

Your ref: JGT/DMT File No: 2873/2013
Our ref: DH/Croyde Beach/2014
Please ask for: Diana Hill
Tel: 01271 388283
Email: Diana.hill@northdevon.gov.uk
Date: 13th November 2014



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Mr J G Tomalin
HM Deputy Coroner
Room 226
County Hall
Topsham Road
EXETER
EX2 4QD

Dear Mr Tomalin,

Rebecca Jodie CURTIS-SMALL Deceased – DOD 31.12.2013
Inquest: 9th October 2014 at County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter.
Regulation 28 Report

I refer to your letter of 4 November 2014.

I can confirm that the District Council has no ownership interest at Croyde Beach other than the public toilets located at Moor Lane.

Signs are provided by the landowner and although the RNLI's standard format is used extensively across the country by many private landowners and councils including North Devon Council on its own beaches, it is not a legal requirement, simply in our view best practice.

The District Council has some limited responsibility for signing at designated bathing beaches in accordance with the EU Bathing Water Regulations but this is very prescriptive, focusing on water quality and not safety. Even in this case, the Council as Local Authority has no enforcement powers against private landowners who are not in agreement to allow the bathing water quality sign to be erected, only the Secretary of State has such power.

We are therefore unable to take any action in respect of Croyde Beach, but in light of the issues you have raised we will be undertaking an audit of signs at the beaches which are under our control and ownership and we also intend to bring this issue to the attention of our partner organisations.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diana Hill".

Diana Hill
Head of Property & Technical Services



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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