

River Mease Water Quality Management Plan: Developer Contributions Scheme 2
DCS2 – June 2016

Non Technical Summary

1. The Developer Contributions Strategy (DCS) is a requirement of the River Mease Water Quality Management Plan which was published by the Environment Agency and Natural England in 2011. This document replaces the first DCS which was adopted in October 2012.
2. The phosphate levels in the River Mease are currently above the levels required by the European Community Habitats Directive. Currently any new development in the catchment simply serves to increase the level of phosphate in the river and therefore at the moment no major new development can be allowed without first showing how that development will reduce the level of phosphate reaching the river.
3. DCS2 therefore provides a mechanism through which limited new development can begin to be allowed again.
4. The principle behind DCS2 is simple - the polluter pays. DCS2 contains a formula to calculate the amount of phosphate that might be expected from certain types of development and allocates a cost per unit to those developments.
5. The proposed costs for new houses in the catchment are set out in the table below:

Size of dwelling	Average occupancy	DCS contribution
1 bed	1.17	£228
2 bed	1.72	£335
3 bed	2.32	£445
4 bed+	3.24	£633

6. The contributions from non-residential development will be calculated on a case by case basis using the formula set out in DCS2.

What happens to the contributions

7. In order to satisfy the Planning Authority, the Environment Agency and Natural England that new development is not likely to have an adverse effect on the River Mease, a contribution from each new development in line with DCS2 will be necessary.
8. DCS2 contains an action plan and sets out a list of measures that any contributions will be applied to. These include Environmental improvements such as the installation of silt traps, that help to reduce the phosphate levels in the river.
9. Therefore DCS2 contributions will be directly applied to actions that help to improve the water quality of the river and thereby help the River Mease meet the EC Habitats Directive.

10. The contributions will be collected by either North West Leicestershire District Council, South Derbyshire District Council and Lichfield District Council, depending upon where new development takes place.