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Our ref: EIR2023/08640  
18 May 2023

[REDACTED]  
By email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Bathing Waters Designations**

Thank you for your request for information of 4 May 2023 about bathing waters designations. We have handled your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

The EIRs apply to requests for environmental information, which is a broad category of information defined in regulation 2 of the EIRs. Public authorities are required to handle requests for environmental information under the EIRs. They give similar access rights to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

1) *A list of all the applications made by either local authorities or individuals to DEFRA for a body of water to be given designated bathing water status between:*

- *March 2018 and February 2019*
- *March 2019 and February 2020*
- *March 2020 and February 2021*
- *March 2021 and February 2022*

*This list should clarify which area the application was made for, preferably with locations also in TopoJSON or GeoJSON format if possible.*

We enclose a copy of the information you requested:

Applications received between March 2018 and February 2019:

None

Applications received between March 2019 and February 2020:

- An area of the River Wharfe at Ilkley which was designated as Wharfe at Cromwheel, Ilkley bathing water. The location of this site is shown on a map on the Environment Agency's Swimfo website:  
<https://environment.data.gov.uk/bwq/profiles/profile.html?site=uke4100-08901>



Applications received between March 2020 and February 2021:

None

Applications received between March 2021 and February 2022:

- East Cowes Esplanade, East Cowes, Isle of Wight. This was designated as East Cowes bathing water and the location of this site shown on a map on the Swimfo website: <https://environment.data.gov.uk/bwq/profiles/profile.html?site=ukj3400-17850>
- Wolvercote Mill Stream, an area of the River Thames at Oxford. This was designated as Wolvercote Mill Stream bathing water and the location of this site is shown on a map on the Swimfo website: [https://environment.data.gov.uk/bwq/profiles/profile.html?\\_search=wolver&site=ukj1402-11946](https://environment.data.gov.uk/bwq/profiles/profile.html?_search=wolver&site=ukj1402-11946)
- Fiddler's Island, an area of the River Thames at Oxford.
- Worthing Beach House, Worthing, West Sussex.

Information disclosed in response to this EIRs request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the EIRs and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk), together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

We attach Annex A, explaining the copyright that applies to the information being released to you, and Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me.

Yours sincerely

**[REDACTED]**  
**Information Rights Team**  
[InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk](mailto:InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk)

## **Annex A**

### **Copyright**

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## **Annex B**

### **Complaints**

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Andrew Mobsby, Head of Information Rights via email at [InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk](mailto:InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk) and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our website.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted using the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/>