

# Incident Summary

## Arnisdale WTW *Cryptosporidium* Detections November 2022-February 2023

DWQR Inspector:  
Moira Malcolm

Event No. 13099

### Event Category: Significant

Over a ten week period from November 2022 to February 2023 a total of 13 final water samples from Arnisdale water treatment works (WTW) contained *Cryptosporidium* oocysts.

Following the first detection Scottish Water began a systematic process to identify the source of the detection and eliminate potential risk. This started by changing the cartridge filters, air scouring of the limestone contact tank and scouring and refilling the clear water tank. Despite this and further interventions, positive *Cryptosporidium* detections continued. A catchment survey was delayed until the end of January 2023 due to heavy snow. When this abated, significant evidence of overwintering deer resident in the catchment was noted, plus a deer carcass was found upstream of the intake.

The incident was caused by extreme loading of *Cryptosporidium* from the catchment that the WTW was incapable of removing.

The event has been categorised as significant. Scottish Water has identified ten actions which DWQR accepts are appropriate and will monitor to ensure they are completed prior to signing off the incident. DWQR made two additional recommendations.