# Waterborne Parasite Outbreak Hits Brixham, Devon



**Brixham Faces Waterborne Parasite Outbreak**

A waterborne parasite outbreak in Brixham, Devon, has affected around 16,000 households and businesses. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) confirmed 46 cases of cryptosporidium, a parasite causing symptoms like diarrhoea and vomiting, and anticipates more cases.

Conservative MP for Totnes, Anthony Mangnall, described the situation as "an absolutely disastrous week," voicing residents' anger and stating, "heads are going to roll." South West Water (SWW) issued a boil water notice on Wednesday after initial denials of responsibility.

Dr. Lincoln Sargeant of Torbay's public health department noted the initial contamination is largely resolved, but symptom delays mean cases could rise for up to two weeks.

Business owners reported significant losses and lack of communication from SWW, with guest house manager Steve Price estimating £1,000 in cancellations. Residents like Kayley Lewis criticized the handling of the outbreak, which left her son hospitalized.

Affected residents have been advised to boil water before use. The outbreak has caused widespread concern and economic impacts in the community.