

FOI Reference Number: FOI/086/1920

Date: 19/07/2019

Request:

Under Fol, I'd like some detail on the cleanliness records of Carrickfergus Amphitheatre main swimming pool.

Can you please supply..

The procedures and policies used by the leisure centre to maintain standards in water quality...explain testing methods minimum standards and frequency of testing.

Relating to each day in 2019, can you please supply...

Records of all pool water quality testing carried out, quality levels expected and attained....

Number of times quality has fallen below standards set..

Detail the causes of below standard results.

Action taken to remedy.

Details of all water quality complaints received by the council.

Detail all instances the pool has been closed due to water quality issues.

Detail any breakdown of filtering, or related pool water quality equipment.

Copies of any correspondence received by council regarding water quality and illness.

Response:

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 13/06/2019.

Please find below Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's response to the information you requested in relation to cleanliness records of Carrickfergus Amphitheatre main swimming pool.

For the period in question dated Jan 2019 - 13th June 2019 and with regard to the main swimming pool, Amphitheatre Carrickfergus:

- The council have not received any water quality complaints.***
- There have been no instances where the pool has had to close due to water quality issues.***
- There have been no instances of any breakdown of filtering, or related pool water quality equipment***

Please find attached Amphitheatre Pool Plant NOP and procedure relating to monitoring of pool testing. Please note that all procedures relating to pool water management are currently under revision and may be subject to further change.

The following excerpt, section 3 from the Amphitheatre Emergency Action Plan, also relates to pool water quality from a clarity/safety perspective.

- 3.0** **LACK OF WATER QUALITY**
- 3.1** *If the water appears to become cloudy contact the Duty Officer*
- 3.2** *The Duty Officer will arrange for the Plant Operator to carry out a water test and take any appropriate remedial action.*
- 3.3** *If appropriate remedial action is not possible or not effective soon enough, the Duty Officer will initially stop all new admissions and then decide whether it is safe for the pool to remain open.*
- 3.4** *If the clarity suddenly gets worse and there is difficulty seeing the bottom of the pool, inform the Duty Officer immediately who will advise Reception to halt further admissions and then assess the situation.*
- 3.5** *Should the clarity of the water or the subsequent tests pose any risks to customers the Duty Officer will clear the pool.*
- 3.6** *When the situation improves customers may be re-admitted.*

With regard to pool water testing, staff undertake daily checks (water testing) and maintain records in line with national guidelines (HSE - Health and Safety in Swimming Pools and PWTAG - Code of practice for swimming pool water). The pool plant operator also undertakes daily and monthly checks and maintain records of test results and any corrective action taken.

In addition, water samples are sent to an external independent laboratory to a lab on a monthly basis for microbiological analysis. For the period in question (last result 17th June 2019) all have been reported as satisfactory.

Given the significant amount of paperwork involved and the technical nature of the subject, the Centre Manager is happy to meet with you at the centre to view the test results and explain in more detail how water quality is managed within the facility. Please contact [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] on [REDACTED]

Please see attachments for policies and procedures.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of part of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within

two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Chief Executive at the Braid Ballymena Town Hall, 1-29 Bridge Street, Ballymena, BT43 5EJ.

Please remember to quote the reference number FOI/086/1920 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Please be advised that Mid and East Antrim Borough Council may release the response to this information request into the public domain via our website at <https://www.midandeantrim.gov.uk/>.

If we publish our response to your request, your personal data will be removed to protect your privacy.

