

Bathing Water Profile for Carnoustie

Carnoustie, Scotland

Current water classification <https://www2.sepa.org.uk/BathingWaters/Classifications.aspx>

Description

The Carnoustie bathing water is situated to the south of the town of Carnoustie. It is in a relatively small and shallow bay about 0.7 km in length that slopes gently towards the water.

During high and low tides the approximate distance to the water's edge can vary from 0–300 metres.

At high tide the water comes up to the sea wall on some parts of the beach leaving no sand visible. For local tide information see:

<http://easytide.ukho.gov.uk/EasyTide/Indea.aspx>



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Site details

Local authority	Angus Council
Year of designation	1987
Water sampling location	NO 56655 34227

Catchment description

The catchment draining into the Carnoustie bathing water extends to 31 km². The area varies in topography from low hills in the west to the low-lying plains along the coast.

The catchment is predominantly rural (91%). The major land use is arable agriculture with some soft fruit and livestock production. Approximately 9% of the bathing water catchment is urban and includes the town of Carnoustie. Population density outside of the town is generally low.

There are two watercourses within the bathing water catchment. Barry Burn flows into the south west area of the bathing water, and Lochty Burn, which flows directly into the bathing water.

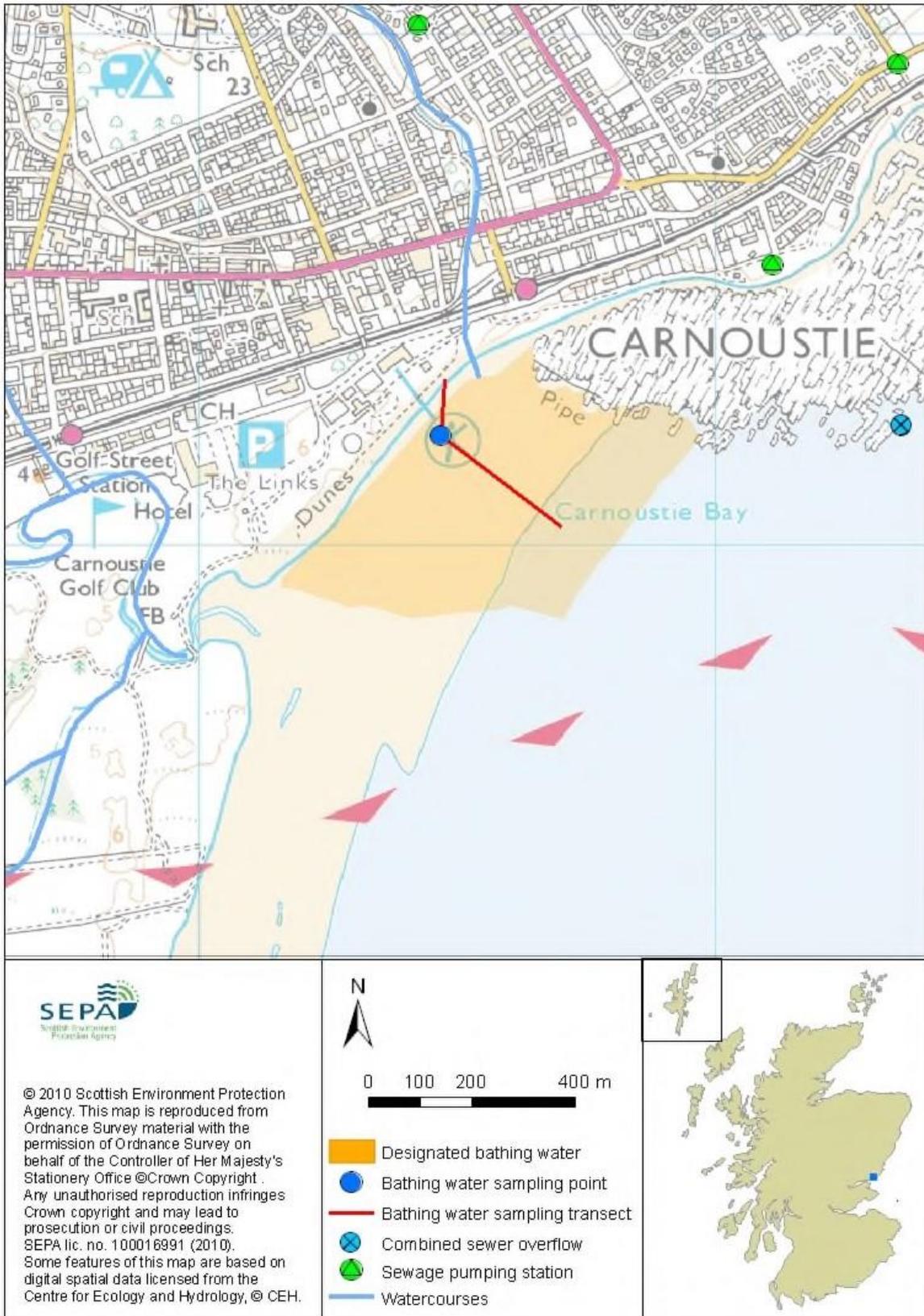
Risks to water quality

The principal risks and source of wet weather driven short term pollution at this bathing water arise from combined sewer overflows.

There is a risk that water pollution may occur after heavy rainfall. **Bathing is not advised during or 1-2 days after heavy rainfall. This is due to the risk to bathers' health from water pollution.**

Our regulatory and scientific assessment indicates that potential sources of short-term faecal indicator pollution at this bathing water can originate from human and animal sources.

Map 1: Carnoustie bathing water



Map 2: Catchment draining into Carnoustie bathing water



Improving bathing water quality

Improving pollution from sewage and other discharges

Scottish Water provides most waste water collection and treatment services in Scotland.

Sewage from Carnoustie is pumped to Hatton sewage treatment works. It undergoes treatment before discharging to the Firth of Tay via a long sea outfall. Monikie sewage treatment works and combined sewers discharge to the Barry Burn. Treatment at the Monikie works includes bio-filters and humus tanks.

A number of septic tank from the Clayholes and Carlogie areas no longer discharge to the Lochty Burn. The complexity and age of the sewer system in the area means that it requires continued vigilance and investigative effort.

Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae)

Marine waters are not at risk of cyanobacteria overproduction.

Algae

Current information suggests that this bathing water is not at risk of excessive growth of macroalgae (seaweed) or phytoplankton.

Jellyfish

There is a possibility of increased numbers of jellyfish in the water during summer months. This is a naturally occurring phenomenon. Most species common to the UK are harmless. The Marine Conservation Society advises to 'look but don't touch'.

Responding to pollution incidents

Please use our 24 hour hotline (0800 80 70 60) to report pollution. SEPA will investigate the incident and contact other relevant organisations. That may include Scottish Ministers, Scottish Water, the local authority and the relevant health board. Where necessary, measures will be put in place to resolve the problem.

If beach users or bathers are considered to be at risk, the local authority will warn the public by erecting signs at the bathing water. Information will also be available on our website.

SEPA will investigate whenever our sampling identifies pollution.

Beach users are encouraged to use the bins provided or to take litter home. Beach cleaning and litter clean-up is maintained by Angus Council for this bathing water.

Contact details and information sources

<p>SEPA Arbroath office 62 High Street Arbroath DD11 1AW 01241 874370 www.sepa.org.uk</p>	<p>Angus Council Angus House Orchardbank Business Park Forfar DD8 1AN 08452 777 778 accessline@angus.gov.uk www.angus.gov.uk</p>	<p>Keep Scotland Beautiful 01786 471333 beach@ksbscotland.org.uk www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org</p>
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Scottish Government

Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ
0131 244 0396 eqcat@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/15561/bathingwaters

Version number:	Date:	Next review due:
1.0	Nov 2010	
1.1	April 2014	
1.2	June 2015	
1.3	April 2020	
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