

Rural SuDS Natural Flood Management Conference Agenda

Wednesday 25th January 2017

Venue University of Gloucestershire Oxstalls Campus, Gloucester. GL2 9HW

Natural Flood management: Enabling partnerships and action.

This conference is aimed at accelerating building partnerships between local communities, flood groups, local authorities and land managers to enable them to deliver effective natural flood management at the local scale. It will describe the real partnerships established to enable Stroud District Council to deliver the Stroud Rural Suds project in Gloucestershire, which is building Natural Flood Management in the catchment of the Stroud River Frome.

9:30 Coffee and Registration

10:00 **Opening remarks & welcome** – Dr. Richard O'Doherty – Deputy Vice Chancellor,
University of Gloucestershire

10:05 **Conference Chair** – David Hagg – Chief Executive Stroud District Council

Keynotes speakers:

10:10 [Clare Dinnis - Deputy Director Flood and Coastal Risk Management, Strategic Development Environment Agency](#)

10:25 [Anne Wheeler – Severn and Wye \(England\) Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Chair](#)

10:40 Mark Hawthorne – Leader Gloucestershire County Council

10:55 Questions for Speakers

11:15 [Mary Dhonau – Community Floods Campaigner – Involving and engaging the Community in Natural Flood Management](#)

11:30 [Chris Uttley – Stroud RSuds Project Officer–Delivery of Natural Flood Management by a Local Authority and partners](#)

11:50 Panel Question Session

12:30 **Lunch**

13:15 Seminar 1 Options

1. Community engagement & involvement
2. Consenting & Regulation
3. Funding and partnerships
4. Practical delivery, land management, woodland management

14:15 **Afternoon Tea**

14:30 Seminar 2 Options As Above

15:30 Chris Short University of Gloucestershire - Feedback from workshops, discussion & next steps

15:55 Chairs Closing Remarks

16:00 **Conference Close**

Seminars

1. Community engagement and involvement in NFM

Aim: Discuss the issues associated with grassroots community vision and local expertise at the centre of natural flood risk management.

Lead: [Heather Shepherd & Paul Cobbing - National Flood Forum.](#)
[University of Gloucestershire assistant – Rob Berry](#)

Presentations: *“The Shipston Story”*

Mike McCarthy (Chair of Shipston Area Flood Action Group)

“The Diddlebury Story”

Sarah Halford (Diddlebury Flood Action Group)

“The Slad Brook Story”

Sarah Lunnon (Chair of Slad Brook Flood Action Group)

2. Consenting and regulation

Aim: Discussion of the main issues associated with consenting NFM projects, including Ordinary Watercourse Consent, Wildlife and Countryside Act, agri-environment, FRM consenting and Tree felling consents.

Lead: Dave Lesser- Stroud District Council
University of Gloucestershire assistant – Chris Short

Presentations:

[‘Environment Agency Permitting’](#)

[Paul Williams \(Permitting lead officer, EA\)](#)

[‘Wildlife & Countryside Act \(Section 28\) and Protected species Consents’](#)

[Paul Hackman \(Natural England\)](#)

[‘Felling Consents’](#)

[David Rowe \(Forestry Commission\)](#)

3. Funding and Partnerships for Natural Flood Management

Aim: To explore good models for funding and partnership working.

Lead: Anne Wheeler (Chair of RFCC) & [Brian Smith \(Environment Agency\).](#)
University of Gloucestershire assistant – Fabio Carnelli

Breakout groups and facilitated discussion in the room

4. Practical delivery of NFM, (water, land and woodland management)

Aim: To look in more detail at practical methods, finding solutions, structures and working alongside existing management.

Lead: [Chris Uttley \(Stroud District Council\)](#)
University of Gloucestershire assistant – Lucy Clarke

Presentations: [‘Large Woody Debris & natural process interventions’](#)

[Richard Spyvee \(Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust\)](#)

[‘In-field, agricultural, soil based interventions’](#)

[Ben Thorne \(FWAG\)](#)

[‘Engaging farmers in practical works’](#)

[Paul Cottingham \(NFU\)](#)