



GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
Ministry for Environment and Tourism
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PRESS RELEASE

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Government publishes the 'Draft Gibraltar River Basin District Management Plan' for public consultation

The EU's Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) requires River Basin District Management Plans to be drawn up in order to classify the existing state of coastal waters, ground waters and rivers. The Gibraltar Plan only covers coastal waters and ground waters as we have no rivers. The Directive also requires the identification of any potential sources of pollution that could be affecting water bodies in the plan.

The Gibraltar Plan identifies our water bodies as the main harbour, our coastal waters and our aquifers. It describes the main issues affecting these water bodies and highlights key actions proposed to achieve high quality status where applicable. The annexes to the document give more detail on the water quality conditions in Gibraltar's coastal waters and ground waters, the actions proposed and the mechanisms that can be implemented to take these forward.

The Water Framework Directive is not just about the environment: an economic analysis of water use is also an essential part of the process within the Gibraltar River Basin District Management Plan.

This draft Plan is now being published for public consultation and can be viewed at <http://www.gibraltar.gov.gi/environment/environment> under the section on the Water Framework Directive. The public is therefore invited to help in creating an effective and achievable management plan by providing their views and any suggestions on the content of the Draft Gibraltar River Basin Management Plan. The consultation period will run for six month as from the date of this press release. Comments can be submitted by way of email to info.environment@gibraltar.gov.gi.