

Herefordshire Water Steering Group
Minutes and Action Points
Wednesday 17th October 2012
 Brockington Office, Hafod Road , Herefordshire Council

PRESENT:

Hayley Pankhurst	HP	Natural England
Dane Broomfield	DB	Environment Agency
Mark Davies	MD	Environment Agency
Harry Adshead	HA	Dwr Cymru Welsh Water
Mark Rychnovsky	MR	Dwr Cymru Welsh Water
Caroline Chapman	CC	David Tyldesley and Associates
Kevin Singleton	KS	Herefordshire Council
Gemma Webster	GW	Herefordshire Council
Kevin Bishop	KB	Herefordshire Council
Philip Deeley	PD	Herefordshire Council
Bridgit Symons	BS	Herefordshire Council

APOLOGIES:

Ian Butterfield	IB	Natural England
Simon Withers	SW	Herefordshire Council
Robert Widdicombe	RW	Herefordshire Council

ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p>Welcomes and Introductions</p> <p>KS welcomed everyone to the meeting and round the table introductions took place.</p>	
2.	<p>Progress on Nutrient Management Plan</p> <p><u>Review of Consents:</u></p> <p>CC stated that the RoC addendum needs to reference phosphate stripping at Hereford City treatment works as the existing RoC documentation only makes reference to BOD and ammonia. HA also queried whether changes to dry weather flow definition and accordingly the discharge licence had been included in the RoC. DB indicated that the DWF amendments had been included in the RoC but was uncertain about how HRA issues were tackled at the time. CC also noted the RoC addendum needs clarity as to which P target it is referring to. The RoC addendum will need to work to the RoC P target but scope to reference the Conservation Objective target in the section on the Nutrient Management Plan. HA indicated that he has been in discussion with Environment Agency Wales who have stated that they will be seeking an alignment P target in their guidance and work on future plans. This again may need to be factored in.</p>	

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	<p>DB agreed to seek clarification on DWF HRA and will update the RoC addendum to cover the points above.</p> <p>CC asked whether Appendix 19 referencing reg 51(3) will be updated. DB confirmed that he will chase this up but would expect the RoC to have an appendix of licences referencing which licences 51(3) is applying to.</p> <p><u>Statement of Intent:</u></p> <p>DB stated that he had been in discussion with IB on the advancement of the Statement of Intent. IB is intending to get a draft document circulated to members of the steering group by 19th Oct.</p> <p>PD queried what level of detail was required to allow planning applications to proceed. PD felt that the RoC addendum affirms the licences and as such this is sufficient to allow development to proceed and that the Statement of Intent is only necessary for the Core Strategy consultation planned for the new year. It was agreed that HC would write to the area managers of EA and NE outlining the processes they are seeking to adopt and seek confirmation that NE and EA support the process.</p> <p>In general it was stated that the NMP will need to focus on tackling diffuse pollution as well as point source. PD had been in discussion with the Director of Environment at DCWW who had indicated the NMP would not be supported if it solely examined point source pollution. DB stated that the diffuse element will be examined but that the solutions have to be the most cost effective and that not all P is easily removable.</p>	<p>PD</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>National Environment Programme and AMP6</p> <p>PD highlighted that calculations based on the most recent DWF figures only growth in Leominster will exceed current discharge licence. Following advice from HA PD will update the calculations to use an average of last few years DWF to ensure robustness.</p> <p>PD has concerns that should Herefordshire not have works identified in AMP6 there could be uncertainty over the deliverability of the Core Strategy. MR indicated that a complete draft business plan will in place by the end of the first quarter 2013. DB highlighted that he was not certain drivers were in place to include Herefordshire treatment works. MR highlighted that in PR09 there were local priority drivers but in the working documents on PR14 there is no reference. HC are looking to write to Defra and CLG on this issue and can include the need for local priority drivers to be included in PR14.</p> <p>Within the NMP is queried as to when the objectives should be achieved. MR</p>	<p>PD</p>

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	<p>highlighted that the WFD compliance date was 2027 so this is the latest the time frame could be set to. HP highlighted that 2025 could be used as this is the end of AMP7 so in theory any works required by DCWW to achieve the objectives of the NMP will be within this AMP period.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Non-mains drainage screening criteria</p> <p>HP had examined the list of applications currently on hold due to the issue within the Lugg catchment. The RoC screening criteria would allow a number of applications can proceed. HP recommended that HC in their correspondence to area managers at EA and NE should also set out their intentions on adopting the screening criteria.</p>	<p>PD</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Future meeting arrangements</p> <p>PD had circulated to steering group members a draft terms of reference for the wider water board. PD highlighted that HC intend to write to the identified contacts to inform them of the water board and its intentions. As such it was hoped that any comments could be forwarded to PD over the next week.</p>	<p>PD</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for Friday 16th November 10:00 – 13:00. HA passed on his apologies but MR indicated that he would be able to attend.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>KS highlighted that the HC intends to have a statutory stakeholder day under the duty to co-operate legislation. PD had been in discussion with DCWW regarding a current drainage study being undertaken by Clear Environmental Ltd to examine drainage issues in Herefordshire – this information could be useful for the NMP and that through discussions with DCWW that Clear Environmental Ltd will hopefully be giving a presentation on the works they are undertaking.</p> <p>MD highlighted that the Poole NMP has been advanced and he will circulate copies to the group. While the Poole NMP concerns nitrates it does provide a further example of structure and potential works.</p> <p>DB highlighted that the diffuse issue could be tackled by HC they have significant land holdings. It was felt that HC should look into the contracts and identify methods to improve diffuse problems which EA would be willing to help on. HC agreed this was a positive step and will contact HC's Estate Management team concerning this issue. DB highlighted that this could be rolled out further as the Duchy is also a large land owner with significant</p>	<p>PD</p>

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	interest in environmental concerns.	