

susdrain SuDS Champion nomination 2020



1. Nomination details

Name of nominated person	Sophie Tucker
Name of their organisation or community	United Utilities
Role in organisation/community	Sustainable Drainage Systems Manager
Role in championing SuDS	Lead within United Utilities on SuDS and Blue Green Infrastructure, driving engagement and understanding of the multiple benefits of SuDS

	solutions in wider industry and partnerships
Name of nominator	Adrian Lythgo – Chair NWRFCC
Relationship of nominator to nominee	Indirect – UU contribution to RFCC.

2. State your reasons for nominating this champion under the following headings (Max 50 words per heading)

Inspiring – how has your champion inspired others regarding SuDS?	Leading role in establishing a North West SuDS Task & Finish Group for the North West RFCC – great network of people across RMAs and LLFAs. Major role in developing a North West SuDS Pro-forma, including securing endorsement by North West RFCC and now securing implementation.
Informing – how does your champion share good practice?	Leading in working collaboratively across the industry, displaying personal passion for multiple benefits of SUDS -knowledge sessions, upskill training and key industry updates within the business, and shares experience of SuDS to promote best practice on the uptake and adoption of SuDS.
Influencing – how has your champion dealt with challenges and shared their enthusiasm about SuDS?	Addressing inconsistent level of understanding across the industry - Sophie recognises the importance of effective communication and upskilling internally and externally and has been instrumental in creating, driving and influencing industry training with CIWEM and CIRIA. Within UU influenced operating model for Developer Services (end to end ownership including SuDS).

3. Please give a quotable reason for your nomination (no more than 100 words)

Describe why this person has demonstrably gone the extra mile to promote use of SuDS and why they deserve to be awarded susdrain **SuDS Champion 2020**

Sophie’s enthusiasm to change the industry is infectious. In a short space of time she has clearly had a massive influence both in UU and the wider industry. Her dedication to Sustainable Drainage has been exemplary and she has shown strong resilience in overcoming in securing ownership both internally and externally. The creation of industry training will leave a legacy of benefits for many years to come. Sophie’s reputation has flourished as she has widened her influence, culminating recently in being invited to a SuDS Parliamentary Roundtable. She should be incredibly proud of her contribution.

Personal statement

It was a pleasant surprise to hear I’ve been nominated for a SuDS champion award. It’s a real boost to be recognised for the work I’ve been leading on, with the support of a great network of people. It’s an exciting time for SuDS and I’m hopeful that retrofits will become mainstream in the near future. I’m part of a SuDS and water re-use policy and leadership group, and it feels like the right people are engaged and the bar will soon be raised to help the industry maximise the delivery of green infrastructure that provides so much more than drainage.