

Beyond PPS25: Should uncertainty in flood risk mapping make a difference?



Date: Tuesday 28th September 2010, **Location:** Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, LA1 4YQ

The Catchment Change Network (www.catchmentchange.net) is a NERC-funded Knowledge Exchange Network developing Guidance within the area of flood risk and future change. Uncertainty is particularly important in trying to project the impacts of future land use and climate change on flood risk and the visualisation and communication of this uncertainty is an important facet of decision making within the planning and development communities.

Our event, in conjunction with the RTPI Development Planning Network aims to prompt discussion across the planning community around developing a general framework and practical guidance for dealing with uncertainty, with a particular focus on flood data, modelling and mapping. As part of this process we would like to learn from your experience and opinions on important sources of uncertainty and discuss ideas for assessing and communicating them. Your input will help us to shape the format and contents of Guidelines and how they could support decision making.

The workshop will begin with an overview of the background to uncertainty estimation methods. The afternoon Session will be based around worked examples for real locations to illustrate how practical tools can be used to deal with uncertainty. Group discussions will allow us to explore what aspects are of particular importance to the planning community.

The Workshop is free to attend with sponsorship from the NERC-funded Catchment Change Network

10.00-10.30 Registration, networking and coffee

10.30-10.45 Keith Beven, Lancaster University
Introductions, aims and agenda

10.45-11.00 Keith Beven, Lancaster University

Sources and understanding of uncertainty in data, modelling and mapping?

11.00-11.15 Kate Donovan, University of Oxford

Communicating flood science to Local Authorities - An introduction to FOSTER: Flood Organisation Science and Technology Exchange Research

11.15-11.25 *Short Q&A Session*

11.25-11.50 Refreshment break

11.50-12.10 Simon McCarthy, Flood Hazard Research Centre, Middlesex University

Developing flood risk maps to meet end-user needs

12.10- 12.30 *Short Q&A Session*

- 12.30-13.30 Lunch
- 13.30- 14.45 **Uncertainty in Practice: How could availability of uncertain risk maps change your practice for different types of decision?**
- 14.45-15.00 Refreshment break
- 15.00-15.45 **Towards guidelines: What form should guidelines take?**
- 15.45-16.00 **Overview summary of key discussion issues, closing remarks and next steps**
- 16.15 **Close**

General Information

This is a **free event** sponsored by the [Catchment Change Network](#), based at the Lancaster Environment Centre.

For all event enquiries, please contact r.alcock@lancaster.ac.uk or 01524 510285

Event Location & Directions

The Environment Centre can be found on the Lancaster University campus, the building is numbered 39 and the entrance is on Library Avenue. At busy times, additional parking is available on Alexandra Park located on south-west campus.

For more detailed directions and parking facilities please refer to the [LEC website](#)



Location: Gordon Manley Building, Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, LA1 4YQ