

**Will Austin (Bridport TC)**

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**Subject:** West Beach, West Bay bathing water sampling and results 2019 season

Dear Mr Austin and Councillors

The Environment Agency undertakes sampling and analysis of the bathing waters at some of the beaches along our coast line between May and September each year. With the West Bay infrastructure works closing the beach during this time, the sampling period for West Beach has been narrowed to less than 8 weeks (this is the minimum period stated within the legislation). This means that next year the bathing water status of the beach will be classified as 'unclassified' in 2020 – reports are published retrospectively as annual status reports/profiles and posted at each beach for public view.

This does not mean that water quality is not to a required standard, only that insufficient number of samples could be collected during the year to meet the statistical requirements for reporting. Sampling will resume when the works have been completed but will not be reported for this 2019 bathing season.

If you would like more information please do not hesitate to contact me, alternatively further information on this matter can be found on the EA's website <http://environment.data.gov.uk/bwq/>. The current profile (from samples taken during 2018 season) can be found on this website: <http://environment.data.gov.uk/bwq/profiles/profile.html?search=west%20bay&site=ukk2205-21000>.

Kind regards

**Team Leader  
Environmental Health**

**Dorset Council**

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