



**Scottish
Water**

Trusted to serve Scotland



The Byelaws

Scottish Water

(Milngavie Waterworks) Byelaws 2026

Byelaws for the prevention of pollution
and for the regulation of use of
water gathering grounds

Scottish Water (Milngavie Waterworks) Byelaws 2026 explained

Milngavie Water Treatment Works provides clear, fresh drinking water to a large number of customers in the Greater Glasgow area, utilising source water from the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park via a system of aqueducts first conceived by the Glasgow Corporation in the 19th Century. This water arrives all the way from Loch Katrine where it is stored at the Milngavie reservoir complex comprising of Craigmaddie and Mugdock reservoirs.

These historic reservoirs are a popular recreational area for the local community and beyond, but also part of the water system. As a result it is vital that Scottish Water is vigilant in protecting this precious resource now and into the future.

Byelaws for the protection against pollution have been in place at the Milngavie reservoirs for many years, enacted by Scottish Water and also our statutory predecessor organisations. The 2026 Byelaws refresh these provisions and will help us to care for this vital resource for the next decade.

How do these byelaws affect you?

These Byelaws place some common sense restrictions on certain activities around the reservoirs. The effect of the Byelaws is to suspend those water-based activities i.e. boating and swimming, which would normally be permitted under the Land Reform Act 2003.

Where do these byelaws apply?

A copy of the Byelaws is detailed in this leaflet, together with a map indicating the area where the restrictions apply.

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Scottish Water, in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by Sections 71 and 72(3) of the Water (Scotland) Act 1980 and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following Byelaws:

1. Citation

These Byelaws may be cited as the Scottish Water, Prevention of Water Pollution (Milngavie Waterworks) Byelaws 2026.

2. Contravention of the Byelaws

Any person contravening any of the provisions of these Bye laws shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding Level 5 of the Standard Scale in respect of each offence and in the case of a continuing offence a further fine not exceeding £50 for each day during which the offence continues after conviction thereof.

3. Definitions

In these Byelaws unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and expressions shall have the respective meaning herein assigned to them, that is to say:

"building" means any structure or erection of what kind or nature whatsoever, whether temporary or permanent and every part thereof, including any fixture affixed thereto.

"defined areas" means the areas in which the byelaws shall have effect, identified in accordance with Byelaw 4.

"open aqueduct" means any aqueduct or natural channel with its surface open to the atmosphere by which water is taken by Scottish Water for the purpose of their water undertaking.

"protected water" means any stream, open aqueduct, loch, reservoir or other inland water, whether surface or underground, natural or artificial, situated within the area detailed in Byelaw 4, and includes the channel or bed of any such water which is for the time being dry.

"road" has the meaning given to it by Section 151 (1) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 as amended.

4. Application

These Byelaws shall have effect within the areas of land and protected water lying in East Dunbartonshire bounded by the red line on map marked "MAP REFERRED TO IN THE SCOTTISH WATER, PREVENTION OF WATER POLLUTION (MILNGAVIE WATERWORKS) BYELAWS 2026" annexed and signed relative to these Byelaws, a copy of which is deposited in Scottish Water's Principal Office at The Bridge, Buchanan Gate Business Park, Cumbernauld Road, Stepps G33 6FB.

5. Prohibition of Urination and Defecation

No person shall urinate or defecate within the defined areas except within a building connected to a public sewer.

6. Prohibition of Cleansing in Protected Water

No person shall, in any protected water, wash or cleanse or knowingly permit to be washed or cleansed anything likely to pollute such water.

7. Prohibition of Animals in Protected Water

No person shall permit any animal in his or her immediate charge, to enter any protected water.

8. Prohibition of Swimming, Skating etc

No person shall, except for the saving of human life, enter in or on any protected water.

9. Conduct Within Defined Areas

Unless with the authority of Scottish Water:

No person shall drive any vehicle within the defined areas except for purposes of access to a dwelling house.

No animal shall be allowed within the defined areas, with the exception of a dog which is kept under the control of its owner or another person having immediate charge of it.

Any person within the defined areas shall keep to existing roads, paths or public rights of way.

Within the defined areas no person shall: obstruct or attempt to obstruct the flow of water in any drain or open aqueduct, or open, shut or otherwise interfere with any sluice-gate or other apparatus belonging to Scottish Water.

10. Prohibition of Fishing

No person shall fish the protected water.

11. Prohibition of Boating etc

No boat, vessel or similar apparatus, not being the property of Scottish Water, shall be placed or navigated in the protected water.

12. Members etc of Scottish Water

The foregoing Byelaws shall not apply so as to restrict any member, official or employee of Scottish Water, nor any person or the employee of such person employed by Scottish Water, while acting within the scope of his or her official duties or employment, in or about any work within the defined areas.

13. Revocation

The Milngavie Waterworks Byelaws made by Scottish Water on the 30th day of September 2015 and confirmed by the Scottish Ministers on the 12th day of November 2015 are hereby revoked.

Alex Plant
Chief Executive Officer
Scottish Water

17 March 2026

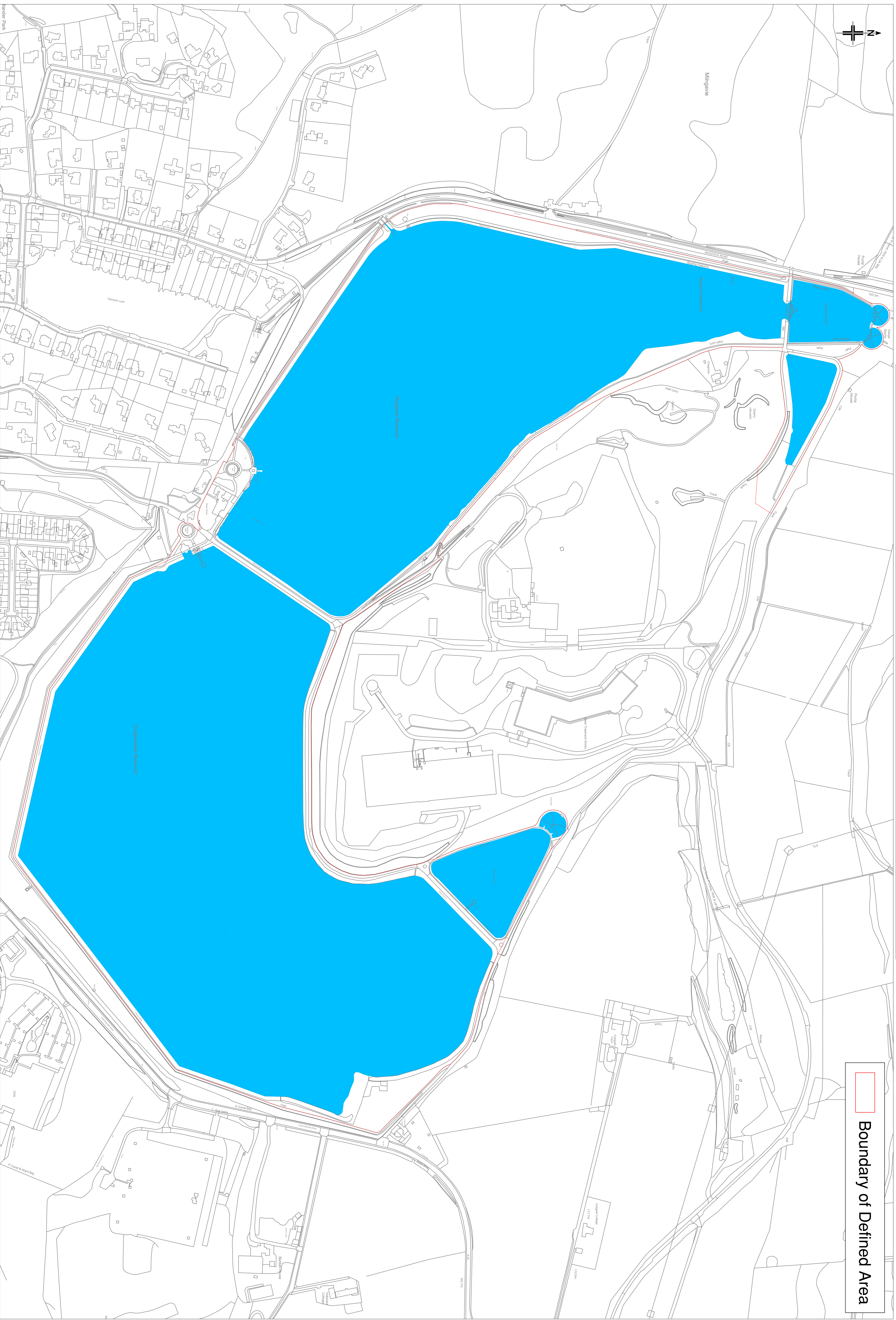


MAP REFERRED TO IN THE SCOTTISH WATER, PREVENTION OF WATER POLLUTION (MILNGAVIE WATERWORKS) BYELAWS 2026

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 Boundary of Defined Area



Scottish Water, The Bridge, 6 Buchanan Gate Business Park, Stepps, Glasgow, G33 6FB



Keeping up to date and getting in touch

We are always working so the cycle never stops – find out more about Scottish Water, our services and keep up to date with what we are doing in your area:

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customer.services@scottishwater.co.uk

Call



Customer Helpline free 24/7
0800 0778778

Text (SMS)



To receive free texts (SMS)* to keep up to date about our work or service updates, such as having no water supply, in your area – please text **'Update' with your postcode** to **82228**.

Alternative formats of this leaflet can be made available free of charge. For information on Braille, large print, audio and a variety of languages, please call our Customer Helpline.

If you have a disability, medical condition or other reason where you may need additional assistance from Scottish Water then please contact us and we can add your name, address and requirements to our confidential Additional Support Register.

We record all calls for quality and training purposes.

* For more info and T&Cs visit www.scottishwater.co.uk/textterms