



Water for life and livelihoods

River Basin Management Plan
North West River Basin District

Annex L: Record of consultation
and engagement

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L.1 Introduction

This annex presents a summary of the steps taken nationally and within the North West River Basin District to ensure that the River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) has been produced through consultation and engagement with interested parties.

It is an important principle of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) to encourage a wide range of stakeholders to be involved in improving the water environment. As a first step to securing meaningful engagement stakeholders and the public need access to the information about the work in hand. Significant efforts to make information easily accessible have been made and they are described below under the heading “Public access to information”.

As a step on from making information available, and in order to gain a more detailed insight into the views of stakeholders on different aspects of river basin management, there have been a number of consultations on general and specific aspects of implementation. Some of these were led by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Welsh Assembly Government, some by the Environment Agency, and some by other bodies such as the United Kingdom Technical Advisory Group. Some of the consultations have had a river basin district focus and some have been for England and Wales (“national” in the context of this chapter). All of these consultations have helped develop the proposals for river basin management and provided the benefit of wide geographical, sectoral and stakeholder coverage, and linked into a number of groups focussed on specific water management issues. All these activities are listed below under the heading of “Consultations” along with a summary of their outcomes.

Finally, the process of producing this River Basin Management Plan has benefited from the active involvement in the planning process itself by many different stakeholders. These have taken place at the national (England and Wales) and at the regional level through very wide ranging activities, which include for example the work of the national stakeholders, the river basin district liaison panels and many local groups. These forms of engagement are listed and described below under the heading “Involvement in the planning process”. Because this engagement has been extensive over a number of years this list is not exhaustive.

L.2 Public access to information

Means of dissemination	Activities
Environment Agency	

- Technical waterbody level information on objectives, classification status and identified risks as presented in the draft River Basin Management Plans - December 2008
- Initial Article 5 information (River Basin Characterisation outputs) on 'What's in your backyard' (WIYBY) – 2005

Environment Agency website

A river basin management web page has been set up and is updated regularly. Information on website includes:

- Background documentation used in river basin district liaison panel meetings and the minutes of meetings
- All consultation documents and supporting information posted on the web site (different sites depending on the lead organisation for each consultation)
- Posting of all statement of response to consultations
- The internet address of the online consultation was promoted to local stakeholders' websites to enable web links to be created
- Use of electronic consultation to facilitate responses
- Technical supporting information including further characterisation (risk assessment) outputs, classification, objectives and measures as presented in the draft River Basin Management Plans.
- Contact details for Environment Agency staff involved in river basin management

Use of public libraries

- No public libraries were used in the North West district

Use of Environment Agency offices

- Copies of all Environment Agency led consultation documents were made available free of charge at the Head Office in Bristol and in the area and region offices in the North West River Basin District at
 - Richard Fairclough House, Knutsford Road, Warrington, WA4 1HG
 - Ghyll Mount, Gilian Way, Penrith 40 Business Park, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 9BP
 - Appleton House, 430 Birchwood Boulevard, Warrington, Cheshire, WA3 7WD
 - Lutra House, Dodd Way, Walton Summit, Bamber Bridge, Preston, Lancashire, PR5 8BX.

Means of dissemination	Activities
Direct mail outs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of 'The Water Framework Directive – Guiding Principles on the Technical Requirements' mailed to National stakeholders • 180 electronic copies of the consultation document 'River Basin Planning: Working Together' sent to stakeholders. • 180 electronic copies of 'River Basin Planning: Summary of Significant Water Management Issues' sent to stakeholders. • 3 paper copies of the 'draft North West River Basin Management Plan' sent to stakeholders. • E-bulletin sent out to over 300 key stakeholders in the North West including information about the consultation and key information • Paragraph about the dRBMP consultation included in all renewal letters to Abstraction Licence Permit holders (Later included in all national letters to various permit holders) • 300 postcards signposting consultation included in letters to regulated business and industry • 20 NGOs received email invite to workshop which included link to consultation • Approx 25 individual, tailored emails to targeted audience
Public notices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice published in London Gazette for one day stating submission on 22 September 2009 of the 'River Basin Management Plans 2009-2015' to Ministers for approval, under Regulation 13(1)(b) of the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2003. • Notice of consultation on the 'draft North West River Basin Management Plan' published in the published in Westmoreland Gazette, Liverpool Echo, Manchester Evening News and Lancashire Evening Post for two consecutive weeks from 8 January 2008. • Notice of consultation on 'River Basin Planning: Summary of Significant Water Management Issues' published in the Lancashire Evening Post, the Liverpool Daily Echo and the Westmorland Gazette for two weeks from 27 July 2007 • Notice of consultation on 'River Basin Planning: Working Together' published in the Lancashire Evening Post and the London Gazette for two weeks from 22 December 2006
Technical pamphlets/ information sheets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Water Framework Directive introductory material distributed at conferences • Issue/ sector based briefing sheets distributed at conferences Sector specific briefings for : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drainage (Jan 08) - Chemical Sector (Nov 07) - Envirowise (Oct 07) - Fisheries (June & Oct 07) • 100 x email to chemical manufacturers and users of DEHP (Di(2-ethylhexyl)-phtalate) and nonylphenol about Water Framework Directive, Pollution Reduction Plans and consultation
Publicity material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photography competition launched in April 2009 for Under 16s to promote the value of water

Means of dissemination	Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River basin district e-bulletin sent quarterly to 300 stakeholders from Jan 2007 • Publication of leaflets and postcards to publicise and promote participation in consultations • 16000 x 'Way forward for Water' Leaflets produced with general water planning messages for use • 2500 x Postcards promoting the consultation • Advert in delegate guide at the Chemicals North West awards (attended by approx 270 people).
Interviews/articles in local media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British Farmer and Grower. Article on Catchment Sensitive Farming and Water Framework Directive • North West Article in European Network of Municipalities and Rivers (EnMAR) newsletter • Lake District National Park, Lakes Messenger magazine. Article on Significant Water Management Issues consultation • Lancashire Environment Forum, Essence Newsletter. Article on Water Framework Directive and developing Significant Water Management Issues response • Confederation of British Industry, NW Business Review magazine. Article on business and Water Framework Directive. • Utility Week. Article on catchment modelling project with United Utilities and Leeds University. • Mersey Basin Campaign, Source Magazine. Article on Significant Water Management Issues. • North West Regional Assembly, Vista Newsletter. Article on and link to Significant Water Management Issues consultation • Chemicals Northwest, monthly e-bulletin. Water Framework Directive Key messages included in bulletin. • Article on National Farmers Union North West web pages about dRBMP consultation • Article in Bolton news about dRBMP consultation • Article in Cumberland and Westmorland Herald about dRBMP consultation • Article on Wigan Today website about classification • Article in Wigan evening post about classification • Article in 4NW weekly newsletter about dRBMP consultation • Article on Mersey Basin Campaign Website about dRBMP consultation • Information posted on Chemicals Northwest Website about dRBMP consultation • Article in Chemicals North West Newsletter about dRBMP consultation • Article on Lake District National Park website about dRBMP consultation • Article in Chemicals Northwest e-newsletter about dRBMP consultation

Means of dissemination	Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article on Ribble Catchment Conservation Trust website about dRBMP workshop for NGOs
Public meetings/drop in events, other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting at Lancashire Environment Forum to discuss local action • Meeting with local Association of Rivers Trusts to discuss local actions • Attending Fisheries Consultative meetings • Presentation at Morecambe Bay Partnership conference <p>Workshop held for eNGOs</p>
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer for translations of documents to be made available on request • Approx 30 meetings/phone calls with individual stakeholders to discuss Water Framework Directive • Approx 57 meetings attended engaging over 1230 people

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Publication of background documents on the economic aspects of implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping study for Water Framework Directive Annex III (economic analysis) • Regulatory Impact Assessment on potential costs and benefits associated with new environmental standards • Report on economic importance and dynamics of use of River Basin Characterisation led by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Welsh Assembly Government involved. • Report on cost recovery and incentive pricing led by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Welsh Assembly Government involved. • Report on cost-effectiveness analysis and methodology for assessing disproportionate costs led by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Welsh Assembly Government involved • Report on private water services • Groundwater daughter directive partial Regulatory Impact Assessment - covers England and Wales • Priority substances partial Regulatory Impact Assessment
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 5 reports • Advert for the draft River Basin Management Plans consultation and links to details on the competent authority websites.

United Kingdom Water Framework Directive Technical Advisory Group

United Kingdom Water Framework Directive Technical Advisory Group website	<p>Access to information on technical interpretation of Water Framework Directive requirements including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental standards • Classification
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L.3 Consultations

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
Led by the Environment Agency			
Draft North West River Basin Management Plan	This document presented the main issues for the North West River Basin District and briefly set out the actions proposed to deal with them. The annexes to the document gave much more detail on the conditions in the river basin district, the actions proposed and the mechanisms that can be used to take these actions forward.	<p>There were 112 responses to the consultation received. The main themes of the comments received were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Size and presentation of the draft plan • Low level of ambition in the first cycle • Queries on the assessment of the health of water bodies • The need to engage a wider range of sectors, organisations and people in the delivery of the plan. • The need to secure funding for those unfunded measures that were included in the plan • Present a clear view of the links between all the different legal requirements that apply to the water environment and how these link to other plans • The need to provide more information on the links between Water Framework Directive and other legislation such as Habitats Directive, Water Resources Acts and the Marine Bill. <p>As a result of the comments made, the</p>	December 2008 – June 2009

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
		<p>Environment Agency has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased the level of ambition in the first cycle • Updated and reviewed the current status and future objective for every waterbody • Reviewed the local and national measures, including feedback from consultation response • Reviewed the content and presentation of the main document and annexes <p>Further detail is provided in 'draft River Basin Management Plans, a consultation response for the North West River Basin District'</p> <p>http://wfdconsultation.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfdcms/en/northwest/Intro.aspx</p>	
Strategic Environmental Assessment Reports for the draft River Basin Management Plans	The Water Framework Directive requires the production of River Basin Management Plans across the United Kingdom. These plans require assessment under the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (2001/42/EC) to identify wider effects on the environment. The environmental report presented the methodology we used in the SEA, an explanation of how environmental factors have been considered	<p>1 opinion was received relating directly to the North West Plan. A summary of comments across all river basin districts included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of ensuring the maintenance of water supplies to canals and the need to maintain canals open for navigation and at suitable depth. Concerns were also raised about measures that may require the screening of abstractions and 	December 2008 – June 2009

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
	<p>within the decision-making, and the results and conclusions of the SEA process.</p>	<p>transfers to supply water to reservoirs and canals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of river basin management process in delivering habitat creation, green infrastructure, reinstatement of habitat, and the enhancement of protected and UKBAP, LBAP and other locally important species. • Concerns were raised about how the SEA has considered the historic environment (including historic landscape character, historic built environment, archaeological remains and deposits). Sensitivities include: changes in water quality, water levels, habitat restoration schemes, managed realignment and pollution. • Respondents wished to see further evidence of how the SEA had influenced the Plan process and how it may be possible to influence other 	

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
		<p>future plans and strategies.</p> <p>Further detail and the action the Environment Agency has taken to all comments is provided in the 'Strategic Environmental Assessment Statement of Particulars'.</p> <p>http://wfdconsultation.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfdcms/en/northwest/Intro.aspx</p>	
Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Reports consultation	The Water Framework Directive requires the production of River Basin Management Plans across the United Kingdom. These plans require assessment under the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC) to identify wider effects on the environment. The Scoping Reports set out the information to be included in this assessment	The results of the consultation were considered in finalising the approach to the Strategic Environmental Assessment. Further details for each river basin district can be obtained on the Environment Agency website.	October to November 2007 (extended to January 2008)
River Basin Planning – Summary of Significant Water Management Issues [North West River Basin District]	This document sets out what The Environment Agency believe are the most significant issues that face the North West Basin District. The Environment Agency has worked together with the members of the North West River Basin District liaison panel to identify the significant	<p>The majority of responses disagreed with the proposals. As a result of the comments made, the Environment Agency have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added 'Abstraction and Flow' issues in terms of climate change and future growth as the districts sixth significant water management issue • Added additional pressures which 	July 2007 to January 2008

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
	<p>water management issues. To identify the significant issues for this report, a list of pressures or 'potential issues' was assessed</p>	<p>underline the 'headline' issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added additional organisations and suggested measures relevant to the appropriate significant water management issue. <p>Further detail is provided in 'River basin planning: Summary of significant water management issues, a consultation response for the North West River Basin District'</p>	
<p>River Basin Planning – Working Together [North West River Basin District]</p>	<p>This document presented information and proposals about the way river basin planning could work in the North West River Basin District and how and when people interested in participating in this process could do so.</p>	<p>Many varied and constructive responses were received, with many suggesting improvements to the Environment Agency's proposals. As a result of the comments made, the Environment Agency has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased the number of publications consultation notices are published in. • Added additional stakeholders to the database. • Added additional plans and strategies relevant to river basin planning • Added further detail to 'River basin planning: working together, a consultation response for the North West River Basin District' to make method statements clearer; • Refined and corrected the assessments for authorised point and diffuse sources, where necessary; 	<p>December 2006 to June 2007</p>

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated morphological pressure assessments where new information was available; • Improved assessment of non-native species risks to surface waters; and chemical and quantitative risks to ground water. <p>Further detail is provided in 'River basin planning: working together, a consultation response for the North West River Basin District'</p>	
Water for life and livelihoods – a strategy for River Basin Planning in England and Wales	This document set out proposals for how the Environment Agency was planning to work to develop river basin management plans and implement the Water Framework Directive. In particular how it would engage with and encourage participation from stakeholders at national, regional and local level; and how it would integrate different aspects of managing the water environment	Responses were received from many different stakeholders. These contributed to refining the planned approach to river basin management, particularly in relation to the terms of reference for stakeholder engagement. This consultation process also helped the process of aligning the thinking about implementation of the Directive between the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Welsh Assembly Government and key stakeholders.	January to April 2005
River Basin Characterisation	District based consultation on River Basin Characterisation (Water Framework Directive Article 5)	<p>There were many varied and constructive responses, with many suggesting improvements to the proposals. As a result of these comments, the Environment Agency have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • made method statements clearer; • refined and corrected the assessments for 	September to November 2004

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
		<p>authorised point and diffuse sources, where necessary;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • updated morphological pressure assessments where new information was available; • improved assessment of non-native species risks to surface waters; and chemical and quantitative risks to ground water. 	
The Water Framework Directive – Guiding Principles on the Technical Requirements	This document presented the Environment Agency’s interpretation of the technical requirements from Annex II and V of the Water Framework Directive. Aspects covered by these annexes included the characterisation of surface and groundwater body types; identification of pressures and impacts; review of impacts of human activity; classification of surface water and groundwater bodies; and the design of monitoring programmes.	Responses were received from a number of the main stakeholders. These allowed a common understanding of the technical requirements of the Directive to be achieved and informed the work undertaken to complete the Characterisation Reports; the design of the monitoring programmes; and the approach to status classification for water bodies.	June to September 2002
Led by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Welsh Assembly Government			
Consultation on the Draft Flood and Water Management Bill	<p>The draft Flood and Water Management Bill will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deliver improved security, service and sustainability for people and their communities 	<p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult/consult/flood-water-bill/index.htm</p>	April to July 2009

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it will be clear who is responsible for managing flood risk • protect essential water supplies • modernise the law for managing flood risk and reservoir safety • encourage more sustainable forms of drainage • enable water companies to control more non-essential uses of water during droughts • make it easier to resolve misconnections to sewers <p>The overall effect will be a healthier environment, better service and greater protection for people, their communities and businesses.</p>		
<p>Consultation on the second phase of Environmental Permitting Programme (EPP2)</p>	<p>EPP2 is a Better Regulation initiative designed to reduce costs for operators and the regulator by cutting unnecessary red tape, while continuing to protect the environment and human health. This consultation proposes to extend the single EP system formed under EPP1 to create a common system of risk-based environmental permitting and compliance for an extended range of regimes. These include:</p>	<p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/env-permitting/letter.htm</p>	<p>February to May 2009</p>

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Discharge consents: Permits to control certain discharges to surface water; • Groundwater Authorisations: Permits to control the disposal of specific substances into groundwater, and; • Radioactive Substances Regulation: permits for keeping and use of radioactive materials; and for accumulation and disposal of radioactive waste. 		
<p>Consultation on new arrangements for establishing Water Protection Zones</p>	<p>For England, the principle of new Water Protection Zone arrangements was included in all options for the consultation on Catchment Sensitive Farming. A Welsh consultation will consider the need for new Water Protection Zone arrangements alongside other agricultural diffuse pollution measures.</p>	<p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/water-protection-zones/index.htm</p> <p>http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/environmentandcountryside/waterprotectionzones/?lang=en&status=closed</p>	<p>Catchment Sensitive Farming consultation in England ended in November 2007</p> <p>December 2008 to March 2009</p>
<p>Consultation on Directions to the Environment Agency on Classification of Water Bodies</p>	<p>This consultation is the final stage in a process of developing the environmental quality standards and other criteria recommended for use in classification in the first river basin planning cycle. It also includes recommendations on methodologies for the use of those standards and criteria to classify</p>		<p>October to December 2008</p>

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
Ministerial Guidance - Consultation on River Basin Planning Guidance Volume 2	<p>all WFD water bodies.</p> <p>Consultation seeks views upon draft guidance in relation to standards, objectives, emerging policy trends, issues around technical feasibility and disproportionate cost; and impact assessments associated with the Water Framework Directive.</p>	<p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/water/wfd/documents/consult-guidance-response-letter.pdf</p>	<p>February to May 2008</p>
Consultation on Implementation of European Union Legislation in England and Wales: Aquatic Animal Health Directive	<p>This paper asks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note the provisions in the Directive which are obligatory; • comment on the interpretation; • respond on the proposals relating to the areas of choice. <p>The Directive and the implementing proposals generally cover the aquatic animals when they are caught, kept or moved by humans. There are also some obligations in relation to aquatic animals in the wild.</p>	<p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/khv/khv-consultation-doc.pdf</p>	<p>December 2007 to March 2008</p>
Consultation on the implementation of the revised Bathing Water Directive	<p>The purpose of this Consultation paper was to seek views on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the number and type of bathing waters where measures should be taken to improve the water quality; • the development of a prediction and discounting system; and • the development of public information for beach signage. 	<p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/water/waterquality/bathing/documents/summary-responses.pdf</p>	<p>November 2007 to February 2008</p>
Consultation on	This consultation		November 2007 to

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
the review of schedule 9 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and a ban on the sale of certain species	sought comments on proposals for a prohibition on the sale of certain species. The prohibition will be achieved by an Order made under section 14ZA of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.	http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-pets/wildlife/management/non-native/documents/consultation.pdf	January 2008
Consultation on Non-Agricultural Diffuse Pollution	General binding rules for non-agricultural diffuse pollution; Control on phosphates in laundry detergents; Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems: permeable surfaces, filter strips and swales, infiltration devices, basins and ponds.	Various steps are being considered and the Consultation on options for controls on phosphates in domestic laundry cleaning products in England has been launched.	February to May 2007
Consultation on mechanisms to deliver Water Framework Directive Requirements on hydromorphology	This document looks at the range of legislative, economic and voluntary mechanisms that are available in England and Wales for delivering measures to avoid or reduce effects resulting from hydromorphological pressures, and whether they are sufficient to meet Water Framework Directive requirements.	<p>The majority who responded welcomed the consultation and most provided practical and constructive comments.</p> <p>Various options are being considered with the Environment Agency taking on board responses to recent consultation. Any new powers that might be needed would have to be in place by the end of 2009.</p> <p>The idea of a catchment restoration fund is being actively considered to address the physical restoration of a number of water bodies.</p>	February to May 2007
Article 5 economic analysis of water use supporting document	Article 5 (characterisation) requirement for River basin district based assessments of the	Reports summarising, for each River basin district, the analysis required by Article 5 of the Directive have been reported by	March 2005

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
	'Economic analysis of water use'.	the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (on behalf of the United Kingdom) to the European Commission. http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/water/wfd/characterisation.htm	
Consultation on Guidance for River Basin Planning	This guidance set out the expectations of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in relation to river basin planning.	Set out in two parts. See Ministerial Guidance Consultation.	December 2004 to March 2005
Second consultation on the Water Framework Directive	This second consultation invited views on the key issues arising from transposition and implementation of the Water Framework Directive into national legislation.	The summary of responses and the response to them is detailed in the document below, from pages 14 – 53. http://www.freshwaterlife.org/servlet/BinaryDownloaderServlet?filename=1060944568091_WFD_consult3_chapters_only.pdf	October 2002 to January 2003
First consultation on the Water Framework Directive	This consultation invited views on key issues arising from the implementation of the Water Framework Directive. It was the first step, including discussions with the principal affected parties. It also served as an introduction to the Directive's provisions and principal obligations.	In addition to the main themes, the role of wetlands and the degree to which they could be protected under the Water Framework Directive and the definition and timing of the "no deterioration" in status requirement were discussed. As a result of the comments made the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Welsh Assembly Government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agreed that its important to develop techniques to trace and monitor 	March to June 2001

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
		<p>diffuse sources of pollution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> gave their intention to implement the Water Framework Directive by means of secondary legislation (regulations). 	
Led by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs			
<p>Consultation on proposals for time limiting of water abstraction licenses</p>	<p>This consultation is gather views on proposals for time limiting of water abstraction licenses. The time limiting of existing abstraction licenses is vital in ensuring water resources can be managed and allocated efficiently, in order to cope with the anticipated impacts of climate change and achieve water quality objectives set out in the UK Government's 2008 water strategy for England <i>Future Water</i>.</p>	<p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/water-abstraction/consultation.pdf</p>	<p>May to August 2009</p>
<p>Consultation on implementing the abstraction elements of the Water Act 2003</p>	<p>This consultation is to seek views on draft proposals from Defra and the Welsh Assembly Government on the removal and creation of various exemptions from license control. The proposed new Regulations to bring these proposals into force will implement the remaining abstraction provisions of the Water Act 2003.</p>	<p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/water-act/index.htm</p>	<p>April to July 2009</p>
<p>Environmental Standards for Farming - Consultation on</p>	<p>This consultation is to seek your views on a range of proposed changes to cross</p>	<p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/gaec/index.htm</p>	<p>February to May 2009</p>

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
proposed changes to standards in cross compliance Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC) and related measures in England	compliance following the conclusion of the review of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP Health Check). These proposals relate to cross compliance standards and related measures in England, including recapturing the environmental benefits of set-aside.		
Consultation on modernisation of salmon and freshwater fisheries legislation; new order to address the passage of fish	Proposals to improve the free passage of fish and to allow free access to breeding, nursery and feeding grounds for fish in England and Wales. These proposals follow recommendations made in the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Review, published in 2000, and were included in the consultation which started in February 2007 on "Mechanisms to Deliver Water Framework Directive Requirements on Hydro-morphology" and in the new water strategy for England, Future Water on 7 February 2008.	http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/fisheries-legislation/letter.htm	January to April 2009
Consultation on Draft Statutory Instrument to amend provisions of the Water Resources Act 1991 for Water Protection Zones, and related Draft Statutory Guidance for the Environment Agency	This consultation follows on from one on diffuse water pollution from agriculture that was conducted in 2007. Defra concluded in the light of that earlier consultation that the need to provide a power to regulate where necessary to implement the Water Framework Directive would be best met by simply updating the	http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/water-protection-zones/	December 2008 to March 2009

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
	<p>existing power to designate Water Protection Zones. This power would be available for use where appropriate under the river basin management plans now being developed by the Environment Agency with the aim of achieving good chemical and ecological status in inland and coastal waters by 2015. Parts of this consultation will also apply in Wales.</p>		
<p>Consultation on improving surface water drainage</p>	<p>This consultation develops some of the key policy proposals set out in the Government's new Water Strategy, <i>Future Water</i>. The strategy sets out a vision for more effective drainage of surface water, in order to resolve existing problems and prepare for the impacts of climate change. The floods last summer brought into sharp focus the real damage that surface water flooding can cause. The interim report from the Pitt Review on lessons learned has urged early action to improve the way that surface water is managed, particularly in high risk areas.</p>	<p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/flooding/documents/manage/surfacewater/swmp-consult.pdf</p> <p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/flooding/documents/manage/surfacewater/swmp-consult-sum.pdf</p>	<p>February to April 2008</p>
<p>Consultation on the future of the Pesticides Safety Directorate (PSD)</p>	<p>This consultation paper sought views on the future of the Pesticides Safety Directorate, following recommendations made by the 2005</p>		<p>November 2007 to January 2008</p>

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
	Hampton Review, which aimed to make Government's inspection and enforcement functions simpler and more customer focussed.		
Protection of Waters Against Pollution from Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of this Consultation paper was to seek views on: proposals for revised Action Programme measures to control pollution caused by nitrogen from agricultural sources. whether to apply these measures within discrete Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (as revised) or throughout the whole of England. 	http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/water/waterquality/diffuse/nitrate/documents/consultation-supportdocs/consultation.pdf	August to December 2007
Consultation on the revised Code of Good Agricultural Practice to protect water, soil and air quality.	This consultation invited views on the draft revised Code of Good Agricultural Practice.	http://www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/landmanage/cogap/documents/summary-responses.pdf	August to November 2007
Consultation on diffuse sources of water pollution from agriculture.	Three policy packages are presented for consideration for inclusion in Programme of measures: supportive, regulatory and economic. Also whether Water Protection Zones should be merged with Nitrate Vulnerable Zones.	<p>Government response:</p> http://www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/landmanage/water/csf/documents/diffuse-consult-govresponse.pdf	August to November 2007
Consultation on options for controls on phosphates in domestic laundry cleaning products	This consultation paper covers the need to take action on phosphates in the water environment and the contribution that		February 2007 to April 2008

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
in England	controls on domestic laundry cleaning products might make to that process.		
Consultation on draft statutory social and environmental guidance to the Office of Water Services (Ofwat)	This consultation delivers on a commitment made by the Government in the Regulatory Impact Assessment which accompanied the Water Act 2003, that a full public consultation would take place on the draft Guidance.		February 2007 to April 2008
Partial Regulatory Impact Appraisal	This Regulatory Impact Assessment concerns environmental quality standards for implementation of the Water Framework Directive. The Directive requires the United Kingdom administrations to introduce environmental standards and conditions to help with the classification and objective setting process that will form the basis for the river basin management planning required to meet the Directive objectives.	http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/water/wfd/documents/pdf-ria-draft/ria-wfd-excludingannexes.pdf Note: the United Kingdom Water Framework Directive Technical Advisory Group issued their initial proposals for standards for stakeholder review in early 2006. This Regulatory Impact Assessment takes into account the changes proposed as a result of the stakeholder review and reflects the final recommendations made.	2007
Consultation: <i>Making Space for Water:</i> Environment Agency strategic overview – strengthening our strategic approach to sea flooding and coastal erosion risk management	This consultation paper seeks views on the proposals of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for the way in which the Environment Agency will exercise a strategic overview in relation to sea flooding and coastal erosion risk management. A separate consultation will take place at a later	<i>Making space for water</i> has identified the need to explore a greater range of delivery mechanisms for flood and coastal erosion risk management, with a view to developing more sustainable approaches which maximise the environmental, social and economic benefits achieved and which may also deliver wider benefits.	August to November 2006

Title	Brief description of document	Key outputs of consultation and actions	Period of consultation
	stage regarding the Environment Agency's strategic overview in relation to inland sources of flooding.		
Led by United Kingdom Water Framework Directive Technical Advisory Group			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Standards and Conditions – Phase 1 • Environmental Standards – part 2 • United Kingdom Environmental Standards and Conditions (Specific Pollutants/Groundwater Standards/Surface Water) (SR1-2007) 		
	For more information visit http://www.wfduk.org/		
Other			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towards Sustainability (United Kingdom Water Industry Research) 		
	For more information visit http://www.ukwir.org/site/web/content/home		

L.4 Involvement in the planning process

Sectors, Groups and networks	Activity
River Basin District Level	

The liaison panel was created as a new forum for co-deliverers to discuss and influence the development of the river basin management plan and assist with its implementation. The panel works on a representational system and core membership will be based around the key organisations that are responsible for implementation, and others who can both represent the public and other sectors.

The liaison panel is made up of representatives from key stakeholder sectors:

	Sector	Key Representative	Organisation (Role)
North West River Basin District Liaison Panel	Consumers	Andrea Cook	<i>Consumer Council for Water</i>
	Environment Agency	Tony Dean	<i>Environment Agency</i>
	Local authority	Tim Hill	<i>Bolton Borough Council</i>
	Farming	Helen Little	<i>National Farmers Union</i>
	Industry	Darius Richardson	<i>Ineos Chlor</i>
	Natural England	Paul Green	<i>Natural England</i>
	Recreation	Bob Cartwright	<i>Lake District National Park Authority</i>
	Regional Development	Mark Atherton	<i>North West Development Agency</i>
	Regional Assembly	Michael Gallagher	<i>North West Regional Assembly</i>
	Water Companies	Perry Hobbs/ Jan Tyson	<i>United Utilities</i>
	Freshwater Fisheries and Riparian Owners	Alistair Maltby	<i>Association of Rivers Trusts</i>
	Environmental NGOs	Walter Menzies	<i>Mersey Basin Campaign</i>
	Environmental NGOs	Peter Robertson	<i>Royal Society for the Protection of Birds/Envirolink North West</i>
	Fisheries	Judith Clark (since Nov 2008)	<i>North West Regional Fisheries, Ecology and Recreation Advisory Committee</i>

12 meetings of the liaison panel were held in different venues within the river basin district. Minutes are available in <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/33194.aspx>

Business Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Damian Waters Confederation of British Industry to discuss Water Framework Directive opportunities • Meeting with Stanislav Zizka Envirolink to discuss Water Framework Directive opportunities • Selected representatives attended catchment workshops
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Sectors, Groups and networks	Activity
Chemical Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with Roger Langford Chemicals Northwest to discuss Water Framework Directive opportunities Selected representatives attended catchment workshops Briefings provided
Water Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings with United Utilities to finalise the Water Resource Management Plans Members of United Utilities attended catchment workshops
Ports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings with representatives of Port, harbour, navigation and dredging sector. <p>Selected representatives invited to attend catchment workshops</p>
Farming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected representatives attended catchment workshops Consulted with National Farmers Union (NFU), Natural England, Water UK, Wildlife link on characterisation Met Carl Hudspith NFU to discuss Water Framework Directive opportunities
Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation at North West Regional Assembly planners meeting <p>Selected representatives attended catchment workshops</p>
MPs and MEPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefings for MPs and MEPs when appropriate Event for MEPs
Fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected representatives attended catchment workshops Representatives present at consultatives meeting Briefings provided
Recreation and biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected representatives attended catchment workshops Meeting with Susan Clarke Natural England to discuss Water Framework Directive opportunities Meeting with Alistair Maltby and Fisheries Consultatives to discuss Water Framework Directive opportunities.
<p>Area and Regional Planning and Planning Liaison teams in the North West are continuing to influence the Local Planning Authorities to acknowledge that they need to contribute to the implementation of river basin management plans and to incorporate Water Framework Directive requirements into land use.</p> <p>Information on Water Framework Directive was presented to Cumbria Development Plan Officers Group (DPOG) about river basin management and their role in implementing it.</p> <p>The North West North Area Environmental Planning teams influenced South Lakeland District Council to incorporate river basin management principles in the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for Allocations of Land plans</p>	

National and European level

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Water Framework Stakeholder Group	<p>Chaired by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. This group was established to promote stakeholder participation in the implementation of the Water Framework Directive. Members of the group are able to raise issues of concern and provide input. The Environment Agency lead on items and provide a detailed Water Framework Directive Programme update for each.</p> <p>Examples of members of the Stakeholder Group are given below.</p>
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Sectors, Groups and networks	Activity
	<p>Members include people representing the water industry, land management, environmental Non-Governmental Organisations and government organisations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water United Kingdom • Natural England • Office of Water Trading • British Waterways • Forestry Commission • National Trust • Country Landowners Association • National Farmers Union • Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
National Liaison Panel for England	<p>Chaired by the Environment Agency. The National Liaison Panel for England has been set up to complement the river basin district liaison panels. The panel consists of around 20 members based around the key co-deliverers, that is, organisations who are responsible for carrying out actions, and others who can both represent the public and help drive changes in behaviour. The panel works on a representational system. This means the panel members are expected to represent the views of the whole of their sector and act as a two-way channel between the panel and their sector.</p> <p>Five meetings of the liaison panel were held between July 2007 and June 2009. Meeting papers and minutes are available on the website www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfd. Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings as observers, by appointment with the Chair.</p>
Collaborative research programme on economics (CRP)	<p>The Collaborative Research Programme provided a consistent UK-wide basis for the environmental economics assessments for Water Framework Directive implementation. It was managed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and included participation from key interested groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Welsh Assembly Government, Scottish Executive, Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland and other Government Departments • Environment Agency, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Environment and Heritage Service • Natural England (previously English Nature), Office of Water Trading • Industry • Non-governmental organisations <p>The project considered assessment of measures and their benefits, in particular:</p>

Sectors, Groups and networks	Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a methodology to assess both the cost and effectiveness of measures aimed at protecting water resources; • guidance on deciding when costs are likely to be disproportionate to benefits; • a methodology for assessing the benefits - environmental, social and economic - from measures. <p>Other supporting material was produced, including a database of typical cost ranges for specific measures.</p>
Tripartite meetings	<p>The Environment Agency meet regularly with Natural England, Countryside Council for Wales and the Joint Nature Conservancy Council. Discussions are held about key policy and legal issues in the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, as well as nature conservation sub-plans, protected areas and monitoring.</p>
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Economic Advisory Stakeholder Group (EASG)	<p>The Water Framework Directive Economic Advisory Stakeholder Group in England and Wales met for the first time in December 2003. Established to support the implementation of the Water Framework Directive across in England and Wales. The Economic Advisory Stakeholder Group leads on issues defined as specific to England and Wales. Includes both government, agencies and stakeholders, and complements separate Water Framework Directive arrangements in the devolved administrations. The Economic Advisory Stakeholder Group in England and Wales includes all members of the ESG (government and regulators). Additional non-ESG members are listed below:</p> <p>Aluminium Foundation; Association of Electricity Producers; British Hydropower Association; British Marine Federation; British Water; British Waterways; Chemical Industries Association; The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management; Confederation of British Industry; Confederation of British Wool Textiles; Confederation of Paper Industries; Country Land and Business Association; Crop Protection Association; Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Communications Directorate; Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Flood Management; Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Policy and Corporate Strategy Unit; Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Regulation Review Team; Department of Business and Regulatory Reform; Environmental Education Forum (EEF); Environmental Campaigns (ENCAMS); Environmental Industries Commission</p> <p>Highways Agency; International Navigation Association (PIANC); Kaolin & Ball Clay Association</p> <p>National Farmers' Union; Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; Royal Yachting Association</p> <p>Salmon and Trout Association; Society of British Water and Wastewater Industries;</p> <p>Surface Engineering Association; Surfers Against Sewage; United Kingdom Centre for Economic and Environmental Development; United Kingdom Major Ports; Water UK; Watervoice; The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)</p>

Sectors, Groups and networks	Activity
European Union Common Implementation Strategy	<p>Key outputs from group and subgroups have been</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary cost-effectiveness analysis <p>Involvement of European Stakeholder groups in development of common European implementation guidance, including European Environment Bureau, WWF, PIANC (ports and navigation), Eureau and other stakeholder groups.</p>
Conferences and seminars	<p>Numerous conferences and seminars including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management series • Water UK Water Framework Directive conference 2009 • Specific conference for liaison panel members on economics March 2009 • Defra Ministerial event 19 March 2009
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodic Review in 2009, England Catchment Sensitive Farming Delivery Initiative