LLFA role in planning and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)

Tim Simpson

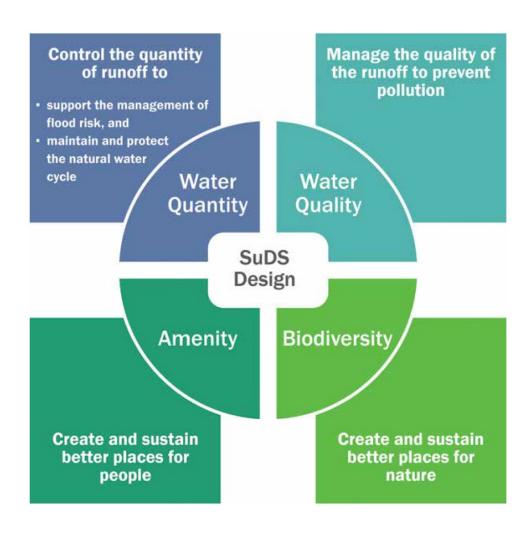
Green Infrastructure and Sustainable Drainage Manager

Flood Risk Management in Essex

- Picked up our role as Statutory Consultee in 2015
- We comment on All Major Development across the county
- We commented on 715 planning applications in 2021
- 70 pre-application meetings
- Comment on Local Plan consultations



Why Include SuDS?





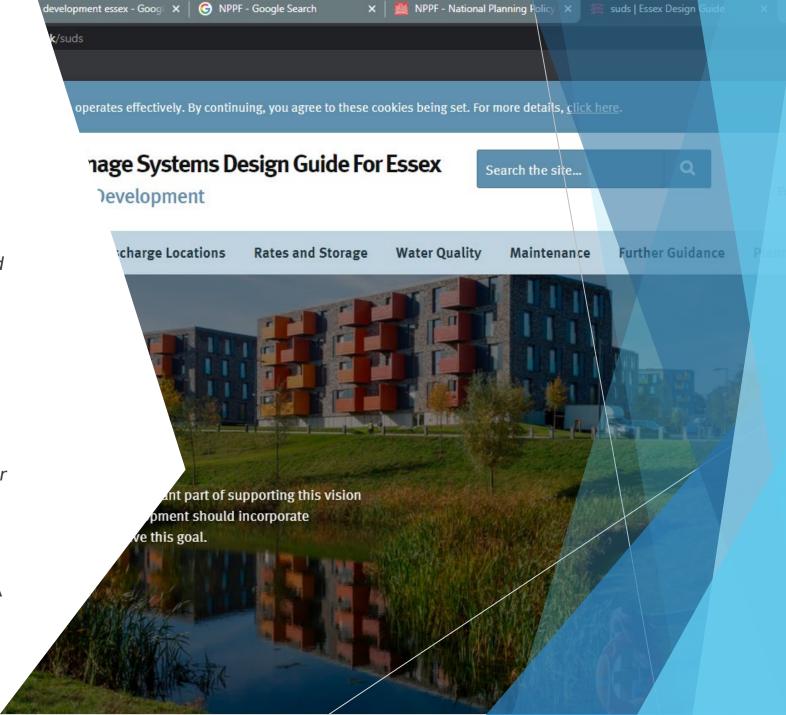
Key SuDS Requirements

- Limit rates to the greenfield 1 in 1 wherever possible
- Manage water on site for 1 in 100 year event plus 40% climate change allowance.
- Long-term storage must be provided if not limiting to the 1 in 1 year rate
- Details of a viable discharge location
- Demonstrate appropriate pollution treatment for the whole development
- Appropriate scheme and feature design (full application)
- On-going maintenance



Support in Our Decision Making

- NPPF Paragraph 167
 "When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should ensure flood risk is not increased elsewhere..."
 "it incorporates sustainable drainage systems, unless there is clear evidence that this would be inappropriate"
- NPPF Paragraph 174 (e) "preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability..."
- Updates to the NPPF have provided greater environmental focus.
- Local Planning Policy DM policy & SFRA
- Adopted ECC Policy The SuDS design Guide for Essex





What are the challenges we face?

- Long term maintenance
- Competing financial pressures
- Public understanding of the planning process
- Local Authority resourcing for follow up checks
- Climate Change

How do we tackle these challenges?

- Early engagement is key
- Clearly identifying requirements
- Promoting multifunctional benefits
- Regular communication with partners
- Frequent updates to guidance

