

Programme of Twenty65 Thought Leadership Club:
**Contribution to Evaluation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
(91/271/EEC)**

Sheffield, 30th January 2018, The Oak Suite, The Leopold Hotel
Programme

10:00 - 10:30 registration and tea/coffee

10:30 - 11:30 Introduction presentations

10:30 – 10:40 Opening, Twenty65, concept and aim of Thought Leadership Club

Dr Vanessa Speight and Dr Alma Schellart

**10:40 – 10:55 Water Supply and Sanitation Technology Platform (WSSTP) - The European
Technology Platform for Water, and the Urban Water Pollution Working Group.**

Prof. Jan Hofman, University of Bath, and Prof. Lian Lundy, Middlesex University

**10:55 – 11:10 Policy analysis of receiving water protection from wet-weather impacts –
Insights from Switzerland**

Liliane Manney, PhD student, EAWAG

11:10 – 11:30 The Projects 4 Policy initiative and evaluation of the UWWTD

Prof. Christian Kazner, Bochum University of Applied Sciences

11:30 – 11:45 Explanation of the afternoon sessions

11:45 – 12:15 Opportunity to contribute your thoughts to EC consultation

Individual Questionnaires to identify priorities for a revised Directive

12:15 - 13:00 Lunch

13:00 - 14:30 Interactive thought exercise on UWWTD review

Small group session to discuss and prioritise advantages and disadvantages of the current UWWTD.

Small group session gathering ideas and comments to further develop the WSSTP's recommendations. (The current Position Paper on the Evaluation Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive and policy recommendation by the WSSTP Working Group Urban Water Pollution will be circulated next week).

14:30 – 14:45 Tea/Coffee break

14:45 – 15:30 Feedback from interactive sessions and group discussion

15:30 – 16:00 Wrap up and close

As part of its better regulation agenda, the EC is placing greater emphasis on stakeholder engagement and its inclusion within policy review and development. The evaluation of the UWWTD included a standard 12 week public consultation period which the WssTP Urban Water Pollution Working Group (UWP WG) responded to through submission of a response to the formal consultation questionnaire and a UWP WG policy paper. Further to this, the UWP WG has agreed to submit a more detailed set of policy recommendations, and hence we greatly welcome this opportunity to collate and integrate the views of the TLC members in developing this more detailed response.

The specific requirements of the Directive are:

- To collect and treat waste water from all agglomerations of more than 2,000 population equivalents (p.e.).
- To apply secondary treatment, addressed to remove organic pollution from all discharges from agglomerations of more than 2,000 p.e., or of more than 10,000 p.e. if they discharge in coastal waters or estuaries.
- To apply more advanced treatment (removal of nutrients or other types such as disinfection) for agglomerations of more than 10,000 p.e. in designated sensitive areas (e.g. where waters are at risk of receiving too high nutrient loads, bathing waters etc.).
- If it is economically infeasible or the establishment of a collecting system does not result in an environmental benefit, individual systems or other appropriate systems which reach a similar level of environmental protection, may be used.
- A requirement for authorisation of all discharges of urban wastewater (such as a permit or license), of discharges from the food-processing industry, and of industrial discharges into urban wastewater collecting systems.
- Storm water overflows: Member States can decide on measures to limit pollution from storm water overflows. These measures can be based on dilution rates or capacity in relation to dry weather flow, or can be to specify a certain number of acceptable overflows per year.
- Re-use of sewage sludge and treated waste water re-use is allowed whenever appropriate.

All significant EU law and policy is subject to evaluation. Evaluation is an analysis of whether the policy is still fit for purpose and still meets today's challenges. The evaluation is structured around five themes:

Effectiveness: Has the Directive achieved what it set out to do? If not, why not?

Efficiency: What are the costs and benefits of implementing the Directive? Are the costs justified? Are the particular requirements cost-effective compared to alternatives?

Coherence: Are the requirements of the Directive consistent with those of other policies? Does any inconsistency cause practical problems?

Relevance: Are the objectives and the way the Directive seeks to deliver these still correct today? Has technology moved on? Are there better solutions available?

EU Added Value: What would have been the outcome without having an EU Directive? What is the justification for having EU law on this issue?