

Report Title: Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund Award

Executive Member(s): Lead Member for Economy, Planning and Assets Local Member(s) and Division: All within the affected river catchment areas of the Tone, Parrett, and Brue Lead Officer: Alison Blom-Cooper: Head of Planning / Chief Planning Officer Authors Kate Murdoch: Service Manager Plan Policy & Implementation Paul Browning: Principal Planning Policy Officer Emmeline Brooks: Phosphates Planning Officer

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Summary / Background

- 1. On 17 August 2020, all the planning authorities in Somerset Council (at that time the four District Councils and the County Council), as well as Dorset Council received an advice note from Natural England (NE) concerning the unacceptable levels of phosphates in the Somerset Levels and Moors Ramsar site (SL&M). As a result since then a large proportion of new development (particularly housing development) in the impacted area needs to demonstrate nutrient neutrality.
- 2. The Council has been awarded capital funding of £9.6m via the Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund to increase the supply of phosphate mitigation projects to unlock impacted developments. Funding is in two instalments. £0.5m was received at the end of February 24. The remaining £9.1m is due to be received in the first quarter of financial year 2024/25. This report seeks approval of the Council interim delivery strategy for the utilisation of this funding as set out in Appendix A.
- 3. The first and second parts of this report are for information. The first part updates the Strategic Planning Committee on recent work undertaken across the Authority area, to achieve nutrient neutral development whilst also supporting housing growth. The second part of the report updates Members on recent Government announcements and changes to legislation in relation to nutrient neutrality.

- 4. The third part of this report considers matters relating to the Nutrient Mitigation Fund. The Government's announcement in December 2023 confirmed that the Council has been awarded up to £9.6m for capital projects via the Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund. The conditions of the grant are that it must be replenished to deliver more phosphate mitigation projects in the catchment and continue to help support, where possible, the delivery of development in the affected river catchments (i.e. The Tone, Parrett, and Brue).
- 5. This funding will help pump-prime nutrient neutrality interventions within the river catchment area of the SL&M Ramsar site and ultimately secure the release of homes in Somerset and Dorset (within the environs of Sherborne), which are held up by the phosphates issue. Members are asked to agree the interim delivery strategy, enclosed as Appendix A.

Recommendations

- 4. That the Strategic Planning Committee notes:
 - a. The content of this report and the activity across the three affected river catchments that feed into the Somerset Levels and Moors (Tone, Parrett, and Brue) which continues to unlock the delivery of housing and affected development to ensure nutrient neutrality.
 - b. The recent legislative changes introduced by the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023, (as summarised in paragraphs 37 to 39 of this report).

That the Strategic Planning Committee agrees:

- c. to delegate authority to the Head of Planning / Chief Planning Officer in consultation with the Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee to:
 - i. oversee the delivery of the interim delivery strategy including approving any documents (e.g. Section 106 agreements) needed to support implementation of the interim delivery strategy, enclosed as Appendix A.
 - ii. spend up to £9.6m from the Local Nutrient Mitigation Capital Funding to deliver nutrient mitigation schemes in line with grant conditions and promised outstanding government funding in financial year 2024/25.
 - iii. commit to the spend of the Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund, on the delivery of nutrient mitigation with the indicative programme of spend as detailed in Table 4 of Appendix A; to this report.

Background to Report

- 8. The Council as Local Planning Authority is required under the Conservation of Habitats and Species (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 (as amended) (the Habitats Regulations) to ensure that any adverse impacts arising from development (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) can be mitigated to avoid harm to internationally important nature conservation sites, which are protected by law. For the SL&M Ramsar site, as a designated site, this requirement applies at all stages of both plan-making and decision-taking on planning applications.
- 9. The Strategic Planning Committee considered an update report on the 19 October 2023 (available here). The Committee noted the work being undertaken to unlock the delivery of homes across 3 affected river catchments (i.e. River Tone, Parrett, and Brue) and the unfavourable condition of the River Axe Special Area of Conservation (SAC), which affects the environs of the Blackdown Hills and Chard. The Committee also resolved to agree an expansion to the allocations criteria for the Council run River Tone Phosphate Credit (P-credit) scheme. Furthermore, the Committee also noted the anticipated legislative changes flowing from the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill; and the outcome of the Council's funding bid to the Government's Nutrient Mitigation Fund.

Update on Progress to Date

Across Somerset:

Progress on updating the Phosphate Budget Calculator

10. As set out in the October 2023 report, the Somerset Budget Calculator has been updated. The latest version of the Calculator allows the user to calculate their phosphate loading pre and post 2030, which is in line with the move towards Technical Achievable Limits (TAL) of 0.25mg/at Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW's) which serve a population equivalent of over 2000, in phosphorus sensitive catchment areas by 2030. The web page has been updated, with a new video to accompany the calculator, a document summarising the main changes to the calculator, a letter from Natural England (NE) supporting the use of the calculator and advice on transitional arrangements as to when applicants should use the previous version of the calculator.

Regular Meetings with Key Stakeholders

11. Officers from all of the area planning teams, and Dorset Council continue to have regular monthly meetings with the Environment Agency (EA), NE, and Wessex Water officials.

12. The last agents / developer forum meeting was held on the 7 December 2023. The next meeting is scheduled for the 27 March 2024. Audio recordings of Developer Forum meetings are circulated to all those invited, as well as being uploaded onto the Somerset Council YouTube page, see the <u>Phosphates Webpage</u>.

Legal Challenge to Nutrient Neutrality: Jurston Farm, Wellington

- 13. Details on the background to this case were reported to this committee in July 2023 (See paragraphs 17 to 19 of the Committee Report available <u>here</u>). Following a dismissed planning appeal, on the 30 June 2023, the High Court dismissed a challenge by CG Fry & Son to the operation of the Habitats Regulations. The judgment is available here: <u>High Court Judgment Template</u> (landmarkchambers.co.uk)
- 14. The Appellants have appealed this judgment, and the next stage is a hearing in the Court of Appeal which is scheduled for the 19/20 March 2024.

Third Party Phosphate Credit (P-credit) Schemes

- 15. Where applicants have their own phosphate mitigation solution, planning applications are progressing across all three river catchment areas. In addition, Officers continue to liaise with third party phosphate credit providers to create further P-credit solutions, details of which can be found on the Councils website <u>here</u>.
- 16. The Council is also aware of several strategic residential development sites where developers are working to progress their own phosphate mitigation solutions, to facilitate their development.

River catchment area updates

17. A small part of Area North (former Sedgemoor DC area) is subject to nutrient neutrality advice with parts of the area falling within the Brue, Parrett, and Tone river catchments. Notwithstanding this, given that only a small part of the area is affected, the need for phosphate neutrality is not having such wide-ranging impacts on the delivery of development in Area North, compared with the other planning areas across Somerset Council, and as such a detailed update is not provided in this report.

River Axe

18. As set out in paragraph 9 above, a small geographical area of Somerset falls within this river catchment area, as does a small part of Dorset. For the River Axe, the lead

authority is East Devon District Council (EDDC). Using our collective experience of having made successful bids in Round 1, officers from Somerset and Dorset Council are assisting EDDC in submitting a Round 2 LNMF bid. The deadline for submitting an Expression of Interest is 26 April 2024. Further information is available on the Gov.UK website at Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund Round 2: expression of interest - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

River Brue

- 19. This catchment covers the western half of Somerset East and parts of Somerset South area with 4 out of 5 of the main towns impacted in the Somerset East area.
- 20. At the time of drafting this report, approximately 16 planning applications (over 5 units) are held in abeyance seeking a phosphate solution equating to circa 800 dwellings.
- 21. The Council have signed off two third party P-credit schemes in the Brue catchment.
 - a. Yew Tree Farm, Walton. A scheme involving the closure of a pig farm generating 48 P-credits. Currently, 47.98 P-credits have been allocated releasing 453 dwellings.
 - b. A second phase of the Yew Tree scheme agreed December 2023. (7.46 P credits). Reservations have been made for schemes in East and South areas totalling 3.13 P-Credits for 51 dwellings.
 - c. Manor Farm, Prestleigh (farm closure/fallowing of land agreed May 2023) generating 143 P-credits which is anticipated will unlock approximately 1400 dwellings. 35.3 P credits are reserved or allocated equating to 385 dwellings.
 - d. A second phase may come forward if all these are allocated.
- 22. With regard to 3rd Party P Credits, management plans are agreed with NE and secured via a S106 agreement. However, all P-credit sales/allocations are agreed between promoter and applicant. The LPA has no control on prioritising applicants or credit pricing. Agreed allocations are confirmed by a certificate provided to the LPA.
- 23. A limited number of applications have also been agreed to date with their own mitigation solutions (woodlands, PTP upgrades).

River Parrett

24. The majority of Area South is impacted by nutrient neutrality predominantly in relation to the River Parrett catchment area but with areas south and west of Chard impacted by the River Axe SAC catchment area.

- 25. The number of applications impacted by the issue remains constant as applications that have secured permission with phosphate solutions are replaced by new proposals for development. The headline figure of 4,500 dwellings awaiting a phosphate mitigation solution remains constant, however within this headline figure a number of measures have enabled applications to make progress either to S.106 or decision. As dwellings are released however new proposals are coming forward reflecting the more positive environment in relation to solution availability.
- 26. Area South Committee has resolved to approve 765 dwellings with a variety of nutrient neutrality solutions of which 435 had previously been presented to committee for approval prior to August 2020 and required re-determination.
- 27. In addition, 185 dwellings were approved by the former South Somerset District Council with nutrient neutrality solutions with S.106 awaiting completion.
- 28. Water efficiency and septic tank replacements are increasingly releasing consents from single dwellings to sites of up to 100 units. Additionally Area South are seeing "blended" solutions with applicants seeking to manage the majority of their impact by managed PTP's or multiple septic tank projects with the balance of need met by P-credits.
- 29. Across Area South there has been an increase in the number of providers of land use change credit proposals with a pipeline currently being progressed to S.106 Agreement.
- 30. En Trade has now completed 2 markets with the S.106 to release the 2nd market moving towards sealing. A further market round is proposed for Spring 2024.

River Tone

- 31. This catchment falls largely within the Somerset West area with the towns of Taunton and Wellington and its environs impacted.
- 32. At the time of drafting this report, approximately 111 planning applications are awaiting a phosphate solution. This includes c. 31 applications for major development, c. 3 applications for the discharge of conditions and 3 applications for the approval of reserved matters. Overall, this equates to circa 2600 dwellings.
- 33. As Members are aware, Somerset is one of only a handful of Councils across the country to have its own operational P-credit scheme, known as the 'River Tone P-credit scheme'. Round 3 of this scheme is currently in operation and prior to commencing this latest round, the scheme was reviewed and amended by this Committee in October 2023, as set out in the in the <u>Report to Committee</u>.

- 34. Progress on the scheme is set out below:
 - In Round 1: 9 planning applications are progressing to acquire River Tone P-credits equating to 11 dwellings. 12 planning applications have received planning permission (i.e. signing and completion of a Section 106 (S106) Agreement) with River Tone P-credits unlocking 30 dwellings.
 - In Round 2: there are 6 planning applications progressing to acquire River Tone P-credits equating to 3.6 River Tone P-credits and 28 dwellings. 2 planning applications have received planning permission with Round 2 River Tone P-credits equating to 0.3 P-credits and 5 dwellings.
 - At the time of writing there has been 1 no. application for Round 3 P-credits.
- 35. In addition to the Somerset Council River Tone P-credit scheme, there is 1 no. third party P-credit scheme (known as Flyboat Farm) currently operating in the River Tone catchment area. This scheme generates 60.15 permanent P-credits.
- 36. As noted above, planning applications have also progressed in the River Tone catchment area where the applicant has proposed their own phosphate mitigation solution (e.g. Staplegrove West strategic site).
- 37. Across the River Tone catchment area there has also been an increase in the number of planning applications seeking their own phosphate mitigation solutions through accepted mitigation measures e.g. septic tank to PTP upgrades.

Other Matters: Levelling up and Regeneration Act 2023

- 38. The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 (LURA) amends the Water Industry Act 1991 to apply nutrient pollution standards to sewage disposal works. There is a new duty on water companies to upgrade wastewater treatment works (WWTW's) to Technically Achievable Limits (TAL) in designated areas by 2030. This requirement applies where the WWTW's serves a population equivalent of 2,000 or more. The standards apply in England only and relate to discharges of treated effluent into areas which are nitrogen and phosphorus sensitive area. The SL&M Ramsar was designated a phosphorus sensitive area by central government on the 25 January 2024. Further information on the designation is available on the Gov.UK website at: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/notice-ofdesignation-of-sensitive-catchment-areas-2024/notice-of-designation-ofsensitive-catchment-areas-2024</u>
- 39. These upgrades to WWTW's can be considered to be 'certain' for the purposes of an assessment under the Habitats Regulations. This means that applicants will be able to factor in the 2030 improvements into their Phosphate Budget Calculations for new development thereby reducing the mitigation requirement from 2030

onwards. With regard to an indicative timeline for future actions by central government:

- March 24 onwards: further catchment area designations. WWTW's at this point in catchments designated must be upgraded within 7 years in the future. On line information from central government will be updated accordingly.
- April / May 24: Catchment permitting designations made and set out in online documents.
- April 25: Start of the next water company investment period (i.e. Asset Management Plan (AMP) 8). Delivery of upgrades to commences.
- 40. These upgrades will significantly reduce nutrient loads from WWTW's in designated catchments, while also reducing the average costs of nutrient mitigation for developers. However, until these upgrades are completed in 2030, high levels of mitigation will still need to be found and delivered.

Other Matters: Government Nutrient Mitigation Fund

The Successful Bid

41. On 19 December 2023, Somerset Council was notified that our bid to the Government's Nutrient Mitigation Fund had been successful and that we had been awarded £9.6m capital funding. The Council at the end of February 24 received £0.5m for this financial year. We anticipate the remaining £9.1m will be paid in the first quarter of financial year 24/25. As part of the conditions of the grant funding the Council is required to demonstrate the proposals to spend the grant funding before the end of March 2024. The Committee is therefore requested to agree the Interim Delivery Strategy which sets out this information.

The Council's Interim Delivery Strategy

- 42. The Interim Delivery Strategy outlining how Somerset Council is proposing to use the grant funding awarded across the Somerset Levels and Moors catchment area is enclosed as Appendix A. It is intended to provide a high-level project plan setting out key interventions that the Council has identified to deliver, both temporary and permanent nutrient neutrality solutions, through several projects.
 - Project One: Salinity Solutions.
 - Project Two: Call for sites for Land/Nature Based Solutions.
 - Project Three: Working with Registered Social Housing Providers and our Council Property Stock.
 - Project Four: Opportunities for nature-based solutions on Council-owned land/assets.

- Project Five: Miscanthus Grass.
- Project Six: New technical innovations.

43. Table 1 below presents the key milestones and costs associated with each programme.

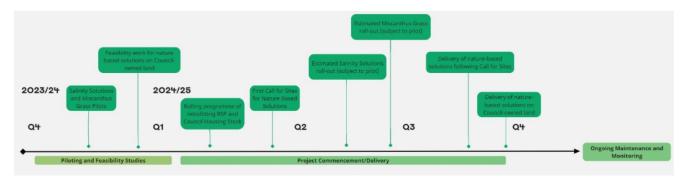


Table 1 Nutrient Mitigation Fund Interim Delivery Programme

Source: Appendix A Nutrient Mitigation Fund: Interim Delivery Strategy: Figure 2

- 44. The interim programme is based on best available information at the time of writing. It is proposed that this document will be updated within the next 6 months once further information on the projects, and notably their costs are known. A letter of support for the interim delivery programme from Dorset Council is enclosed as Appendix B.
- 45. In the interim, Officers will report on progress to the Strategic Planning Committee within the next 6 months. As set out in recommendation C(i to iii), for matters relating to the delivery and spend on projects associated with the Nutrient Mitigation Fund, it is proposed that delegated authority be given to the Head of Planning / Chief Planning Officer in consultation with the Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee.

Conclusion

46. Until such time as the SL&M's Ramsar site returns to a favourable condition, planning decisions will need to ensure affected developments are nutrient neutral. The recent changes to legislation will help to stop pollution at source. The LURA 2023 creates a new duty on water companies to upgrade WWTW's serving a population greater than 2,000 by 1 April 2030 (to TAL 0.25mg/I/P), in catchments of Habitats Sites identified by the Secretary of State as being in an unfavourable condition due to nutrient pollution. These upgrades will significantly reduce nutrient loads from WWTW's within the designated river catchment areas, while also reducing the average costs of nutrient mitigation for developers.

However, until these upgrades are completed in 2030, high levels of mitigation will still need to be found and delivered.

- 47. The council is committed to enabling a delivery programme to create P-credits in all three river catchment areas. A range of projects are being progressed which includes nature-based solutions on council-owned land, and upgrades to existing poorly performing septic tanks. A key feature of the Interim Delivery Strategy is the trialling of new technology (Reverse Batch Osmosis) by Salinity Solutions.
- 48. As set out in paragraph 62 below, the Council's governance and procurement processes have been adhered to.
- 49. Lastly, it is worth noting that Council-led schemes are one potential option that developers can use to achieve nutrient neutrality. All developers still have the option to find bespoke mitigation projects or to purchase P-credits from third party providers. Facilitating the private/third-party market of mitigation solutions helps to increase supply available to developers.

Links to Council Plan

- 50. The Council Plan 2023 to 2027 sets out the Key Priorities of the Council and is available on the Council website at: <u>https://www.somerset.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/somerset-council-council-plan-2023-2027/</u>
- 51. This report has links to various corporate priorities including:
 - a. Greener, More Sustainable Somerset
 - b. A Flourishing and Resilient Somerset
- 52. Following the creation of the new unitary Council, at the time of drafting this report, there is no Directorate and/ or department service plan. Such documents are expected in late spring / early summer 2024, after the appointment of the service managers which directly report to the Head of Planning / Chief Planning Officer. Consultation on these posts went live on the 29 January 2024 and ran to the 13 March 2024.

Financial and Risk Implications

- 53. The acceptance of the Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund grant will have financial implications for the Council. As a commitment, the fund has been added to the capital programme.
- 54. The Interim Delivery Strategy has been recorded on the Council Corporate risk register / risk management software (JCAD) and risks will be regularly monitored,

reviewed, and mitigated. At the time of drafting this report, the need for dedicated staff resource (e.g. programme and project managers) to deliver the Interim Delivery Strategy has been identified on fixed term contracts but not yet appointed. Measures to mitigate against risk(s) will need to be recorded and implemented which take account of DLUHC evaluation arrangements. At the time of drafting this report, these monitoring and evaluation arrangements have not been received from DLUHC.

- 55. This report also seeks approval for delegated authority to oversee and spend in line with grant conditions and expected monitoring arrangements set by central government (see Recommendation C (i to iii)). If not, the grant funding will be returned to central government.
- 56. In line with Council financial procedures, where possible, staff resources and costs to deliver the projects will be capitalised. As set out in Interim Delivery Strategy (Appendix A), revenue funding is supporting the Reverse Batch Osmosis trial. The aim is to fully recover these costs by income generated by the sale of P-credits in a Council-led scheme to developers. However, if the trial does not result in being a cost-effective approach, the wider roll out of this new technology will not proceed.
- 57. The detailed arrangements for selling and trading P-credits from have yet to be finalised. There is already a Council-led scheme covering the River Tone. It is a "not for profit" scheme. The aim is to utilise this experience and work up the detailed arrangements whilst the Salinity Solutions trial is progressing.
- 58. Subject to legal advice on a "not for profit" scheme, the sale of P-credits allows the council to recover the funding to invest the income generated into land use mitigation projects, across the affected river catchment areas, which in turn increases the supply of options. Without the required level of certainty that mitigation projects can be found and funded, the council, as LPA, will not be able to approve planning permissions, nor move forward with the Local Plan Review.

Legal Implications

59. The legal and policy background to the 'phosphates issue' have been set out in the body of previous reports and presentations to Members of the former Councils. A legal update on the LURA is given in this report (see paragraphs 38 to 40 above). The report also draws attention to legal matters associated with Jurston Farm, Wellington (see paragraphs 13 and 14 above). To assist applicants, template Section 106 Agreements have been prepared and are also available to view on the phosphates' webpage. This documentation has been produced in consultation with NE.

HR Implications

60. None related directly to the information parts of this report. With regard to the Council having been awarded revenue funding to set up the capital programme, this will be used to cover some staff resources on an interim basis with the aim that it is fully covered by charges associated with the council-led P-credit scheme.

Other Implications:

- 61. Recommendation C (i to iii) expands the delegated authority given to the Head of Planning / Chief Planning Officer, as set out in the Councils Constitution <u>https://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=137&MId=104&V</u> <u>er=4</u>
- 62. Procurement will be undertaken in line with corporate procedures,. To that end, enclosed as Appendix C is a redacted copy of the summary of the signed waiver for procuring Salinity Solutions to trial their new technology. This process involves background checks. This waiver covers the initial trial, and should the technology prove to be a successful cost-effective method, the roll out of the technology. At the time of writing this report, the Council legal department are working on contractual and indemnity insurance matters.

Equalities Implications

- 63. The Public Sector Equality Duty has the following aims which the authority must have due regard to:
 - a. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation.
 - b. Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
 - c. Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

64. None of the above relate directly to this report.

Community Safety Implications

65. This can include:

- possible impact upon local crime rates.
- likely impact upon reoffending rates.
- ability for services to help prevent crime and disorder.
- Overall impact upon quality of life and wellbeing.
- Increase or reduce fear of crime.

• Impact on social isolation or exclusion.

66. None of the above relate directly to this report.

Climate Change and Sustainability Implications

- 67. Somerset Council has declared both a Climate and Ecological Emergency. Through that, the Council has committed to working towards making the whole county, including our own estate and operations, 'Carbon Neutral' by 2030 and to take positive action to reverse the damage on our natural habitats by man-made activity. We have also pledged to ensure that Somerset is resilient to, and prepared for, the effects of Climate Change.
- 68. The climate and sustainability implications of development proposals is a material planning consideration which will be assessed for each planning application which applies for P-credits.
- 69. As explained within the report, in light of NE letter of August 2020, concerning the unacceptable levels of phosphates present in the SL&M Ramsar site, nutrient neutral development does not make the situation any worse, but neither does it help to improve the situation.
- 70. The income generated from the sale of P-credits will be reinvested into land/nature-based solutions, land secured for phosphate strategic mitigation may also be used to meet other local and central government objectives unrelated to phosphates e.g. securing biodiversity net gain (BNG), natural flood, management, carbon sequestration or public open space to avoid recreational pressures on other wildlife areas.

Health and Safety Implications

71. None related to this report.

Health and Wellbeing Implications

72. None related to this report.

Social Value

73. None related to this report.

Asset Management Implications

74. The management of interim phosphate solutions on SWT owned sites has passed to Service Director – Strategic Asset Management in the new Council to manage in the long term.

Data Protection Implications

75. None related to this report.

Background Papers and web links

Natural England Advice to LPAs on Nutrients in the Somerset Levels and Moors (17 Aug 2020): PDF of letter available at:

https://somersetcc.sharepoint.com/sites/SCCPublic/Planning%20and%20Land/Forms /AllItems.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2FSCCPublic%2FPlanning%20and%20Land%2FSW%26T %20Natural%20England%20Advice%20to%20LPAs%20on%20Nutrients%20in%20the %20Somerset%20Levels%20and%20Moors%20%2817%20Aug%202020%29%2Epdf& parent=%2Fsites%2FSCCPublic%2FPlanning%20and%20Land&p=true&ga=1

Somerset Levels and Moors: Background to phosphates

https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning-buildings-and-land/phosphates-on-thesomerset-levels-and-moors-ramsar-site/

River Axe Special Area of Conservation

https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning-buildings-and-land/river-axe-special-area-ofconservation/

Somerset Phosphate Budget calculator

https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning-buildings-and-land/phosphate-budgetcalculator/

Somerset Strategic Planning Committee: July 2023: Progress Report Phosphates:

https://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/documents/s10992/Update%20Phosphate%20ctt ee%20report%207.7.23.pdf

Somerset Strategic Planning Committee: October 2023 Progress Report: Phosphates:

https://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/documents/s15541/Phosphate%20cttee%20repo rt%20October%2023%20Final_.pdf

Third Party Phosphate (P) Credit Schemes https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning-buildings-and-land/potential-third-partyphosphate-mitigation-schemes-in-the-somerset-levels-and-moors-catchment-area/ Developer Forum meeting: December 2023 available to listen to at: <u>https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning-buildings-and-land/phosphates-guidance-template-documents-and-useful-information/</u>

Jurston Farm, Wellington G Fry & Son to the operation of the Habitats Regulations.

High Court Judgment Template (landmarkchambers.co.uk)

Levelling Up and Regeneration Act

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2023/55/enacted

Phosphorus sensitive areas: designation by central government <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/notice-of-designation-of-sensitive-catchment-areas-2024/notice-of-designation-of-sensitive-catchment-areas-2024</u>

Round 2 Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund

.Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund Round 2: expression of interest - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Somerset Council Plan 2023 to 2027

https://www.somerset.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/somerset-council-council-plan-2023-2027/

Somerset Council: Constitution

https://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=137&MId=104&Ver= <u>4</u>

Appendices

Appendix A: Nutrient Mitigation Fund: Interim Delivery Strategy: (Revision date 12.03.2024)



Appendix B: Letter of Support: Dorset Council (Dated 7 March 2024)



Appendix C: Waiver for procuring Salinity Solutions to trial their new technology



Report Sign-Off (if appropriate)

Alison Blom-Cooper: Assistant Director Strategic Place and Planning Kate Murdoch: Service Manager Planning Policy and Implementation