

Agenda: Bricks and Water Evidence Session

08.45-09.45, Wednesday 5th June 2024

Flood and Coast Conference, Ludlow Suite 1

Agenda

08.30 – 08.45	Tea, coffee, and networking
08.45 – 08.50	Opening remarks: Baroness McIntosh of Pickering (pre-recorded by video)
08.50 – 08.55	Introduction to Bricks and Water: Rob Allen, Policy Connect
08.55 – 09.30	Group exercise
19.30 – 09.40	Feedback on group exercise
09.40 – 09.45	What's next? Rob Allen, Policy Connect

Details

This event is taking place as part of the 2024 Flood and Coast conference in Telford. Please visit the [Flood and Coast](#) website for conference passes. The workshop will take place in [Ludlow Suite 1](#).

Speakers/Facilitators

Baroness McIntosh of Pickering is a Conservative Peer. Anne served as an MEP for ten years and an MP for eighteen years, most recently representing the constituency of Thirsk and Malton until 2015. Anne served as Shadow EFRA Minister in two spells and sat on the EFRA Select Committee from 2007-2015, serving many years as Chair. Anne is Vice President of the Association of Drainage Authorities and co-chairs the All-Party Parliamentary Water Group. Anne will provide pre-recorded opening remarks by video.

Rob Allen C.WEM is a Senior Policy and Research Manager at Policy Connect and is a co-author of the Westminster Sustainable Business Forum's recent Bricks and Water inquiries (2020 and 2023). Rob is a former environmental consultant and has previously worked in the Environment Agency's Government and External Relations team.

Background

Over the last five years, the Westminster Sustainable Business Forum (WSBF) has published three policy inquiries on water and housing in England, all chaired by Baroness McIntosh of Pickering. These include [Bricks and Water: A Plan of Action for Building Homes and Managing Water in England](#) (2018), [Bricks and Water: Building Resilience for England's Homes](#) (2020), and [Bricks and Water: Managing Flood Risk and Accelerating Adaptation in a Climate Emergency](#) (2023). The Bricks and Water series has achieved significant impact across Westminster and Whitehall, with the most recent inquiry leading to an [amendment](#) to the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill.

Policy Connect and the WSBF are gathering written evidence to inform a follow-up report '*Bricks and Water: Policy Recommendations for a new Government*', Chaired by Baroness McIntosh of Pickering. The inquiry will explore existing gaps in Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) policy and make recommendations to a new Government to help address these gaps.

This workshop will feature an exercise to allow attendees to contribute evidence to this inquiry across its four key themes of planning policy, flood defence funding and maintenance, coastal change, and property flood resilience.

About Policy Connect

Policy Connect is a cross-party think tank. It specialises in supporting parliamentary groups, forums, and commissions, delivering impactful policy research and event programmes, and bringing together parliamentarians and government in collaboration with academia, business and civil society to help shape public policy in Westminster and Whitehall.

Policy Connect's work focusses on five key policy areas: Education & Skills; Industry, Technology & Innovation; Sustainability; Health; and Assistive & Accessible Technology.

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