

NATIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP ON FLOODING ISSUES

GUIDANCE SUBGROUP – **DRAFT** GUIDANCE OUTLINE

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide a draft outline for the proposed national technical guidance on taking forward flood prevention schemes under the Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961.

Background

2. The Guidance sub-group met on 21 January and tentatively agreed that technical guidance should be laid out as follows:

- a) **Introduction and overview** – custom guidance required highlighting partnership working.
- b) **Strategic considerations** – custom guidance required which will cover mapping and hydrometric issues and sustainable flood management.
- c) **Statutory process** – Scotland specific guidance explaining the 1961 Act required.
- d) **Design standards** – this volume should be supplemented by the Baptie Report findings on climate change.
- e) **Economic appraisal** – to be taken from DEFRA guidance PAG 3.
- f) **Approaches to risk** – to be taken from DEFRA guidance PAG 4.
- g) **Environmental appraisal/impacts** – based on DEFRA guidance PAG 5. (This volume is to be updated by DEFRA in the near future.)
- h) **Project prioritisation methodology** – new guidance required.
- i) **Post-Project Evaluation** – The DEFRA guidance PAG 6 on post-project evaluation has still to be published. Its relevance to Scotland will be considered later.

Phase one

3. The first step is to provide Scottish versions of DEFRA PAG 3, 4 and 5 (when updated) (and 6 when completed). This will entail:

- identifying inappropriate text, diagrams and references,
- establishing common sections that could be adopted fully,
- highlighting common areas that need partial revision due to different emphasis/progress in Scotland,
- indicating specific parts that require amendment to reflect the Scottish statutory and institutional arrangements,

- correcting for consequential changes, and
- checking that the adjusted documents are consistent, one to one and with each other.

4. This would produce within a short timescale over a third of the guidance required in total. The aim would be to provide a first draft for members of the Guidance sub-group to consider at a meeting in May. The sub-group would then report back its conclusions to NTAG on 3 June. The Scottish Executive is currently securing the services of a technical writer to start on phase one.

Phase two

5. The remaining chapters will be written when the Sustainable Flood Management and Mapping and Hydrometric Issues sub-groups have concluded their work.

Conclusions

6. Members are asked to consider the draft guidance outline above and forward any comments/amendments to Secretariat by 12 March.

**NTAG Secretariat
March 2004**