of their time and energies and providing useful materials such as maps, etc, the task in hand would have been made more difficult. The report is offered in the interest of advancing water safety and saving lives by being proactive in relation to the “duty of care”.

The Assessor(s) who carried out the risk assessment make the recommendations in good faith. Their recommendations will complement safety regimes that may already be in place at the location. Any risk assessment can only reflect the findings on the date(s) of inspection, changeable factors on certain other days, such as weather, sea conditions, events on the beach etc, will call for further measures to deal with other risks as and when they arise. Therefore, due to the frequently changing risks on a day to day basis, the recommendations are not exhaustive in extent and must be reviewed regularly by Management. It should be noted that risk assessing is an ongoing procedure involving hazard and risk identification, and then deciding on and implementing control measures. There should then be regular reviews coupled with appropriate staff training.

Finished? Yes