

Overview and Scrutiny
Committee
Open Water safety Update
September 2019



Open Water Safety Governance



Durham City Safety Group

KEEPING
Durham City
Safe

Durham County Council
Durham Constabulary
Altogether Better Policing
Durham University
DURHAM STUDENTS' UNION
Enabling Students
DURHAM CATHEDRAL
THE FRIEND OF SCOUTS
ROSPA
The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

County Durham Open Water Safety Group

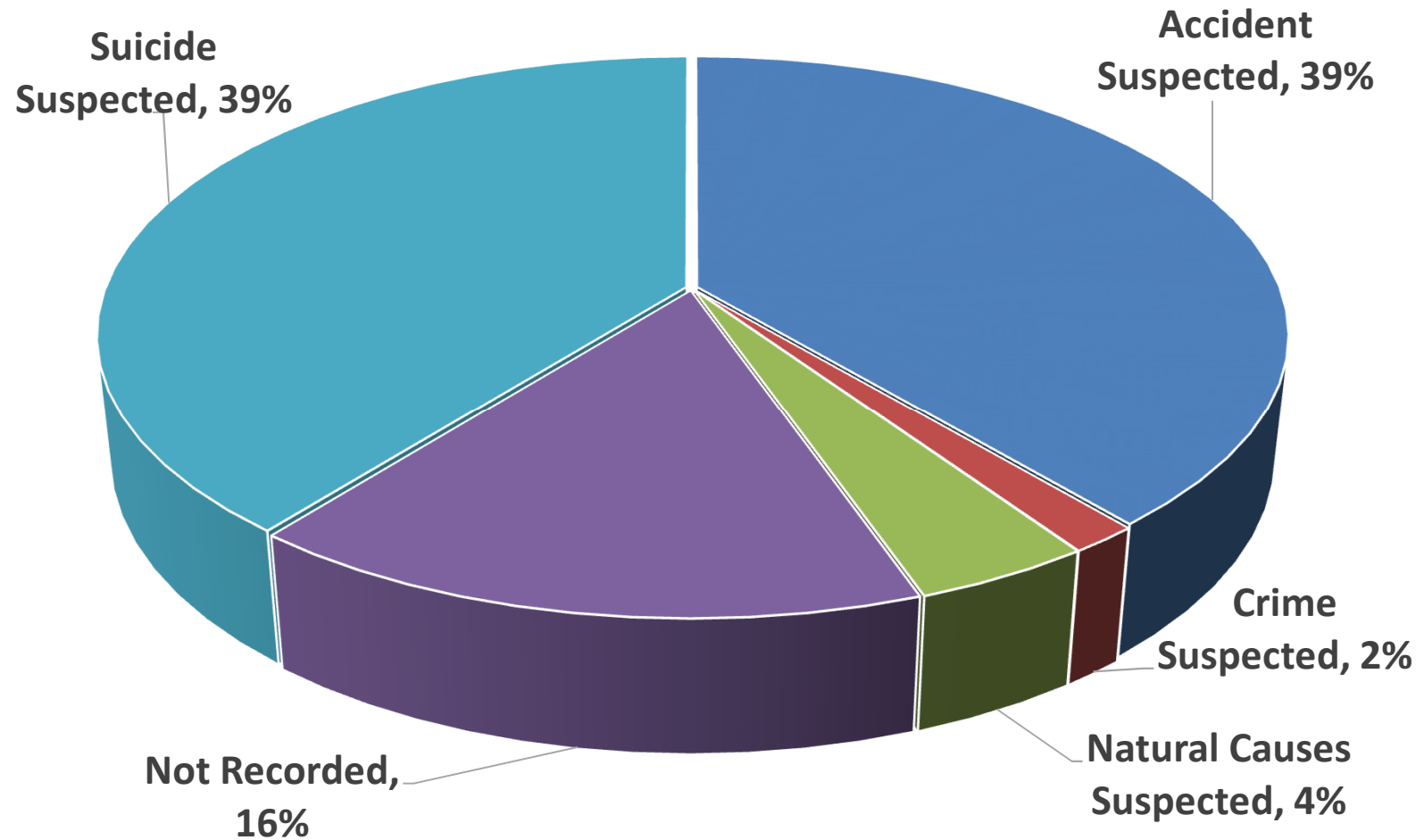
County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Service
Durham County Council
Durham Constabulary
NORTHUMBRIAN WATER
ROSPA
The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

The national picture

- Figures indicate that a total of **585 people lost their lives in 2018**, compared to 592 in 2017.
- **Inland drowning (e.g. lakes, reservoirs, rivers etc) is up** both against the three-year average (154 people) and against those people losing their lives to coastal drowning (73 people).
- **Drowning is a male dominated issue**, with a ratio of seven males to one female losing their lives to drowning, however, analysis against three-year data shows an **increase in females losing their lives in 2018** (33 people).
- **Drownings of individuals with alcohol or drugs in their system are down** from 100 people in 2017 to 92 people in 2018.
- The most startling fact is that the largest 'grouping' of people losing their lives in 2018 was once again, those **people who had no intention of going into the water and were walking or running close to water** (93 people).

The national picture

Fatality causation 2018



County Durham

Year	Durham City Centre			County Durham (Exc. Durham City centre)		
	Near miss	Injury	Fatality	Near miss	Injury	Fatality
2013/14	13	1	1	3	1	2
2014/15	5	1	4	5	2	3
2015/16	3	1	0	8	5	2
2016/17	2	1	0	1	2	1
2017/18	2	3	0	3	5	0
2018/19	4	6	1	1	1	2

Pro-active initiatives in 2018/19



Don't Drink & Drown



**National
RLSS/RoSPA
campaign support**



**Best bar none- licensed
premise engagement**



**Cold Water shock
awareness**

Durham City

- Continued emphasis on partnership working and collective responsibility
- RoSPA commissioned to undertake further independent reviews of new city developments pre and post completion
- Work with developers and site managers
- Considering other relevant aspects that impact on city centre safety
- New works undertaken to further enhance safety in city river corridor
- Investigations of incidents and near misses to ensure controls remain effective
- Regular monitoring and inspection of city centre river routes and control measures

ROSPA
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Prevention of Accidents

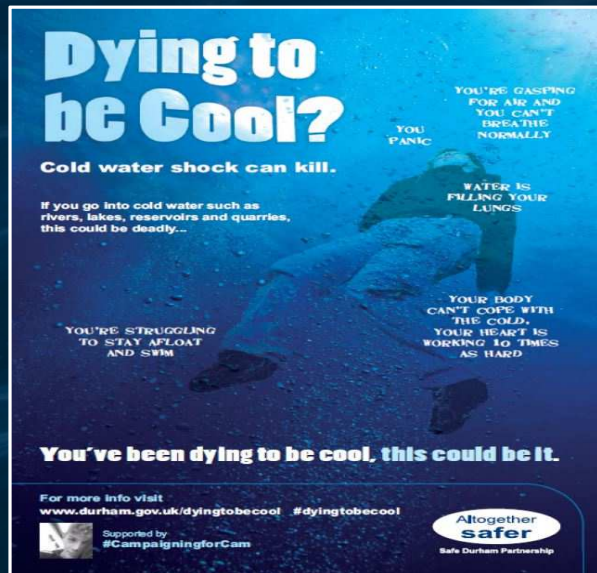


County Wide

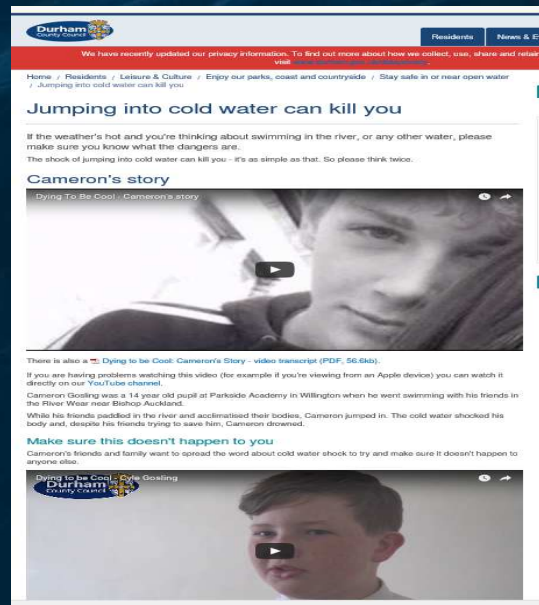
- ✓ Cold Water Shock 'Dying to be cool' Campaign delivery
- ✓ Cinema advertising
- ✓ Bus stop advertising
- ✓ Extensive social media at risk periods
- ✓ County Durham News
- ✓ Plan for education and awareness in 2020
- ✓ Re-assessment of priority locations
- ✓ Investigations and assessment of public safety concerns raised
- ✓ Monitoring of high footfall locations in peak periods
- ✓ Work with landowners to ensure public safety standards and common approach



2019 'Dying to be Cool' campaign



- Relunched May 2019
- Pre-summer heat and post exam celebrations.
- Fiona Gosling fronted the campaign.
- ITV filming of assembly
- Extensive media coverage – BBC / Tyne Tees news, local press, radio
- In excess of 30 primary and secondary schools participated
- 2500+ pupils received assembly
- New comms techniques utilised



Looking Forward

- Strengthening of partnership approach
- Continued leadership, governance and risk based approach
- Education, awareness and new initiatives, using existing campaign materials
- Evaluation of work so far and effectiveness
- Ongoing assessment of current risk and assessment where potential new risks and trends emerge
- Investigation of all incidents and near misses, including work with HM Coroner
- Identification of new and emerging trends and causation factors
- Working closely with public health around suicide prevention
- Influencing designers and developers to reduce risk to a tolerable level
- Monitoring and evaluating effectiveness of existing controls
- Regular monitoring and inspection of city centre river routes and control measures