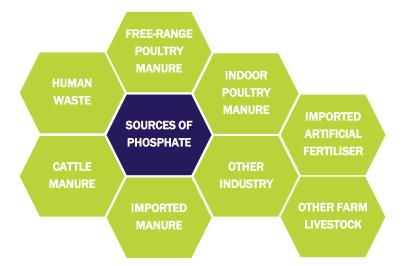
# SUSTAINABLE POULTRY ROADMAP Update: May 2023



In January 2023 we published <u>our</u> <u>sustainable poultry roadmap</u>. This explained how we would ensure our supply chain was not contributing to phosphate in the River Wye by 2025.





Avara farms are not direct contributors to phosphate pollution in the Wye catchment.

River pollution is caused either by direct entry into the river, e.g.sewage, or through run-off from neighbouring land, or diffused pollution.

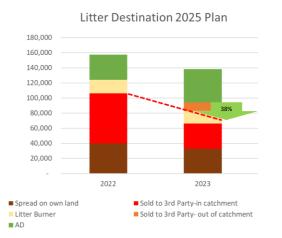
We only operate indoor farms, which keep the birds, and their manure, separated from the land. However, the manure is available as a fertiliser to arable and pasture farms.



Our primary 2025 roadmap goal is to divert poultry manure from our supply chain away from the land in the Wye catchment. Principally, this will be into Anaerobic Digestion plants, which convert the manure into valuable commodities: power, CO<sup>2</sup>, and Biofuel. Any remaining poultry manure used in the catchment will have to meet higher soil management standards which we are in the process of establishing.

# Progress against our roadmap:

We believe the AD projects we are supporting are at least 2 years from completion. In the meantime, our immediate focus is to increase the volume of manure that is exported out of the catchment. Once on-stream, the AD solutions should provide an economically and environmentally sustainable option for farmers, with the potential for circular economies to create further value.



In 2022, the total Avara supply chain in the catchment generated 800 tonnes of Phosphorus. This is compared to the estimated 6,100 tonnes of P attributed to livestock manure from agriculture, according to Lancaster University's RePhoKUs report.

Taking into account farm closures and out of catchment exports, manure from our supply chain has reduced 30% since the start of 2023.

## **Anaerobic Digestion solutions:**

We have agreed an increase in manure supply with one of the AD solutions we're supporting. Our current volumes, of 120 tons/week, will increase to 600 tons/week by September 2024.

We await a planning decision for the other local project, but there is no indication when this might be reached.

#### Manure exports:

We are working closely with a logistics firm to export more manure from the catchment, whilst retaining assurances that the manure will be used responsibly.

Given the healthy market for fertiliser within the catchment, it's reasonable to assume that exported manure from our supply chain will be replaced by fertilisers bought on the open market.

### Soil management standards:

Improved soil and nutrient management within the catchment are essential if the impact of agriculture as a whole is to be mitigated.

A proposed assurance scheme is currently being trialled on 2 farms within our supply chain that also have arable or pastureland.

In addition, we're continuing to assess other potential standards/schemes that can be adopted and independently assured, to verify that land associated with farms in our supply chain is being managed responsibly.

# **The Big Picture**

There are many major contributors into Phosphate pollution in the Wye. As we have shown, our contribution is indirect: through supplying other farming sectors with manure for fertiliser. Despite this we are, to date, the only business with a clear plan to resolve our part of the issue.

Avara's roadmap will solve the problem for Avara and its customers – but without a serious debate on the real causes will make no difference to the river