

Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum Keynote Seminar: Water and flood risk management

Date: 25th March 2010

Venue: Hall of India & Pakistan, Over-Seas House, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.45 - 9.00 Registration
- 9.00 - 9.05 Chairman's opening remarks
Earl of Selborne, Vice-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Water
- 9.05 - 9.30 Flood and water management: prevention, protection and remaining concerns
Themes: What provisions and strategies currently exist to prevent or limit the impact of flooding? How adequate are such measures? What more could be done to protect the most vulnerable areas in the UK from flooding? What concerns exist in relation to water policy and management? How urgent are these concerns? What are the key provisions of the Flood and Water Management Bill?
Professor Ćedo Maksimović, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Imperial College London
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 10.25 Legislating for flooding and water management: risk, sustainability and implementation
Themes: How effectively will the Flood and Water Management Bill improve the security of homes and businesses most at risk from flooding? How adequately does the Bill take into account the impact of climate change on increasing the risk of flooding? How sustainable are provisions to improve drainage systems and to protect water resources? Are plans to enhance Ofwat's regulatory powers appropriate? Considering the scope of the Bill and the expectations of different regions, what concerns are likely to arise over its implementation?
Dr Andy Johnston, Local Government Flood Forum
Katherine Pygott, Chief Scientist, Catchment Processes, Halcrow
Jacob Tompkins, Managing Director, Waterwise
Anna Fleming, Property Claims Director, Zurich Insurance
Mark Worsfold, Head of Asset Strategy, Ofwat
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 - 10.50 Looking to the future: the view from the Environment Agency
David Rooke, Head of Strategy and Engagement, Flood and Coastal Risk Management Directorate, Environment Agency
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.50 - 10.55 Chairman's closing remarks
Earl of Selborne, Vice-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Water
- 10.55 - 11.25 Coffee break
- 11.25 - 11.30 Chairman's opening remarks
Lord Taylor of Holbeach, Shadow Minister for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- 11.30 - 11.55 Competition and innovation: key issues emerging from the Cave Review
Themes: What were the key issues identified by the Cave Review concerning 'competition and innovation in water markets'? Beyond the Flood and Water Management Bill, how should such issues feed into UK water policy?
Professor Martin Cave, Director, Centre for Management under Regulation, Warwick Business School, University of Warwick
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 - 12.25 Next Steps: metering and charging mechanisms
Themes: How should UK strategy consider the key issues which emerged from the Walker review on the 'charging and metering of household water and sewerage services'? In conjunction with the findings of the Walker review, how might future policy set out cost efficient plans for limiting the UK's levels of wasted water?
Nick Ellins, Deputy Chief Executive, Consumer Council for Water
Jonathan Hodgkin, Director of Regulation and Strategy, Yorkshire Water
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 - 12.55 Next steps on implementation: the view from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Simon Hewitt, Manager for the Flood and Water Legislation Project, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 Chairman's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks
Lord Taylor of Holbeach, Shadow Minister for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Peter van Gelder, Director, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum