

# INFORMATION NOTE



## ST ANNES BATHING WATERS 2015

1. The Environment Agency are responsible for implementation of the bathing waters directives, monitoring and reporting on water quality and insuring action is taken to meet the appropriate standards for the directives throughout the UK. They also regulate discharges to the aquatic environment.
2. Fylde Borough Council operates two controlled bathing waters one at St Anne's Pier and the other is St Anne's North adjacent to North beach car park. During the bathing season 5<sup>th</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> September the Council are responsible for the provision of public information about the bathing waters being displayed in an easily accessible place in the vicinity of the bathing waters. This includes the provision of public information to prevent exposure to pollution during short term incidents and advise against bathing where the bathing water does not meet the sufficient standard.
3. Changes were made from 2012 with the introduction of the revised Bathing Water Directive. Under the new regulations the revised directive sets guideline standards for Escherichia coli and intestinal enterococci.
4. The new standards used at the end of the 2015 bathing season should give an overall assessment of all water quality taken over a four years period (2012 to 2015) 80 samples, 20 per year. The new standard has four classifications:-

**Excellent, Good, Sufficient, Poor.**

The new EU directive requires member states to ensure that, by the end of the 2015 bathing season, all bathing waters are a least **sufficient**.

The table below indicates the different parameters for bathing water quality.

Parameter	Excellent	Good	Sufficient
Escherichia coli (cfu/100ml)	<250 (*)	<500 (*)	<500 (**)
Intestinal enterococci (cfu/100ml)	<100 (*)	<200 (*)	<185 (**)
(*) Based upon a 95-percentile evaluation			
(**) Based upon a 90-percentile evaluation			

cfu = colony-forming unit

5. The Environment Agency has been working with Fylde Council again this year to make daily predictions of pollution risks at our bathing waters during the 2015 bathing season. These inform the public of increased pollution risk through signs displayed at bathing waters. These warnings are short term pollution events that have clearly identifiable causes which are not normally expected to affect bathing water quality for more than approximately 72 hours. Where pollution risk forecasts have coincided with statutory bathing water sampling and if all conditions are met there is a potential for discounting samples at the end of the 2015 season. No more than 3 samples can be discounted in a bathing season. The Environment Agency is expected to announce where samples have been discounted in accordance with Article 3(6) of the bathing water directive on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015.
6. The Bathing Water Regulations 2013 allow the Environment Agency to determine the relevant assessment period where it considers that any factors identified in the bathing water profile as likely to affect the classification of the bathing water have changed. The relevant assessment period can be the number of immediately preceding bathing seasons, being less than three , which the Agency determines if:
  - It has consulted the appropriate Minister;
  - The set of bathing water quality data used is based on at least 16 samples; and
  - It considers that any factors identified in the bathing water profile as likely to affect the classification of the bathing water have changed, and the set of bathing water quality data used is based only on samples taken since those factors have changed.

This is known as Catchment Change

The improvement work completed prior to the 2014 bathing water season by United Utilities in the Ribble catchment were:-

- Delivery of the Preston 7 scheme – the Preston Tunnels;
- Delivery of the Preston 32 of which 12 outputs had bathing water drivers; and
- Provision of ultra-violet (UV) disinfection at Blackburn Wastewater Treatment Works

These improvement works were considered to affect the classification of St Annes and St Annes North bathing waters. The Environment Agency submitted an evidence case to Defra requesting that bathing water quality dataset for St Annes and St Annes North should be re-set from 5<sup>th</sup> May 2014. This case was approved and the official 2015 revised Bathing Water Directive classification for both bathing waters will be based on 2 years data (40 samples) – 2014 and 2015, as opposed to the full four year dataset (80 samples) 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015.

7. In 2014 St Annes and St Annes North bathing waters both met the good standard for bathing water quality. The official results for 2015 and the first time classification under the new regulations will be announced by the Environment Agency on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015, and will be reported at the meeting.

8. Early indications predict that both bathing waters will be classified at least 'Good'. The tables in the appendix shows the results for 2014-2015.



#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

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## Appendix 1

### St Annes Pier Bathing Water 2014

No	Sample taken	escherichia coli colonies/100ml	intestinal enterococci colonies/100ml
41	12/05/2014 10:40	220	10
42	16/05/2014 13:10	10	10
43	25/05/2014 11:20	10	10
44	30/05/2014 13:20	10	10
45	04/06/2014 16:45	18	10
46	11/06/2014 10:50	27	18
47	16/06/2014 15:10	10	10
48	25/06/2014 11:00	18	18
49	01/07/2014 14:10	10	10
50	10/07/2014 10:25	10	27
51	14/07/2014 13:10	1000	300
52	24/07/2014 10:50	10	10
53	29/07/2014 13:40	27	18
54	08/08/2014 10:20	145	27
55	13/08/2014 14:35	873	680
56	21/08/2014 10:05	36	10
57	28/08/2014 13:55	390	36
58	07/09/2014 11:00	109	73
59	11/09/2014 14:10	127	145
60	15/09/2014 15:50	55	36

### St Annes Pier Bathing Water 2015

No	Sample taken	escherichia coli colonies/100ml	intestinal enterococci colonies/100ml
61	07/05/2015 13:35	64	27
62	15/05/2015 10:25	18	10
63	22/05/2015 14:35	18	10
64	31/05/2015 10:40	10	10
65	04/06/2015 13:40	18	10
66	14/06/2015 13:50	10	10
67	22/06/2015 15:00	10	10
68	30/06/2015 11.15	10	10
69	03/07/2015 13:20	10	1500
70	14/07/2015 11:10	55	36
71	17/07/2015 13:15	36	18
72	20/07/2015 14:50	10	73
73	28/07/2015 11:25	109	10
74	04/08/2015 16:07	620	250
75	11/08/2015 10:18	64	18
76	14/08/2015 12:45	164	27
77	18/08/2015 14:09	10	10
78	28/08/2015 11:05	127	80
79	10/09/2015 11:10	10	64
80	18/09/2015 14:15	10	10

### St Annes North Bathing Water 2014

No	Sample taken	escherichia coli colonies/100ml	intestinal enterococci colonies/100ml
41	12/05/2014 10:30	64	36
42	16/05/2014 13:00	55	10
43	25/05/2014 11:05	10	10
44	30/05/2014 13:00	10	27
45	04/06/2014 16:35	27	10
46	11/06/2014 10:40	64	18
47	16/06/2014 14:53	18	10
48	25/06/2014 10:50	27	18
49	01/07/2014 14:00	82	10
50	10/07/2014 10:10	27	27
51	14/07/2014 13:00	700	480
52	24/07/2014 10:40	10	27
53	29/07/2014 13:25	64	27
54	08/08/2014 10:15	55	10
55	13/08/2014 14:20	700	140
56	21/08/2014 09:45	173	45
57	28/08/2014 13:45	230	82
58	07/09/2014 10:45	55	45
59	11/09/2014 13:55	91	100
60	15/09/2014 15:40	10	10

### St Annes North Bathing Water 2015

No	Sample taken	escherichia coli colonies/100ml	intestinal enterococci colonies/100ml
61	07/05/2015 13:23	100	18
62	15/05/2015 10:15	18	10
63	22/05/2015 14:25	18	10
64	31/05/2015 11:00	64	36
65	04/06/2015 13:25	136	10
66	14/06/2015 11:13	45	27
67	22/06/2015 14:50	27	10
68	30/06/2015 11:10	10	10
69	03/07/2015 13:00	45	10
70	14/07/2015 11:00	55	27
71	17/07/2015 13:10	91	10
72	20/07/2015 14:45	18	10
73	28/07/2015 11:17	64	36
74	04/08/2015 16:38	700	270
75	11/08/2015 10:39	27	10
76	14/08/2015 12:57	590	164
77	18/08/2015 14:00	10	10
78	28/08/2015 10:50	155	18
79	10/09/2015 11:00	36	10
80	18/09/2015 14:10	10	10