



water safety
Scotland

The Drowning and Incident Review

James Sullivan and Carlene McAvoy

Water Safety Scotland



Targets

- Reduce accidental drowning deaths in Scotland by 50 per cent by 2026 and reduce risk amongst the highest-risk populations, groups and communities
- Contribute to the reduction of water-related suicide

What is DIR?



- Process that aims to gather data and understand the contributory factors of a water-related incident to help gain a better understanding of how to prevent similar incidents occurring in future
- Covers all ages of accidental or 'unknown' fatalities in Scotland. Excludes: Suspected suicide, commercial incidents, crime
- Led by Water Safety Scotland and lead SAR organisations (e.g. SFRS)

What is DIR?

Benefits

Locally

- Partners gain insight into the risks in their area
- The people best placed to address these risks are kept informed and utilised
- Local knowledge can be employed to ensure improved water safety outcomes

Nationally

- Previously unavailable information will be reported to WAID
- National strategy can be better informed due to enhanced data

Why do we need DIR?

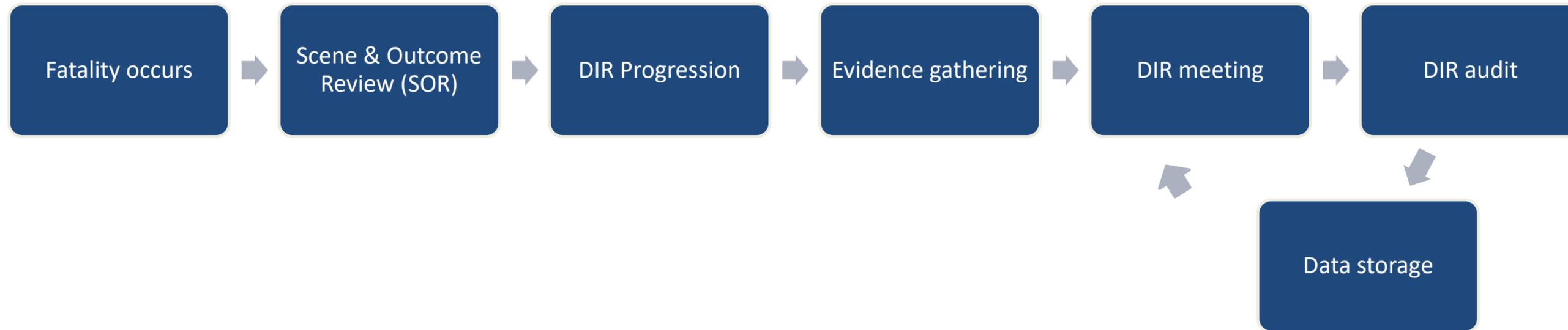


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96

50 are accidental
20 are 'unknown'

How does DIR work?



DIR research and evaluation



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Addressing a gap: a qualitative analysis of Scotland's Drowning and Incident Review process



PDF

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Abstract

Objectives Drowning is a leading cause of fatalities worldwide and Scotland carries a disproportionate number of drownings compared with its UK neighbours. Drowning data captured in Scotland are often incomplete and the Drowning and Incident Review (DIR) is a new process designed to help improve the capture of data and help inform future preventative measures. The aim of this study was to explore the perspectives and views of key stakeholders on the facilitators and barriers of implementing the DIR as well as areas for its future sustainability.

Methods A qualitative approach was used with in-depth interviews using key participants. Participants were identified using purposive sampling, through use of a stakeholder analysis. Participants watched a hypothetical DIR and then participated in a semistructured interview. Questions focused on DIR facilitators, barriers and areas for future sustainability. Qualitative data were



DIR in practice 1 - NHS GGC case study (pilot)



- Short narrative of the incident
- Outcomes
- Pilot DIR and CDR

DIR in practice 1 - NHS GGC case study (pilot)



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Environment

Swimming

Location

DIR in practice 2 – Balloch Park



Issues:

- Previous drownings in the location
- Desire to improve water safety
- Efforts not coordinated between partners



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Further info?

DIR@watersafetyscotland.org.uk