

King's Lynn Internal Drainage Board

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) Adoption Policy

1. Adoption of SuDS within the Board's Drainage District

The Board will consider the adoption of SuDS within its Drainage District where the SuDS cater for more than one property owner. The decision whether to adopt will be made:-

- On a site-specific basis
- Dependent on the Board having had input to the design from an early stage so that:
 - adequate access and working space is allowed around the SuDS feature(s) for future maintenance with machinery, including in all landscaping designs; and
 - space is allowed within the site design for deposition of arisings from the SuDS proposed for adoption – whether the arisings are vegetation or silts etc – so that these do not have to be removed from site. The area required for this may be additional to the access and working space. It will normally be expected that this deposition space is provided immediately adjacent to the SuDS feature(s).
- Generally, the Board will only consider adopting a SuDS feature which:-
 - is an extension of, or is adjacent and connected to, an existing Board-maintained watercourse or SuDS feature;
 - is above-ground and can be maintained with equipment commonly used by the Board – such as flails and roding baskets – for example attenuation ponds or linear flood storage areas; and
 - has a maintenance regime similar to a Board-maintained open watercourse, especially in regard to cutting frequency (SuDS infrastructure that needs maintaining more frequently, for example swales in front of properties or SuDS which are also public open space, may be better-suited to adoption by another authority).

2. Adoption of SUDS within the Board's watershed catchment

The Board may also consider adopting SuDS outside its Drainage District, but within the watershed catchment, if doing so will be of benefit to, and/or help to protect drainage and flood risk in, the Drainage District, provided that the other requirements in this policy are also met.

3. Charges for the Board to adopt SUDS

A one-off, upfront adoption charge will be payable by the developer to the Board as part of the adoption procedure. This charge will be based on the present value of the total maintenance cost associated with the SuDS being adopted over the design life of the development (usually 100 years, unless it can be demonstrated to be less), unless otherwise agreed by the Board. The maintenance costs used to calculate this charge will be set by the Board based on a works programme agreed as part of the consenting and adoption process.