

WaPUG 95 Workshop Report - Software Development (Proposed Register)

Introduction.

The Workshop was attended by 29 delegates who indicated their main interest in the groups listed below.

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| Users | 16 |
| Researchers | 5 |
| Suppliers | 8 |

The discussion centred on the possible role WaPUG could take in helping to develop software for wastewater planning for the water industry in the UK.

The approach was focussed on the early production of a catalogue or register of software packages as a first step towards further development. The register will indicate areas where developments are most likely to be needed.

Recommendations.

A businesslike discussion set out the AIMS for WaPUG, the NEEDS to be addressed, the MEANS of addressing these needs and the likely RESOURCES which could be called on to provide those means.

AIMS The aims of WaPUG were agreed to be 'To stimulate the rapid and effective use of wastewater modelling and its support software in the water industry'.

NEEDS The needs to be addressed immediately were thought to be :

- * Inspire/encourage software development in areas where there are voids.
- * Accelerate the acceptance of software by potential users.
- * Reduce learning processes for users and their managers.
- * Avoid repeating mistakes when using or applying software.

MEANS The collective means of addressing the needs were proposed as follows :

- * Produce and circulate a register/catalogue of software products and what they provide.
- * Analyse the register and identify areas where there are voids or deficiencies.
- * Provide inter-user communications and encourage the production of user notes.
- * Integrate activities with WaPUG training.

RESOURCES The general fear of compromising WaPUG restricts the resourcing which could be available from sponsorship and advertising. Nevertheless, the position of 'honest broker' is valuable to WaPUG and the need to preserve this was strongly supported. Resourcing the initiatives would therefore be kept to the minimum and the costs of communication distributed to all member organisations by utilising WaPUG mailshots and by providing reports at Spring and Autumn Meetings.

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