

Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of water against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources:

Transposition note with regard to the Nutrient Action Programme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019 (S.R 2019/81)

ARTICLE	OBJECTIVE	IMPLEMENTATION	RESPONSIBILITY
3	Requires Member States to identify waters affected by pollution and waters which could be affected by pollution if action pursuant Article 5 is not taken. Member States shall then designate as vulnerable zones all known areas of land in their territories which drain into the waters identified according to paragraph 1 and which contribute to pollution. Member States shall be exempt from the obligation to identify specific vulnerable zones, if they establish and apply action programmes referred to in Article 5 in accordance with this Directive throughout their national territory.	Implemented by regulation 2 of the Nutrient Action Programme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019.	The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (The Department)
4	Requires Member States to establish a code or codes of good agricultural practice and set up where necessary a programme, including the provision of training and information for farmers, promoting the application of the code(s) of good agricultural practice.	Implemented by the “Code of Good Agricultural Practice for the Prevention of Pollution of Water, Air and Soil” and associated training programmes and advisory services for farms businesses.	The Department
5.1 - 5.5	Action programmes shall take into account available scientific and technical data, mainly with reference to respective nitrogen contributions originating from agricultural and other sources and environmental conditions in the relevant regions of the Member State concerned. Action programmes shall be implemented within four years of their establishment and shall contain the measures in Annex III of the Directive and those measures which Member States have prescribed in the code(s)	Implemented by the Nutrient Action Programme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019, and in particular, with reference to Annex II and Annex III of the Directive, regulations 4 to 28.	The Department

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	<p>of good agricultural practice established in accordance with Article 4 (and Annex II A), except those which have been superseded by the measures in Annex III. Member States shall also take, such additional measures or reinforced actions as they consider necessary for achieving the objectives specified in Article 1.</p>		
5.6	<p>Member States shall draw up and implement suitable monitoring programmes to assess the effectiveness of action programmes established pursuant to this Article. Member States which apply Article 5 throughout their national territory shall monitor the nitrate content of waters (surface waters and groundwater) at selected measuring points which make it possible to establish the extent of nitrate pollution in the waters from agricultural sources</p>	<p>Implemented by a surface water and groundwater monitoring programme undertaken by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency</p>	<p>The Department</p>
5.7	<p>Member States shall review and if necessary revise their action programmes, including any additional measures taken, at least every four years. They shall inform the Commission of any changes to the action programmes</p>	<p>Implemented by the Nutrient Action Programme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019, regulation 35.</p>	<p>The Department</p>
10	<p>Member States shall, in respect of the four-year period following the notification of this Directive and in respect of each subsequent four-year period, submit a report to the Commission containing the information outlined in Annex V.</p>	<p>Implemented by the Nutrient Action Programme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019, regulation 34.</p>	<p>The Department</p>