

Flood Board Meeting 09th July 2020:

The Essex SuDS Design Guide Update

Report by:

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Essex County Council

Introduction:

1) Why was the Essex SuDS Design Guide Updated ?

The Development and Flood Risk Team had a review of internal processes with the aim of improving efficiency and decreasing the overall number of holding objections being issued. Updating the SuDS Design Guide was identified a key step in achieving this.

2) What are the Key Changes to the Document ?

Updates include simplification of the format, making this easier to use and relevant information made clearer to see. In addition to the Document format the new Design Guide will also be released in an on-line format, linking into the Essex Design Guide.

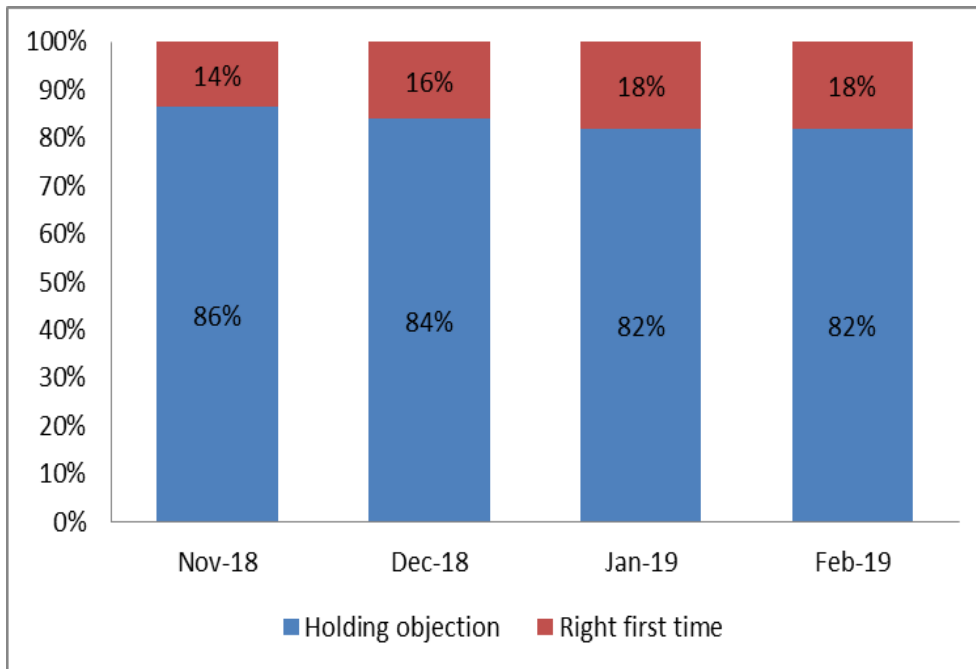
3) When Will the Updated SuDS Design Guide be Released ?

Approved to go live as of the '**29th July 2020**'.

Background:

SuDS Team Lean Review 2019:

Between November 2018 to February 2020 only 16.4% of Sustainable Drainage Consultations were 'right first time'. So, in 83.6% of cases we have to issue a holding objection.

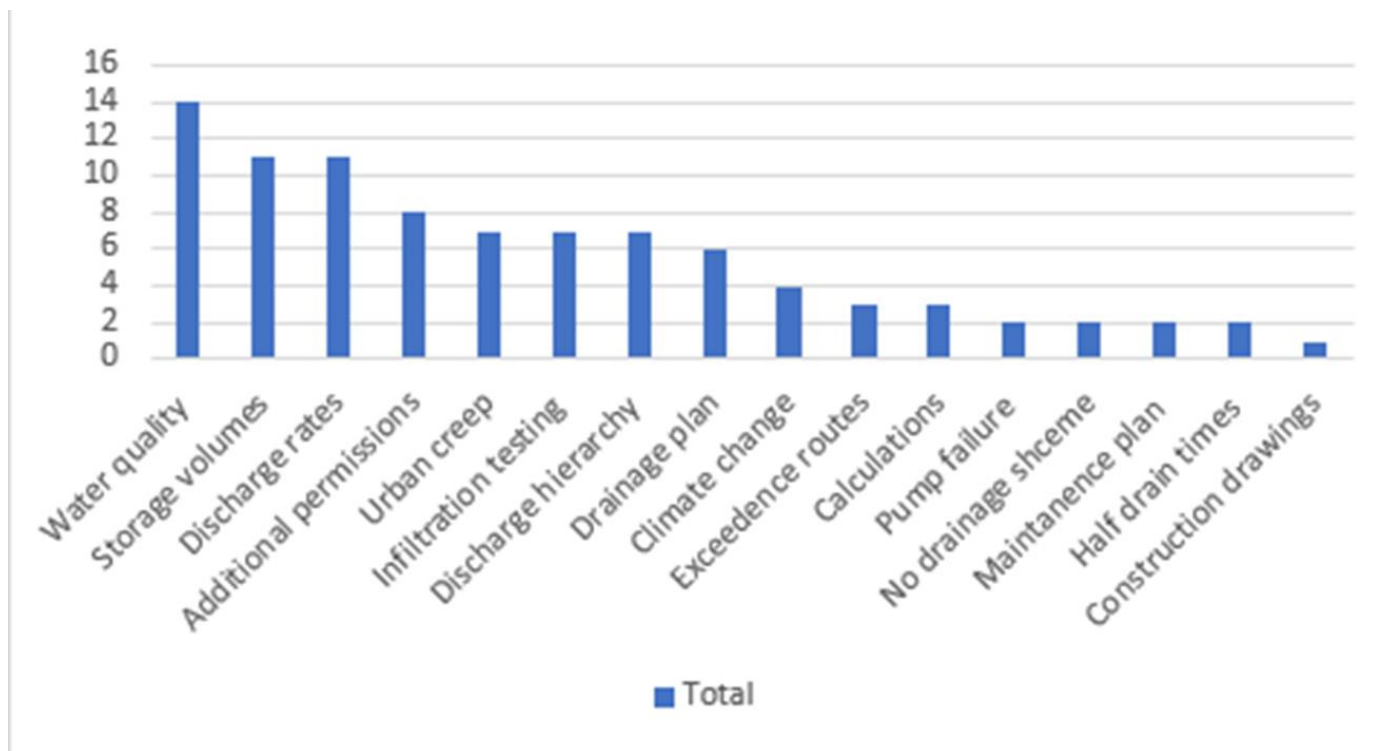


Possible explanations:

- Applicants may be unaware of our requirements
- Applicants may be unable to find our guidance and requirements
- Our guidance maybe isn't helpful enough
- Our guidance may be too complicated

Background:

Common Reasons for Objection:



Note: These results are from a random sample of 25 applications

Background:

Stakeholder Consultation:

We held consultations with Local Planning Authorities, developers, drainage consultants and other relevant parties.

One of the common pieces of feedback was that whilst a PDF version of the document would be helpful, a on-line version would be more so.

Feedback:

- 1) Making the guide more up to date to our current requirements whilst also being on an easily updatable platform.**
- 2) Making the guide more user friendly and interactive**
- 3) Making the guide clearer, more concise, and more specific**

The Updated Design Guide:

Document Version:

SuDS Design Guide, 2020

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SuDS Design Guide, 2020

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mitigate the impact of new development. This includes Highway development. HAWRAT (Highways Agency Water Risk Assessment Tool)¹⁰ is not considered robust enough and may allow increased pollutant flows into a receiving watercourse, which is contrary to paragraph 170 of the NPPF. When submitting an application, it is necessary to demonstrate that the pollution hazard impact indices being created by the development, are offset by the pollution hazard mitigation indices that the proposed SuDS scheme offers. In addition, when assessing the pollution hazard level, the LLFA recommend that the national trip analysis, which suggests that an average of 5 traffic movements per day per dwelling is used unless a more specific transport risk assessment can be provided. When proprietary systems are proposed (such as vortex separators) the LLFA expect details about the level of mitigation provided to be consistent with the Simple Index Approach.



Beaulieu Park, Chelmsford



Beaulieu Park, Chelmsford



We strongly recommend the use of our SuDS Planning Advice service: <https://food.essex.gov.uk/new-development-advice/apply-for-suds-advice/>



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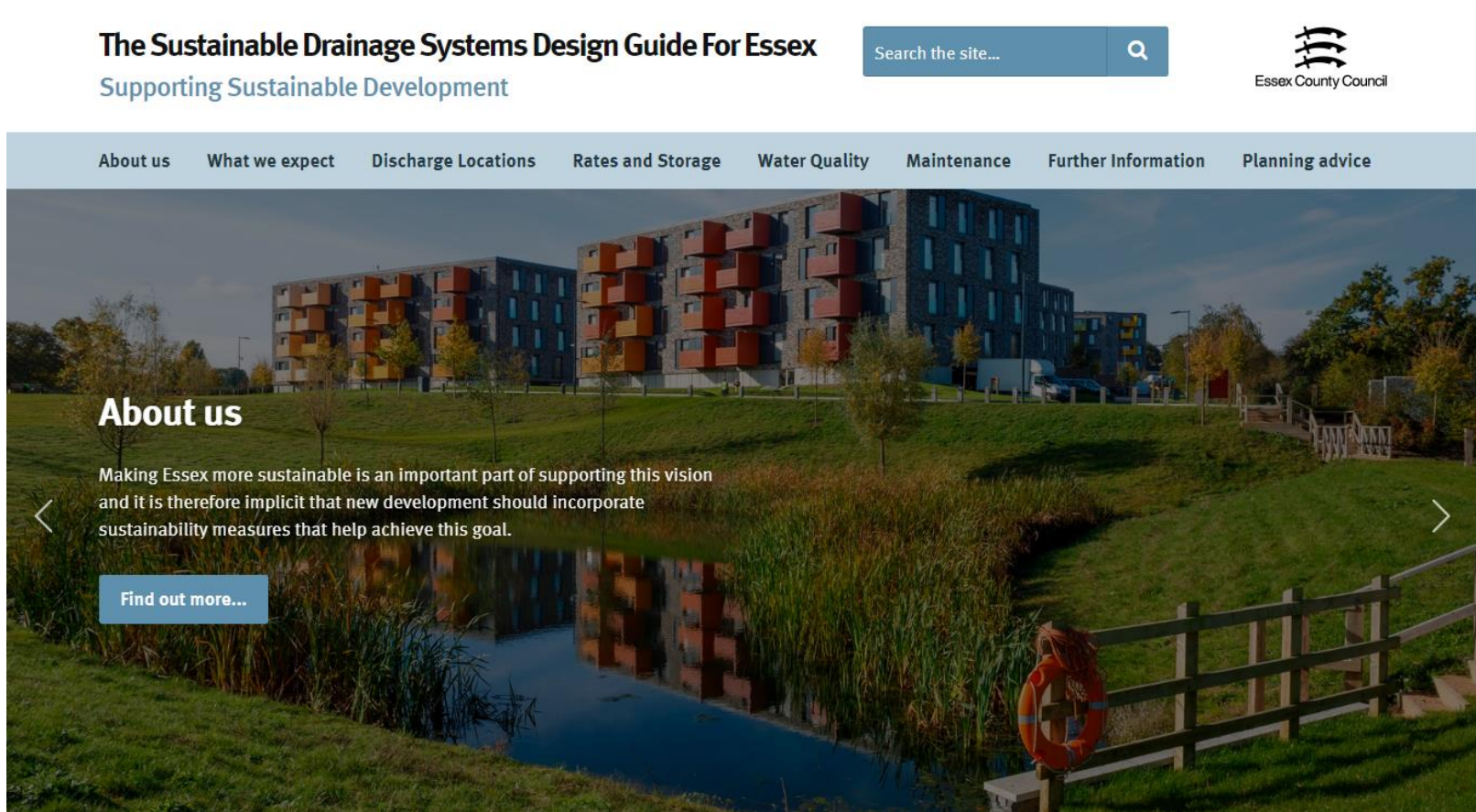
The Updated Design Guide:

Functionality of On-line Version:

- 1) This can be easily accessed and is navigable.**
- 2) It directly links to evidence based guidance.**
- 3) Provides clear guidance on what information should be provided, when and in what format.**
- 4) Has clear links to the Flood Teams services such as our SuDS Planning Application Service.**
- 5) Soon to be added is a section on SuDS Case Studies from within Essex and News Updates.**

The Updated Design Guide:

On-line Version:



Website Link: <https://essexdesignguideub.fmstage.co.uk/suds>

The Updated Design Guide:

On-line Version:

As a result of the on-line version of the Design Guide:

- 1) Applicants will be better informed.**
- 2) Planning Applications will be more comprehensive.**
- 3) The LLFA will be able to provide a more efficient SuDS/ Statutory Consultee Service.**
- 4) There is expected to be increased uptake of the SuDS Planning Advice Service.**

Questions ?



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