



TRIENNIAL

C O N F E R E N C E



David Balmforth is an independent consultant specialising in flood risk management and urban pollution control. He is a Past President of the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) and until recently worked as an Executive Technical Director with the international engineering consultancy Stantec. Formerly an academic, his recent work ranges from the delivery of £multi-million engineering programmes in the water industry, to flood advisory work for municipalities in the UK and overseas. He has recently worked to alleviate flooding and water pollution in London, Auckland and Singapore.

David is a member of the UK Government's Roundtable on Property Flood Resilience. In 2016 he was a Specialist Advisor to the UK Government Select Committee Inquiry into the Future of Flood Prevention and a member of the Scientific Advisory Group to the National Flood Resilience Review, and he served as a member of the UK Government Review (Pitt Review) of the 2007 Summer Floods.

From 1999 - 2020 David worked for MWH, now part of Stantec, becoming an Executive Technical Director in 2007. He worked on the delivery of £multimillion engineering programmes for water company clients in the UK and also advised Thames Water, the Greater London Authority and the Singapore Government on flood risk management strategies. In the 1990s he developed the current industry standards for combined sewer overflows. To date over 1000 structures have been successfully delivered to his designs, and have been largely responsible for cleaning up rivers in the North of England. More recently his expertise extended into urban flood risk management and water quality modelling. He developed a particular interest in climate change adaptation and mitigation and led the urban drainage modelling team that helped produce the UK's 2004

Foresight project on Climate Change, Floods and Coastal Defence. He was a pioneer of Integrated Urban Drainage and worked with the UK Government to help formulate their approach to surface water management. In particular he has been responsible for the shift in industry thinking from flood defence to flood resilience, and was principal author for CIRIA's seminal work on Designing for Exceedance. During the late 2000s his work extended into the development of low carbon solutions for upgrading sewerage systems and sewage treatment works across the South of England where a number of schemes he has been responsible for have received industry awards.

David is a Visiting Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Imperial College London. From 2003 to 2007 he chaired the Industry Advisory Panel for the EPSRC SUE Research Consortium Water Cycle Management in New Development and currently he chairs the International Advisory Panel for the £5m Camelia Research Programme. His research interests are in hydrology, flood risk management, water sensitive urban design, and sustainable infrastructure. David also teaches on MSc and undergraduate programmes. David has published over 50 papers, book contributions and industry design guides and was awarded the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management WaPUG Prize in 2016, for his distinguished service in the field of urban drainage.

David is a Past President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, and former chair of its Reservoirs Committee. He currently chairs the governance panel overseeing the ICE's Global Engineering Initiative which is working collaboratively across the world to better engage engineers in the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals. He was the founding Editor of the Journal of Flood Risk Management (Wiley-Blackwell). David was educated at the University of Bristol, where he attained a first class honours degree in Civil Engineering in 1968, and the University of Sheffield, where he attained a PhD in Civil Engineering in 1978. He is a Fellow of both the Institution of Civil Engineers and the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management.

At the present time David is leading the UK Government's Review of the Toddbrook Reservoir incident <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reservoir-review-part-b-2020>