London Sustainable Industries Park
SuDS Construction Guidance Case Study

1st November 2017

The London Sustainable Industries Park
Dagenham Dock, RM9
Guidance on the construction of SuDS launch event

Paul Morris, Civic Engineers
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01/11/2017
Planning Challenges:
- Some members of the team were sceptical about the approach to surface water drainage in particular.
- Modelling of the system to the satisfaction of the Local Authority involved many iterations and justification of the approach.
- There was a need to justify solutions avoiding guardrails etc.

Challenges during construction:
- Main contractor and sub-contractors did not initially understand the principles and questioned the design/information.
- Contractors did not recognise the proposed details and interpreted the details based on previous experience of more standard solutions.
- Importance of soils (both specification and installation) was not initially understood.
Measures adopted to overcome challenges:

- Case studies and precedent were relied on to demonstrate the suitability of the approach (difficult to find at the time!)

- Risk Assessments were undertaken to justify omission of guardrails based on precedents such as the canal network.

- Strong client leadership ensured that the concept was retained throughout the design and approvals process.

- The vision document was presented to the Contractor team such that they understood the aspirations and the design intent.

- “Tool box talks” were held with the teams that were delivering the specific elements of the scheme with the importance of key details explained to them.

- A positive relationship with the Contractor resulted in on-going dialogue allowing conflicts and issues to be resolved straightforwardly.