

NATIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP ON FLOODING ISSUES
WATER ENVIRONMENT AND WATER SERVICES (SCOTLAND) ACT 2003
RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES DISCUSSION PAPER

1. As you know, Under Section 2(4) of the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003, public bodies with statutory functions that impact on the water environment will be designated as "responsible authorities". One requirement of designation as a responsible authority is to promote sustainable flood management.

2. A discussion paper on the proposals for the designation of responsible authorities is in the process of being developed. The paper introduces the key requirements, what they may entail and how they may be integrated into current practices. The paper will then go onto look at each proposed body, the reasons for designation and the possible implications.

3. As regards the requirement to promote sustainable flood management, it is necessary to consider how much detail is required on the findings of this group.

4. I would like to discuss the following options for the discussion paper;

- Simply explain that a group has been set up to define sustainable flood management and that guidance will follow.
- Set out the definition agreed by the group.
- Set out the agreed definition and principles of the group.
- All the above, including an example of guidance.
- Any other ideas.

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