

## SuDS – Minimising Risk and Maximising Opportunities Within the Planning Process

John Rumble  
Environmental Resource Planning Team  
Hertfordshire County Council

[www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)



## Overview

- The Hertfordshire approach
- Working with the Planning System
- Avoiding the one-size fits all solution
- Maximising multiple benefits
- Empowering planners and building capacity
- Some key uncertainties
- Questions

[www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)



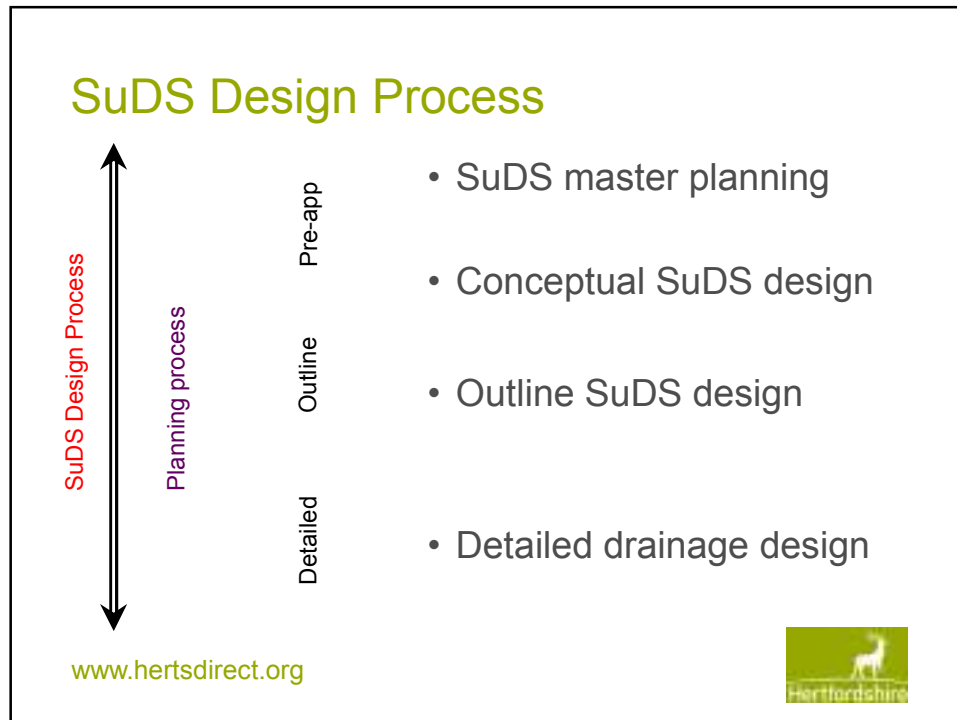
## The Hertfordshire Approach

- Mimicking natural drainage systems
  - Increase natural losses
  - Slowing flow
  - Using the landscape to store water
  - Discharge to groundwater/watercourse
  - Visible
- Not
  - Out of sight
  - Underground
  - Somebody else's problem!



[www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)






## Working with the planning system

(some common responses)

- We do that already don't we
- That's a matter for building control
- That's for the landscape strategy
- Our priority is to get affordable housing
- The EA have not said anything so it must be OK
- The site is not in the flood plain

[www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)



## One size fits all!

- Engage early
- Obtaining creative solutions
- Maximising the use of green space
- Habitat creation
- On-surface management and treatment
- Use of sub-catchments
- Ease of maintenance
- Information to promote understanding

[www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)



## Maximising multiple benefits

- Landscape and green space
- Habitat creation
- Water quality
- Amenity benefits
- Public open space



## Empowerment and capacity building

- Training –
- Different professions –
- Politicians -
- LLFA –
- Others -
- 11 half-day sessions – one in each LPA
- Planners, building control, highways, green space managers, landscape officers
- DC Committee, others?
- Resources
- Developers, consultants..

[www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)



## ?????????

- National
  - What will the NPPF guidance say?
  - What weight will be given to drainage concerns?
  - Is the expert advice necessary going to be funded?
- Local
  - What impact will the political process have?
  - How can we address viability arguments?
  - How do we deal with cumulative impact of small developments?
  - Adoption and maintenance – what happens when it goes wrong?

[www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)



## Questions



[www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)

