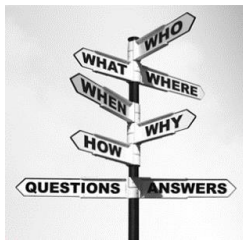


The benefits of early engagement

Poor publicity, planning objections, delays to consents and the resulting delays and costs to construction rank highly on every major project risk register. There is a simple solution – early engagement – but this rarely features in the log.



Early engagement can represent an investment in a project before funding has been fully committed. It may therefore appear a luxury and a risk – raising your head above the parapet before you need to. However, it should be considered as essential as ground surveys in the initial design phases. Infrastructure has to work as effectively in the communities that host it, as in the physical environment.

Working with Copper Consultancy, Risk Solutions is creating a tool developers and sponsors can use to focus resources where they will have most impact, de-risking the critical consents phase, building reputation and enhancing legacy outcomes.

We are actively seeking partners to help us develop this tool on real life applications. If you are interested in participating in this work, or simply learning more about it, please contact us at:

helen.wilkinson@risksol.co.uk.



Future Transport Scenarios

How will we travel in 2035?

Risk Solutions and RAND Europe have been commissioned by Innovate UK to develop a set of future transport scenarios. These will explore how travel demand and transport challenges may play out in the future, and which technologies provide the greatest opportunity to address them. This will then inform policy and investment intervention options - to support the development of new and innovative technologies. If you would like to be involved, please contact leanor.baker@risksol.co.uk.

Innovate UK fund, support and connect innovative businesses to accelerate sustainable economic growth.

Whitehall Seminar report

Agent based economic behavioural modelling

Risk Solutions' consultant Jon Pocock has been presenting our work on Water Abstraction Reform to audiences across Whitehall. This work used innovative modelling to explore options for changing the regulations governing abstraction from rivers and the ground in England and Wales.

With help from Defra, the Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales and the Welsh Government, our expert partners and real water abstractors in six model catchments, we built an agent-based, economic behavioural model to reflect how businesses make decisions around water. This was linked to hydrological models developed by HR Wallingford. The modelling process challenged everyone to think systematically through how the reforms would work in practice. The models allowed us to observe how abstractors might react to changing water demand and availability, and different ways of regulating water abstraction into the future. They allowed us to estimate the costs, risks and benefits of different approaches.

Michael Kell, Chief Economist NAO, described the modelling as *"a truly inspiring example of how evidence and analysis can be used to inform policy decisions"*.

Find out more on our [web-site](#). If you would like to explore how this approach could help your organisation make better evidenced decisions in complex and uncertain environments, please contact jon.pocock@risksol.co.uk.

We have recruited!

We are delighted to welcome Rachel Fowler to Risk Solutions. An experienced Catastrophe Modeller, Rachel holds a BSc in Geography from Southampton University and a Masters in Geophysical Hazards from UCL. She brings experience of analysing flooding and natural disasters to the Risk Solutions' mix.

If you have coding or modelling skills and are interested in opportunities with our small, dynamic team, please [click here](#) to access our web-site.