

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT IN SCOTLAND: 1962

- Legislation only covering urban areas (non-agricultural land)
- Only individual local authorities with powers to undertake flood prevention works
- But no overall national strategy and no assessment of where risk greatest
- Fragmented responsibilities shared between central and local government
- Undue reliance on structural measures and hard engineering

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT IN SCOTLAND: 2009

- A holistic catchment-wide approach addressing both rural and urban interests
- SEPA now the national strategic authority responsible for assessing, mapping and managing flood risk across whole of Scotland
- Local authorities still responsible for local delivery but wider powers and opportunities to pursue more sustainable measures
- Possibility of balanced response to manage flood risk with neither structural nor non-structural measures privileged over the other
- All flooding types included: fluvial, coastal, pluvial and groundwater.