

Dear Consultee

CONSULTATION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE SYSTEMS PROVISIONS IN SCHEDULE 3 OF THE FLOOD AND WATER MANAGEMENT ACT (2010)

I am seeking your views on a package of measures to implement the Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) provisions in Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Responses are requested by **13 March 2012**.

The proposed measures will apply in England (the Welsh Government will be consulting separately about implementation in Wales).

Your views are sought on the:

- a) Impact Assessment;
- b) National Standards; and
- c) Statutory Instruments (4no.) that include proposals for approval and adoption

We also propose to develop guidance to support the National Standards for sustainable drainage in collaboration with interested parties (paragraphs 1.24 to 1.26 of the consultation document refer). Expression of interest from anyone who would like to contribute should be submitted to SuDS@defra.gsi.gov.uk before **20 January 2012**.

There are a total of 29 questions in the consultation document. For some we ask you to explain your answers more fully. Your responses are important to us and will help ensure that our approach is proportionate and achieves the right outcomes for all.

You can respond to the questions through our online survey at: www.defra.gov.uk/consult/2011/12/20/sustainable-drainage-systems-1112/.

The survey should take no more than one hour to complete, depending on whether you choose to provide extra information for your answers, where we invite you to do so.

If you prefer to provide a written response to the questions or obtain a copy of the consultation document, please send your responses to/contact the:

Defra, SuDS Team
Area 2A
Ergon House
Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 2AL
Telephone: 0207-238-4847/2034/5864
Email: SuDS@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Enquiries

If you have any queries regarding the content or scope of this consultation, please contact us via the contact details provided above.

Next steps

Defra has a policy of openness and at the end of the consultation period, copies of the responses we receive will be made publicly available through the Defra Information Resource Centre, Lower Ground Floor, Ergon House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR. **If you do not consent to this, you must clearly request that your response be treated as confidential.** Respondents should also be aware that there may be circumstances in which Defra will be required to communicate information to third parties on request, in order to comply with its obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

All the responses received by the deadline will be analysed and a summary of the responses received will be placed on the Defra web site. To see consultation responses and summaries, please contact the library at:

Defra
Information Resource Centre
Lower Ground Floor
Ergon House
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR
Telephone: 020-7238-6575
Email: defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Compliance with the Code of Practice on Consultations

This consultation is also being undertaken in accordance with the Better Regulation Executive guidance on written consultation as set out at:
<http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/better-regulation/consultation-guidance>

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, as opposed to comments about any of the issues in this consultation paper, please address them to:

Defra Consultation Co-ordinator
Area 7C, Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR
Email: consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

Pauline Crellin

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

The following documents accompany this consultation and may be found on Defra's website: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult/>

Annex A: Draft National Standards for Sustainable Drainage

Annex B: Draft Sustainable Drainage (Approval and Adoption) (England) Order 2012

Annex C: Draft Sustainable Drainage (Enforcement) (England) Order 2012

Annex D: Draft Sustainable Drainage (Procedure) (England) Regulation 2012

Annex E: Draft Sustainable Drainage (Appeals) (England) Regulations 2012

Annex F: Impact Assessment on the commencement of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010: Schedule 3 for Sustainable Drainage Systems

Annex G: Full list of Consultation Questions

Annex H: List of consultees

Annex I: List of National Standards Project Advisory Board Members

Annex J: Glossary

Annex K: Regulatory Framework

Frequently Asked Questions