



Sixth Inter-Island Public Health Forum

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Indicators for Sustainability

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Abstract

Following the wettest year in England since records began in 1766, unprecedented flooding, in parts of the south and west, increasing concerns regarding global warming and about the failure of the US to sign up to the Kyoto protocol, - a global perspective to local environmental health has never been more necessary.

As independent jurisdictions, Britain's offshore islands of Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man have an opportunity to demonstrate their support for wider global environmental concerns. However, to do so requires the adoption of a comparative currency. It is argued that in order to be adopted and implemented, such indicators must be popularly understood, relevant to the needs of the community, and politically acceptable.

The process of identification and adoption of *Indicators of Sustainable Development (ISD)* in Guernsey over the past five years is used to illustrate these various steps.