

The Cunliffe Report



You may be a bit confused by the flurry of reports on the water sector. On July 7th the People's Commission reported to MPs at Westminster. summarized on the NAG website front page [here](#)

On July 21st The Cunliffe Report was ordered by Government [Read here.](#)

Both attempted an analysis of the major issues in the water sector, including the lack of strategic direction and locally-owned plans, the limited cross sector action/integration and poor regulation.

Cunliffe largely relies on beefed-up legislation, simplified & improved regulation and 'systems planning' in new regional water authorities to ensure improvements in water quality and safety, the People's Commission drew on international experience of returning ownership of water to the state, and stressed greater use of independent experts, accountability for pollution 'the polluter pays' and much more public participation in decision making at a catchment level. The best summary of the value and limitations of the Cunliffe Report's recommendations that I have found so far is The Cunliffe Report: a

missed opportunity for meaningful change - Earthwatch Europe. [Read here](#)

A list of my personal concerns about the Cunliffe report is [here](#)