

Water Safety Scotland

“Scotland’s Drowning Prevention Strategy – a response to the UK drowning Prevention Strategy”

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Who are Water Safety Scotland ?

- We are a Group of Charities, Businesses, Emergency services, Local Authorities, Sport Governing Bodies and Individuals who have the common aim of reducing drowning in Scotland.....

What does Water Safety Scotland do?

- Purpose:

Prevent accidental drowning deaths in Scotland by working in partnership to ensure consistent guidance for the safe enjoyment and management of activities in, on and around water.

- Aim:

Reduce accidental drowning deaths in Scotland by 50 percent by 2026 and reduce risk among the highest risk populations, groups and communities....

So why Does Scotland need a response

- **50/79**
- A targeted response is required based on Scottish Data and Incidents.
- Scotland has a disproportionate number of drownings per head than the rest of the UK
- We are diferent!....



water safety
Scotland

Geography



Governance

- Scotland is governed by a devolved administration known as the Scottish Government. The Government's purpose is "to focus government and public services on creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth"

The Scottish Government has proposed Fifteen National Outcomes. Water Safety Scotland supports these outcomes, in particular:

- We live longer and healthier lives
- We live our lives free from crime, disorder and danger
- Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed
- We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk
- We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others....

Education System

- Scotland has its own education system and qualification framework. The wellbeing of children and young people is at the heart of Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC). These principles are embodied in the Curriculum for Excellence.
- The Curriculum for Excellence allows flexibility to deliver topics in an innovative way and covers three core areas: literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing....

Legal System

- Scots Law is the legal system of Scotland which has a number of differences from the rest of the United Kingdom. When a water-based death occurs, a medical certificate giving the cause of death must be issued. Unexplained and sudden deaths are reported to the Procurator Fiscal, who has legal responsibility to determine whether further investigation is required....

Infrastructure and Emergency Services

- Scotland has a different infrastructure from the rest of the United Kingdom and follows a specific plan which includes: transport, water, energy, rural affairs and the environment



What does our data tell us?

- A targeted response is required based on Scottish Data and Incidents.
- Scotland has a disproportionate number of drownings per head than the rest of the UK.
- More People die on the coast than inland waters
- In Scotland older males in the 60-69 age group are most at risk....

What have we identified we need to do ?

- Improve fatality and incident data across Scotland by advocating WAID and sharing WAID reports with partner organisations and local authorities
- Promote and develop water safety education and initiatives within primary and secondary schools
- Develop water safety across Scotland's 32 local authority areas and promote the use of a water safety policy
- Proactively promote public awareness of water-related risks and ensure a consistent message through campaigns and communications
- Promote the safe use of water for recreational activities across Scotland in partnership with the relevant national governing bodies....

In Summary

- We need to work together sharing resources as no one organisation can do this alone.
- We need to improve the quality of data we have to work with.
- We need to ensure people can continue to use the water but in a safer more informed way.
- Children need not only to learn to swim but need to be able to recognise hazards and understand the dangers....

What would we like from you!

- Join us
- Ask you local authority if they have a policy
- Share your learning today with family, friends & colleagues
- Feedback on our draft Response online

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H5NWN7F>

- Sign our pledge

www.watersafetyscotland.org.uk/strategy-response

- Use your social media to promote drowning prevention

Thankyou



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www.watersafetyscotland.org.uk