SuDS and biodiversity

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Balfour Beatty
SuDS should be used day-to-day for water management.
Environment Bill

[AS AMENDED IN PUBLIC BILL COMMITTEE]

PART 6

NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity gain in planning

Biodiversity gain as condition of planning permission

Schedule 14 makes provision for biodiversity gain to be a condition of planning permission in England.
Will a mandatory approach to BNG incentivize SuDS that benefit biodiversity?
Development that leaves biodiversity in a measurably better state than before

The Biodiversity Metric 2.0
auditing and accounting for biodiversity
Calculation Tool
Beta Version - December 2019

Units before works

Units after works: +10%
Will BNG incentivise SuDS with biodiversity benefits?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref</th>
<th>Broad Habitat</th>
<th>Habitat type</th>
<th>Area (hectares)</th>
<th>Distinctiveness</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<td>Urban</td>
<td>Urban - Sustainable urban drainage feature</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<td>Urban - Bioswale</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>Urban - Rain garden</td>
<td>0.01</td>
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</table>
SuDS score poorly within the biodiversity metric

No incentive to count towards BNG or to design SuDs with biodiversity benefits

A disincentive

Go underground to have space for BNG
Will BNG incentivize SuDS with biodiversity benefits?

Both BNG & SuDS need space
Do Nothing
• Amenity wet grassland mix
• -8.5% units

Do Something
• Native species rich grassland mix
• +5% units
• No extra cost
10%

**Biodiversity Net Gain**
Good practice principles for development
BNG & SuDS?

- Properly valued in the biodiversity metric
- Guidance on like-for-like or better
- Plan both early