

Marine Nitrates Development Taskforce – Meeting 5

26 November 2025

1. Overall Summary

The fourth meeting of the Taskforce focused on ensuring that actions underway are progressing at pace and that any blockages are escalated and resolved, with key updates provided on the anticipated completion of essential guidance and mitigation tools. The meeting also focussed on Local Authority-led mitigation, and discussion of the actions underway in each affected LA.

2. Action log and progress review

There was a systematic update of the action log and progress against the items pursued or outstanding. These are updated below on a per item basis.

3. Nutrient Credit Trading Group

An update on the work underway through the Nutrient Credit Trading Group was provided, noting that the next meeting was scheduled for 27 November and the note of that meeting would be circulated to the Taskforce.

ACTION: Note from the Nutrient Credit Trading Group's second meeting to be circulated to the Taskforce.

4. Local Development Plans

An update on the policy caveat position was provided, noting that a final draft should be ready to be shared shortly. It was clarified that the position was on the basis of all nutrients, not just nitrates, and that it applied with all LPAs in mind with a longer-term application.

5. Nutrient Calculator

The nutrient calculator was imminent after a few days' delay due to changing validation suppliers. There was a workshop scheduled for Friday 28 November and the initial version should be available w/c 1 December.

There was discussion about putting this new tool in to practice, with the nutrient calculator telling how much nitrogen needs to be mitigated but other tools, such as the DTA guidance and the LA-led handbook being used to put that information to

use. The workshop on Monday 1 December with DTA would be used to progress that discussion.

ACTION: *Feedback from the workshop with DTA to the Taskforce, including any agreement on next steps.*

6. Wastewater Treatment Works

The advice provided to Pembrokeshire Coast National Park around discharging out of the catchment was discussed and it was agreed that advice would be circulated.

ACTION: *NRW to provide other LPAs with advice on discharging outside the catchment area.*

7. GIS Layers

There was a discussion around providing information to developers and prospective applicants on catchment areas. LPAs have the GIS information but need to be clear about what can be shared with developers, noting the sensitivities around some infrastructure.

ACTION: *DCWW will consider with the legal team around what can be shared and will update. If it is not possible for commercial licensing reasons to share some of the information, then another solution will be required and should be picked up by this Taskforce.*

8. Updated Impacts

Each Local Authority provided an update on the change from the beginning of the Taskforce, noting that screening out development had removed some applications but that housing was largely unchanged.

Large commercial development was raised as a concern, and it was suggested that all commercial development has been screened out in England – NRW agreed to explore that question, and in principle to meet with Swansea Council specifically on a large commercial development of critical importance.

Pembrokeshire County Council indicated that they intended to begin determining applications again, and agreed to keep the Taskforce and Welsh Government updated on any change in that regard.

ACTION: LPAs to provide written updates on impacts, noting any changes.

ACTION: Swansea Council and NRW to meet on one very urgent large commercial development.

ACTION: Pembrokeshire County Council to update Welsh Government on any change in approach in terms of determining applications.

9. Consolidation of Existing Groups

Due to time, the landscape of existing groups was not discussed but members agreed to consider the paper required ahead of a discussion at the next meeting.

ACTION: Members to consider ways that the existing groups can be streamlined or made more effective, including any gaps when the Taskforce concludes.

Action	Owner	Date
A note from the Nutrient Credit Trading Group's second meeting to be provided to the Taskforce	[information redacted]	9 December
Feedback from the DTA Workshop to the Taskforce, including any agreement on next steps	[information redacted]	9 December
NRW to provide LPAs with the advice on discharging outside the catchment area	[information redacted]	9 December
DCWW to consider with their legal team what can be shared on GIS layers and to update the Taskforce.	[information redacted]	10 December
Local Planning Authorities to update impacts, noting any changes and send to Welsh Government	Local Authorities	8 December
Swansea Council and NRW to discuss meeting on one very urgent large commercial development	[information redacted]	10 December

Pembrokeshire County Council to ensure Welsh Government are updated on any plans to change the current approach on applications.	<i>[information redacted]</i>	Ongoing
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Attendees

Welsh Government

- *[information redacted]*
- *[information redacted]*
- *[information redacted]*
- *[information redacted]*
- *[information redacted]*
- *[information redacted]*
- *[information redacted]*
- *[information redacted]*

PEDW

- *[information redacted]*

Local Authorities

- *[information redacted]* – Swansea
- *[information redacted]* – Carmarthenshire
- *[information redacted]* – Neath Port Talbot
- *[information redacted]* – Carmarthenshire
- *[information redacted]* – Pembrokeshire County Council

Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water

- *[information redacted]*
- *[information redacted]*

Natural Resources Wales

- *[information redacted]*
- *[information redacted]*