

# Consultation for Identification of Bathing Waters 2024

Public Consultation on Identification of Bathing Waters in Fingal for Bathing Season 2024 opened on Fingal County Council’s Consultation Portal from 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023 to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023. A total of 23 submissions were received during this time. The areas for which designation was requested for the Bathing Season 2024 are as set out below, together with the primary reasons for non-designation/identification as a Bathing Water.

The main considerations in the identification of new bathing waters by Fingal County Council are,

- (i) The requirement to carry out water sampling at high tide in a safe environment which does not pose a health and safety risk to water samplers.
- (ii) The ability to place a lifeguard hut in an accessible location which does not compromise the ability to provide a lifeguard service at both low and high tide levels.
- (iii) Safe access for beach users to the beach and the bathing water.
- (iv) Accessibility for Emergency Services.
- (v) Location more suited to competent swimmers and may attract novice swimmers if formally identified.

The below table sets out the locations for which submissions were received. Alongside each location are the relevant reasons for not identifying these as bathing waters for 2024, denoted numerically as per above numbers (i) to (iv)

Location	Reasons for Non Identification	Nearest available Identified Bathing Water
Barnageeragh Cove, Skerries	(i) and (ii)	South Strand, Skerries
Captains and Springers, Skerries	(i), (ii) and (v)	South Strand Skerries
Skerries North Beach	No proposal to extend water monitoring to an area immediately adjacent to existing	South Strand Skerries
Bells Beach, Balbriggan	(i), (ii)	Front Strand, Balbriggan
Rush Harbour	Working Harbour; signage in place prohibiting diving, swimming and advising of submerged rocks	North Beach, Rush
Balscadden Bay Beach, Howth	(i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)	Claremont Beach, Howth
Sutton Strand Beach	((i) and (ii)	Burrow Beach, Sutton
Low Rock and High Rock, Malahide	(i) and (v)	Velvet Strand, Portmarnock
Back Beach, Donabate		Balcarrick Beach, Donabate
Tower Bay, Portrane	(i), (iii), (iv) and (v)	Balcarrick Beach, Donabate

For the reasons set out in the table above, it is not proposed to identify additional bathing waters in the Fingal Area for the 2024 Bathing Season