



The Community Hall Jameston SA70 8QG

Legionella policy

Legionnaires' disease is a type of pneumonia, contracted by inhaling Legionella-infected airborne water droplets that could be created at any of the hall's water outlets. Legionella bacteria are commonly found in water and multiply in temperatures from 20°C to 45°C given suitable nutrients. They are dormant below 20°C and do not survive above 60°C.

Our policy is to:

- control, prevent and minimise the risk from legionella
- provide and maintain safe and healthy conditions, equipment and an action plan
- provide such resources, information and supervision as are needed for this purpose.

We do everything reasonably practicable to manage the risk of Legionellosis and have clearly laid-out procedures and written control schemes.

Statutory requirements are covered in the Health and Safety at Work act 1974, which sets out the broad legal requirements for health, safety and welfare of employees and others, including visitors, facility users, contractors, and the public, In other words, all hall users.

Additionally, the HSE's Approved Code of Practice and Guidance Document (ACOP L8) is: *Legionnaires' disease: the control of Legionella bacteria in water systems*.

ACOP L8 is accepted as the main source of guidance on matters relating to Legionella risk management and our policy is designed to meet the relevant ACOP L8 requirements.

The trustees are responsible for defining and implementing the policy on Legionella, and day-to-day actions to prevent and protect from Legionella are the responsibility of the trustees, and any appointed contractors.

In order to protect hall users from legionella, we:

- conduct a risk assessment, and review it at least annually
- prepare and implement an action plan, having identified the measures needed to minimise the risks identified in all the risk assessment(s)
- put in place a monitoring and recording procedure to ensure that the measures we put in place are adequate, effective, and well documented.
- share this policy and all relevant information with all trustees, contractors, subcontractors, and any other interested parties

- review this policy at least annually or as and when legislation or revised best practice requires an update, and whenever there is a change in organisation or key personnel.

Our action plan's main weapon in minimising the risk of Legionella is to control water temperatures at levels where Legionella bacteria remain dormant or are killed off.

- Hot water storage cylinders (calorifiers) should store water at 60°C or higher
- Hot water should be distributed at 50°C or higher, within 1 minute
- Cold water should be stored and distributed below 20°C, within 2 minutes.
- Where there is scald risk, thermostatic mixers are fitted as close as possible to outlets

Continuing safety depends on **routine checks**

- Our nominated person, who is carries out these checks.
- The hall has no cold-water storage facilities: all cold water is supplied on demand from the mains, so there is no need for periodic inspections of cold-water storage.
- The temperature of water from the outlets which are furthest from and closest to each tank or cylinder is checked monthly, and recorded.
- Hot water storage cylinder temperatures are also checked monthly.
- The temperature of hot and cold water at all outlets is checked at least once a year.
- Acceptable levels are:
 - 50°C or higher within 1 minute for hot water
 - below 20°C within 2 minutes for cold water
- In normal use, frequent use of all taps and outlets means they are flushed often enough to meet these standards. However, where outlets are used infrequently or after a period of closure, they are run/flushed for at least 3 minutes, once a week.
- If the water system has been unused for 6 days or more, we pasteurise the hot water system against Legionella. (This can be carried out automatically by the ground-source heating system, but when this is switched off or disabled, we carry out a manual purge of the system before bringing the system back into use.)