

Wiltshire Council Update

Subject:	Drainage Byelaws
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Weblink:	www.wiltshire.gov.uk/consultations

Summary of announcement:

Flooding is considered to be a serious issue in Wiltshire, and the Council has had to respond to a number of significant flooding events which have affected communities in recent years. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 amended section 66 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 to allow local authorities to make land drainage byelaws. These byelaws also create criminal offences which can be prosecuted in the Magistrate's Courts. The Council is now intending to use its powers to make byelaws to help it carry out its duties effectively and in doing so assist with reducing flood risk for local communities.

Local Councils, interested organisations and the public are invited to comment on the proposed Byelaws. Subject to comments received the matter will be considered by the Council before the byelaws are subject to formal consultations next year. In the meantime comments are being invited on the draft byelaws, which can be inspected at the Council's website www.wiltshire.gov.uk/consultations and at County Hall. The deadline for responses to this informal consultation is 10 December 2013.