

Integration is the Way Forward .. the UK Experiences
Presented to the FIG Working Week 2017 "Surveying the world of tomorrow -
From digitalisation to augmented reality"

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SUMMARY

In a world with increasing complexity and interconnectedness, we can no longer afford to have separate 'silo' approaches to environmental management. This applies to our professional lives as well as the way that we do our jobs. The paper will describe how the different professional bodies are now working more closely and the application of the principles of natural resources management.

In the UK the status of being Chartered confirms the expert maturity of an individual professional and in 2004 the Society for the Environment was granted a Royal Charter which allows it to confer that status on individuals working on environmental affairs. The Society is a partnership of 24 professional bodies, (including those for surveying, forestry and water management) with individuals ranging from chemists and engineers to ecologists and biologists, and from front delivery to the very highest levels of leadership. It has access to some 500,000 individual members. There are over 7,000 Chartered Environmentalists. The paper will describe the practical work of the Society.

An example of where integration is delivering a better environment is where the Forestry Commission England and the English Environment Agency are working more closely together. Wales has gone still further with organisational integration in Natural Resources Wales. The principles of such integration are focussed on natural resources management and the application of the principles of natural capital management. The paper will outline the benefits of collaboration for natural resource management and being based on areas and the most logical core model being river catchments. They are natural environmental engines, which are intertwined with many other key factors, such as microclimates, human activities, landscape and so on. They will be the basis for integrating agri-environment schemes, rural development plans, local responses to improving the

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state of nature, identifying and managing protected sites, the Water Framework Directive, managing forests, fisheries, hydropower, land drainage and flood risk, water resources and recreation and access. Catchments as a logical basis for managing other environmental issues, such as waste and air quality.

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