

Flood Studies Update: Work Package 4.2 – FSU Guidance on Urban and Small Catchment Flood Estimation

Category: Flood Risk Management



Description:

The scope of Work-Package 4.2 is to undertake a detailed comparative study of existing and emerging methods of urban and small catchment flood estimation, and to provide a National Guidance based on the flood estimation technique chosen from the outcomes of the study.

Work Package 4.1 of the FSU Programme reported that the absence of a national guidance document containing a structured approach to all aspects of urban catchment flood analysis currently hinders engineers in their work and results in a lack of consistency in the types of analysis undertaken across the country. Practitioners require a nationally produced and supported document or handbook that would provide guidance on peak flow estimation methodologies that are applicable for a range of catchment conditions, for a variety of catchment sizes and represent both the geographical and geological variations in Irish catchments.

The need to have an integrated national approach to stormwater management was identified by the study undertaken in Work Package 4.1. It was felt that the chosen approach should address issues relating to stormwater quantity and quality in line with recognised best practice elsewhere in the world and should be supported by appropriate guidance and documentation. It is likely that SUDS will be part of the programme of measures required by the Water Framework Directive and their flood attenuation capabilities should be integrated into flood management. For this to



happen, performance information on the flood attenuation capabilities of various SUDS measures is required for design purposes.

For further information about this work, please contact: oliver.nicholson@opw.ie

Design Team:

The OPW is responsible for the specification, procurement and direct management of the Flood Studies Update Programme, with technical direction provided by a Technical Steering Group, comprising representatives of the primary state / semi-state organisations involved with hydrology, hydrometric monitoring and associated research in Ireland, viz. OPW, Met Éireann, Environmental Protection Agency, Electricity Supply Board, IHP / ICID National Committee, and has two technical experts.

Construction Team:

Research Contractor: In-House by the OPW

Dates:

Work Package 4.2 of the Flood Studies Update was completed in October 2012.