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# Research Bulletin

## Group established to plan catchment change studies

Planners are under pressure to assess the interaction between flood risk, water supply, diffuse pollution and urban development. The Natural Environment Research Council has funded a catchment change network to bring together university scientists and practitioners to consider assessing future change in river catchment systems. Activities will include mapping of future research needs in co-operation with potential users, the development of best practice guides and professional training opportunities.

*For more information or to contribute to discussions and comment on guidance documents, please visit [www.catchmentchange.net](http://www.catchmentchange.net)*

## Conference to draw together urban river corridor information

The Urban River Corridors and Sustainable Living Agendas (URSULA) project will hold its second conference on 16 October at the University of Sheffield. The project brings together research on the physical, ecological, economic and social issues raised by rivers in urban areas, with the River Don as a detailed case study. It builds on the work of a multidisciplinary research programme in catchment science, funded by the European Commission. A full overview of integrated catchment management will be given at a further conference in Sheffield on 6 December, offering a chance to discuss implications with leading European catchment science researchers.

*For more information, please visit [www.ursula.ac.uk](http://www.ursula.ac.uk)*

## University set to put future of the northern economy in focus

The University of Salford's centre for sustainable urban and regional futures has been invited to contribute to a strategic assessment of northern English regions' position in tackling long-term economic opportunities and challenges. Newcastle University's spatial economics research team is co-ordinating the work to bring together academics and policy-makers in urban and regional development. It will assess key external turning points and indigenous capacity against drivers of regional development, contexts and legacies.

*For more information, please visit [www.surf.salford.ac.uk/page/NorthernWayResearchProgramme](http://www.surf.salford.ac.uk/page/NorthernWayResearchProgramme)*

## Risk debate sits at heart of development decisions

Planning for environmental and economic uncertainty, particularly in the light of climate change, requires understanding of how to assess, communicate and manage risk. A public debate entitled The Issue of Risk organised by the Academy of Social Sciences will be held at the British Library on 18 November to explore changing social attitudes and regulatory and decision-making frameworks. It will be followed by a drinks reception.

*For more information, please visit [www.rtpi.org.uk/download/7017/BritishLibraryEventFlyer2.pdf](http://www.rtpi.org.uk/download/7017/BritishLibraryEventFlyer2.pdf). To book a place, please visit [www.bl.uk/whatson](http://www.bl.uk/whatson)*

## Network outlines progress on European spatial projects

Updates on progress in projects currently under way in the European spatial analysis research programme ESPON 2013 are now available on the ESPON UK Network web pages. Themes include the impact of agglomeration, migration and rural development.

*For more information, please visit [www.rtpi.org.uk/item/1881](http://www.rtpi.org.uk/item/1881)*

