

POOLE HARBOUR NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT SCHEME (PHNMS)



Poole Harbour Agriculture Group

Red Lines and Key Principles

The Red lines

1. Poole Harbour Nutrient Management Scheme (PHNMS) will contribute to delivering favourable condition for Poole Harbour (PH).
2. Poole Harbour Agricultural Group (PHAG) is accountable for reducing the agricultural proportion of nitrates.
3. There must be a net benefit for farmers participating in PHNMS, as opposed to having a Water Protection Zone (WPZ) or any other mechanism.
4. There must be a regulatory imperative (threat).
5. Where a WPZ is created this scheme becomes obsolete.

Key Principles

1. This is an agricultural industry led project and PHAG has agency and control on how PHNMS is structured.
2. The tools, processes and systems in PHNMS must not be complicated and must be user friendly
3. PHNMS must adapt to new evidence, science and best practice.
4. PHNMS will provide support and guidance to all PHAG participants.
5. All farmers in PHAG must confirm that they are compliant with existing nutrient focused regulations. Those that the competent authority deems to be non-compliant, cannot be part of PHAG.
6. PHAG is not the competent authority to carry out regulatory checks.
7. PHAG will ensure its tools, processes and systems are robust and accountable to PHNMS.
8. Collectively agriculture must meet its nutrient target before it can sell to other customers.
9. All projects with a nutrient benefit must be accounted for within the PHNMS process.
10. Farmers in PH cannot trade nitrates without being a member of PHAG.
11. PHAG members cannot trade nitrates outside of Poole Harbour catchment.
12. The imperative driver for PHNMS and PHAG is nitrates. In the future other markets will be necessary to create viable and sustainable farming businesses.
13. The tools PHAG develop will assist farmers to show compliance with existing regulations.