

GOSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – MANAGEMENT OF HEALTH & SAFETY

LEGIONELLA RISK ASSESSMENT FOR PAVILION & PUBLIC TOILETS

Legionnaires' disease is a potentially fatal form of pneumonia caused by the inhalation of small droplets of contaminated water containing Legionella. All man-made hot & cold-water systems are likely to provide an environment where Legionella can grow. Where conditions are favourable (i.e. suitable growth temperature range; water droplets can be dispersed; water stored and/or recirculated; some 'food' for the organism to grow such as rust, sludge, scale etc.) then the bacteria may multiply thus increasing the risk of exposure. It is a simple fact that the organism will colonise both large & small water systems so there is a requirement for effective risk management.

The risks from hot & cold-water systems in most residential or 'small scale' settings are generally considered to be low owing to the regular water usage and turnover. However, where there isn't regular flushing & turnover of water, where cisterns are not regularly used & re-filled & where any water may be stored for longer periods, the risk increases. In the Covid-19 pandemic, the turnover of water & flushing through of water systems may have been further interrupted and become less frequent. The risk in these cases may be higher.

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed?	Controls Required	Additional Controls	Action by who?	Action by when?	Done
Personal Injury	Parish Councillors Volunteers Members of the public Employees of the Parish Council	Regular Flushing - Regular flushing of all water facilities (sinks, toilets, showers etc.) shall take place & recorded. RECOMMENDED - WEEKLY - If hot water is being stored – regular temperature checks should be made on the hot water flow to ensure that the temperature is at 60 °C or higher. Maintenance - When any maintenance that is carried out on the water system, care must be taken to avoid debris getting into the system. - Any redundant pipework should be removed	Regular flushing is particularly important should there be little or no use of the water facilities for a prolonged period A simple 'Flushing' record should be maintained. There is no 'requirement' for microbiological testing, but tests for Legionella bacteria can be made. If a test is carried out, the results ought to be recorded.			

Re-adopted

11th May 2026

Minute reference 26/091 Item OO

SignedChairman

Review Date: May 2027