
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2017 No. 81

The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017

PART 5

Environmental Objectives and Programme of Measures

Procedure for setting environmental objectives and programmes of measures

- 12.—(1) The Department must prepare proposals for—
- (a) environmental objectives for the river basin district and the part of each international river basin district falling within Northern Ireland in accordance with regulation 13; and
 - (b) a programme of measures to be applied in order to achieve those objectives, in accordance with regulation 20.
- (2) In preparing proposals in accordance with paragraph (1), the Department must—
- (a) take account of the characterisation of, and economic analysis of water use in, the relevant river basin district and part of each international river basin district falling within Northern Ireland carried out or updated in accordance with regulations 5 and 7; and
 - (b) take such steps as it considers appropriate to—
 - (i) publicise its proposals;
 - (ii) provide opportunities for the general public and those persons and bodies likely to be interested in or affected by its proposals to participate in discussion and the exchange of information or views in relation to the preparation of those proposals; and
 - (iii) consult the persons and bodies referred to in sub-paragraph (b)(ii) on those proposals.
- (3) The Department must ensure that, for the river basin district and the part of each international river basin district falling within Northern Ireland, the environmental objectives and programme of measures are periodically reviewed and, where appropriate, updated —
- (a) by 22nd December 2021; and
 - (b) subsequently, by 22nd December of the sixth year following that date and of each sixth year following that.
- (4) Where a programme of measures is updated in accordance with paragraph (3), any new or revised measures must be made operational within three years of that updating.