

National Meeting
***Bridging Troubled Waters –
Hydrology and Spatial Planning***

Thursday 14 January, University of Liverpool



British
Hydrological
Society

In recent years attention to issues concerning water and planning has been rising. Faced with a climate of increasing extremes with a greater need to manage water resources sustainably, to maintain and improve water quality, set against the projected increase of 252,000 new households a year in England (DCLG, 2009)¹ - reveals the significant challenge that the spatial planning system faces when considering water management.

The sheer complexity of the issues around water management and the increasing technical knowledge required means partnership working is essential to achieve a sustainable, integrated approach. Yet there can be a considerable misunderstanding between disciplines, often concerning the organisational and cultural context in which the various parties operate, which hinders progress. How can planners embed critical hydrological issues in regional and local plans, in decisions on individual planning applications and seek opportunities through redevelopment and regeneration initiatives to achieve sustainable water management? How can hydrologists better understand the institutional context to deliver workable, comprehensible advice and solutions that meet multiple social, environmental and economic objectives? How can researchers better inform integrated policy and implementation?

This one day meeting will bring together a variety of stakeholders to explore the linkages and gain a deeper understanding of integrating water issues in spatial planning. The primary focus of the meeting is on the commonly experienced challenges of interdisciplinary working; how to promote communication, collaboration and knowledge transfer to yield workable solutions to the problems we face. It is hoped new relationships and further interdisciplinary research and practice opportunities will emerge from this agenda.

The Programme

Joint chairs will set the scene, introducing the challenges that require increased interdisciplinary working. **Professor David Butler** is Professor of Water Engineering at the University of Exeter specialising in sustainable urban water management. **Professor David Shaw** is the head of the Department of Civic Design at the University of Liverpool with research interests in European spatial planning, rural planning policy, environmental planning and sustainable development.

A range of presenters from academia, policy making and practice, will discuss their experiences in water and planning, highlighting the need for inter disciplinary working and the challenges they have faced. Presenting across the themes of surface water management, sustainable urban drainage, natural approaches to flood risk management and urban water management, confirmed speakers include: **Dave Bayliss (Dwr Cymru Welsh Water); Matt Ellis (Environment Agency); Francis Hesketh (TEP); Richard Kellagher (HR Wallingford) and Iain White (University of Manchester).**

Who Should Attend?

This one-day BHS meeting has clear interdisciplinary implications. It should be of interest to a wide range of academics and practitioners in the public and private sector involved with water management, engineering and spatial planning, together with all those implicated in this relationship, including architects, landscape architects and ecologists.

Conveners: *Neil Macdonald¹, Karen Potter² and Sarah Ward³*

¹Department of Geography, University of Liverpool; ²Department of Civic Design, University of Liverpool; ³School of Engineering, Computing & Mathematics, University of Exeter.

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¹ The number of households is projected to grow to 27.8 million in 2031, an increase of 6.3 million over the 2006 estimate, or 252,000 households per year (Communities and Local Government (2009), *Household Projections to 2031, England*, Housing Statistical Release, 11 March 2009).



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Dietary requirements	None / Vegetarian (delete as appropriate)		

Cost per delegate (includes all refreshments):

BHS (membership number _____):	£45.00
Student/Non-earning member (membership number _____):	£20.00
Non members (includes BHS membership)*:	£70.00

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The British Hydrological Society is a not for profit organisation and the fees charged are for cost recovery only. In order to minimise administration costs, we would be obliged to receive payment in advance. Your remittance will be acknowledged by way of a confirmation letter, with details of registration and location. We regret that no refunds will be available for cancellations, but substitute delegates will be welcome. BHS is a Registered Charity, No. 327488, and is NOT registered for VAT.

Please post or fax to: **Tim Fuller**, British Hydrological Society, at the Institution of Civil Engineers, One Great George Street, London SW1P 3AA; **fax 020 7799 1325 to arrive no later than MONDAY 22 DECEMBER 2009.**

For **registration queries**, please call 020 7665 2234 or email: Tim.Fuller@ice.org.uk

For meeting (non-registration) queries, please email: Neil.Macdonald@liverpool.ac.uk; karen.potter@liverpool.ac.uk or sw278@exeter.ac.uk

