

At a Watershed

Land Use Planning in Scottish River Basins

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Land Use Planning

- The legislative system that decides:
 - Where development goes
 - What form it takes
- Mainly governed by local authorities
 - Development Plans
- Considerable impact on water



River Basin Management

- EU Water Framework Directive (2000)
 - Aims to protect and improve the water environment
 - Achieve ‘good ecological status’
- Led by SEPA
 - River Basin Management Plans (2009)
- Success depends on effective integration with land use planning

The Intersection

River Basin
Management



Land Use
Planning

What kind of relationship is emerging?



Theoretical Basis

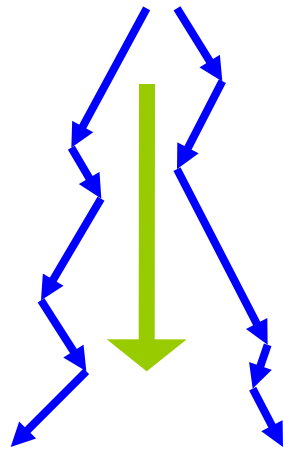


Theoretical Basis



Theoretical Basis

River Basin
Management

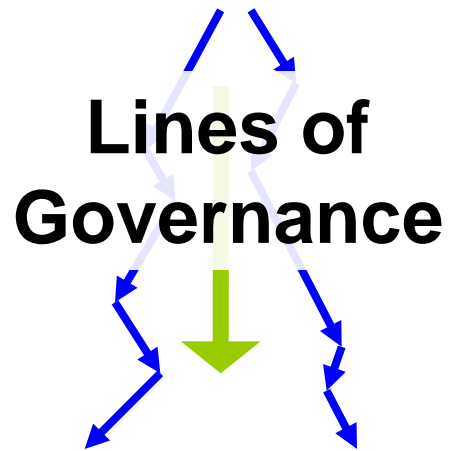


Land Use
Planning



Theoretical Basis

River Basin
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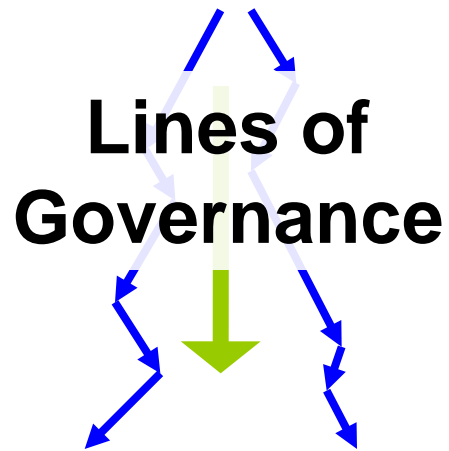


Land Use
Planning



Theoretical Basis

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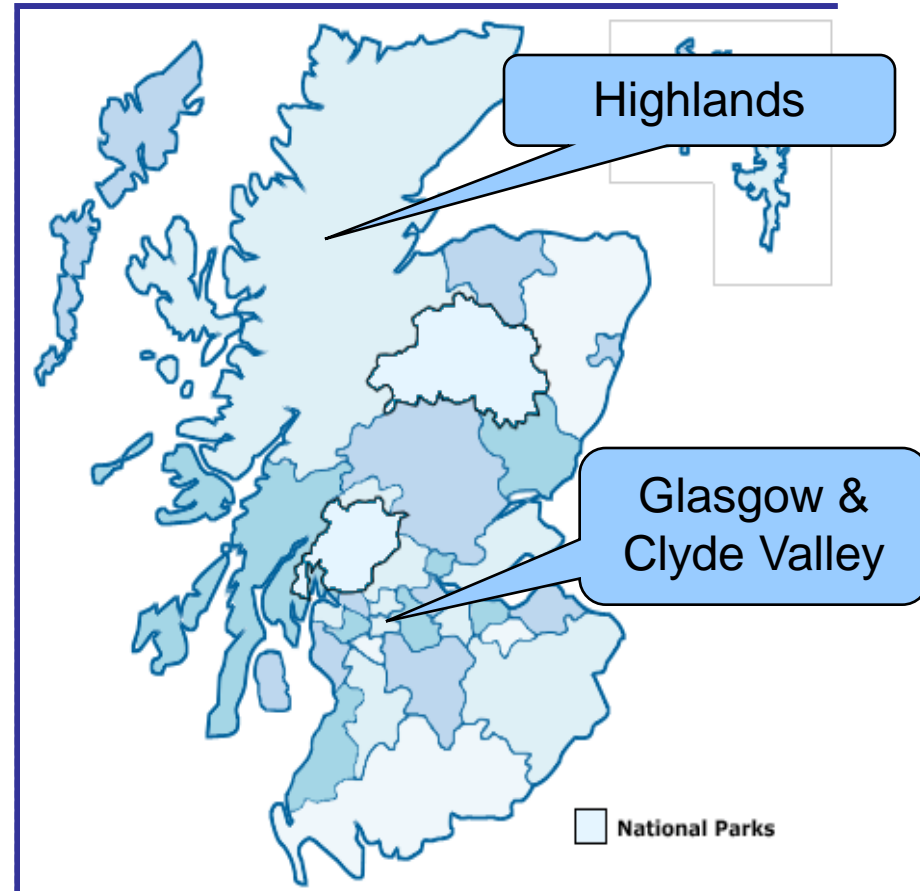


Land Use
Planning



Methods

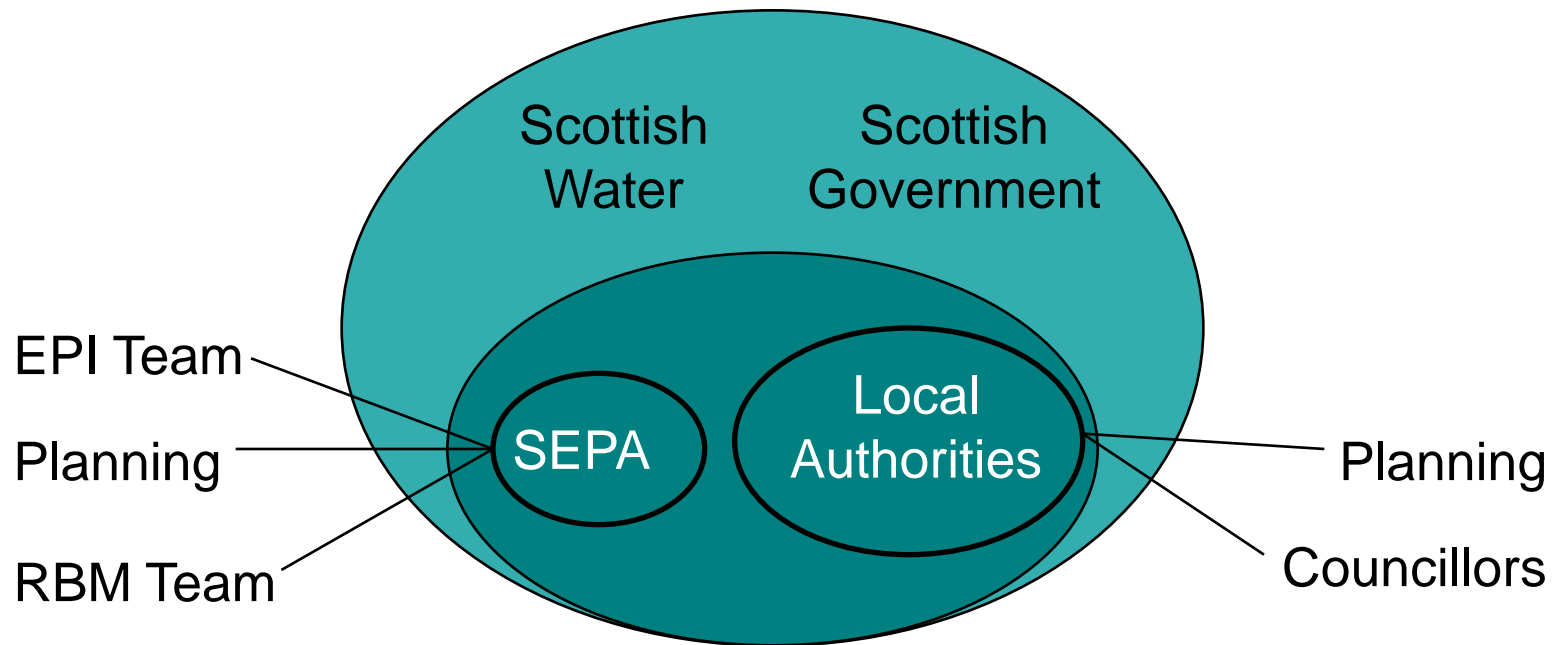
- Policy documents
 - River basin management plan
 - Development plans
 - Planning policy
- Interviews
 - Local authorities
 - SEPA
 - Other agencies
 - Scottish government



Analysis

1. Identifying key interactions

– Which ones matter?



Analysis

1. Identifying key interactions

– Which ones matter?

2. Describing interactions

– How do they work? What affects them?

History

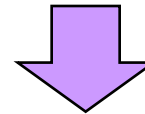
Flow of
Information

Wider
Agendas

3. Exploring themes

– Why are they there?

– What are their implications?



Flow of Information

- Reduce 'pressure' on the water environment
 - Many sources
 - LOTS of complex information
- Planning concerned with development
 - How to make pressure relevant?

- Dilemma!
 - Transparency vs. overload
- Solution?
 - Colour-coded maps



Why Maps?

- Visual information is more accessible
 - For planners, councillors, developers
- Agree on one ‘version of the truth’
- Pressure to make development plans more map-based
- Faster decisions on development proposals
 - Faster development = economic growth

Implications?

- Is the information more accessible?



- What gets left out?

- Is faster necessarily better?
- Is there room for uncertainty?
 - Improved monitoring and assessment
 - Climate change
- Creating a pattern of interaction?

Conclusion

- Why is this important?

Science  Policy  ?

- ‘Integration’ between RBM and LUP
 - Highly complex in practice
 - Interactions within and between agencies
- Maps as a tool for communication
 - Facilitating or restricting information flow?

Acknowledgements

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Questions?