

Incident Summary

Lawton Service Reservoir
Microbiological failure
15 June 2018

DWQR Inspector:
William Byers

Event No. 9387

Event Category: Significant

A sample taken from the outlet of Lawton service reservoir failed for 8 coliforms on 15th June. A resample on 16th June failed with 3 coliforms and a further sample on 18th June also failed with 610 coliforms. Due to the repeat nature and levels of the failures, the tank was bypassed on 19th June and drained for inspection on 22nd June. There was one failure of samples taken at consumers taps in the area over the period of reservoir failures. The reservoir remains bypassed whilst repair works are carried out and subsequent sampling and routine monitoring carried out has shown water quality to be satisfactory.

Investigation of the condition of the service reservoir has identified a number of issues with the structural integrity which permit routes of ingress of surface water into the storage space from which contamination can occur. I am satisfied from the reports provided and my visit, that these defects are the likely cause of the sample failures.

The event has been categorised as Significant. Scottish Water has identified three actions which DWQR accepts are appropriate and will monitor to ensure they are completed prior to signing off the incident. DWQR made no additional recommendations.