BATHING WATER QUALITY 2019

Water at the beaches below is tested regularly for cleanliness according to standards laid down in 1976 EC Bathing Water Directive, with results as shown in 'traffic light' colour coding using a scheme devised by the Department of the Environment, Food & Agriculture. Although not presently formally applied in the Isle of Man, the water is also assessed against the more recent 2006 EU Directive, giving an annual classification based on the previous four years’ data. This is not directly equivalent or related to the standards of the 1976 Directive, but is included for interest while preparations to update the Island’s water quality objective are in progress. Weekly results during the season assessed to to the 2006 Directive standards are available on the Government Laboratory website.

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- **Excellent water quality** means the weekly sample meets Guideline standard of a maximum of 500 total coliforms per 100ml of water and 100 faecal coliforms per 100ml of water. Annually 80% of samples taken must meet this standard.

- **Good water quality** means the weekly sample meets the Mandatory standard of a maximum of 10,000 total coliforms per 100ml of water and 2,000 faecal coliforms per 100ml of water. Annually 95% of samples taken must meet this standard.

- **Poor water quality** indicates the sample failed to meet the standards required for Good quality waters.

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