

# Partnership Meeting

Supplement to the agenda for

## Wye Catchment Nutrient Management Board

Wednesday 21 December 2022

2.00 pm



2. UPDATE FROM TAG






Pages



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**TAG update to Nutrient Management Board 21/12/22**


Establishing working groups		
May 2022	After writing the Phosphate Action Plan last Autumn, five topics stood out as needing in depth discussion and focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence</li> <li>• Regulation</li> <li>• Farm advice</li> <li>• Poultry</li> <li>• Projects</li> </ul>	
Ongoing	TAG is establishing working groups for these topics.  Working groups will delve into the detail of their topic, identifying issues, assessing limitations, proposing changes and solutions and bringing those to the Board for consideration and action.	
2023	TAG’s role in 2023 will focus on overseeing the working groups, ensuring they are delivering to the tasks set, ensuring they compliment each other, and taking issues or recommendations to the Board.	
Ongoing	A project schedule has been drafted – but is not yet finalised.  Meeting dates have been set for 2023 and are listed in the ‘calendar and project schedule’.	 Calendar and project schedule.xls
Items/ requests to board	Board to sign off on the setting up of leadership group.	 Structure.pptx
Items/ requests to board	TAG suggests that a more substantive plan review is discussed for May 2023, after the SAGIS / SIMCAT modelling update and after DCWW have committed to upgrades.	
Working group progress reports		
Evidence working group		
Chair: Sam Thomas, EA		
The evidence working group is coordinating modelling and collation of data for use in directing further action. The group should ensure the right questions are being asked. This work will inform and direct the other working groups.		
Priority actions identified in action plan:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Modelling – Further modelling may be required to increase confidence in the measures and mechanisms required, including Source Apportionment Geographic Information Systems (SAGIS) tool recalibration and further Farmscoper scenario modelling.</i></li> <li>• <i>Other point sources – TAG to discuss the potential for prioritised actions on specific point sources, such as industry, septic tanks or CSO’s.</i></li> <li>• <i>Base flows and abstractions – TAG to discuss.</i></li> </ul>	






Scope	 Working group scope - Evidence.do
Update	 TAG Evidence update Dec 22.docx
Items / requests to board	
<b>Regulation working group</b>	
Chair: David Lee, NRW, and Jenny Gamble, EA	
The regulation working group is intended to review the powers and limitations of existing legislation, recommend measures to improve local compliance and raise issues / challenges with the board.	
Priority actions identified in action plan:	<i>Regulation - Fuller application of regulatory powers around agricultural practices in the catchment. Build collaboration between farmers and regulators to raise levels of regulatory compliance.</i>
Scope	 Regulation working group scop
Update	The scope is in development. A face-to-face meeting is being set up.
Items / requests to board	
<b>Farm advice working group</b>	
Chair: Martin Williams, Farm Herefordshire	
The farm advice working group is intended to better link and develop existing strands of work to form something more cohesive. It will explore options around a whole catchment approach to farm advice and sharing of best practice. It will explore whether the right farm advice is being given in the right places, including taking into account recent evidence including the Rephokus research and the outputs of the evidence working group. The group will consider opportunities for landscape scale action and propose projects to the project group.	
Priority actions identified in action plan:	<i>Farm advice – Consider undertaking a review of the successes and shortcomings of farm advice and voluntary action in the catchment. This may need to be commissioned by Defra.</i>
Scope	 V3 Farm advice working group scop
Update	 Tag Farm Advice update Dec 22.docx
Items / requests to board	
<b>Poultry working group</b>	
Chair: Kate Speke-Adams, Wye and Usk Foundation	
The poultry working group is looking to secure reductions from this sector by engaging with chicken producers directly, quantifying reductions, and working with the regulation and farm advice working groups to rectify gaps in regulation, planning, permitting and farm assurance.	

Scope	 Working group scope - Poultry V1 (1)
Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WUF are doing on monitoring interception wetlands P going in and P coming out, to demonstrate their effectiveness.</li> <li>• Ongoing discussions with supermarkets around red-green tractor.</li> <li>• Rephokus are redoing some of their work to improve accuracy.</li> </ul>
Items / requests to board	
<b>Projects &amp; innovation working group</b> Chair: Elizabeth Duberley, Herefordshire Council	
<b>Overarching Aim</b> To bring forward a series of phosphate reduction schemes to improve water quality in the River Wye and meet the housing and wider economic development needs of each LPA within the catchment. The projects group is to be fed projects to develop by the other working groups.	
<b>Key Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To identify and implement mitigation methods to reduce phosphate levels entering the watercourses from both point source and diffuse pollution.</li> <li>• To enable the creation and trading of phosphate credits to mitigate development within the River Lugg Wye catchment area.</li> <li>• To mitigate the significant risk that development is unable to demonstrate nutrient neutrality in the River Wye catchment area which will have huge economic impacts on the county.</li> </ul>	
Scope	 Working group scope - Wetlands V2  NB that this scope will be updated to reflect discussions at TAG.
Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The HC pilot wetland site is near completion and will go live in the new year. We have received our Regulatory Position Statement from the Environment Agency in order to operate. Our internal credit trading process has been independently reviewed and we are finalising our legal documents in order to commence trading.</li> <li>• HC is also proposing to set up a joint advisory service with regulatory bodies and competent authorities for developers who wish to receive feedback on the mitigation they propose, this is work is currently underway and we will update at the next TAG.</li> </ul>
Items / requests to board	





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	<p>recoverable P from around 40 tons of Chicken litter. Since then, the number of sites open to us for wetlands has been greatly reduced, we are therefore keeping under close review whether we will now be able to release any further betterment from future sites given the number of unbuilt homes now stuck in the planning process. We will make a decision on this at go live for each site when final costs and offset figures are known as we need to be fair to developers who carry both the burden of the river failure and the cost of offsetting.</p>
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