



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

Note from the Council to the Inspectors on nutrient mitigation

The Updated Interim Nutrient Neutral Mitigation Strategy for New Dwellings (GC12) relates to Portsmouth only. This is the most updated strategy on nutrient neutrality for the City.

Appendix F of the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) (KD18) was prepared to inform the Local Plan Addendum and summarises the supply and demand of nutrient credits. It concludes that the City Council has a 9.55-year supply of credits. The Council also has future options through the PfSH SEPO [now Solent Mitigation Partnership] work to secure further offsetting credits covering the remainder of the plan period. The Partnership administers the Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund provided by DEFRA to enable the delivery of nutrient mitigation projects that address housing delivery constraints. The purpose of the Fund is to support mitigation needs until nutrient mitigation is no longer required. Appendix F also concludes that Waste water treatment work upgrades as proposed by central government will also potentially have improved the water quality of the Solent Catchment by 2030.

The Inspectors may also find it useful to refer to the Solent Mitigation Partnership (SMP) website and more particularly its webpage on schemes¹. This relates to all of the Solent. When clicking on an individual scheme, for example, the Stubbington Meadow Scheme, further details are available to read on the location, mitigation type and credits available for the mitigation site².

The Council is a signatory to the SMP. And while it has not opted to be a beneficial party to any of the current schemes (as the Council's own Updated Interim Nutrient Neutral Mitigation Strategy for New Dwellings (GC12) provides nearly ten years of mitigation) the SMP has a range of emerging schemes that the Council can opt into within the East Hampshire Rivers catchment when projected demand requires it. As and when further credits are required during the plan period these will be made available to our development partners.

¹ <https://solentmitigationpartnership.co.uk/schemes/>

² <https://solentmitigationpartnership.co.uk/scheme/stubbington-meadow-scheme/>