

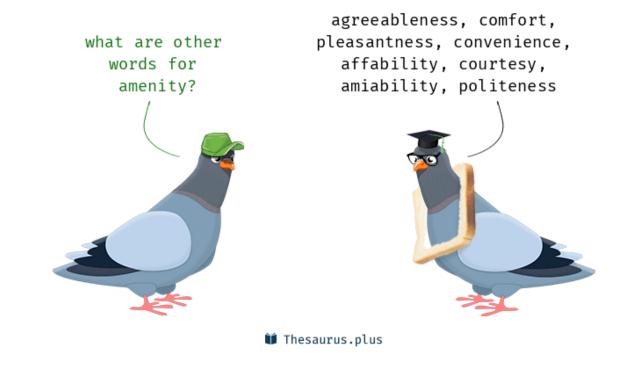
Pillar talk - amenity

Susdrain December 2020

illmanyoung™

The four pillars of SuDS

- Quality
- Quantity
- AMENITY
- Biodiversity



BUT WHAT DOES 'AMENITY' MEAN?

The four pillars of SuDS

- Quality
- Quantity
- AMENITY
- Biodiversity



'Amenity describes the character or enjoyment of a landscape and how the relationship of its features contribute to that experience'

The need for amenity

GOVERNMENT POLICY / CONSIDERATIONS

- The 25 year Environment Plan
- The Planning White Paper
- Updating of the NSTS
- *Living with Beauty* BBBBC report
- Update of Manual for Streets
- Covid!

COULD THESE DRIVE BETTER SUDS DESIGN?

 Current lack of good practice in providing amenity in SuDS design



The other benefits of amenity

- More environments resilient to climate change
- Healthier environments with cleaner air and water
- More biodiverse habitats

AND NOT FORGETTING SuDS DEFINITIONS

- Reuse of water
- Development's 'amenities'
- Amenity value of water

These are all part of amenity

 If we can maximise the benefits, why wouldn't we?



What does it take?



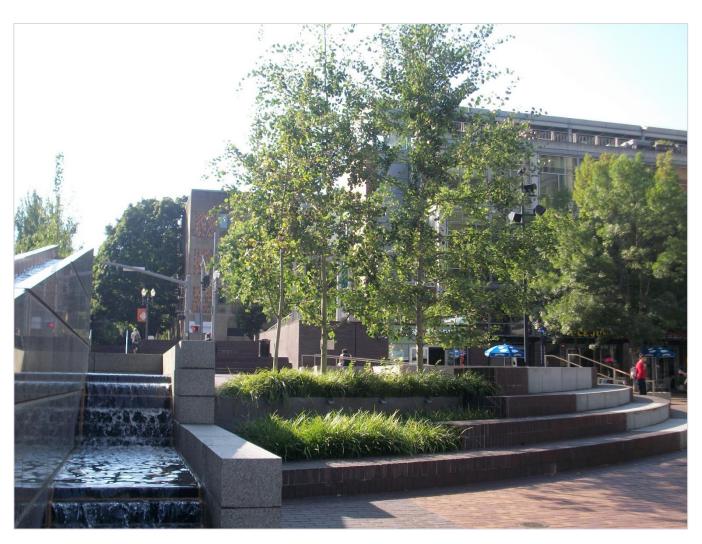
- Water management for a healthy environment that supports the water environment, people and biodiversity
- Water cycle considerations throughout the Planning, design and delivery process to maximise the benefits

Places to live and enjoy

DESIGNING FOR AMENITY OF VALUE TO PEOPLE

We have learned to value our open spaces

- Connect with nature
- Connect with friends or family
- Space to run, walk, play or just be
- Places to think
- Places of beauty
- Space to breathe
- If we can maximise the benefits, why wouldn't we?



What delivering amenity can also provide

PLANTING AS A SUDS DELIVERY TOOL

- Interception everyday rainfall
- Uptake of water
- Managing particulates
- Reducing urban heat island effect
- Reducing pollutants in surface water
- Metabolising hydrocarbons
- Species networks & migration pathways
- Enhanced biodiversity



Its how multifunctional benefits are delivered illmanyoung

What delivering amenity should embrace

SCALE OF THE SUDS AND ITS SETTING

- Urban, streetscape or POS
- The desires and needs of the users
- Places with local character
- A range of facilities
 - Seating
 - Activities or quiet space
 - Play
 - Opportunities for social interaction
 - Public art/interactive space
- Variety of space



What needs to change?

THE APPROACH

- Clients may need a better understanding
- Beautiful space adds value and quality
- External space design with SuDS isn't about ease of modelling
- Space is precious so don't waste it
- Water management as the driver...but
- Quality of design and construction is key
- The devil's in the detail
- A genuine team approach





Hope there's some questions?

