

Waste and Resources: Policy-relevant Evidence and Research

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Waste, Resources and Sustainable Consumption Evidence (WReSCE) programme

Evidence programme establishing a platform for evidence-based decision-making.



Better alignment of policy, delivery and evidence



Enhanced collaboration



Better use of expertise



Waste Hierarchy

- First introduced 1977 in 2nd Environmental Action Programme
- Became a legal requirement for the first time in the 2008 revised Waste Framework Directive



Some examples of evidence and research interests for WReSCE – policy, regulation and delivery

WRAP – food and drink (food waste, AD), products (WEEE material flows and recovery), collection & sorting (MRFs, industrial symbiosis), market economics (business models)

Delivery role working with numerous organisations and stakeholders

Environment Agency – future waste streams (nano, changes in flow of materials through sectors), materials spread to land, waste stream approach (metals, WEEE), water quality

Regulatory role – PAS, Quality Protocols, spreading materials to land, NVZs in agriculture, waste crime, end of waste (when and how does waste become a product?)

Defra – AD, landfill emissions, biodegradable materials, bioaerosols, resource use behaviours, closed loop economics, hazardous waste, WEEE treatment

Central policy role in climate, waste/resources and atmosphere (adaptation to climate change, waste/resources management and recycling, air quality)

Welsh Government – share Defra's evidence budget but policies sometimes different

DECC – where energy involved (eg, energy from waste)

How can RRfW programme link to these evidence and policy activities?

WReSCE partners already strongly aware of programme

The partners can help connect you to key people in policy, regulation and delivery

Some key people available to network today

WReSCE tools – you can find out what evidence and policy related projects are being done – ask me!

Policy mapping exercise perhaps later as programme becomes established beyond catalyst phase

Evidence use in the policy world

Evidence is used in various situations

- Select committees
- Parliamentary questions
- All party parliamentary group meetings
- POSTnotes
- Consultation support
- Environment Agency has in-house experts and works with external scientists on regulatory matters
- Departmental policy and evidence teams

What do departmental policy teams do?



- Legislative work (eg, a Bill team)
- Produce white papers or other policy documents
- Assess previous policies for efficacy
- Work with stakeholders (eg, through consultations)
- Work with Ministers and their teams (eg, submissions)
- Perform regulatory impact assessments
- Consider policy at various points in a policy cycle

Engaging with policy colleagues

- Know thine pathway to impact
- Plan to tailor knowledge outputs to your audience
- Understand the speed of policy work and how busy they often are
- Some departments, eg, Defra, have science and evidence teams too – they can help
- Format and style of any knowledge delivery is important
- Try to find out timing of key events and decision points

*The research paper
you sent!*



For example, we can find out some key timetables

- Home
- River Basin Management
- Marine Environment and Coasts
- Flood Risk Management
- Water Scarcity and Droughts
- Drinking Water
- Bathing Water
- Water Pollution
- EU Water Initiative
- Blueprint
- Adaptation to Global Change



Your gateway to European water information.

- Data & Topics
- Policy
- Modelling
- Projects

WFD: Timetable for implementation

The **Water Framework Directive** sets out a clear deadlines for each of the requirements which adds up to an ambitious overall timetable. The key milestones are listed below.

Year	Issue	Reference
2000	Directive entered into force	Art. 25
2003	Transposition in national legislation Identification of River Basin Districts and Authorities	Art. 23 Art. 3
2004	Characterisation of river basin: pressures, impacts and economic analysis	Art. 5
2006	Establishment of monitoring network Start public consultation (at the latest)	Art. 8 Art. 14
2008	Present draft river basin management plan	Art. 13
2009	Finalise river basin management plan including programme of measures	Art. 13 & 11
2010	Introduce pricing policies	Art. 9
2012	Make operational programmes of measures	Art. 11
2015	Meet environmental objectives	Art. 4

Resources that may help

Understanding policy aims:

- Viewing policy documents – [policies](#)
- Searching or signing up to alerts for what research is being done in departments, eg, [DFID](#) , [Defra](#)
- Searching or receiving alerts from legislative databases, eg, [UK Bills](#) or [eur-lex](#) or [euro parliament observatory](#)
- Viewing public consultations, eg, [UK consultations](#)
- Viewing publications from the work of advisory [committees and NDPBs](#)
- Partnership initiatives may discuss policy interest areas, eg, <http://www.lwec.org.uk/>

Viewing policy-focused briefing documents and knowledge exchange/impact web-sites to get ideas:

- Rural Economy and Land Use Programme <http://www.relu.ac.uk/>
- Sustainable Urban Environment [SUE programme](#)
- Knowledge exchange funding websites <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/collaboration/knowledge-exchange/index.aspx>

Resources that may help

Looking at knowledge exchange and science-to-policy research findings – for example:

- Canadian and health focused paper that helps show the breadth of ideas in the knowledge exchange literature

[Alberta resource guide](#)

- Council for Science & Technology report

[How academia and government can work together report](#)

- 12 Essentials of Science Based Policy: Bernard Choi 2005 [Choi paper](#)
- Flows of knowledge, expertise and influence. Laura Meagher et al 2008

[Meagher et al paper](#) or pre-reviewed here

- Planning for Knowledge Translation: A Researchers Guide. Vicky Ward et al 2010 [Ward et al paper](#)
- Nutley et al 2007. *Using Evidence*. The Policy Press, Bristol
- [NERC](#) have KE materials too – Faith Culshaw leads