

## Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

**REPORT TO:** Thriving Communities Scrutiny Committee

**DATE:** 20<sup>th</sup> of January and 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**LOCATION:** Online

**TITLE:** NRW and DCWW planning and phosphates discussion

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:** To Introduce officers from NRW and DCWW

**REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION:** Members requested that officers from NRW and DCWW were invited to Scrutiny

**BACKGROUND:** In January 2021 NRW released interim planning advice regarding development with the catchments of riverine SACs in Wales. This advice was to ensure that following compliance monitoring of the river Teifi which was suffering from episodic failure of its Phosphate level monitoring no further development would be allowed which could or potentially could increase phosphate levels in the riverine SAC.

**CURRENT SITUATION:** The guidance issued by NRW, has had significant knock-on impacts across the county namely:

1. 3 of the main USCs of Ceredigion Lampeter, Tregaron, Llandysul and surroundings settlements are affected
2. The Local Development Plan has been put on hold
3. Allocated sites within the affected areas are unable to be delivered (over 500 homes of which 114 were to be affordable)
4. Planning applications have had to be held in abeyance or refused
5. DCWW have confirmed only one WWTP has phosphate stripping in place in CCC (Llandewi Brefi) and there are unconfirmed plans that 1 other (Tregaron) may be included in the 2025-2030 AMP period.
6. Preliminary source apportionment work (From DCWW on the river Wye) demonstrates a significant proportion of phosphates comes from agriculture as well as WWTPs

In previous scrutiny meetings members requested to meet with representatives of NRW and DCWW to discuss the phosphate situation in Ceredigion, as well as issues around WWTP discharging effluent into the other riverine areas of CCC (namely Aberaeron harbour) and response times for consultations by the Development Management service. Therefore, DCWW and NRW were contacted and officers relevant to the topic areas in question agreed to attend.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why

No as this discussion is not producing or developing policy

**WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:**

*Summary:*  
Long term:  
Integration:  
Collaboration:  
Involvement:  
Prevention:

**RECOMMENDATION (S):**

No formal recommendations, discussion for information only.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):**

**Contact Name:** Dr Sarah Groves-Phillips  
**Designation:** Planning Policy Service Manager  
**Date of Report:** 13/12/2021  
**Acronyms:** WWTP – Waste Water Treatment Plant  
DCWW - Dwr Cymru Welsh Water  
NRW – Natural resources Wales  
USC – Urban Service Centre