

# Collaboration.....

Arboricultural Association September 2015

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## Illman Young Landscape Design Ltd





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A landscape and environmental practice specialising in:

- Masterplanning and site design
- Landscape appraisals and environmental assessments
- Project planning through to site inspection
- Our ambition:
  - To create innovative, practical and sustainable landscapes

### Our practice

### **SuDS Research**



- Illman Young in partnership with the University of Gloucestershire
- Completed 2 year research project
- Research into the design of SuDS that are functional, attractive and ecologically sound
- Investigation of existing schemes within the UK and abroad
- Development of Good Practice
  Guidelines and SuDS Training
- SuDS Pilot projects
- Ongoing relationship with university

## The bigger picture

- Role of the professions now and in the future
- Complexity of working sustainability
- Need for mutual respect and understanding
- Need to understand how each can contribute
- Need for collaboration to be effective

'But if there is a theme, it is that institutions in the future will be judged not by what they claim for themselves, but by what they contribute to others; not by what they have come to expect, but by what they commit to. And if there is a single message, it is that their future will be more successful if addressed collectively.' **Paul Morrell** 



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### The need for collaboration

## Our problem

LACK OF A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH TO WATER MANAGEMENT

- Droughts and potential lack of potable water
- Potential lack of water for agricultural, commercial and industrial processes
- Flooding of agricultural land damaging crops
- Development in inappropriate locations
- Flooding of housing and businesses, and damage in infrastructure
- Limited use of recycled water
- Responsibility for water fragmented across wide range of stakeholders
- Little resilience against extreme events
- Piecemeal and knee-jerk response when disasters occur



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### water as a critical infrastructure?

## The answer

### Integrated catchment management.....

- Catchment management at all scales
- Agricultural practices
- Flood alleviation
- Flood protection
- Town planning
- WSUD
- SuDS
- Retrofitting
- Building resilience
- Water recycling at all scales



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### .... the bigger picture

## Water Sensitive Urban Design

- As the future becomes more uncertain, manage water-based risks more effectively
- Reduce the need for potable water
- Clean and recycle grey water on site
- Potential to manage black water
- Reduce risk from flooding
- Provides longer term cost certainty

'Water Sensitive Urban Design is the process of integrating water cycle management with the built environment through planning and urban design'

Water Sensitive Urban Design in the UK CIRIA





## **Sustainable Drainage Systems**



YouTube – Let's get Nibbling!

## The background

- Early days
- 2000 floods in Europe
- 2004 Foresight Future Flooding: UK
- 2010-30, but Vision for 100 years
- 2008 Making space for Water (England)
- 2008 Future Water (England)

### Then... 2007 .....the floods started.....

- 2007 Summer Flooding Inquiry
- 2008 The Pitt Review in England & Wales
- 2010 Flood and Water Management Act
- 2014 Foresight Flooding update (UK)



## The problem

- Increased development creates extensive hard surfaces
- Sealing of ground prevents rain water from percolating into the soil
- Up to 80% of total rainfall turns into runoff within developed sites
- Larger amounts of water travel faster over hard surfaces
- Localised flooding
- Runoff traditionally collected in pipes
- Directed as quickly as possible into the nearest watercourse
- Problems of flooding and pollution





### Gloucestershire

Known flooded properties in July 2007



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### ... plus the social cost

## **Environmental problems**

Only 27% of water bodies meet 'Good Ecological Status' standard

- 49% of the pollution related to failing water bodies due to diffuse pollution
- Priority for Defra, EA, SEPA and NRW to improve water quality

### Sources of non-agricultural diffuse pollution:

- Urban Runoff
- Misconnections
- Domestic Pollution

Many small scale events therefore difficult to find and manage.





Floods and Water Management Act 2010:

- Schedule 3 of the Act covered SuDS and was outstanding, but will not now be commenced
- Replaced by approach that relies on planning authorities and Lead Local Flood Authorities

Non Statutory technical guidance :

- High level principles
- Hydraulic requirements
- ...where-ever 'reasonably practical'...
- Nothing about water quality, biodiversity or amenity

..... The guidance is solely about compliance related to water quantity – it will not deliver any multi-functional benefits



## **Current situation – April 2015**

- New approach set out in Ministerial Statement HCWS 161 – 18 December 2014
- Eric Pickles and DCLG replacing Defra
- Use of planning system to secure the use of SuDS
- Expectation that SuDS "will be provided in new developments wherever appropriate"
- Local planning policies and decisions on applications relating to major development (10 homes or more and major commercial schemes) should ensure SuDS used, unless demonstrated to be inappropriate



#### House of Commons: Written Statement (HCWS161)

Department for Communities and Local Government

Written Statement made by: The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (Mr Eric Pickles) on 18 Dec 2014.

#### Sustainable drainage systems

As part of the Government's continuing commitment to protect people and property from flood risk, of Department and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs recently consulted on a proposal to make better use of the planning sfretment becure surtainable drainage sfstems. Todaf we are publishing our response to the consultation explaining how well be attengthening existing planning policy. This will make clear that the Government's expectation is that sustainable drainage sfstems will be provided in new developments wherever this is appropriate.

To this effect, we expect local planning policies and decisions on planning applications relating to major development. developments of 10 dwellings or more; or equivalent non-residential or mixed development (as set out in Article 2(1) of the Town and County Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010) - to ensure that sustainable drainage of stems for the management of nu-off are put in place, unless demonstrated to be inappropriate.

Under these arrangements, in considering planning applications, local planning authorities should consult the relevant lead local flood authoring on the management of surface water, satisf themselves that the proposed minimum standards of operation are appropriate and ensure through the use of planning conditions or planning obligations that there are clear arrangements in place for ongoing maintenance over the lifetime of the development. The sustanisable drainage of stem should be designed to ensure that the maintenance and operation requirements are economically proprionionste.

To protect the public whilst avoiding excessive burdens on business, this policy will apply to all developments of 10 homes or more and to major commercial development. The Government will keep this under view, and consider the need to make adjustment where necessary. The current requirement in national policy that all new development in areas at risk of flooding should give priority to the use of sustainable drainage affectmen will continue to apply.

These changes will take effect from 6 April 2016. For avoidance of doubt this statement should be read in conjunction with the policies in the National Planning Polic/f Framework. This statement should be taken into account in the preparation of local and neighbourhood plans, and may be a material consideration in planning decisions.

To support local subtorities in implementing these changes, we will publish revised planning guidance in time for the policif changes to take effect, and engage with local government on a capacify building programme.

Mf Department will todaf begin consulting on a proposal to make lead local flood authorities a statutorf consultee on planning applications for surface water management; and makes changes to the statutorf consultee role of the Environment Agenc/ to better reflect the Agenc/s strategic expertise and reflect the new responsibilities for local flood management exercised bf lead local flood authorities.

## **Current situation – April 2015**

- Requirement in NPPF that all new developments in areas at risk of flooding should use SuDS continues
- Local Planning Authorities to consult with LLFAs on major planning applications for technical advice
- Planning conditions or obligations to provide clear arrangements for ongoing maintenance



BUT ..... The LLFA can only assess schemes against the nonstatutory technical guidance

## The problems

- Planning Authorities must satisfy themselves that schemes are robust and appropriately maintained
- SuDS design must ensure that its operation and maintenance are economically proportionate.
- Nothing about verification of construction in accordance with the design
- Who ensures compliance with planning conditions?
- Much of the critical construction can be hidden in the ground and problems do not surface for a number of years
- Self certification of Building Regulations removes certainty of construction



..... There is no statutory requirement for any organisation to adopt SuDS

## **APPG report published March 2015**

Report now aimed at the new government

- Strong leadership
- Strategic land review
- Funding for maintenance
- Retrofitting for resilience
- Insurance to incentivise resilience
- Increased role for built environment professionals
- SuDS for ALL development
- Resolution of adoption issues

New Select Committee just been set up to deal with the Built Environment



### ...ray of hope?

## How are local authorities responding?

### **Planners approving SuDS**

- Lack of experience and skills
- The 'Planning mix'
- Need to educate developers

### **Detailed guidance by authorities**

- Some counties are producing their own detailed guidance
- Not clear where this will sit in the new approach

### **Potential problems**

- Slow start to the system and steep learning curve
- Lack of consistency in approach around the country
- Uncertainty over what is likely to be acceptable
- Adoption will still be a key barrier to using SuDS
- The get outs of what's 'reasonably practical' and 'appropriateness'



## ...how planning can deliver

### Local Plans

- effective policy base
- inter-relate flood risk, SuDS, GI and landscape character
- consider how SuDS and POS integrate
- appropriate supplementary planning documents

### **Development control**

- LLFA are statutory consultee joint training and understanding
- clear remit for SuDS in Development
  Plans and on redevelopment sites
- co-ordinated pre-app advice
- set requirements for outline and reserve matters/detailed planning
- Clear and effective planning conditions

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### Flood and Water Management

Supplementary Planning Document





Adopted December 2014

### .... but it's only new build

## Why is it going to get worse?

- Towns and cities historically located on rivers
- 5.2m homes or more are currently at risk
- Urban creep and upstream development
- More extreme everts and climate change
- £1.1 billion of insured damage each year
- June 2007 floods £3.2 billion cost
- Flood Re has limited value
- Lack of funding for flood management
- NEITHER legislation nor government has addressed the need for retrofitting or properly building resilience



### The problem is increasing

## How retrofitting can help

- Incremental but immediate effect
- Multiple interventions inherently build greater resilience
- Flexible application and value for money
- Develop a mindset that considers SuDS first
- Consider its application everywhere
- Aligns with other objectives around health, GI biodiversity and water quality
- NEED TO DO..... all the time ...... everywhere!



Portland – 56,000 downspouts Philadelphia – 25 year ongoing plan

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### Let's get Nibbling!

## How it works



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### **SuDS equation**

### How it works



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### Management train

## What they are



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### **SuDS components**

## What they are



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### **SuDS components**

## New build – developing a network



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### **Components in series**

## **Interlinked SuDS network**



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### **Components in series**

## How's retrofitting different?

- Different approach to new build SuDS
- Different site constraints services in particular
- Design criteria decided on site by site basis
- Brownfield site redevelopment
- Engineering (and bioengineering) likely to be a key aspect
- Requires individual approach frequently linear
- Be opportunistic
- But can be expensive

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- so align with other outcomes



### **Conceptual approach**

## Work in partnership

- Seek partnership funding with all stakeholders
- Consider local authorities, water companies,
  - EA, LEPS, BIDS, local commercial organisations,
  - third sector organisations, radio and TV
- Its not just cash!

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- You need community champions
- Community engagement is time consuming ...expensive, **but essential**
- Seek genuine partnerships... and be honest



### Funding and people

### FLAT ROOFED BUILDING

- Consider when roofs need repair or renewal
- Green, blue or brown roofs
  - weight loading determines type of green roof





### ANY BUILDING

- Rainwater harvesting for internal use
- Water butts or tanks for external re-use
  - overflows back into existing system
  - can be done at any time

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### **Buildings**

### CAR PARKS

- Repave sections with permeable paving and potentially connect to rain gardens
- Reconfigure to introduce stormwater planters
- Collect rain water for recycling on site
   any loss of parking a key issue



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### SCHOOL GROUNDS

- Redesign for creative play/use
- 'Spare' green space invariably available
- Soft SuDS especially align with the curriculum
  - be aware of BB98 requirements

### Large paved areas

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

- Resurfacing works an ideal opportunity
- Road widening/narrowing schemes
- Traffic management schemes
- Tram routes or light rail
- Parking schemes
- Pedestrianisation
- New cycle routes
- Street tree planters

DOMESTIC STREETS

- Integrate with shared surface schemes
- Consider parking issues
- Tree pit planters very useful
- Create pocket parks in left-over space
  - beware the bin men!

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### **Highways**

### PARKS AND COUNCIL OWNED LAND

- Parks allow larger scale features
- Can be integrated with play or biodiversity
- Create pocket parks
- Enhance 'left over' green space
- Consider verges for shallow swales
- Roundabouts are a great opportunity!





### URBAN DESIGN

- Town centre regeneration
- Pedestrianisation schemes
- Commercial projects
- Enhance 'left over' urban space
- 'Meanwhile' projects

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### Public open space

### INDIVIDUAL HOUSES

- Repave drives with permeable paving
- Disconnect downpipes
- Create rain gardens
- Green roofs on sheds
- Water butts
  - any loss of parking a key issue





### FLATS AND APARTMENTS

- Disconnect downpipes and
- Redesign the communal space
- Green roofs to garages, cycle sheds or bin stores or disconnect their downpipes

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### Housing

## What you can do - use trees!



- Uptake of water
- Interception of water
- Water quality improvements
- Air quality improvements
- Urban heat island effect
- Increase in biodiversity and opportunities for wildlife
- Species migration and GI networks
- Visual quality in the environment
- Health and wellbeing physical and mental

...and in urban environments trees have greater all-round acceptability

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### ...it's not just about water

## An estate plan - Priors Farm, Oakley



### **SuDS potential**

## **Priors Farm, Oakley**



#### Where can we do it? Landscape some green spaces - What do you think? public open public open space near space near Salamanca Somme Road? Road? other shared green spaces? private gardens? ome areas can be nown less often and e planted with Idflower ttp://www.jonathanbuckley.com/Galeries/PORTFOL302011/2011GreatDater/index\_4 Gently Some species are suited reshape to the bottom of swa some areas Rain garden



### **Somme Road POS**



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### **Conceptual scheme**

### Somme and Ladysmith Road



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### Water management details



Look at design options overleaf

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### Design choices



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### **Plant selection choices**





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### Fitting within existing gardens



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### **Completed garden**

## **Promoting understanding and SuDS awareness**





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### Information board and raingarden roundel

- Uptake of water reduces flood volumes
- Higher infiltration of woodland soils reduces rapid surface run-off of water
- Hydraulic 'roughness' of trees, shrubs and large wood debris slows flows
- Protects soil from erosion, reducing sediment load, reduces need for dredging
- Reduces pollutants in runoff
- Larger woodlands = greater effectiveness

### DELIVER THROUGH

- Stewardship schemes
- Forest Research opportunity mapping
- Forestry Grants



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### Role of forestry

## UNDERSTANDING THE TECHNICALITIES

- Engineering versus trees needs
- Dealing with structural loading
- Managing services
- SuDS requirements
- Soil conditions
- Appropriate soil system

### AWARENESS OF GUIDANCE

CIRIA and TDAG



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### **Urban environment**

### TREES REQUIRE

- Sufficient space
- Appropriate soils
- Sufficient gas exchange
- Adequate drainage
- Supply of water
- Avoidance of compaction

### THE SuDS SHOULD

- Drain the local area = one gulley
- Drain down within 48 hours
- Have storage below main rooting area

*Bigger trees = greater rooting area = greater water storage capacity* 



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### Urban environment

STRUCTURAL GROWING MEDIA

- Sand based substrates tree soils
- Medium sized aggregate with soil
- Stone skeleton substrates

### MODULAR STRUCTURES

• Crate systems – plastic/concrete etc

### RAFT SYSTEMS

- Geo cells
- Geocellular units

TREE PLANTERS

• Bioretention systems

Crated system





Permavoid geocellular units

### Bioretention tree planter



### Urban environment

- 1. Hard surface & sub-base
- 2. Geotextile
- **3.** Layer of dry crushed rock for infiltration of surface water and aeration of the soil
- **4.** Structure of larger stones. Intersticial space between is filled with soil
- 5. Terrace
- 6. Concrete planter box (30cm)
- 7. Tree
- 8. Planting soil
- 9. Catchment chamber for infiltration of surface water and aeration of the structural soil



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### TDAG skeleton soils illustration



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### TDAG skeleton soils drawing detail



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### TDAG skeleton soils





YouTube – 'Let's get Nibbling!'

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### ..... Any questions?