The river basin management plan for the Scotland river basin district 2009–2015

Annex 2: Consultation and engagement

CHAPTER GUIDE

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1. Introduction

This annex provides a summary of the consultation undertaken and engagement opportunities provided through the river basin planning process in the lead up to the publication of the Scotland river basin management plan (RMBP).

This annex explains how stakeholders have contributed to the development of the river basin management plan. It describes:

- consultation opportunities;
- active involvement in the river basin planning process;
- public access to information.

The European Union's Water Framework Directive (WFD) was transposed into Scottish legislation via the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003 (WEWS). Part 1 Section 17 of the WEWS act contains a requirement to set up river basin district advisory groups (national and area advisory groups) as a structure for delivering active involvement in the river basin planning process. The process for establishing these groups and the river basin planning process was developed through consultation as set out in the *River basin planning strategy for the Scotland RBD*. A network of a national advisory group and eight area advisory groups with forums was established in 2006. Information on the activities of these groups is in Table 2 below.

The WEWS act also contains requirements to:

- **Publish a statement setting out the steps (including consultation measures) which will be taken in connection with the preparation of the plan.** *A Plan of Action - River Basin Planning in the Scotland River Basin District* report was therefore produced in 2007 for consultation as summarised in Section 2 below.

- **Produce a summary of significant water management issues for the district.** This was published for consultation in the 2008 significant water management issues report and the responses have been used to inform the draft river basin management plan. A summary of the consultation responses has been included in Section 5 below.

- **Publish and consult on a draft river basin management plan.** The draft plan was published and consulted on for a period of 6 months closing in June 2009. A summary of consultation responses, and changes made to the final plan as a result, can be found on the SEPA website at www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx.

This annex also sets out the consultation measures undertaken for the draft river basin management plan and changes made to the final plan as a result are summarised in the consultation report at:
www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx

2. Consultations

Consultations undertaken in the Scotland RBD and the key outputs are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Consultations for the Scotland RBD

Document	Brief description	Key outputs of consultation and changes to the planning process and/or draft RBMP	Period of consultation	Lead organisation
Scotland river basin characterisation reports	Presentation of the river basin characterisation as required by WFD Article 5	A consultation document for the whole of Scotland was produced prior to the publication of the Scotland river basin characterisation reports. Many varied and constructive responses were received to the consultation document issued prior to the finalisation of the characterisation reports with many suggested improvements to proposals. The following key changes were made as a result of the consultation: • More detail was provided on the industry sectors affecting water bodies at risk eg sewage disposal was separated out from refuse disposal and agriculture and forestry were separated where possible. • Additional pressures were recorded on some water bodies leading to a change in reporting category for approximately five water bodies. • Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas were reviewed and risk assessments undertaken. This resulted in about 30 water bodies changing reporting category (mainly from 1b to 1a).	Consultation June 2004 to September 2004 Publication of characterisation reports December 2004	SEPA

Document	Brief description	Key outputs of consultation and changes to the planning process and/or draft RBMP	Period of consultation	Lead organisation
		The Scotland RBD characterisation reports can be found at: www.sepa.org.uk/water/water_publications/characterisation_reports.aspx Responses to the consultation were also taken into consideration when producing the Scotland RBD *Significant water management issues report*.		
Consultation on the Scottish river basin management strategy *The River Basin Planning Strategy for the Scotland River Basin District*	District based consultation on the proposed strategy for the river basin planning process, including administrative arrangements, opportunities for participation and establishing links to other planning processes	A digest report was produced after the 2004 consultation on the river basin strategy for the Scotland RBD. This drew together and assessed consultation responses and set out actions and changes that would be made to the river basin planning strategy as a result of the consultation. The responses to the consultation were used to: • Develop the river basin planning strategy for the Scotland RBD published in November 2005; • Support the process of developing the roles, remits and membership of the national and area advisory groups; • Support the production of the plan of action report in 2006; • Support the development of a format for RBMPs. A copy of the river basin planning strategy for the Scotland RBD can be found at: www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning/early_basin_planning_work.aspx	Consultation April 2004 to July 2004 Publication of Strategy November 2005	SEPA

Document	Brief description	Key outputs of consultation and changes to the planning process and/or draft RBMP	Period of consultation	Lead organisation
A Plan of action - River Basin Planning in Scotland	The plan of action report set out: • The important steps to be taken to prepare the first river basin management plan for the Scotland RBD; • Consultation points in the plan preparation process; • Opportunities for people to get involved in and contribute to the process; • Some of the methods to be used to support participation, effective consultation and information provision throughout the process.	A digest report was produced following the close of the plan of action – river basin planning in the Scotland RBD consultation. This drew together and assessed consultation responses and set out actions and changes that would be made to the river basin planning process as a result of the consultation. No significant changes to the river basin planning process were suggested during the consultation, however responses were used to support the development of the draft river basin management plan for the Scotland RBD.	December 2006 to June 2007	SEPA
Significant water management issues in the Scotland river basin district	The significant water management issues report identified significant water management issues that put the achievement of the environmental objectives of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) most at risk.	The Scotland RBD significant water management issues report can be found here. The main changes made to the draft plan as a result of the consultation included the following: • More discussion was provided on protected areas in terms of compliance and objectives. • Data was presented in a clearer simpler format. • More detail was provided on the objective setting process and planning assumptions.	November 2007 to April 2008	SEPA

Document	Brief description	Key outputs of consultation and changes to the planning process and/or draft RBMP	Period of consultation	Lead organisation
		• A section was added on climate change. • More detail was provided on the links between river basin planning and other key planning processes. • More emphasis was given to the no deterioration objective.		
Scotland RBD strategic environmental assessment (SEA) scoping report consultation	The Water Framework Directive (WFD) requires the production of river basin management plans across the UK. These plans require assessment under the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC) to identify wider effects on the environment. The scoping reports set out the information to be included in this assessment	The majority of the comments from the consultation on the scoping report were noted and suitable responses were incorporated in the SEA environmental report published for consultation alongside this draft RBMP. These included the inclusion of additional items in the reviews of relevant plans, policies and strategies, revisions to the environmental baseline and modifications to the SEA objectives/criteria. For a small number of comments, (less than 10% of the total), no data were available or could reasonably be acquired during the preparation of the environmental report to enable a suitable response to be incorporated.	October to November 2007	SEPA
The draft river basin management plan	The draft river basin management plan described the condition of rivers, lochs, estuaries, coasts and groundwaters in the Scotland RBD. It proposed environmental objectives for these waters and explains how it is planned to achieve such objectives.	The draft Scotland river basin management plan can be found at: www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx The responses to the consultation documents contained a mixture of support and challenges for the draft plan. The changes made as a consequence of the consultation are summarised in the Consultation report that can be found at: www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx	December 2008 to June 2009	SEPA

Document	Brief description	Key outputs of consultation and changes to the planning process and/or draft RBMP	Period of consultation	Lead organisation
		The key areas where changes were made included: **Delivering improvements** The most significant change between the draft and first plan is the greater ambition. The first plan sets out our target of achieving good status in the vast majority of water bodies by 2027. Where good status is not possible by 2015 (and in a small number of cases by 2027) we have included the reasons why we have extended deadlines or set less stringent objectives. Stakeholders highlighted the importance of integrated catchment management planning and the need for us to work more effectively at a catchment scale to develop integrated solutions to protect and improve the water environment. We have set objectives for priority catchments over the first three planning cycles. We are running a pilot project in the Clyde area and will continue to work with area advisory groups at a catchment scale. Stakeholders also commented on incorporating considerations about climate change into the river basin management planning process and we have embedded climate change considerations through the plan. The Scottish Government is developing regulations to assist with restoration of pressures affecting the beds, banks and shores of our water environment from historic activities.		

Document	Brief description	Key outputs of consultation and changes to the planning process and/or draft RBMP	Period of consultation	Lead organisation
		Partnership working We were pleased that so many organisations were supportive of continuing to develop new ways of working together and that they volunteered information on current and proposed projects. The success of the river basin management plan is reliant on SEPA and other organisations delivering actions to improve the water environment. We will continue to work with established groups in the area. Additionally stakeholders are keen to get involved and develop new projects to see on the ground improvements. **Information on the assessment of pressures and impacts** We have been working to incorporate new monitoring data and assessment tools (eg for acidification and an interim fish tool) into the classification system for the first plan. We have also collected more data on the location of fish barriers from fisheries trusts and boards, and have worked with stakeholders to review and set new assessments for ecological potential for artificial/heavily modified water bodies. Where possible we have considered consultation responses to individual water bodies. There are some comments on specific water bodies that we have not been able to review in time for the publication of the first plan; these will be taken into account as we plan our monitoring and undertake classification assessments through 2010. Classification assessments will be updated annually.		

Document	Brief description	Key outputs of consultation and changes to the planning process and/or draft RBMP	Period of consultation	Lead organisation
		Stakeholders were particularly interested in how we assess pressures and impacts of diffuse pollution, invasive non-native species and climate change, and how we target improvements. **Changes to the layout and presentation of information in the plan** We received comments about the style, shape and overall content of the plans, the information provided throughout the documents and about the interactive map. We have worked to develop a first plan that is simpler and more accessible. We also recognise that other formats of information will be required for specific or more general audiences. For example, we will produce a very simplified summary for the general public and we are working on a communications strategy for the agricultural sector with our partners in the Diffuse Pollution Management Advisory Group.		
Draft area management plans (AMP)	Eight draft AMPs were produced to focus and expand upon the different geographical areas within the Scotland RBD.	The draft area management plans can be found at: www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx 55% of consultation responses included feedback for specific area management plans. These responses will be taken into account when drafting the area management plans to support the first river basin management plans. The consultation responses regarding area management plans can be summarised as:	December 2008 to June 2009	SEPA

Document	Brief description	Key outputs of consultation and changes to the planning process and/or draft RBMP	Period of consultation	Lead organisation
		• AMPs do not read like management plans: they read more like a summary of information. • AMPs should provide more information on measures and where they are needed. • AMPs should provide more info on funding and how measures will be delivered. • The scale of AMPs make it difficult to get fully engaged or provide comments. • AMPs should remain continually updated. • AMPs are too technical. • A clearer explanation of classification system is needed in AMPs, including tiers. • AMPs should focus on issues rather than sectors. • AMPs have a lack of photos, particularly of community and people. • AMPs need clear links to relevant plans, policies and initiatives. • AMPs should clearly state their aims/key outcomes.		
The Scottish Government's *Scotland's Water Future Directions* and *Restoration of the water environment* and supporting Impact	*Scotland's Water: Future Directions* described areas where additional action to address a range of impacts on Scotland's water environment over the period to 2027 may be required. The impacts assessment supported and helped inform the consultations on the dRBMPs,	Main changes to the plan: • level of ambition/ new measures Main actions: • Creation of DPMAG and priority catchment approach • Support UK-wide ban on phosphorus in detergents • New regulations to facilitate restoration of water environment • Secured additional funding for restoration	January to April 2009	Scottish Government

Document	Brief description	Key outputs of consultation and changes to the planning process and/or draft RBMP	Period of consultation	Lead organisation
Assessments Drivers, policies and trends report, technical document and summary report. (www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/WFD/DRBMPs)	Scotland's Water: Future Directions, and Restoration of the Water Environment. The documents lay out the costs and benefits of implementing the programme of measures set out in the dRBMPs and associated consultations, focusing on the identified key pressures			
Strategic Environmental Assessment of the draft Scotland River Basin Management Plan: Environmental Report	As part of the preparation of the draft RBMP for the Scotland RBD, SEPA have undertaken a SEA which reports on the significant environmental effects that may arise from implementing the RBMP.	The SEA statement summarises the consultation responses relating to SEA and includes a summary of views expressed and how SEPA has taken them into account.	January to April 2009	SEPA

3. Active involvement in the planning process

Opportunities for active involvement in the river basin planning process in the Scotland RBD are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Opportunities for active Involvement in the planning process in the Scotland RBD

Sectors, groups and networks	Activity	Lead organisation(s)
River basin management planning advisory group network	**The Advisory Groups** **Establishing the Advisory Group network** The river basin management planning advisory group network for the Scotland RBD was established in mid 2006. It consists of a national advisory group and eight area advisory groups drawing together responsible authorities, non governmental organisations, industry, business and other stakeholders with an interest in the water environment at a national and local level. In addition each area advisory group has a forum with wide and open membership. **Membership** Advisory group members were identified initially using responsible authority designations and the Article five characterisation assessments for the Scotland RBD, along with key stakeholders. A first meeting of each advisory group was then held and representatives were invited to identify additional members required. The advisory group membership is flexible and can be adjusted to accommodate changes in river basin planning requirements. **Role** The overall role of the national advisory group is to oversee the river basin management planning process, to contribute to the preparation of the river basin management plan for the Scotland RBD and to co-ordinate the work of the area advisory groups. The guidance and direction produced by the national advisory group is also used to inform river basin planning in the Solway Tweed river basin district.	SEPA

Sectors, groups and networks	Activity	Lead organisation(s)
	The overall role of the area advisory groups is to contribute to the river basin management planning process in their area and the preparation and delivery of their area management plan. The area advisory group forums were established to allow a wide body of interests to provide input to and be regularly informed of progress in the river basin planning process. **Meetings** Both the national and area advisory groups have met approximately once each quarter since their establishment. However, the frequency of meetings is flexible and can be adjusted depending on the requirements of the river basin planning process. Meetings are held at locations convenient to members. A number of forum events have been held in each area advisory group area at a range of locations, these have introduced the river basin planning process to forum members and provided the opportunity for them to identify the water management issues that are important to them in their area. **Further information** Further information on the advisory groups, including their membership, role, remits and minutes, can be found at: www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning/area_advisory_groups.aspx **Diffuse pollution management advisory group** The diffuse pollution management advisory group (DPMAG), a new high-profile Scotland wide stakeholder group requested by the Scottish Government, was established in May 2009. The group comprises key rural stakeholders across Scotland and aims to help to create a robust governance, decision making and co-ordination framework for the effective delivery of rural diffuse pollution RBMP actions across Scotland, whilst also ensuring input from a cross section of rural, environmental and biodiversity interests. The group reports directly to the national advisory group (NAG) and meets on a quarterly basis with smaller sub groups meeting as tasks require.	

Sectors, groups and networks	Activity	Lead organisation(s)

Organisations represented on DPMAG
Association of Salmon Fisheries Boards
Confederation of Forest Industries UK
Forestry Commission Scotland
Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park (also representing Cairngorms National Park)
National Farmers Union Scotland
Scottish Crofting Foundation
Scottish Environment Link
SEPA
Scottish Government
Scottish Natural Heritage
Scottish Rural Property and Business Association
Scottish Tennant Farmers Association
Scottish Water

Fish and fisheries advisory group

SEPA formed the fish and fisheries advisory group in order to strengthen its capacity to address issues relating to impacts on fish and fisheries. This group includes representatives from the Association of Salmon Fisheries Boards, the Rivers and Fisheries Trusts of Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and freshwater fisheries scientists from Marine Scotland Science as well as other relevant interests and SEPA staff. This group, which met for the first time in March 2009, advises SEPA on strategic issues relating to the development of policy, guidance and research in the area of the protection of fish and fisheries. The remit of this group includes the potential impact of any controlled activities on fish populations. The group will not consider individual applications or regulatory decisions, but it will advise on the implications of SEPA's regulatory approach.
It is intended that this group will replace the Fisheries (Electricity) Committee. The fish and fisheries advisory group will have a wider remit than the Committee and will also consider the potential impact of all Controlled Activities, not just those related to hydro power developments as was the case with the Committee. The fish and fisheries advisory group has to date commented on the draft SEPA guidance for hydro developers and a research proposal to look at the impact of run-off from river hydropower developments.

Sectors, groups and networks	Activity	Lead organisation(s)
	Consultations ***A Plan of Action - River Basin Planning in the Scotland RBD* consultation** The advisory groups formed at the time provided early review of the plan of action consultation documents and examples and case studies of participation techniques to support the document. Advisory group and forum members provided responses to the formal consultation ***Scotland RBD Significant Water Management issues* report** The advisory groups were asked to review an initial list of significant water management issues for the Scotland RBD and in advisory group areas and to identify additional issues they felt were significant and should be included in the Scotland RBD significant water management issues report. Advisory group members provided text for the report and reviewed two drafts. They also provided responses to the formal consultation along with members of the area advisory group forums which SEPA took into account when drafting the RBMP documents. ***Scotland RBD Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report* consultation** The advisory groups reviewed the strategic environmental assessment objectives proposed in the scoping report and provided responses to the consultation. **Draft Scotland river basin management plan** The advisory groups assisted in the drafting, reviewing the draft river basin management plan as it was prepared. Formal consultation comments were also received from national and area advisory group members. The consultation report details the themes that were raised during the consultation, changes made to the plan and further action proposed.	
	Identification of measures **National Advisory Group** Workshops were held in June 2007 to start the process of identifying the potential contributions	

Sectors, groups and networks	Activity	Lead organisation(s)
	national advisory group members could make to help deliver the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (WFD). From September to November 2007, 28 meetings were held between SEPA and national advisory group organisations to further refine proposed contributions from the workshops, to document proposals and to identify opportunities for partnership working to deliver proposals. A national advisory group workshop report was produced in March 2008 and can be found at www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning/national_advisory_group.aspx. Existing and planned measures were included in the programme of measures and considered during the objective setting process. **Area Advisory Groups** Meetings were held with various organisations represented on the area advisory groups from late 2006 to mid 2007 to identify what they were already doing to protect and improve the water environment, that so these could be included in the programme of measures and objective setting process. Sub group meetings were then held within each advisory group area from mid 2007 to early 2008. The sub groups were based on either groups of catchments or sectors and were made up of relevant area advisory group members and colleagues from their own and associated organisations who could contribute more local knowledge and expertise. The purpose of the sub group meetings was to review at risk water bodies and identify measures additional to those already being undertaken that could help improve water body status. These additional measures were recorded as part of the programme of measures.	
	Development of the draft river basin management plan and area management plans The national advisory group was involved in drafting and contributing to the draft river basin management plan for the Scotland RBD and the area advisory groups have done the same for the area management plans. Advisory group meetings provided the opportunity for detailed comments on the text and group discussion on the key messages identified for the plans. Several draft versions of the plans were circulated to the groups for review and comment prior to publication of the final draft plan.	

Sectors, groups and networks	Activity	Lead organisation(s)
Hydro-electricity, industry and water sectors	**Heavily modified water body workshops** The methods used to designate, classify and determine objectives for heavily modified water bodies (HMWBs) and artificial water bodies (AWBs) requires knowledge of the specific characteristics of the water bodies as well as of the needs of the uses reliant on the modified or artificial characteristics. Much of the necessary knowledge was provided by companies and organisations concerned with managing the modifications on HMWBs/AWBs. Water managers and other stakeholders were involved through a series of workshops in this process to ensure all relevant information was incorporated into the assessments. Further information on heavily modified and artificial waterbodies can be found in Chapter 4 of this plan. **Operator workshops** A three day workshop was held in March 2008 and was attended by SEPA, Scottish and Southern Energy, Scottish Water, British Waterways, Alcan and Scottish Power to discuss HWMBs and AWBs related to their operations. The workshop applied UKTAG methodology which defines the measures which would be required to achieve good ecological potential. Assessments were made as to which HMWBs/AWBs were currently at good ecological potential and objectives were set for when those not currently at that status would reach it. This event was attended by 15 operators. A further stakeholder workshop, attended by 21 operators and stakeholders, was held in Aviemore in April 2009 to provide area advisory group members (and any fisheries trusts and boards not represented on AAGs) with an opportunity to comment on the outputs from the operators' workshop and to provide SEPA with additional information on the ecological potential assessments. Following this workshop 5 stakeholders submitted further information as part of the consultation process. A similar stakeholder workshop was held in August 2009 in/for the Solway Tweed area. It was attended by 8 operators and stakeholders. The outputs from the workshops were collated and any proposed changes to good ecological potential made as required for the final river basin management plan. The work also provides SEPA and operators with the basis of forward planning over the next three river basin planning cycles.	SEPA

Sectors, groups and networks	Activity	Lead organisation(s)
	Urban land use/flood defence Heavily Modified Water Body workshops Workshops were held in Bridge of Allan in March 2009, attended by 9 stakeholders, and in SEPA's East Kilbride office in July 2009, attended by 10 stakeholders, to provide local authority Area Advisory Group members with an opportunity to contribute to the discussions of good ecological potential and objectives as required for water bodies heavily modified due to urban land use/flood defence schemes. This was aimed at local authorities in Scotland's central belt where the majority of these modifications exist. Other area advisory group areas that have less of these HMWBs were consulted on their good ecological potential assessments. **Heavily Modified Water Bodies in coastal and transitional waters** There are a number of HMWBs, such as ports, where assessment of good ecological potential was made. SEPA's marine science staff consulted with local authorities and ports authorities as required to agree these ecological potential assessments.	
Distillery sector	A workshop was held with stakeholders from the distillery sector in February 2009. The purpose of the workshop was to review the objectives for water bodies affected by distilleries, and to identify where measures were necessary to bring about improvements. The event demonstrated the benefits of bringing together company representatives and specialist SEPA personnel to discuss realistic measures in detail. Many issues were resolved through clarification of activities on a site-by-site basis and the event enhanced the co-operation between SEPA and the distillery sector,	SEPA
Freshwater fisheries sector	Fishery trusts and boards contributed to improvements in data held for fish barriers and objective setting for HMWBs through the HMWB workshop. They have also identified actions in Fishery Management Plans that will contribute to the aims of the RBMP. Many fishery trusts, boards, angling groups and associations commented on both the district and area plans, responding on local and national issues. Work is ongoing to discuss data sharing with fishery trusts and boards to inform classification, plus actions to resolve a number of issues such as prevention, control and eradication of invasive non native species	

Sectors, groups and networks	Activity	Lead organisation(s)
Agricultural sector	A one day meeting was held in June 2009 attended by SEPA, Scottish Rural Property Business Association (SRPBA) and the National Farmers Union for Scotland (NFUS) advisory group representatives. The meeting featured presentations covering diffuse pollution and the benefits of putting actions in place to mitigate rural diffuse pollution. Discussion focussed on the role of the national and area management groups and the role of NFUS and SRPBA representatives on the group. The meeting helped those attending respond to the draft management plans and also clarify their role on the process.	SEPA, SRPBA, NFUS

4. Public access to information

This section focuses on public access to information in the Scotland RBD. Information is also available to the public on the Scottish Government website at: Scottish Government WFD website.

Table 3: Public access to information

Means of dissemination	
Websites	Access has been provided on SEPA's website to relevant technical and consultation documents: they have set up a river basin planning web page which is updated regularly. Information on the website includes: • detailed information on the river basin planning process, advisory groups and forums; • background documentation used in advisory group meetings and the minutes of meetings; • all consultation documents posted on the website; • posting of all response statements to consultations. Electronic consultations were used to facilitate responses. An interactive map is accessible from the website to allow users to query particular water bodies and download water body data sheets containing a greater level of detail than in the draft plans.
SEPA offices	Consultation documents and leaflets were available from reception areas and information centres.
Direct mail outs	The following consultation documents were mailed to statutory consultees, stakeholders and on request: • *The River Basin Planning Strategy for the Scotland RBD*; • *River Basin Planning in the Scotland RBD*; • *Scotland RBD Significant Water Management Issues*; • area management plans.
Public notices	Plan of action public notices - Edinburgh Gazette Significant Water Management Issues public notices - Edinburgh Gazette and The Herald for Scotland Draft river basin management plan - Edinburgh Gazette and The Herald for Scotland

<table>
<tr><th>Means of dissemination</th><th></th></tr>
<tr><td>Publicity material</td><td>The following leaflets were produced:

• Water Framework Directive: Your questions answered
• River Basin Planning: Your questions answered

Display boards were produced for the Scotland RBD and each area advisory group area

For the draft plan the following were produced:

• A fact sheet for each area advisory group summarising the area management plan.
• Sector specific fact sheets eg river basin management planning and farming, river basin management planning and forestry.

Consultation packs were produced for each AAG member containing generic presentations, relevant area management plan fact sheets, sector fact sheets, consultation postcards and frequently asked questions and answers.

Consultation postcards were produced and distributed to encourage the public to respond to the draft plan.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Interviews/articles in local media</td><td>
<table>
<tr><th>Area of work being publicised</th><th>Headline</th><th>Outlet and date published</th></tr>
<tr><td>Pressures and Impacts report and consultation</td><td>Consultation on Scotland's water environment</td><td>SEPA View 20, Summer 2004</td></tr>
<tr><td>Scottish River basin planning strategy - consultation?</td><td>The future management of Scotland's waters
The year ahead</td><td>SEPA View 20, Summer 2004
SEPA View 22, January 2005</td></tr>
<tr><td>Characterisation reports</td><td>Water directive
Wildlife at risk due to 'shocking state' of Scotland's waters
Scotland's water environment</td><td>SCENES, March 2005
The Scotsman, 23 March 2005

SEPA View 24, June 2005</td></tr>
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Means of dissemination			
		Framework focus	*Water21*, August 2005
	RBMP Strategy	River basin planning begins Plan to protect river basins New strategy marks start of planning system to protect Scotland's water New strategy marks start of planning system to protect Scotland's water New strategy marks start of planning system to protect Scotland's water River basin planning The river basin planning strategy for the Scotland river basin strategy is now available …Scottish strategy New strategy marks start of planning system to protect Scotland's water	*SEPA View* 27, Nov/Dec 2005 *Courier*, 13 December 2005 *European Water Management News*, 14 December 2005 RAFTS website, 20 December 2005 *Fish Farming Today*, January 2006 *SCENES*, December 2005 WFD Newsletter from the WFD Information Centre, Issue 1, 2006 ENDS Report, January 2006 Tay Estuary Forum Newsletter, February 2006
	AAG/NAG launch	SEPA area advisory groups Joined up thinking	*Scottish Farming* Leader, April 2006 *SEPA View* 37, November 2007
	Plan of Action	SEPA consultation: A plan of action	WFD Newsletter from the WFD Information Centre, 19 February 2007
	AAG etc and meetings	Public meeting on water plans Water plans are going public Chance to have say on water document - SEPA to hold open meetings Shape Scotland's water plan Issues raised over water framework	*Orcadian*, 12 April 2007 *Lochaber News*, 19 May 2007 *Press & Journal*, 10 September 2007 *Stornoway Gazette*, 13 September 2007 *LandBusiness*, Issue 25 April/May 2008

Means of dissemination	
	Consultation on draft RBMP From January–May 2009 the key messages of the RBMP draft plan were successfully taken up by the media. Approximately 40 articles appeared in the Scottish press. Additionally 5 radio interviews took place and RBMP was the focus of 5 Scottish television features.
Public meetings/drop in events etc	During the consultation period, joint events, presentations, forum events and team meetings were organised by co-ordinators for both SEPA staff and external stakeholders. For external organisations and individuals 36 events were held reaching approximately 600 individuals.