

Brighton ChaMP for Water - Spring 2019 Update

The Brighton Chalk Management Partnership (ChaMP) project was established to protect and improve the quality of groundwater in the Brighton chalk block. In this newsletter you can read about:

- Recent changes to roles and responsibilities in ChaMP
- New Southern Water capital grant schemes

A new Catchment Officer for ChaMP – Robin Kelly

Firstly, a quick introduction: For those who don't know me I joined Southern Water in June 2018 as part of the new Catchment Risk Management Team. The creation of this team is a really positive step for Southern Water as it demonstrates how we are investing in our catchments more than ever before to protect and improve our drinking water sources. Prior to my role with Southern Water I worked with Natural England for over six years, advising farms on agri-environment schemes and Catchment Sensitive Farming. My new role is to work with farmers and land managers to develop and implement practical measures to reduce the risk of water pollution. I am hoping to meet all the farmers on the chalk downs around Brighton to introduce myself in person, but please feel free to get in touch in the meantime.



Robin Kelly – Southern Water
Catchment Officer

Natural England update

Catchment Sensitive Farming Officer Shai Gilad is back from paternity leave and is the proud father of a beautiful baby boy. Natural England will continue to work with the ChaMP project with a new role linking water protection measures and biodiversity. Shai is also on hand to support with agri-environment schemes, including Countryside Stewardship queries and applications.

For more information on Countryside Stewardship or Natural England's work, contact Shai Gilad on 07500 953669 / shai.gilad@naturalengland.org.uk

Coming soon through Brighton ChaMP

We are planning an event on 4th June at Plumpton College to provide an update on all the work we have been undertaking this autumn/winter, including soil testing, cover crop monitoring, new trials underway, 'karstic' feature mapping and the new incentives that will be available through ChaMP. Details to follow - we hope to see you there

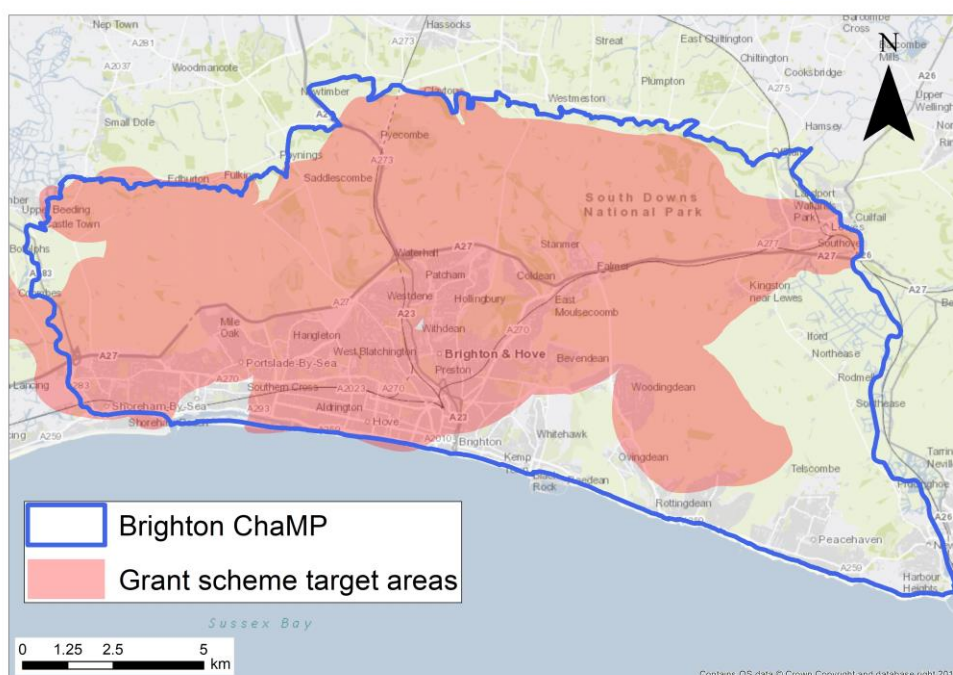
New Southern Water Grant Schemes

In addition to the partnership with ChaMP focusing on reducing nitrates in groundwater, Southern Water is working directly with farms and businesses to help protect and improve our drinking water sources. To support farmers and landowners in doing this, we recently launched three new grant schemes in target areas:

- **Farm Capital Grant Scheme** – Up to £10,000 per holding per year (50% of costs) towards farm equipment and infrastructure linked to protecting and improving water supplies – open to applications across the ChaMP project area

Southern Water may be able to offer free, expert advice on all aspects of farm management to support the Farm Capital Grant Scheme.

- **Domestic oil tank replacement scheme** – 50% of the cost (capped at £2,500) may be available to replace old or dilapidated oil storage tanks, pipework and a concrete base.
- **Cesspit, septic tank and package treatment works replacement scheme** – up to 50% (capped at £5,000) may be available to upgrade old or faulty cesspits, septic tanks and package treatment works.



If you would like to try anything different on your farm to help reduce nitrate leaching, or to protect and improve water quality in another way, please get in touch.

See [our website](#) for more information about the ChaMP project

Robin Kelly - Southern Water Catchment Officer

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