



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

# Application for designation as a bathing water

## **Annex B Booby's Bay, Cornwall**

March 2017



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## Location and facilities

This Annex summarises the evidence for the designation of Booby's Bay as a bathing water.

Booby's Bay is the northern part of the beach shown on the map. The area to the south is Constantine Bay, which is a designated bathing water. The facilities that are available at the beach are indicated on the map:

- Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) from early July to the end of September
- Public toilets nearby at Constantine Bay
- Shop or kiosk at Constantine Bay
- Parking nearby at Constantine Bay



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## Beach usage in 2015

The figures provided by Cornwall Council were compiled by the RNLI and cover the 2015 bathing season because the figures for 2016 had not been finalised when the application was submitted. Defra's requirements for evidence of the number of bathers are explained in the main consultation document and in the guidance on applying for a new bathing

water designation, which is available on Citizenspace. The RNLI's methodology for its counts of beach users is also explained in the consultation document.

To provide information for peak use at Booby's Bay, Cornwall Council has provided the RNLI beach usage figures between 2 July - 27 September, a total of 88 days, which means that the numbers appear higher than in the 20 day survey that is usually provided in the evidence for designation. The figures for the peak two hour period each day between these dates give an estimated total of:

- 10012 beach users
- 3018 in the water
- 950 using surfboards or water craft

This gives an average for the daily two hour survey over 88 days of:

- 114 beach users
- 34 in the water
- 11 using surfboards or water craft

If multiplied by 20, to give a comparison with a 20 day survey, the figures are:

- 2280 beach users
- 680 in the water
- 220 using surfboards or water craft

## Local consultation

Between July and September 2016, Cornwall Council held individual consultations for each of the proposed bathing waters. The consultees were local County Councillors, parish councils and local stakeholders, individuals and organisations that may have an interest in the designation of the site as a bathing water. The Council also consulted the Marine Conservation Society, the RNLI, Surfers Against Sewage and Visit Cornwall for their views on all the proposals.

Twelve organisations were consulted for their views on the designation of Booby's Bay. There were five responses to the consultation:

- Three respondents supported designation
- One respondent supported designation provided there were no water quality issues
- One respondent opposed designation because they were concerned it would attract more visitors to the beach

Defra does not hold any water quality data for Booby's Bay. The objective of designating a beach as a bathing water is to ensure that water quality meets the legally required standards and put improvements in place if they are needed.