



## Agenda

- Meeting**      **Scarborough and Whitby Area Committee**
- To:**            **Councillors Liz Colling (Chair), David Chance (Vice-Chair), Derek Bastiman, Eric Broadbent, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Rich Maw, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, John Ritchie, Tom Seston, Subash Sharma, Neil Swannick, Roberta Swiers and Phil Trumper.**
- Date:**        **Monday, 23 March 2026**
- Time:**        **10.00 am**
- Venue:**      **Scarborough Town Hall, St Nicholas Street, Scarborough, YO11 2HG**

This meeting is being live broadcast and recorded and will be available to view [via our website](#) and uploaded to [our Youtube channel](#).

### Business

1.      **Apologies for absence**
2.      **Declarations of interest**  
All Members are invited to declare at this point any interests they have in items appearing on this agenda, including the nature of those interests.
3.      **Public questions and statements**  
Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice to St John Harris of Democratic Services and supplied the text (contact details below) by midday on Wednesday, 18 March, three working days before the day of the meeting. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item.  
  
If you are exercising your right to speak at this meeting, but do not wish to be recorded, please inform the Chair who will instruct anyone who may be taking a recording to cease while you speak.
4.      **Review of bathing water quality in the North Bay and South Bay, Scarborough**      **(Pages 5 - 12)**
5.      **Local impacts**      **(Pages 13 - 26)**  
Speakers:
  - i.      Steve Crawford, Surfers Against Sewage
  - ii.     Rosalind Aldcroft, Bay View Coffee House
  - iii.    Rudi Barman, Terror Towers and Scarborough Speed Boat Trips
  - iv.    Andrew Clay, Scarborough Tourism Advisory Board and SEA LIFE Scarborough

## Key organisations and individuals involved in improving bathing water quality

### 6. North Yorkshire Council (Pages 27 - 32)

Speakers:

- i. Karl Battersby (Corporate Director Environment and NYC representative on Bathing Water Partnership)
- ii. Stewart Rowe (Principal Coastal Officer)
- iii. Joe Penny (Principal Officer to the Chief Executive)

### 7. Professor Darren Grocke (Professor of Stable Isotope Geochemistry, University of Durham)

### 8. Environment Agency (Pages 33 - 42)

Speakers:

- i. Claire Barrow (Environment Planning and Engagement Manager – Yorkshire)
- ii. Martin Christmas (Area Environment Manager – Yorkshire)
- iii. Mike Dugher (Area Director – Yorkshire)

### 9. Yorkshire Water (Pages 43 - 54)

Speakers:

- i. Miles Cameron (Manager of Strategic Partnerships)
- ii. Adam Ashman (Head of Strategic Partnerships & Sustainability)

### 10. Conclusions and recommendations

### 11. Date of next meeting

Friday, 5 June 2026 at 10.00am at Scarborough Town Hall

Members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting as observers for all those items taken in open session. You may be interested in [subscribing to updates](#) about this or any other North Yorkshire Council committee.

Recording is allowed at Council, committee and sub-committee meetings which are open to the public. Please give due regard to the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at public meetings. We ask that any recording is clearly visible to anyone at the meeting and that it is non-disruptive.

Anyone wishing to record is asked to contact the Democratic Services Officer (details below) prior to the start of the meeting.

#### Contact Details

For enquiries relating to this agenda and meeting please contact:

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Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive  
Legal and Democratic Services  
County Hall

Northallerton

13 March 2026

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## North Yorkshire Council

### Scarborough and Whitby Area Committee

23 March 2026

#### Review of bathing water quality in the North Bay and South Bay, Scarborough

#### Report of the Corporate Director Environment

##### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This extraordinary meeting of Scarborough and Whitby Area Committee has been convened to focus on the specific issue of bathing water quality in Scarborough's North Bay and South Bay by inviting submissions and evidence from a range of organisations which have **either** been actively involved in efforts to improve bathing water quality **or** whose lives and livelihoods have been affected by bathing water quality.
- 1.2 Through holding this meeting, the Area Committee wishes to review progress in this work by hearing from and asking questions of the relevant agencies and stakeholders, with a view to reaching some conclusions and making recommendations as appropriate to the different parties involved. The programme for the meeting can be found in Appendix 1.
- 1.3 This report sets the scene for the review by providing some historical and background information which explains the challenges regarding bathing water quality in the North Bay and South Bay and how agencies are responding.

##### 2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Maintaining high standards of bathing water quality is important to upholding Scarborough's reputation as an outstanding seaside resort. The role of both bays contributes to the wider town economy, tourism sector and community pride. However, the issues impacting water quality are complex.
- 2.2 A complex range of factors can have a negative impact on bathing water quality, including:
- Discharge of sewage via water company overflows.
  - Animal waste.
  - Misconnected drains.
  - Agricultural runoff.
  - Urban runoff.
- 2.3 Scarborough's water quality is a cause of concern for residents, and businesses. As a council committed to public health, environmental stewardship and community wellbeing, North Yorkshire Council (NYC) recognises the importance of both bays and the need collaboration with key agencies to address this issue.
- 2.4 As a local authority, NYC's statutory role in this space is to provide clear public information and signage at designated bathing sites, including:

- Current bathing water classification (Excellent / Good / Sufficient / Poor).
- Short-term pollution warnings.
- Advice against bathing when risks are present.
- Any additional information required by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

2.5 As such, NYC's statutory responsibilities in this space are limited, with key responsibilities around enforcement and maintaining standards of assets belonging to both the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Water. Therefore, NYC has utilised its 'convening' role to establish a number of strategic summit meetings.

2.6 Furthermore, the Yorkshire Bathing Water Partnership was established in 2013, a multiagency group, working to improve and maintain water quality along the Yorkshire Coast through joint working, monitoring, investment, and pollution reduction initiatives. The partnership includes the Environment Agency as regulator and monitoring authority, Yorkshire Water (responsible for wastewater and infrastructure), East Riding of Yorkshire Council and North Yorkshire Council.

## 2.7 Establishing the Summits

2.7.1 The Scarborough Bathing Water Quality Summits brought together senior representatives from Yorkshire Water, the Environment Agency (EA), Department for Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), McCains Foods, the MP for Scarborough & Whitby, local ward councillors and NYC officers (including the Chief Executive) to discuss and address concerns about water quality in Scarborough's South Bay and North Bay.

2.7.2 A key objective of the early Summits was to better understand what work was underway in Scarborough and secure a clear commitment from all partners to undertake further investigations regarding the sources of pollution, coordinate actions in response, participate in future summits, and ultimately, work collaboratively to deliver meaningful improvements.

2.7.3 An early action from the Summits was to support the work of two investigation studies, designed to better identify the sources of pollution affecting Scarborough's bays. NYC and McCains Food jointly funded Professor Gröcke from Durham University to utilise his method of tracking pollution via the collection of nitrogen isotopes from seaweed.

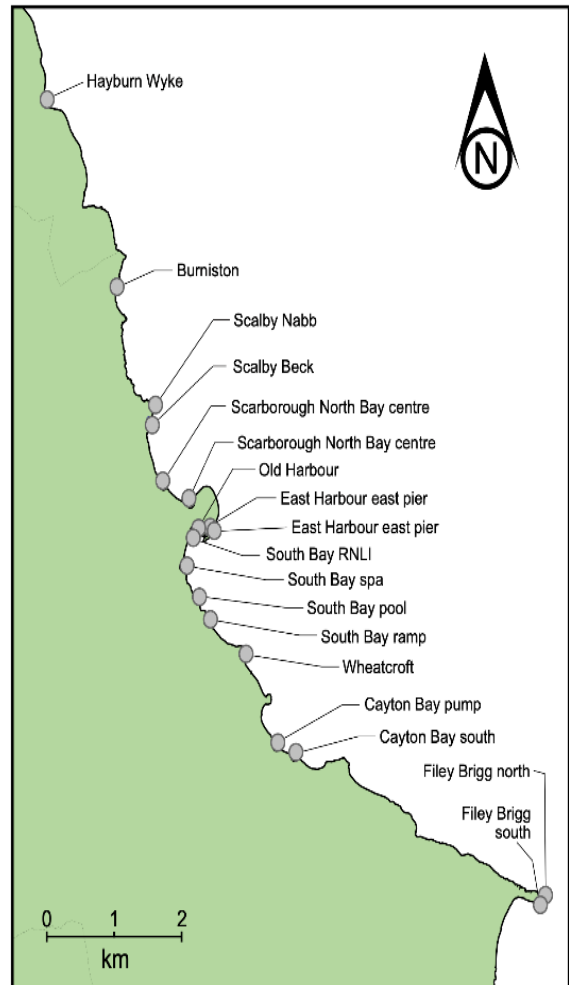
2.7.4 NYC, McCains Food, Yorkshire Water and the EA also funded an intensive study led by the EA to take water samples looking at bacterial community profiles and more.

## 3.0 THE STUDIES

### 3.1 Durham University Investigation

3.1.1 Between September 2023 and October 2025, Professor Gröcke collected more than 3,400 individual seaweed samples across the stretch of Scarborough’s coastline. These samples were taken from 18 sampling locations and included two species of seaweed, each of which absorbs nitrogen over different timescales. This allowed the study to measure both short-term and longer-term patterns of nitrogen pollution.

(Right: Illustration of sampling locations)



3.1.2 The findings provided evidence that there was a heightened level of pollution emanating from Scalby Beck, affecting **both** North Bay and South Bay. Nitrogen-isotope signatures indicated pollution originating from both agricultural and wastewater-related sources is contributing to reduced bathing water quality in Scarborough.

### 3.2 Environment Agency Investigation

3.2.1 The EA committed to carrying out extensive investigations into water pollution affecting Scarborough’s North and South Bays. As part of this study, real time monitoring devices were installed close to various sample monitoring locations.

3.2.2 The EA investigation involved sampling for E. coli and Intestinal enterococci Bacteroides, which are indicators of contamination from human; dog; seabird waste, and agricultural runoff.

3.2.3 Early EA investigation findings suggested that water quality tends to deteriorate in August, potentially due to associated pressures on the local water system. The early findings have also found pollution markers linked to human Bacteroides and agricultural runoff, particularly when there is increased rainfall in the Scalby Beck catchment. Some background pollution linked to seabirds was also found at sample points.

### 3.3 Scalby Beck

3.3.1 Scalby Beck is a watercourse flowing around the northern edge of Scarborough and entering the North Sea just above Scarborough’s North Bay. Approximately seven combined sewer overflows (CSOs), operated by Yorkshire Water, discharge into Scalby Beck during periods of heavy rainfall. This is consistent with early evidence collected by both studies. NYC is keen for partner agencies to further investigate sources of pollution in Scalby Beck, as a method to reduce pollutants being carried into both bays.

3.3.2 Yorkshire Water recognises the impact their CSOs can have on bathing water quality and has planned investment to reduce discharges. Scalby Beck also flows through

agricultural land, where runoff containing animal-derived pollutants can enter the watercourse before being carried into the bay.

- 3.3.3 There are also several private wastewater connections within the catchment that are not owned or operated by Yorkshire Water, which can contribute to contamination issues but lie outside the company's direct control. In addition, Yorkshire Water has acknowledged that ageing infrastructure in the area may have potential weaknesses or leaks, and it has committed to further investigations alongside the Environment Agency to better understand and address these issues.
- 3.3.4 During the course of the Summits, Scalby Beck has emerged as a potential source of contamination for both the North Bay and South Bay. Early work from Professor Darren Gröcke hypothesised Scarborough's tidal and current patterns play a significant role in transporting pollutants from Scalby Beck into South Bay. Currents push along the shoreline, moving in a north-to-south direction, before being pulled back into South Bay.
- 3.3.5 As such, pollutants released around North Bay can ultimately accumulate in South Bay, where the shallower, curved geography can trap contaminants.

#### 3.4 McCains Investment

- 3.4.1 Discussed at the first Summit, McCain Foods provided valuable insight into the plant's manufacturing processes and the challenges arising from them. Their processing of potatoes generates a high-strength wastewater containing organic material such as bacteria and starch.
- 3.4.2 McCains undertook a £170million modernisation of the Scarborough site to "[future-proof](#)" operations and improve efficiency. As part of this investment, the company committed £23million to build an industry-leading wastewater treatment facility on-site.
- 3.4.3 This new facility uses advanced filtration, biological treatments and anaerobic processes to remove more than 97% of organic material from the wastewater. As a result, the factory now discharges clean water into the sea, bringing the site into full compliance with environmental standards and significantly reducing its impact on local bathing waters.

## 4.0 NEXT STEPS AND ONGOING AREAS OF FOCUS

### 4.1 Further Investigation into Pollution Sources

- 4.1.1 Throughout the Summit meetings, it became clear that there is a wide range of potential pollution sources. These include but are not limited to:
- Leaking pipes.
  - Misconnected drains.
  - Combined Sewer Overflows.
  - Private sewer connections.
  - Septic tanks.
  - Agricultural runoff.
  - Seagull waste.
- 4.1.2 All organisations represented at the Summit have committed to continued joint working to identify, assess, and map these pollution sources.

- 4.1.3 To that end Yorkshire Water and the EA have committed to installing water quality monitors further upstream, in Scalby Beck, widening our understanding of pollution points. Yorkshire Water will also investigate the impact of septic tanks in Hayburn Wyke.
- 4.1.4 The EA is also undertaking targeted agricultural visits to farms around the Scalby Beck catchment to ascertain the efficacy of their efforts to mitigate agricultural runoff into Scalby Beck.
- 4.1.5 Building a clearer picture of the contributing factors will support the development of targeted, evidence-based strategies to mitigate them.

#### 4.2 Completion of studies

- 4.2.1 Professor Gröcke has agreed to undertake a second, shorter study; potentially including additional sampling points further north. This will generate comparative data against the initial research whilst also gathering robust evidence demonstrating that pollution from Scalby Beck is entering South Bay. This will inform the development of innovative mitigation measures aimed at improving bathing water quality in South Bay.
- 4.2.2 The EA will undertake a bacterial profiling study to further identify, quantify and characterise bacteria populations within their sampling. This will help to map microbial communities within Scarborough's water.
- 4.2.3 Yorkshire Water and the EA have also committed to working with Professor Gröcke to align the findings from their respective studies and data, helping to build a fuller understanding of the factors affecting bathing water quality.

#### 4.3 Yorkshire Water accelerated investment & action

- 4.3.1 Yorkshire Water has committed to developing an asset management strategy to run in parallel with accelerated investment in Scarborough's water infrastructure. This includes plans to construct a new reduction tank, like Wheatcroft, near Jackson's Bay, north of Scalby. The tank will help reduce overflow discharges into the sea and prevent pollution from being washed into Scalby. NYC will continue to work closely with Yorkshire Water to shape this strategy, guide investment priorities, and support efforts to reduce pollution.
- 4.3.2 Following the Summit, there will also be a renewed focus on improving conditions in and around Scalby Beck. This includes revising the approach to attenuation tanks, so they are cleaned ahead of each bathing season, reducing the risk of unintended contamination affecting water quality during peak months.
- 4.3.3 Infrastructure monitoring, repair and upgrade programmes will also be accelerated in the Scarborough and Scalby Beck area. This will involve checking pipes for leaks, identifying misconnections, and replacing ageing infrastructure to ensure the network is resilient and operating effectively.

#### 4.4 Areas of joint working & NYC actions

- 4.4.1 NYC continues to work with partners on identifying mitigating actions in the Scalby Beck catchment, particularly to Yorkshire Water assets that discharge into the bay. High-level discussions with strategic leads in Yorkshire Water have taken place to feed into Yorkshire Water's development of asset plans.

4.4.2 Yorkshire Water has indicated that some pollution may be linked to some developments that are incorrectly connected to the sewer network, allowing wastewater to enter the ground and ultimately wash into local watercourses. As part of our wider efforts, NYC will continue working closely with Yorkshire Water to investigate whether any developments have been improperly connected and to ensure that all future schemes meet the required infrastructure standards.

4.4.3 Yorkshire Water is operating a water-butt initiative, providing water butts that connect to household guttering and help reduce the volume of rainwater entering the combined sewer network during periods of heavy rainfall. These systems store rainfall and release it slowly, easing pressure on the drainage system and lowering the likelihood of CSO discharges during wet weather. While this scheme is active, NYC will continue to signpost residents to the initiative and encourage participation.

## **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There were no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

## **6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There were no legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

## **7.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There were no equalities implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

## **8.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There were no climate change implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

## **9.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 To provide background and context to this area of work to the Area Committee.

## **10.0 RECOMMENDATION**

i) To note the content of this report

Karl Battersby  
*Corporate Director Environment*

County Hall, Northallerton

**13 March 2026**

Report Authors –  
Stewart Rowe, Principal Coastal Officer  
Joseph Penny, Principal Officer to the Chief Executive  
St John Harris, Principal Democratic Services Officer

**EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF SCARBOROUGH AND WHITBY AREA COMMITTEE –  
23 MARCH 2026**

**REVIEW OF BATHING WATER QUALITY IN THE NORTH BAY AND SOUTH BAY,  
SCARBOROUGH**

**PROGRAMME**

(i) Public questions and statements

(ii) Local impacts

Surfers Against Sewage	Steve Crawford	5 minutes
Bay View Coffee House	Rosalind Aldcroft	5 minutes
Terror Towers and Scarborough Speed Boat Trips	Rudi Barman	
Scarborough Tourism Advisory Board and SEA LIFE Scarborough	Andrew Clay	5 minutes

Councillors' questions – 15 minutes

**Progress reports / presentations from key organisations and individuals involved  
in improving bathing water quality**

(iii) North Yorkshire Council

Karl Battersby (Corporate Director Environment and NYC representative on Bathing Water Partnership) Stewart Rowe (Principal Coastal Officer) Joe Penny (Principal Officer to the Chief Executive)	15 minutes
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Councillors' questions – 15 minutes

(iv) Professor Darren Grocke (Professor of Stable Isotope Geochemistry, University of Durham) - 15 minutes

Councillors' questions – 15 minutes

(v) Environment Agency

Claire Barrow (Environment Planning and Engagement Manager – Yorkshire) Martin Christmas (Area Environment Manager – Yorkshire) Mike Dugher (Area Director – Yorkshire)	15 minutes
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Councillors' questions – 15 minutes

(vi) Yorkshire Water

Miles Cameron (Manager of Strategic Partnerships) Adam Ashman (Head of Strategic Partnerships & Sustainability)	15 minutes
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Councillors' questions – 15 minutes

(vii) Conclusions and recommendations

# Photos submitted by Steve Crawford Surfers Against Sewage

# Photo 1



# Photo 2



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**SEA LIFE**  
**SCARBOROUGH**

# MAY 1991

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Scalby Mills, Scarborough



# **WHY IS CLEAN WATER IMPORTANT AT SEALIFE SCARBOROUGH?**

# CLEAN WATER

- We pump in c2.1m L per year, direct from North Bay (in contrast, The Deep manufacture their water).

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- We use 20,000 L a day.
- Ocean tank alone holds 156,000 L of water.
- Clean water is a vital part of our life support systems.
- The health of our animals is paramount (2500 marine animals, 350 species).



# LEARNING EXPERIENCE

(conservation lies at the heart of our philosophy)



# LOCAL MARINE HABITATS

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## The Yorkshire Coastline

The Yorkshire Coast is home to some amazing marine life  
Why not visit some of these beautiful locations to see what you can spot?

Whitby



During the summer months, **Minke whales** can often be seen along the Yorkshire Coast especially around the **Whitby** area



**Bottlenose Dolphins** come on holiday from Scotland to enjoy the summer off the Yorkshire Coast

Scarborough

The water just off the castle headland in **Scarborough** is one of the best places to see **Harbour porpoises**



Filey



**Bempton Cliffs**

**Flamborough Head**



**Bempton Cliffs** is home to the UK's largest mainland seabird colony. From April to September the cliffs are home to over 300,000 seabirds including **Puffins** and **Gannets**



Bridlington



Both **Grey Seals** and **Common Seals** can be seen off **Filey Brigg** and **Flamborough Head**



# SEAL HOSPITAL

- **50% of the World's seals live around the British Isles.**
- **We have four resident seals in Scarborough.**
- **Our daily talk and feed sessions provide a valuable learning experience.**
- **The Seal Hospital was set up in 2008**
- **Specialist team on site to rehabilitate injured or poorly seals.**

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# BEACH CLEANS

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# THANKS

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# **Scarborough and Whitby Area Committee Bathing Water Quality**

Page 27  
**23/3/2026**

**Stewart Rowe  
Harbours and Coastal Infrastructure**

OFFICIAL



Agenda Item 6

# Why does bathing water quality matter?

- Central to the town's economy, tourism and identity
  - Preserving Scarborough reputation as a great seaside resort
  - This is frustrating for all of us who care about the town, public health and the environment
- Page 28
- Improving bathing water is about understanding and managing overlapping sources.
- The issues affecting bathing water quality are complex and Scarborough South Bay has struggled to meet the required standard – meaning there is currently advice against bathing in the South Bay, the North Bay quality has deteriorated.
  - We need scientific expertise, long term monitoring and long-term cooperation between public bodies, businesses and communities to resolve the problems.

# Causes of poor bathing water quality

Complex combination of human and natural factors such as:

Sewage overflows

Animal waste (birds and dogs)

Wildlife (gulls) and pet waste

Misconnected drains

Agricultural runoff – manure and slurry

Urban runoff – roads, roofs, pavements

Because no single factor is the cause no one organisation can solve the issues alone.

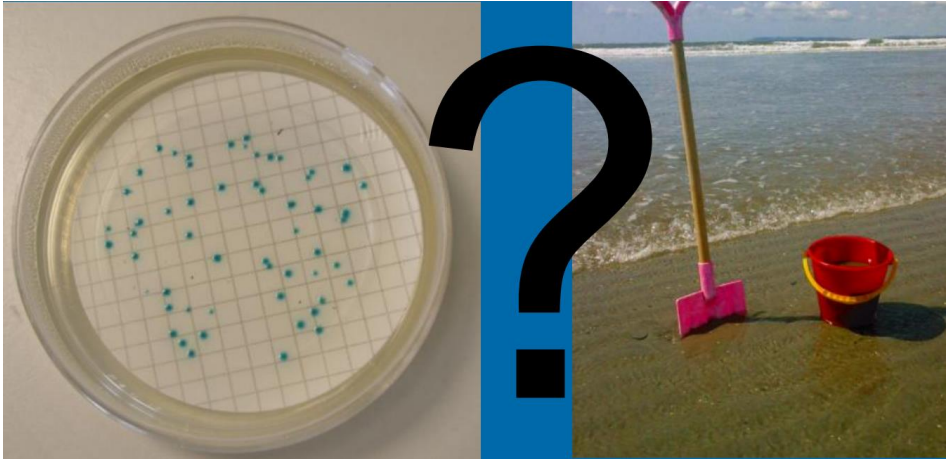
# Collaborative working

NYC continues to work collaboratively with YW and the EA to understand the root of water quality problems as members of the Yorkshire Bathing Water Partnership covering our NY bathing beaches.

The Scarborough Bathing Water Summits convened by NYC brought together key stakeholders

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- Bathing water sampling
- Setting water quality standards
- Regulating sewage discharges or issue permits
- Classifying bathing waters



These powers sit nationally with the Environment Agency and Defra



# NYC has a Statutory Duty to provide public Information and signage

- NYC must display official bathing water signs at each designated site showing :
  - Current bathing water classification (Excellent/Good/ Sufficient/Poor)
  - Short term pollution warnings
  - Advice against bathing when risks are present
  - Keep this information up to date during the bathing water season (15 May-30 Sept)
- Defra advises local authorities on what information must be displayed

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# Supporting pollution prevention and investigations

- Beach cleaning and litter removal
- Dog control orders
- Waste bins and toilet facilities
- Managing wildlife pressures
- NYC cooperates and is a member of the Yorkshire Bathing Water Partnership to assist with partner actions
- Help identify local sources of pollution such as misconnections, surface runoff, small outfalls
- Uses planning powers to prevent developments worsening pollution
- Further investigations: Durham university, Environment Agency, Yorkshire Water



# Scarborough Bathing Water Update

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Agenda Item 8

# Environment Agency Obligations – Bathing Waters

**The EA does not have a public health remit for bathing waters.**

EA's responsibilities:

- Bacteriological (Ecoli, IE) sampling at designated bathing waters during the bathing water season
- Annual classification of bathing water quality.
- Responding to pollution incidents
- Passing on information on bathing waters to the public and Local Authorities
- Updating and maintenance of SWIMFO website.
- Investigating water quality issues
- Working with stakeholders to improve water quality.

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# Bathing Water quality - Scarborough

- Classifications are based on a 4 year rolling average:
- **Scarborough South** – history of Poor bathing water quality

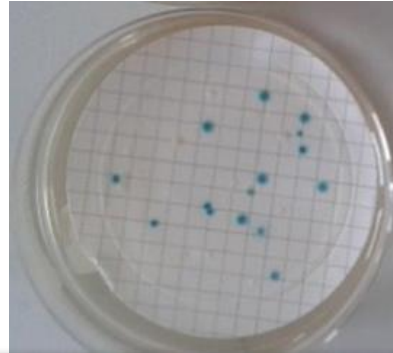
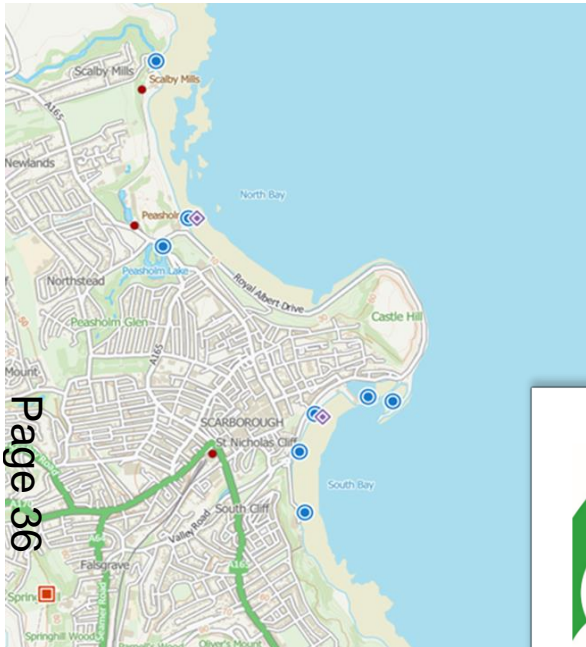
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2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Suff	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	n/a	Suff	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor

## Scarborough North – history of Excellent/good water quality

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Excel	Excel	Good	Good	Excel	n/a	Excel	Excel	Good	Suff	Suff

# Investigations – what we know



National  
Laboratory  
Service

Science  
Service  
Solutions

**Investigation into the bacterial communities in bathing waters and associated sites around Scarborough South Bay, 2016.**

Report produced for the Integrated Environment Planning Team, Yorkshire Area

Jonathan Porter,  
National Laboratory Service,  
Staplake Mount,  
Starcross,  
Devon,  
EX6 8PE.

October 2017.



**Investigation into the sources of bacterial pollution at Scarborough North and South Beaches in the summer of 2024.**

**Aim:** To better understand the factors influencing bathing water quality at Scarborough North and South beaches.

**Date:** November 2025



# Investigation outcomes – MST

## Scarborough South

- Human and seabird sources of bacteria consistently present
- Occasional dogs and very occasional ruminant (cows and sheep) sources of bacteria present.

Donkeys are not a contributor to the bacteria.

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## Scarborough North

- Human and seabird sources of bacteria consistently present
  - Seabird markers are in much lower concentrations compared to those found at Scarborough South
- Dogs and ruminants present on occasion

# Investigation Outcome – bacterial profiling


- A consistent input from seabirds at both Scarborough North and South
- Indication of a link between Peasholm Lake and Scarborough North only.
- Scarborough WwTW treated effluent was found at both Scarborough South and North confirming a north to south link between bays.
- McCains treated effluent found at times at both bathing waters, indicating a south to north link in addition to the north to south link.
- Indication of untreated sewage in Scalby Beck following rainfall and that bacterial species associated with the Beck are found more frequently and at higher concentrations at Scarborough North.
- there is evidence for the movement of bacteria from the sand to the bathing.
- Scarborough Harbour was not found to impact on either bathing water.

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# What have we been doing? Water Industry Inspections

- In 2025 EA carried out regulatory inspections of **14** Yorkshire Water assets in Scarborough.
  - Includes Sewage Pumping Stations and combined sewer overflows (CSOs) in Scalby Beck, Scarborough North and South Bays and Scarborough WwTW.
- Very few Permit breaches were noted but a number of Actions were raised with Yorkshire Water.

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	<b>EPR Compliance Assessment Report</b>	Report ID: S/521056
<b>This form will report compliance with your permit as determined by an Environment Agency officer</b>		
Site	COW WATH BECK CSO, COW WATH BECK, SCALBY, SCARBOROUGH, NORTH YORKSHIRE	Permit Ref: 27726/0015
Operator/ Permit holder	YORKSHIRE WATER SERVICES LIMITED	
Assessment Date	24/09/2024	Breach Date: N/A
What parts of the permit were assessed	Combined sewer overflow	Time in: 14.00   Out: 14.50
Assessment Type	Site Inspection: Combined sewer overflow (network)	EPR Activity: Water Discharge
Recipient's name/position	EA Correspondance	
Officer's name	Jacob Marin, Jennifer Hall	Date issued: 30/09/2024
<b>Section 1 - Compliance Assessment Summary</b>		
This is based on the requirements of the permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations. A detailed explanation and any action you may need to take are given in the 'Detailed Assessment of Compliance' (section 3). This summary details which conditions we have assessed, where we believe any non-compliance with the permit has occurred, the relevant condition and how the non-compliance has been categorised using our <a href="#">Compliance Classification Scheme</a> (CCS). For more details of our CCS scheme, contact your <a href="#">local office</a> .		
<b>KEY: C1, C2, C3, C4 = CCS breach category A = Assessed (no evidence of non-compliance)</b>		
<b>Activities and Permit Conditions Assessed</b>	<b>CCS Category</b>	<b>Condition(s) breached</b>
1 - Combined sewer overflow		
1.1a. EPR General management conditions (c2)	A	
2.3f. Emergency power (b5)	A	
3.1b. No visible/environmental impact (e3)	A	
3.3d. EDM Monitoring (g1)	A	
<b>Descriptive Works Fail</b>	N/A	<b>Number of breaches recorded</b> 0
If the total no of breaches is greater than zero, then please see Section 3 for details of our proposed enforcement response		

# What are we planning to do?

## EA Plans for 2026

**Bathing Water compliance sampling starts from 15<sup>th</sup> May until 30<sup>th</sup> Sept.**

### **Further investigations**

- 5 Continuous Water Quality Monitors (Sondes):

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Scalby Beck, Cow Wath Beck and Peasholm Beck

Potential other water quality investigative work in both Peasholm and Scalby Becks

### **Regulatory and Advisory Visits**

- Agricultural holding inspections in Scalby Beck catchment
- Private discharge inspections (hotels/caravan sites etc)
- Yorkshire Water Permit inspections

**Continued response to pollution incidents.**

**Continued partnership working –**

Yorkshire Marine Nature Partnership, Yorkshire Urban Gulls Partnership.



# What else is proposed?

## AMP8 - WINEP

- 4 assets in Scarborough included in the AMP8 WINEP

TOLL HOUSE/SPS
CORNER CAFE/NO 2 CSO
WHITBY ROAD BDG/CSO
SCALBY MILLS/CSO

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- All to be delivered by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2030
- All are as part of the storm overflow reduction programme. This requires assets with a discharge within 1km of a designated bathing water area to reduce spills down to 2 spills/bathing water season.
- 3 assets – reduce to 2 spills
- 1 asset to 10 spills annually....

# Questions?

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# Yorkshire Water Update

March 2026

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Agenda Item 9



# Agenda

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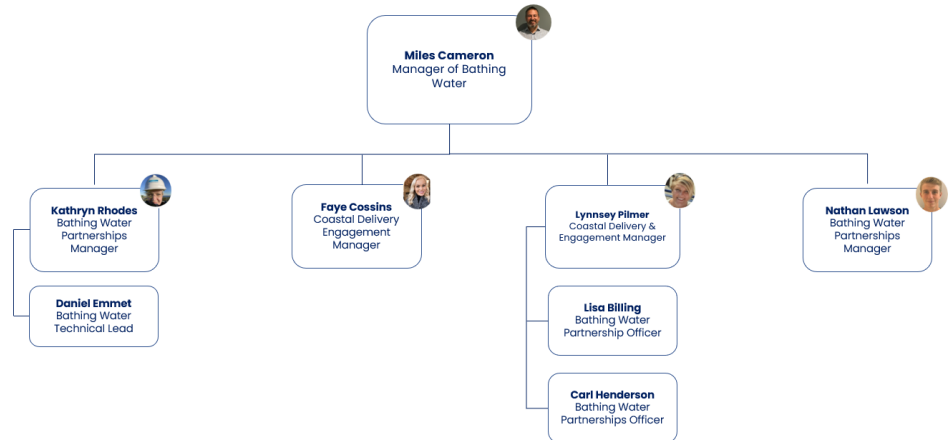
- **Meet the Bathing Water Team**
- **2026 Season Readiness & Asset Focus**
- **2025 Performance**
- **Education and Engagement**
- **Scarborough Investment in AMP 8**
- **Other Inputs – Management & Monitoring**
- **Innovation**
- **Bathing Water Partnership Governance**
- **Questions**

# Meet the Bathing Water Team



- From the start of 2025 YW has expanded our Strategic Partnerships function creating a new Bathing Water focussed team
- Key responsibilities include:
  - Support upcoming capital schemes relating to our bathing waters on the East Coast and at our inland locations
  - Providing effective engagement with a wide range of stakeholders and communities
  - Proactive support to projects with partner organisations
  - Shape and support governance of the Bathing Water Partnership as key member
  - Strategic and operational specialist support for BW related matters

## Bathing Water



# 2026 Season Readiness & Asset Focus

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- **Wheatcroft Upgrade:** £2.4m scheme completed to boost storage and reduce discharges; area restored with wildflowers and local volunteering.
- **Whitby Road Bridge:** £3m scheme nearing completion to reduce discharges into Jacksons Bay now fully commissioned.
- **Pre-Season Preparation:** Proactive inspections and deep cleaning of pumping stations ahead of 2026 bathing season to ensure full operational capacity. Collaboration with NYC/EA on misconnection investigations/risks
- **Ongoing Monitoring:** Weekly operational hubs tracked asset performance, including UV disinfection, with rapid response to any issues.



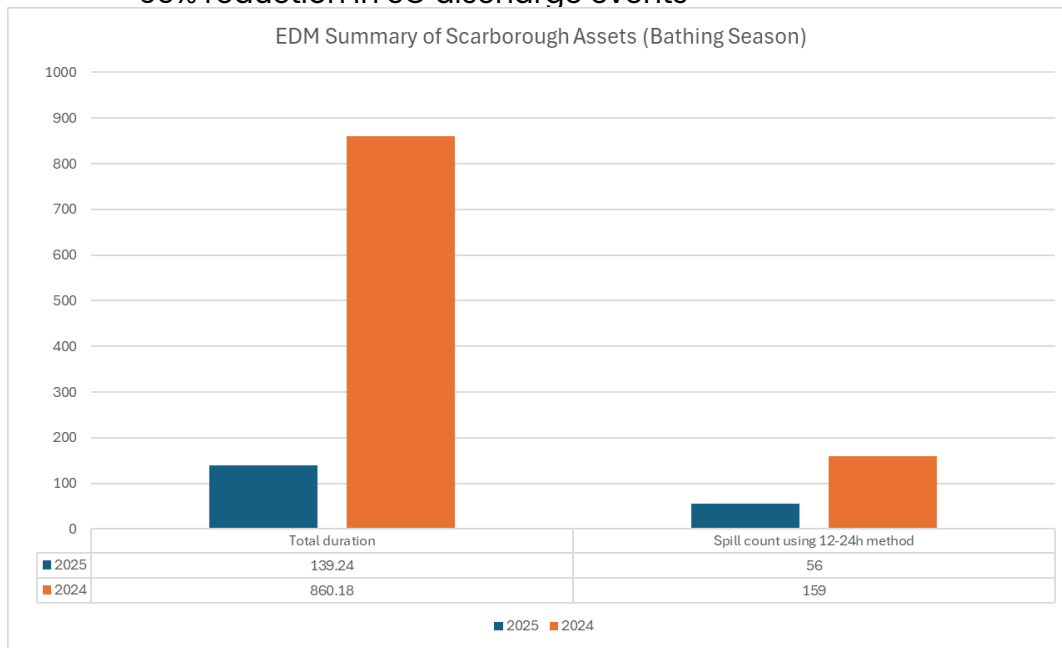
# 2025 Performance

Strong performance for YWS infrastructure to ensure our assets contribute to good bathing water quality

Our dedicated team provide even greater focus and scrutiny

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- Scarborough STW Final Effluent Compliance – 100% effluent compliance
- Ultra-Violet (UV) disinfection system optimised to create a 42% improvement in treatment efficacy over previous 2024 season
- 2025 Bathing Season Spills performance and comparison with 2024 contributed to by the investment at Wheatcroft and Whitby Rd Bridge.
  - 83% reduction in SO discharge duration
  - 65% reduction in SO discharge events



# Education and Engagement

**A really positive 2025/26 educational season**

**Apr 2025 – Present 3759 primary students, 32 secondary students and 204 adults, across 21 coastal schools.**

**46 visits – 100 lessons delivered.**

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- Focussed coastal schools' education programme, with lessons delivered on:
  - Water Safety
  - LEGO coding
  - SUDs planters ahead of capital investment.
- Engagement with Scarborough Open Air Theatre to discuss event coordination and crowd control.
- Key stakeholder meetings including Surfers Against Sewage and Sons of Neptune to proactively maintain relationships and transparency of information.
- On-going engagement with Scarborough Tourism Board regarding and committed to providing regular updates with recent attendance also at Yorkshire Coast Expo meeting.
- We are proactively looking for other opportunities in Scarborough including how we can be involved in Scarborough community events in 2026.



# Scarborough Investment AMP 8 Plans



- The Scarborough investment programme will benefit Yorkshire by reducing spills from Scarborough's 5 no. CSO's to no more than 10 per year and no more than 2 per bathing season helping to improve/protect the bathing water
- The 5 no. CSO's and 2 no. STW projects are being considered as programmes rather than individual solutions due to complex interdependencies
- The programme is a major AMP8 programme impacting a major urban area with a value of ~£150 million
- The programme requires significant communication and collaboration internally within YW and with external stakeholders, communities and our customers.
- We're developing a timetable for engagement and consultation, which will start later this year.
- There is no one-size-fits-all solution and the final design will require a mix of blended interventions, similar to our Living With Water Partnership, focussed on delivering world class urban drainage and public realm / community enhancements.
- With place, legacy, education, skills, and economy at the heart of this investment.

# Other inputs, Management & Monitoring



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- **Aerial Mapping:** £400k survey of coastal catchments to identify risks using imaging overlaid with network and drainage data (including highway drainage and run-off risks).
- **Water Butt Initiative:** BW team supporting the deployment of 2,500 units in Scarborough in 2026 to support communities and capital investment areas.
- **Partnership Work:** Collaborating with NYC and EA to implement outcomes from the 2024 EA investigation including investigations around Scalby Beck and Peasholm.

**BUTTINABOX**  
Less than 5 minutes to assemble. Customised colour options and own logo on lid, MOQ 5,000

Normal  
Smart sewer  
4 Minutes  
Capacity 200L  
Save water save money

SUDS release time 8 hours through 2mm outlet, protected by drain guard

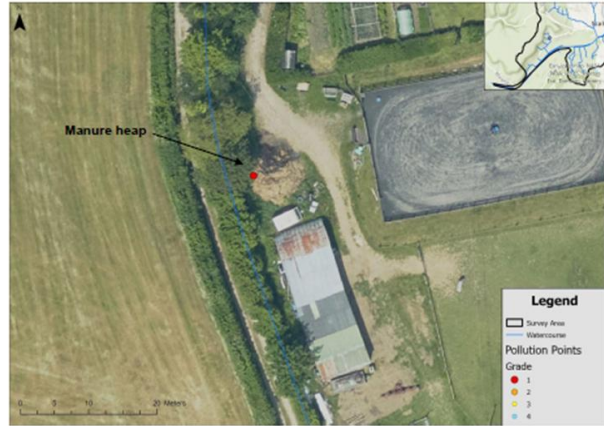


Figure 12. Site SB 93 - A Grade 1 site identified within the catchment

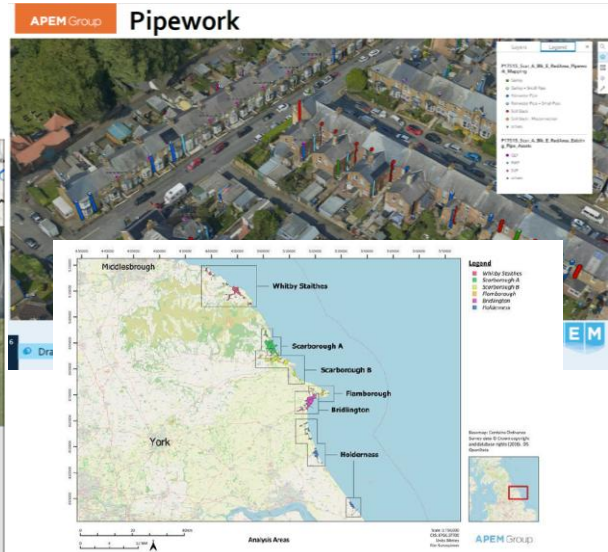


Figure 1. The six urban areas surveyed and analysed.

# Innovation



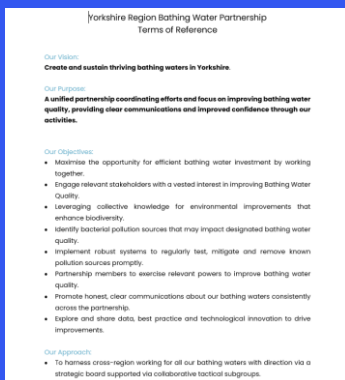
- Collaborative R&D Project: Partnering with SeaGrown and the Crown Estate to trial Ocean Health Units (OHU's) aka 'Kelpedo's' that grow seaweed and support mussel habitats. Strategically placing OHU's to enhance marine health and potentially further improve bathing water quality.
- A small-scale 'Blue Solution' pilot has commenced with the first few units deployed in Cayton Bay and to deploy in North Bay by start of bathing season.
- Data will be shared on the effectiveness of this trial
- Innovation in Monitoring: Trialing new technologies with the Innovation team to support bathing water improvements. Using AI and modern monitoring equipment a trial will assess how we can provide near or 'real-time' water quality data for water users.
- We have just recently installed 20 units in and around bathing water locations in the Yorkshire region
- One monitor is in Scalby Beck and will be used to gather data on WQ



# Bathing Water Partnership Governance

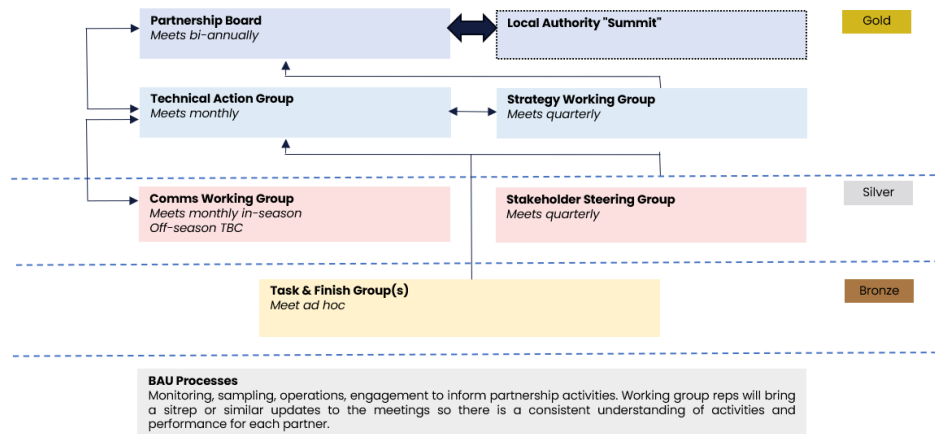


52 Working in Partnership to manage complex challenges



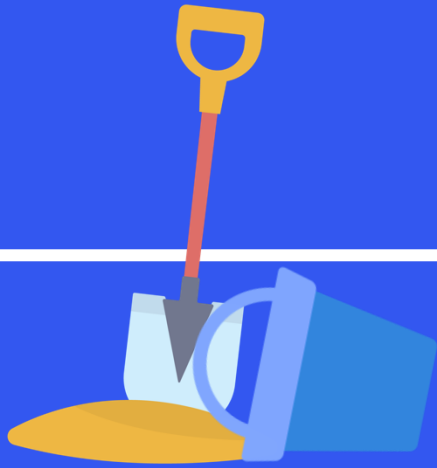
- Re-invigorated our Bathing Water Partnership in 2025 with broader reach and inclusion for wider engagement with stakeholders.
- Imminent appointment of new independent Chair for BW Partnership Board.
- Technical Action Group with reps from NYC/EA/ERYC/YW meeting monthly alongside Task & Finish groups specific to beach locations requiring multi-agency action and focus (TaF in place for Scarborough).
- Creation of a Stakeholder Group in 2026 to allow 'all voices' to be heard with an independent chair.

## Yorkshire Region Bathing Water Partnership - Strategic Partnership Governance Overview



# Questions

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YorkshireWater

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