

A CIWEM – CMS Conference

Surface Water Management *Delivering for Communities Next Steps and Direction*

2 June 2010: SOAS London

The aim of this conference is to provide a comprehensive overview of the next steps facing surface water management post the election looking at the key drivers including, changing weather patterns, legislation, delivery, funding, paradigm change, partnership and sectoral perspectives with a view to the short and long term needs in this sector.

**ACO MWH Hydro International Polypipe RPS Water
WRc**

Sponsorship: If you are interested in sponsoring this event please contact Lauren Goozee lauren@ciwem.org or Justin Taberham justin@ciwem.org or ring them on 0207 831 3110

Please circulate to colleagues who may be interested

Surface Water Management - Delivering for Communities- Next Steps - Direction 2 June 2010: SOAS London

The aim of this conference is to provide a comprehensive overview of the next steps to be taken in delivering surface water management post the election looking at the key drivers including, changing weather patterns, legislation, delivery, funding, paradigm change, partnership and sectoral perspectives with a view to the short and long term needs in this sector.

Objectives

- To understand the direction of the post-election political, policy and funding agenda in relation to surface water management in the urban setting
- To understand the policy, paradigm and practical changes that need to be implemented from different sectoral perspectives
- To focus on major themes that will be the focus of change including the political context, funding, urban design, retrofitting programmes, partnership delivery, SUDs and impermeable surfaces
- To illustrate change with reference to the research evidence base and case study practice
- To consider the next water planning cycle in terms of research requirements and paradigm change
- The views on each of these sessions will be collated to form the output from the event

Apart from the first slot all the presentation slots 30 minutes (15 minutes for presentation and 15 minutes for points from the floor and questions and answers)

9.00 Registration and refreshments

Chairman Nick Orman Principal Consultant WRc

9.45 Welcome to the conference Nick Reeves CIWEM Executive Director and Member of the Early Actions Panel of a Ministerial Advisory Group on Surface Water Drainage

9.50 The strategic and political context – surface water management

The purpose of this slot is to cover the current strategic and policy context for surface water management and also explore the post-election scenarios that are emerging.

9.50 The Current policy and Strategic Context Elliot Robertson Head of Inland Flooding
Environment Agency

- Recent Developments: The Flood and Water Management Bill, Flood Risk Regulations, and SUDs
- Standards
- Environment Agency National Strategy - the scale of flood risk and the problems we face
- Local and public responsibilities/ public approach
- Rural vs Urban - what should we be protecting?
- Implementation of Surface Water Management Plans
- Have we got out flood risk investment right?

10.05 The post-election – post Bill political context Professor Colin Green Middlesex University

Urban areas are net exporters of water because urban areas are very effective systems of rainwater harvesting. It is managing and dealing with this exported water that is the difficult and expensive problem: over 60% of the total asset value of the water industry is sewers. This presentation will address three points:

- Why is England and Wales 30 years behind Germany in adopting sustainable urban water management?
- What is needed for us to catch up? In particular, where is primary legislation required?
- The post-election political context – what is being proposed?

Discussion 10.20 – 10.40

10.40 **Understanding Changing Weather Patterns – a key driver** **Paul Davies** Met Office and
Joint Flood Forecasting Centre

Whilst much debate has focussed on climate change and future predictions, over the last decade many 'routine' or 'extreme' weather events have posed serious challenges to FRM managers; this presentation will review the realities of our recent weather patterns in the context of likely longer term changes including:

- Over the last decade there have been a string of very high profile flooding events which have been termed extreme but seem to be becoming almost annual in their occurrence (York, Carlisle, Hull, Gloucester, Glasgow, Belfast, Sheffield, South Wales)
- These have been dwarfed by the 30cm of rain that fell on Cumbria in November 2009
- Flash flooding caused by 5-10cm of rain falling in short durations also appears to have increased causing instant problems for many urban areas on a routine basis
- Realistically what should we be preparing for?
- Risk perception from these events

11.10 **Paradigm change for surface water management** **Chris Digman** MWH

The traditional view of urban drainage had major combined sewers at its core. However, the lack of adaptive capability of these systems when faced with even 'routine' flash flooding is suggesting that a fundamentally new paradigm is required. This talk will cover:

- Future challenges and why we need a paradigm shift in our thinking
- How we can structure our approach to deliver sustainable surface water management measures in the future.
- The tensions between the economic need for regeneration and the space to manage flood water.
- Why we need for greater engagement with planners and urban designers in new development
- Why we also need to get the public on board
- And the wider benefits that can arise for placing water at the heart of urban design.

11.40 Refreshments – Break 1

Session 2 Chairman: **Neil Scarlett** IETG & Vice Chairman of The Wastewater and Planning Users Group
(WaPUG)

12.20 **SuDS – dealing with the legacy challenge?** **Paul Shaffer** CIRIA

SuDS are now being championed by many as the preferred approach to surface water management. However, dealing with the legacy challenges of our drainage infrastructure presents both challenges and opportunities.

- Practical challenges
- Opportunities
- What is left to do?
- Retrofitting
- Case studies: Malmö/USA

12.50 **Partnership working for delivery – lessons from practice** **Elliot Gill** Halcrow

Although it has been widely recognised that partnership working would be needed to deliver surface water management schemes up until the F&WM Bill none of the existing systems facilitated this; this presentation will develop how partnership working may operate in practice including:

- What's intended by the Bill? Current best practice and persistent barriers?
- Look at the generics of multi-objective, multi-benefit – multiple agency schemes
- Considering the financial dimensions of partnership schemes – better value for money
- The talk will be illustrated by case study examples including the IUD & SWMP pilots

13.20 **Challenges facing lead local flood authorities** **Deborah Fox**, Senior Manager, Environment and Economy, Surrey County Council & Member of LGA Inland FRM Group

The presentation will provide an overview of the challenges facing local authorities as they take on the new role of 'lead local flood authority'. The presentation will explore:

- Do they have the necessary knowledge, skills and powers to deliver this role?

- Are there sufficient resources to meet the challenge, at a time when there is pressure on both capital and revenue budgets.
- What do other bodies need to do, to ensure that residents and businesses receive the best outcomes on flood risk management in local areas.

To illustrate the challenges, Surrey County Council's approach to collaboration and surface water management planning in a two-tier area will be given. The presentation will have a policy perspective rather than a technical one.

13.50 Break 2 & refreshments

Chairman: TBC

14.30 **A Highways Authorities perspective Warrington Borough Council** Speaker to be announced

In many settings especially the urban environment the Highways Authorities will be key partners in delivering surface water management; this presentation will explore the developing issues including:

- Current developments
- Financial aspects: funding sources and the importance of matched funding
- Community involvement: the importance of hearing the community voice; the evidence base
- Potential conflicts about the functionality of roads in relation to drainage

15.00 **A Water Company perspective**

David Bayliss Welsh Water & **Jeremy Jones** JRJ Consulting/Welsh Water

- Concern and evidence that climate change and urban creep is going to continue
- PR09 Final Determination - investment to be justified by outputs
- High level strategy to combine flooding and surface water reduction to achieve the required regulatory targets
- Stressing the need for seeking out opportunities for collaboration, which equates to integrated solutions
- Sources of flows not being simply run off from covered areas, (some direct watercourse inflows; can't assume everything works like it says in the textbook!)
- Management issues that optimisation will demand
- A Water company view on partnership; 'refinement' of the current regulatory regime to accommodate partnership working issues and budget cycles out of synchrony
- Working with other organisations - maintaining effort in influencing others to remove and not add more flows – the water company can't build its way out of this
- Case studies of current projects illustrating solutions

10 mins each presenter and 15 for Q&A

15.30 **Chairmen's views – Reflections and discussion of next steps**

16.00 Conference ends and refreshments

See BOOKING FORM below

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BOOKING FORM

The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) is an independent professional body and registered charity, advancing the science and practice of water and environment management for a clean, green and sustainable world. www.ciwem.org

The Venue: The venue is the School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS), Russell Square, London. This is a new, air conditioned lecture theatre, with all the modern AV aids and professional projectionists; there will be ample space to accommodate the anticipated delegate numbers.

Accommodation: There is a wide range of accommodation available in the area and delegates will receive a hotel list when they book.

The Organisers: The conference is being organised by Bob Earll of Coastal Management for Sustainability (CMS), in partnership with CIWEM.

Conference fee: (VAT at 17.5%)

Conference fee	£160	VAT £28.00	£188.00
Concession rate*	£130	VAT £22.75	£152.75
Group Rate (3 or more paying together)	£140/person	VAT £24.50	£164.50 each
Full time Post Graduate student/ Retired CIWEM members	£45	VAT £7.87	£ 52.87

*Our aim is to make the conferences as inclusive as possible. The concession rate applies to individuals and organisations that clearly work from limited budgets in the academic or voluntary sector. We will review this on a case by case basis and place individuals and organisations on a register for future reference. Please contact us first by email to bob.earll@coastms.co.uk **before booking** if you think you qualify.

- The fee includes food and refreshments and the conference papers
- Delegates with special needs should make this clear on booking

Conditions:

- Payment may be by cheque, BACS, credit card or online at www.coastms.co.uk
- Cheques (made payable to 'CMS') should be sent to: **CMS, Candle Cottage, Kempley, Glos GL18 2BU**
- For BACS payments please **return the booking form first** for an invoice to be raised
- Invoices will be issued as the standard response
- Confirmation of registration will be acknowledged on receipt of booking form
- Receipts will be issued on payment
- Payment should be completed **BEFORE** the event; otherwise entry may be refused
- Payment is due for all cancellations within ten days of the meeting. Refunds (less £20 administration charge) will only be issued for cancellation more than ten working days before the meeting; substitutes are permitted

Further details from Bob Earll: Phone/Fax 01531 890415 Joining details – maps, directions and hotels – programme are on the CMS website: www.coastms.co.uk or Email: bob.earll@coastms.co.uk

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