

# NORTHERN TERRITORY WATER SAFETY STRATEGY 2017-21

NTwater safety  
Advisory Council

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# NORTHERN TERRITORY WATER SAFETY STRATEGY 2017-2021

## Development of the Strategy

The Northern Territory Water Safety Strategy 2017-2021 builds upon previous Water Safety Plans and Strategies. The strategy aligns to the Australian Water Safety Strategy 2016-2020 and is developed and reviewed by the NT Water Safety Advisory Council (NTWSAC).

The NTWSAC was established in 2002 as part of the Northern Territory Government's 5 point Water Safety Plan. One of the major requirements of the Council was to 'develop and implement a Northern Territory Water Safety Plan that focuses on water safety education, research and data collection and standards.

This strategy is designed to build on work that has already been done, while continuing to minimise the rate of drowning, near drowning and water related injuries in the Northern Territory.

## The following actions detail the development and review process:

- The NTWSAC reviewed the Australian Water Safety Strategy 2016-2020 and the NT Water Safety Strategy 2012-2016, 6 December 2016
- The NTWSAC developed a draft NT Water Safety Strategy 2017-2021 for review and discussion March – June 2017
- The Minister endorsed the NT Water Safety Strategy 2017-2021, July 2017

## Communication Strategy

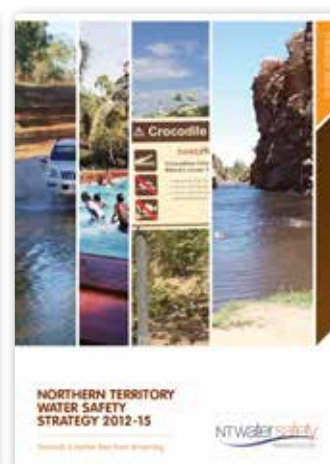
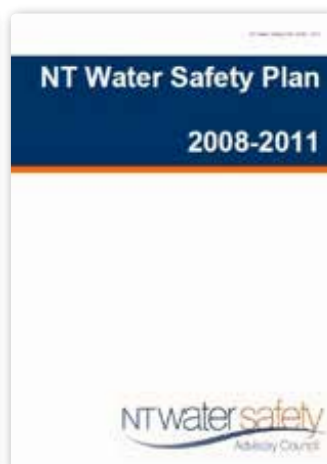
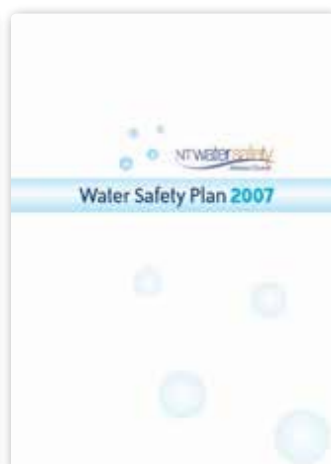
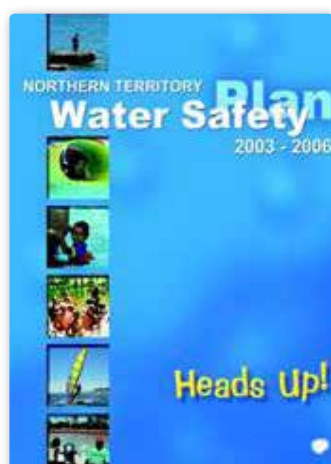
Members of the NTWSAC (NTWSAC) meet quarterly and report six monthly to review the current action plan that underpins the strategy. The minutes of the meetings and bi-annual reports are sent to the Minister for consideration. The Chairperson will meet with the Minister as required or requested to ensure the highest standards of water safety are implemented in the Northern Territory.

The Chairperson is the designated spokesperson of the NTWSAC for media and community forums and will reinforce approved NTWSAC messages.

The strategy and action plan are reviewed as an ongoing continuous improvement model and updated versions are created as required and approved by the NTWSAC during the four year cycle.

## Suggested Citation:

NT Water Safety Advisory Council (2017) Northern Territory Water Safety Strategy 2017 – 2021. NT Water Safety Advisory Council, Darwin.



## FOREWORD BY MINISTER

Territorians love getting out on the water to enjoy a range of activities, including fishing, swimming, diving, boating, paddle boarding and more.

Across the Territory we are extremely fortunate to have access to a wide range of beautiful waterways – our stunning beaches, our barramundi-laden rivers and our refreshing swimming holes are an endless source of enjoyment for locals and visitors alike.

But we need to remember that water activities come with risk – and that we all need to take care in and around the water – whether at the beach, out on a river or swimming in a water hole.

Crocodiles are one of the biggest risks in Territory waterways and I encourage all Territorians and visitors to the Territory to Be Crocwise. Never enter a waterway or the ocean unless it is signed safe for swimming. Make sure you take some time to familiarise yourself with the Be Crocwise website – [www.becrocwise.nt.gov.au](http://www.becrocwise.nt.gov.au).

Nothing beats a day out on a boat fishing – but make sure you take care, keep your speed to a safe level and look out for others around you – so your day out doesn't end in tragedy.

It's also vital that Territory kids are proficient swimmers so they can safely enjoy water activities as well. The Territory Government provides \$100 vouchers to help cover the cost of swimming lessons and I encourage all eligible families to take advantage of this scheme and ensure their kids are being taught to swim and be water safe from an early age.

I would like to commend the unwavering contribution the NT Water Safety Advisory Council makes to keeping Territorians safe on the water – there is no doubt that their work saves lives.

On behalf of all of the Northern Territory Government I thank you all for your continued interest in water safety and encourage all Territorians to read this important NT Water Safety Strategy and to stay safe on the water.

**Lauren Moss**

Minister for Tourism and Culture



## CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to present the Northern Territory Water Safety Strategy 2017-2021 prepared by Northern Territory Water Safety Advisory Council.

Since 2002/2003 the drowning rate among children under five in the Northern Territory has declined by nearly 50% (from 11.2 per 100,000 in 2002/2003 to 5.30 in 2015/2016). The increase in public education of parents and carers through the Keep Watch campaign, the Swimming Pool Safety Act's requirement for pool safety barriers and sustained advocacy on drowning protection by the Northern Territory Water Safety Advisory Council member organisations are likely to have contributed to this reduction. Whilst this is a significant improvement one fatal drowning is too many.

The impact of fatal and non-fatal drowning on families and community is a constant concern. Despite our coordinated approach the Northern Territory still has the highest drowning rate per capita and there is a considerable amount of work in water safety awareness to be done.

The challenge for the Council over the next four years will be to:

- reduce the number of children under the age of five years drowning with the aim of zero
- ensure swimming and water safety programs are in schools
- implement strategies to combat drowning amongst all Territorians, with a focus on males
- encourage the importance of safe boating practices
- promote river safety

The underpinning Action Plan clearly reinstates the collaborative approach to water safety within the community which has proven invaluable. I would like to thank our committed stakeholders and partners who continue to share our dedication to improving water safety awareness in the Territory.

I would also like to congratulate my dedicated colleagues, both on the Council and in the Northern Territory Government, for their coordinated effort in developing this document. I envisage that the direction set by the Council and this strategy will flow onto our community and create safer aquatic environments for all Territorians.

**Daphne Read AO**  
Chairperson



## OVERVIEW

### Vision

# A SAFE AND HEALTHY LIFESTYLE IN, ON AND AROUND WATER

### Aspirational Goal

# TOWARDS A NATION FREE FROM DROWNING

### Enablers

- Education and Training
- Advocacy
- Research (data)
- Collaboration and Partnerships
- Policy, Legislation and Standards
- Marketing and Communication
- Funding and Resources

Northern Territory Water Safety Strategy 2017-2021 Strategic Framework

#WATERSAFETYNT KEY PRIORITY AREAS						
Improving community awareness of water safety	Targeting high risk groups, activities and locations, including regional and remote waterways	Focussing on key drowning challenges				
STRATEGIC GOALS						
1. Increase community awareness and participation in water safety skills and events	5. Reduce Drowning Deaths in inland waterways including regional and remote locations	9. Reduce Alcohol and Drug Related Drowning Deaths				
2. Reduce Drowning Deaths in children aged 0-17	6. Identify and target high risk groups and activities to promote safer aquatic behaviours	10. Reduce Drowning Deaths attributed to watercraft and recreational aquatic activities				
3. Reduce Drowning Deaths in young people 18-34	7. Increase and strengthen the capacity for the Aquatic Industry to prevent drowning and promote water safety	11. Reduce Drowning Deaths and aquatic injuries in males				
4. Reduce Drowning Deaths in adults 34-54 & 55+	8. Reduce Beach Drowning Deaths and injuries	12. Develop and align water safety messages to key risks including the seasonal challenges of wet season and dry season				
DROWNING PREVENTION PILLARS						
1. Advocacy	2. Research	3. Collaboration	4. Safe Venues	5. Workforce	6. Policy	7. Education

## STAKEHOLDERS OF THE NT WATER SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Member organisations are appointed to the NTWSAC as a Ministerial appointment and are governed by an approved Terms of Reference.

The Role of the NTWSAC is to:

- provide advice to the Minister for Tourism and Culture on water safety related matters;
- identify gaps in existing provisions of water safety initiatives in relation to the services necessary for the prevention of drowning deaths and non-fatal drowning incidents in the Northern Territory;
- proactively develop and recommend solutions to emerging and ongoing issues; and
- develop and implement a Northern Territory Water Safety Strategy that focuses on the drowning prevention pillars

ORGANISATION	ABBREVIATION
Amateur Fisherman’s Association of the NT	AFANT
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard	AVCG
Department of Education	DOE
Department of Health	DOH
Department of Infrastructure Planning and Logistics	DIPL
Department of Tourism and Culture - Sport and Recreation	DTC - SR
Kidsafe NT	KSNT
Local Government Association of the NT	LGANT
Northern Territory Water Police	NTPFES
Department of Tourism and Culture - Parks and Wildlife Commission	DTC - PWC
Royal Life Saving Society NT Branch	RLSSANT
Somerville Community Service	SCS
Surf Life Saving NT	SLSNT
Department of Tourism and Culture - Tourism NT	DTC - TNT
Local Government Remote appointment	LGANT
Water Safety Unit administered by RLSSANT effective 1/7/2014	WSU

Figure 1: Members of the NT Water Safety Advisory Council

## NON- FATAL DROWNING: ACKNOWLEDGING THE FULL BURDEN OF DROWNING

In 2005, a new definition for drowning was proposed by van Beeck et al. This definition defined drowning as “the process of experiencing respiratory impairment from submersion/immersion in liquid.”<sup>1</sup> Drowning outcomes should be classified as: death, morbidity, and no morbidity. It was also recommended that terminology such as wet, dry, active, passive, silent and secondary drowning should no longer be used.

The prevention of fatal drowning is only one part of the sector’s role. The extent of non-fatal drowning has not been well-documented, but hospitals and other health facilities have publicly reported a significant number of non-fatal drownings among young children.

Our understanding of the non-fatal burden and ratio of fatal to non-fatal burden is being refined. National injury data for 2012-13 shows that there were 544 people hospitalised for a non-fatal drowning<sup>2</sup>, which based on 300 fatal drownings recorded for the same period<sup>3</sup>, equates to a national ratio of 1:1.8 fatal to non-fatal drownings.

Research released by Wallis et al in 2015 examined fatal and non-fatal drowning among children aged 0-19 years in Queensland. This research identified a drowning death to survival ratio of 1:10, with two out of three of those who survived having been admitted to hospital.<sup>4</sup>

The impact of a non-fatal drowning is traumatic to individuals, families, communities and health sectors. Individuals and their families deal with the persisting, and sometimes catastrophic, neurological impairments of non-fatal drowning for the rest of their lives. The AWSS 2016-20 identifies the issue of the prevention of both fatal and non-fatal drowning in relevant goals.

### Samuel Morris: Shining a light on non-fatal drowning

Samuel Morris was a bright and happy cuddly little two-year-old until 9 April 2006 when he had a non-fatal drowning in the family’s backyard pool. Through extraordinary efforts of rescuers and medical staff, Samuel survived this tragic accident, albeit with a severe hypoxic brain injury and a range of severe disabilities.

Samuel’s injuries meant that he required a range of equipment and ongoing therapy. Most of the equipment that Samuel and children like him need is very expensive and the waiting lists to receive the equipment can be up to two years long.

Samuel’s parents, together with Samuel himself, worked with the drowning prevention community to advocate for the importance of child drowning prevention strategies such as active adult supervision.

As time progressed, their true contribution was helping the community to understand the full impact of drowning. Although it has taken time, the AWSC believes an increased focus on those who survive drowning is vital to efforts to prevent drowning in Australia.

Sadly, Samuel lost his battle in 2014, some seven years after his non-fatal drowning. His parents continue their work to advocate for those who experience non-fatal drowning and promote awareness of the issue to the general community through the Samuel Morris Foundation.

# DROWNING IS A REAL ISSUE IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY



**91**  
**DROWNING DEATHS**

2004/05 TO 2014/15

**85%**  
**MALE**

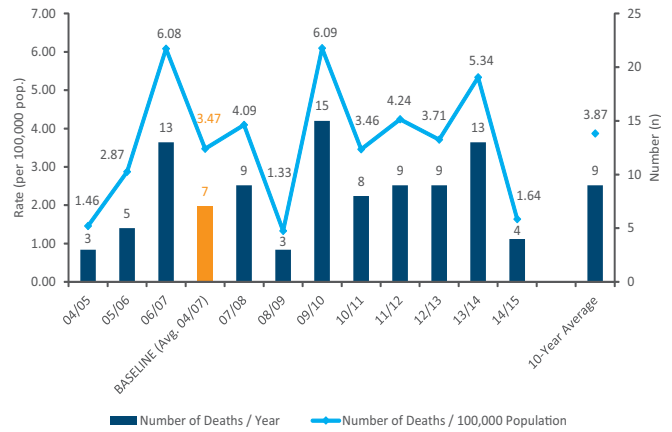
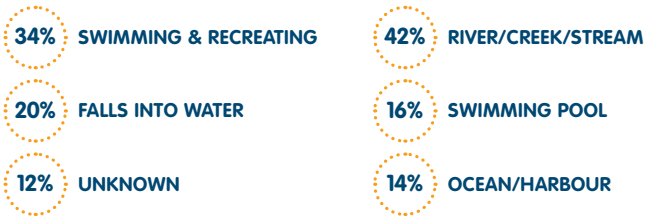


Figure 2: Drowning deaths and rate per 100,000 population, Northern Territory (2004/05 to 2014/15), 10-year average

The Northern Territory drowning report is released annually in September

**14**  
PEOPLE DROWNED IN NORTHERN TERRITORY WATERWAYS IN 2015/16

**NORTHERN TERRITORY Drowning Summary 2016**

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AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

For more information and to download the Royal Life Saving National Drowning Report 2016 visit [www.royallifesaving.com.au](http://www.royallifesaving.com.au)

**NORTHERN TERRITORY DROWNING SUMMARY 2016**

There were 14 people who drowned in Northern Territory waterways between 1 July 2015 and 30 June 2016. This is an increase of 5 deaths (or 56%) on the 10 year average of 9 deaths (Figure NT1). Of the people who drowned in the Northern Territory in 2015/16, 93% were male.

More than a quarter of drowning deaths occurred among people aged 25-34 years (29%). This was followed by the 18-24 years and 35-44 years age groups with 3 deaths each (21% each) (Figure NT2).

The leading locations for drowning in Northern Territory were rivers, creeks and streams (29%) and swimming pools (29%). A further 21% of deaths occurred in lakes, dams and lagoons (Figure NT3).

Swimming and recreating accounted for 22% of deaths, with another 22% of deaths a result of a fall into water. The activity prior to drowning was unknown in 21% of cases, suggesting several people were alone at the time of drowning and the incident was unwitnessed (Figure NT4).

Half of drowning deaths occurred in the wet season and half occurred in the dry season (Figure NT5).

**Figure NT1: Unintentional Drowning Deaths and Crude Death Rates, Northern Territory, 2002/03 to 2015/16, 10 Year Average**

**Figure NT2: Drowning Deaths by Age Group, Northern Territory, 2015/16**

**Figure NT3: Location of Drowning Deaths, Northern Territory, 2015/16**

**Figure NT4: Activity Prior to Drowning, Northern Territory, 2015/16**

**Figure NT5: Drowning Deaths by Season, Northern Territory, 2015/16**

**Northern Territory**  
Phone 08 8981 5036 / Email [nt@rlssa.org.au](mailto:nt@rlssa.org.au)  
For more information visit [www.royallifesaving.com.au](http://www.royallifesaving.com.au)

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## DROWNING PREVENTION PILLARS

Drowning Prevention Pillars are supporting activities which play a key role in the achievements of the goals of the NTWSS 2017 – 2021.

The NTWSAC aligns to the Drowning Prevention Pillars of the Australian Water Safety Strategy

Drowning Prevention Pillars	Description
1. Advocacy	The promotion of drowning prevention issues and strategies to the community, policy makers and government in a bid to increase awareness of the issue and further prevention efforts.
2. Research	Drowning prevention programs, policies and practices must be grounded in evidence-based research that clearly identifies the epidemiology and risk factors associated with a specific drowning prevention issue or area. Monitoring and evaluation is also vital to determine those successful interventions.
3. Collaboration	Collaboration within and outside the drowning prevention sector is vital, including collaboration across state and territory jurisdictions, and even internationally, to ensure best practice is enacted and efficiencies adopted.
4. Safe Venues	Safe venues are vital to achieving meaningful and sustained reductions in the Australian drowning death toll. They have a role to play as venues where people of all ages and skill levels can enjoy the aquatic environment in a supervised and controlled setting such as a public pool. They are also appropriate locations for the provision of basic swimming and water safety skills and knowledge that provide a lifetime of safer aquatic participation. Safe venues may also encapsulate signage and public rescue equipment.
5. Workforce	A skilled and passionate drowning prevention workforce is key to the implementation of a range of drowning prevention strategies. Safe venues also rely on a skilled workforce to ensure safety for all users.
6. Policy	Policy that links to evidence-based research, and is adequately communicated and enforced, can strongly assist in drowning prevention efforts. Examples include swimming pool legislation that has enforced the use of pool fencing which is a known strategy for reducing drowning among young children.
7. Education	Education is vital to increase awareness, skill and knowledge of controlled and open water environments to reduce the risk of drowning. Education mechanisms that are reinforced throughout the strategy include key life stages, parents, school education, vocational training, and public awareness including local, state and federal government sectors.

Figure 3: Drowning Prevention Pillars

## NATIONAL WATER SAFETY EDUCATION COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK

The NTWSAC is committed to water safety competency targets of the AWSS 2016-2020 to ensure all children have a basic level of swimming and water safety skills and knowledge prior to completion of primary school. These skills are vital throughout their lifespan to reduce the risk of drowning.

In the first National Water Safety Plan released in July 1998, the Australian Water Safety Council proposed the concept of 'water safety competency targets' and stated they were to be established at appropriate age and developmental levels. These competencies were further refined in subsequent strategies to the competencies that you see in the table below<sup>32</sup>. The framework allows for the definition of minimum competencies and for achievement to be benchmarked against those competencies to ensure all children have a basic level of swimming and water safety skill and knowledge prior to leaving primary school. These skills are important throughout the life span to reduce the risk of drowning.

School Level	Competency framework	Minimum competencies	% Target Population
<b>(I) Infant And Pre-School</b>	Experience in skill competencies for safe water entries & exits, floating & sculling, breathing, movement & swimming strokes, survival & underwater skills, water safety education & parent education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation in the program</li> </ul>	100%
<b>(II) Primary School</b>	Personal Aquatic Survival section of the National Swimming and Water Safety Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competencies to be achieved by the completion of Primary School education</li> </ul>	• Equivalent to Swim and Survive Level 4 (and Surf Ed where available)	100%
		• Level 5 Swim and Survive (and Surf Ed where available)	75%
		• Level 6 Swim and Survive (and Surf Ed where available)	50%
<b>(III) Secondary School</b>	Life Saving section of the National Water Safety Framework – including exposure to Basic First Aid & Resuscitation Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competencies to be achieved by the completion of Year 10</li> </ul>	• Equivalent to RLSSA Dry Rescue, including Resuscitation (and SLSA Surf Survival where available)	100%
		• RLSSA Bronze Star (and SLSA Surf Survival where available)	75%
		• RLSSA/SLSA Bronze Medallion	50%

Figure 4: National Water Safety Education Framework



**Priority Area 1 – Improving community awareness and water safety skills**

Strategic Goal	Action	Performance Indicator Timelines	Reporting Agency	Partners
1. Increase community awareness and participation in water safety skills and events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All members to participate in Water Safety Week</li> <li>Provide leadership in the effective coordination of water safety education to the community. All members report on engagement and participation statistics for water safety awareness, skills and events within their organisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% members participate in Water Safety week, with a minimum of 10 events and activities conducted</li> <li>100% members participate in Splashfest and hold one additional event during Water Safety Week</li> <li>Engagement and participation statistics collated and reported quarterly</li> </ul>	WSU	All
			WSU	All
			WSU	All
2. Reduce drowning deaths in children aged 0-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand the under 5's Water Safety Awareness Program (WSAP)</li> <li>Investigate funding options to expand the WSAP program to regional and remote areas</li> <li>Conduct a trial for alternate modes of swimming and water safety programs delivery in schools. Provide schools with a number of case studies of successful models of swimming and water safety program delivery including costings. This will provide schools with an evidence base of options to inform decision making regarding swimming and water safety programs</li> <li>Investigate funding options for all NT schools age students have access to swimming and water safety programs</li> <li>Ensure that, where resources exist, swimming and water safety is included as part of a school's water safety education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2000 enrolments with 75% completion rate annually</li> <li>Quarterly WSAP report detailing programs run in regional and remote locations</li> <li>Case study information for NT schools</li> <li>Detail funding options</li> </ul>	RLSSANT	DTC Kidsafe
			DOE	
			RLSSANT	

## Priority Area 1 – Improving community awareness and water safety skills

Strategic Goal	Action	Performance Indicator Timelines	Reporting Agency	Partners
<p>2. Reduce drowning deaths in children aged 0-17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote programs for school aged children that provide access to swimming and water safety education in line with the National Competency Framework</li>   <li>• Increase water safety awareness in schools</li>   <li>• Continue to review and deliver crocodile safety campaigns</li>   <li>• Monitor and review the Learn to Swim Program for toddlers up to 5 years of age not at school</li>   <li>• Monitor and review the Sport Voucher Scheme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming and water safety education to be included as a Report on the number of programs and participants in:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Level 4 Swim and Survive</li> <li>- Level 5 Swim and Survive</li> <li>- Level 6 Swim and Survive</li> <li>- RLSSA Dry Rescue</li> <li>- Resuscitation/ SLSA Surf Survival</li> <li>- RLSSA Bronze Star / SLSA Surf Survival</li> <li>- RLSSA/SLSA Bronze Medallion</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Report on participants in other relevant water safety activities and programs</li>   <li>• Conduct a minimum of 20 school education awareness sessions to promote water safety</li>   <li>• Be Crocwise campaign is reviewed and delivered to primary school children in the Top End</li>   <li>• # Vouchers redeemed</li>   <li>• # Vouchers redeemed</li> <li>• # of registered providers</li> </ul>	<p>WSU</p> <p>DTC-PWC</p> <p>DTC-SR</p> <p>DTC-SR</p>	
<p>3. Reduce drowning deaths in young people aged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18-34</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the underlying factors leading to drowning in this age group and develop community awareness strategies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member reports to detail strategies to educate safe water participation and modification of risk taking behaviour</li> </ul>	<p>All</p>	
<p>4. Reduce drowning deaths in adults aged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 34-54</li> <li>• 55+</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the underlying factors leading to drowning in this age group and develop community awareness strategies</li> <li>• Ensure guidelines for safe aquatic leisure activities for local and tourists</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member reports to detail strategies to educate safe water participation and modification of risk taking behaviour</li> </ul>	<p>All</p>	

**Priority Area 2 – Targeting high risk groups, activities and locations, including regional and remote waterways**

Strategic Goal	Action	Performance Indicator Timelines	Reporting Agency	Partners
5. Reduce drowning deaths in inland waterways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase awareness of river related drowning deaths and prevention strategies with a particular focus on rural and remote area residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Culturally aligned community awareness campaigns are developed for:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inland waterways</li> <li>Boating and alcohol</li> <li>Water as a lifestyle through life stages</li> <li>Local activities</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	All	
6. Identify and target high risk groups and activities to promote safer aquatic behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a strategy to address the issues identified in the RLSSNT research the NT 9 Year Drowning Report</li> <li>Continue to monitor and review the application of the Swimming Pool Safety Act</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategy developed to address risks for:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional and remote</li> <li>River crossings</li> <li>Alcohol</li> <li>Swimming</li> <li>Water craft</li> <li>Supervision</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Report provided to NTWSAC on number of compliant existing and new pools, number of pools inspected</p>	All  DIPL	
7. Increase and strengthen the capacity of the aquatic industry to prevent drowning and promote water safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to monitor and review aquatic signage in Northern Territory Government managed lands and other lands where possible</li> <li>Create new and strengthen current partnerships to deliver programs</li> <li>Review recommendations from national research regarding the role and contribution that safe, effectively managed venues make to drowning prevention and safe, healthy communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member reports to detail strategies to strengthen the aquatic industry</li> <li># Aquatic Facility Safety Assessments conducted</li> <li>#educate</li> </ul>	All	
8. Reduce beach drowning deaths and injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure beach safety is promoted through community education and signage</li> <li>Monitor and review aquatic signage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signage is updated and replaced when necessary including Stinger Safety and other safety signs</li> <li>Stinger Campaign is delivered and evaluated</li> </ul>	SLSNT	DOH PWC

### Priority Area 3 – Focusing on Key Drowning Challenges

Strategic Goal	Action	Performance Indicator Timelines	Reporting Agency	Partners
9. Reduce alcohol and drug related drowning deaths and aquatic injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor progress of national approaches towards reducing drug and alcohol related drowning deaths and injuries and implement in the Northern Territory as appropriate</li> <li>• Monitor and review water related injury hospitalisation data and advise of outcomes to relevant stakeholders</li> <li>• Build relationships with other sectors working in the alcohol and other drug sector and provide input related to water safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update NTWSAC of National approaches towards reducing drug and alcohol related drowning deaths and injuries</li> <li>• Provide yearly water related injury hospitalisation report</li>   <li>• Water safety promoted through alcohol and other drug sectors</li> </ul>	DOH	
10. Reduce drowning deaths attributed to watercraft and recreational aquatic activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to promote Safe Boating Education through lead agencies and community action groups</li> <li>• Advocate for national consistency in policy, legislation and best practice in recreational boating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor and review the Marine Infringement Notice Scheme</li> <li>• Safe Boating Campaign or other educational material delivered and evaluated throughout the NT</li> <li>• Review alcohol restrictions for skippers and provide advice to government on the preferred outcome from a water safety perspective</li> <li>• Water Police to conduct a minimum of 600 safety gear inspections per year on recreational vessels</li> </ul>	DIPL AFANT NTPFES	
11. Reduce drowning deaths and aquatic injuries in males	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop campaign to promote water safety for all males</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member reports to detail programs and program achievements to reduce drowning related incidents in males</li> </ul>	All	
12. Develop and align water safety messages to key risks including the seasonal challenges of wet season and dry season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve public awareness of the leading causes of flood fatalities, such as crossing flooded waterways and unsafe conduct in floodwaters</li> <li>• Develop, implement and evaluate Northern Territory seasonal aquatic water safety campaign</li> <li>• Review annual drowning report to address existing and emerging issues that contribute to drownings in the NT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members to report on the number of public media releases</li> <li>• Pipes and Drains campaign is reviewed and delivered annually.</li> <li>• Water Safety message campaign implemented</li> <li>• Annual review of NT Drowning report &amp; update annual Water Safety Action Plan</li> </ul>	All WSU All WSU	All

## MEMBER QUARTERLY REPORTING TEMPLATE

Name of Organisation:

**Period Reporting:** To be submitted as six month report. Q1 & Q2 1/7 to 31/12 report due 28/2; Q3- Q4: 1/1 to 30/6 report due 28/7

### Priority Area 1 – Improving community awareness and water safety skills

Strategic Goal	Actions Completed	Performance Indicators & Statistics
1. Increase community awareness and participation in water safety skills and events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All members to participate in Water Safety Week</li> </ul>	
2. Reduce drowning deaths in children aged 0-17		
3. Reduce drowning deaths in young people aged <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18-34</li> </ul>		
4. Reduce drowning deaths in adults aged <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>34-54</li> <li>55+</li> </ul>		

### Priority Area 2 – Targeting high risk groups, activities and locations, including regional and remote waterways

Strategic Goal	Actions Completed	Performance Indicators & Statistics
5. Reduce drowning deaths in inland waterways		
6. Identify and target high risk groups and activities to promote safer aquatic behaviour		
7. Increase and strengthen the capacity of the aquatic industry to prevent drowning and promote water safety		
8. Reduce beach drowning deaths and injuries		



**Priority Area 3 – Focusing on Key Drowning Challenges**

Strategic Goal	Actions Completed	Performance Indicators & Statistics
9. Reduce alcohol and drug related drowning deaths and aquatic injuries		
10. Reduce drowning deaths attributed to watercraft and recreational aquatic activities		
11. Reduce drowning deaths and aquatic injuries in males		
12. Develop and align water safety messages to key risks including the seasonal challenges of wet season and dry season		
Detail water safety statistics, issues, achievements, risks or comments not captured in the information above		

## Glossary of Terms and Acronyms

NTWSAC: NT Water Safety Advisory Council

NTWSS: NT Water Safety Strategy

AWSC: Australian Water Safety Council

AWSS: Australian Water Safety Strategy

### Key documents used to develop the strategy

NT Water Safety Strategy 2012-2016

Australian Water Safety Council (2016) Australian Water Safety Strategy Consultation Draft 2016-20. Australian Water Safety Council

WHO Global report on drowning: preventing a leading killer  
<http://bit.ly/2szUHlp>

Northern Territory 9 Year Drowning Report. A Call For Change  
<http://bit.ly/2skhdHg>

Review of Remote Swimming Pools in Northern Territory  
<http://bit.ly/2eL9c80>

Drowning Deaths in Australian Rivers, Creeks and Streams: A 10 year Analysis  
<http://bit.ly/2tjMkUM>

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