Application to apply for bathing water status at [name of waterway]

Consultation Questionnaire

Introduction

Community group name are applying for bathing water status on the waterway/beach/*river/lake name* for the stretch of water highlighted on the map below:

MAP of the waterway/beach/*river/lake which highlights the stretch of water that you are applying for designation*

Information on how the site is used by swimmers, surfers, paddle boarders, rowers, canoeists, walkers etc

What do you want to communicate to your community about the importance of making the stretch or waterway designated?

Explain issues effecting the water quality at your swim spot.

What changes are you calling for at your waterway on how to address water quality issues?

What is a bathing water?

When a stretch of river, beach or lake becomes a bathing water it means that its a waterway used by water users where the water quality is regularly monitored for its

effect on human health, and legal obligations are put on polluters to address sources of pollution. Bathing water status shines a light on polluters and ensures action is taken to improve water quality.

Once a waterway becomes a bathing water the Environment Agency are obliged to test the water quality throughout the bathing season (15 May to 30 September) and then categorise the bathing water annually with a classification of 'excellent', 'good', 'sufficient' or 'poor'. The local authority must display information at the site to inform the public on the water quality during the bathing season. This allows the public to make an informed decision on whether they use the water.

Government agencies are obliged to investigate the sources of pollution and take measures to improve the water quality if the bathing site receives a 'poor' or 'sufficient' classification.

The creation of over 600 coastal bathing waters around the UK has led to 98% of these beaches meeting minimum water quality standards, up from just 27% in the 1990s. Now, the same action must happen for more coastal waterways as well as rivers, lakes, lochs and other inland waters.

Consultation Questions

About you

Are you:

- A local resident
- Work in the area
- Local business
- On holiday/visiting the area
- Other

1.Do you support the Bathing Water Designation application?

- Yes
- No

2.Please explain why you do or do not support the application?

3.How much do you support having clean water to swim and play in at the proposed bathing water?

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree or Disagree
- Disagree
- Strong Disagree

4. Please explain your answer to question 3.

5.Do you use the proposed bathing water to swim, surf, canoe, paddleboard, row, fish or walk?

- Yes
- No

6.How often do you use the proposed bathing water?

- Daily
- Once a week or more
- Once a month or more
- Several times a year
- Never

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