Hedges, Kate (Defra)

From: [redacted]
Sent: 25 January 2014 15:13
To: bathingwater (WQ)
Subject: Bathing Beach De-designation

Dear Sir/Madam,

Could you clarify a couple of points regarding de-designation?

I understand the controller (i.e. local authority) has to show that the numbers of bathers using the area has declined or is very low, but in relation to what? What is the threshold and what is it based on?

And does it make a difference if, for example, the beach in question is in an area with a number of other beaches that are more high profile, have more facilities, and are more heavily promoted by the local authority? i.e if bather numbers at one area are lower than in the past, but all facilities have been removed by the controller (public toilets, changing facilities, lifeguards, seating etc) then can this reduction in usage be used to argue for de-designation?

Any additional information would be appreciated.

Kind Regards,

[redacted]

[redacted]