

SuDS ADOPTION POLICY

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 IDB having had input to the design from an early stage so that:
 - Adequate access and working space is allowed around the SuDS for future maintenance with machinery.
 - Landscaping designs consider the future maintenance and access to the SuDS.
 - Space is allowed within the site design for deposition of arisings from the SuDS, whether it be annual weed cutting material, or more infrequent material, so that this did not have to be removed, but instead accommodated on site.

Generally, for guidance, the Board may only consider adopting the type of SuDS which:-

- Are above ground and can be maintained using the equipment commonly used by IDBs, such as flails, basket cutters etc. for example storage ponds, swales, and flood storage areas (it is felt that other types of SuDS may better be suited for adoption by another authority).
- Have a maintenance regime similar to the rest of the IDB's infrastructure, e.g. cutting once or twice a year, (it is generally felt that SuDS infrastructure that needs maintaining much more frequently such as public open space or swales in front of properties may better be suited for adoption by another authority).

2. **Adoption of SuDS within the Board's "extended area"**

The Board may also consider adopting SuDS outside of its Drainage District, but within its hydraulic catchment area, if doing so will be of a benefit to the Drainage District, subject to the same conditions as shown above.

3. **Adoption 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 Board's adoption procedure. This charge is based on the present value of the total maintenance cost associated with the SuDS over the design life of the development (usually 100 years unless it can be demonstrated to be less). The annual maintenance costs used to calculate this charge will be based on a maintenance programme agreed as part of the SuDS consenting and adoption process.