



Drinking Water Quality Regulator  
for Scotland

# Incident Assessment

## Tullich WTW Repeated *Cryptosporidium* Detections January - April 2016

DWQR Inspector:  
Moira Malcolm

Event Nos. 7492

### Summary of Incident

Between 12<sup>th</sup> January and 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016, thirty low level *Cryptosporidium* oocyst detections occurred in the final water leaving Tullich WTW. All detections were reported to the local authority and health board, and it was not felt necessary to implement any restrictions on use of the supply.

### DWQR Assessment of Cause of Incident

The catchment around the lochs that serve Tullich WTW contain several potential sources of *Cryptosporidium* including livestock and wild deer. This combined with the relatively steep slopes and numerous watercourses is likely to be responsible for *Cryptosporidium* in the source water. The treatment processes are inadequate to address the risks from *Cryptosporidium* from the source water and a formal Undertaking is in place between Scottish Ministers and Scottish Water to address the *Cryptosporidium* risk to the Tullich water supply zone.

### DWQR Assessment of Actions Taken by Scottish Water

Through the Undertaking, Scottish Water have identified a new treatment solution to minimise the risk of *Cryptosporidium*, with a new treatment works scheduled for completion by September 2017.

In the interim Scottish Water have committed to a number of interventions to minimise the risk of viable *Cryptosporidium* leaving Tullich WTW. These are detailed in the table below.

The event has been categorised as Significant. Scottish Water provides progress reports to DWQR every six months as a duty of the Undertaking. DWQR considers the actions given in the Undertaking and the interim actions to be appropriate and will verify completion as well as monitoring progress to deliver a lasting solution at Tullich.

