



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Consultation on the proposal to designate West Runton as a bathing water

Summary of responses

May 2016



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Background

Beaches and lakes that attract a large number of bathers are designated as bathing waters under the Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) and water quality is tested during the bathing season, which in England runs from 15 May to 30 September. The objective is to protect bathers' health against faecal pollution.

North Norfolk District Council applied in October 2015 for West Runton to be designated as a bathing water. The application met the criteria set out in Defra's guidance on how to apply for new sites to be designated as bathing waters by giving detailed information about usage, facilities and local consultation.

On 21 January 2016 Defra launched an informal consultation by publishing the evidence for designation online and emailing it to key stakeholders. The consultation ran until 3 March 2016.

Summary of responses

We received four replies to the consultation:

- Two supported the proposal;
- One was opposed to designation;
- A response from Anglian Water did not express a view on the proposal.

Final decision

West Runton will be designated as a bathing water with effect from the 2016 bathing season.

The way forward

The Environment Agency will begin monitoring water quality at West Runton in the 2016 bathing season. The European Commission will be notified of the decision when the annual bathing water inventory is submitted before the beginning of the bathing season.

Annex A - list of respondents

Anglian Water
Marine Conservation Society
National Farmers Union
One private individual