

susdrain SuDS Champion Nomination 2019



Nominated person(s)	Michelle Johnson & Rhodri Powell
Name of their organisation or community	Caerphilly County Borough Council
Role in organisation or community	Principal Flood Risk Management Engineer & Senior Engineer (Drainage) Flood Risk Management
Role in championing SuDS	Established the first SAB in Wales and have pioneered the interpretation of Welsh SuDS legislation for authorities in Wales

<p>Inspiring – how has this champion inspired others regarding SuDS?</p>	<p>Michelle and Rhodri are a great team dedicated to championing & evangelising about SuDS. They have turned legislation into action within their own authority and have been powerful proponents to take SuDS off paper and out of council offices, and into the planning process and the real world.</p>
<p>Informing – how does this champion share good practice?</p>	<p>On top of their day jobs, Michelle and Rhodri travel the UK sharing ‘how we did it’ rather than just ‘what you need to do’. This inspires people as it shows what is possible to make SuDS a reality, and that it’s not an insurmountable challenge.</p>
<p>Influencing – how has this champion dealt with challenges and shared their enthusiasm about SuDS?</p>	<p>See above! Michelle and Rhodri have been part of the decision and enforcement process for SuDS in Caerphilly, they have heard the objections and challenges and have come up with answers. They frequently speak at events in an enthusiastic and engaging way.</p>

How this person/team has demonstrably gone the extra mile to promote use of SuDS and why they deserve to be awarded the susdrain 2019 SuDS Champion Award

Being at the vanguard of the vanguard is an interesting place to be. Wales is the first country in the UK to legislate the use of SuDS Approval Bodies (SABs), with Caerphilly County Borough Council at the forefront of establishing the processes and practice to bring the legislation into the planning process and from there into the real world.

Michelle and Rhodri are real forces of power in championing SuDS. Always willing to take part in programs and embrace tools that help take SuDS forward, they have enormous commitment to environmental best practice, and present this with enthusiasm and charm.