

<b>Report on</b>	Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2021
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
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<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>  If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide information on the recently published Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2021.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI) recently published their annual report on Drinking Water Quality in Northern Ireland 2021 during September 2022. The report is attached at Appendix A.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	For monitoring purposes NI Water's supply area is divided into water supply zones. These are areas serving not more than 100,000 people, each of which are normally supplied from a single water supply source or combination of sources. There are areas where owing to topography and dispersal of population, it is not practicable to provide a mains water supply. In Northern Ireland over 99% of the population receive their drinking water from Northern Ireland Water Limited (NI Water). The remainder is served by private water supplies. This report provides an independent assessment of drinking water quality of both public and private supplies for the calendar year 2021.
3.2	In a number of cases, water supply zones overlap council boundaries and therefore the information does not mirror the council boundary exactly but relates to a zone determined by the Drinking Water Inspectorate.
3.3	The information is based on samples taken randomly in each water supply zone and from planned samples at authorised supply points. Due to the nature of random sampling, there may be fluctuations in water quality across the water supply zones.
3.4	The report also details capital works programmes affecting the council area which directly related to water quality during the reporting period.
3.5	Overall public drinking water quality for 2021 remained high with 99.88% compliance, a decrease from 2020 (99.94%) and the same as 2017. Compliance at private water supplies, at 99.19%, slightly decreased from 2020 (99.24%) and 2019 (99.29%).
3.6	Safe, clean drinking water is critical for our health and wellbeing, to support business and grow the economy. In 2021, with varying levels of COVID-19 restrictions, the flexibilities

	approved by DWI in 2020 continued. A return to full consumer tap sampling occurred in June 2021.
3.7	Small variations in water quality compliance performance occur across Northern Ireland. This reflects the need to continue to invest in and to maintain water treatment works, and to improve the water mains network.
3.8	Reports are available via the following website: <a href="https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/drinking-water-quality-northern-ireland">https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/drinking-water-quality-northern-ireland</a>
3.9	Drinking water quality tables detailing non-compliance of individual water supply zones, by parameter are available via the following website: <a href="https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/drinking-water-quality-tables">https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/drinking-water-quality-tables</a>
3.10	Anyone can check the water quality in their area including hardness and dishwasher settings, by accessing the below website and entering in their full postcode: <a href="https://www.niwater.com/water-quality-results/">https://www.niwater.com/water-quality-results/</a>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: None anticipated at this juncture.
	Human: None anticipated at this juncture.
	Risk Management: None anticipated at this juncture.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	To note the contents of this report.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix A: Annual Report on Drinking Water Quality in Northern Ireland 2021 Appendix B: Drinking Water Quality in Northern Ireland, 2021