

Government Response to the Farming Regulation Task Force - February 2012

Develop and demonstrate a new targeted and fairer approach to inspection and enforcement

A comprehensive risk-based approach to inspections must be the future

2.23 We recommend (see Chapter 3 for details):

- adoption of a system of *earned recognition* to inform and target inspections and that serves as an incentive for good practice;
- that regulators provide a proper explanation of their inspection programme.

Yes

We are committed to embedding earned recognition into inspection regimes to incentivise good practice and reduce the inspection burden on those that are complying with their obligations.

Government Response to Stakeholders' Views on the Consultation on Implementing the Nitrates Directive - August 2012

Q14&15 Nutrient Management Planning & Record-keeping

70. A long-standing complaint about the Nitrates Regulations is that the level of prescription is too great. Farmers wish to be able to choose for themselves how to comply with the rules. With this in mind, the Government consulted on reducing the prescription on record-keeping that is currently included in a number of Regulations in the 2008 Nitrates Regulations.

We also invited comments on the idea that those who completed a nutrient management plan using an appropriate tool should be recognised for that good practice by being given a reduced likelihood of being inspected.

80. We intend to reduce the priority for inspection for those farmers who complete and implement a full nutrient management plan.