

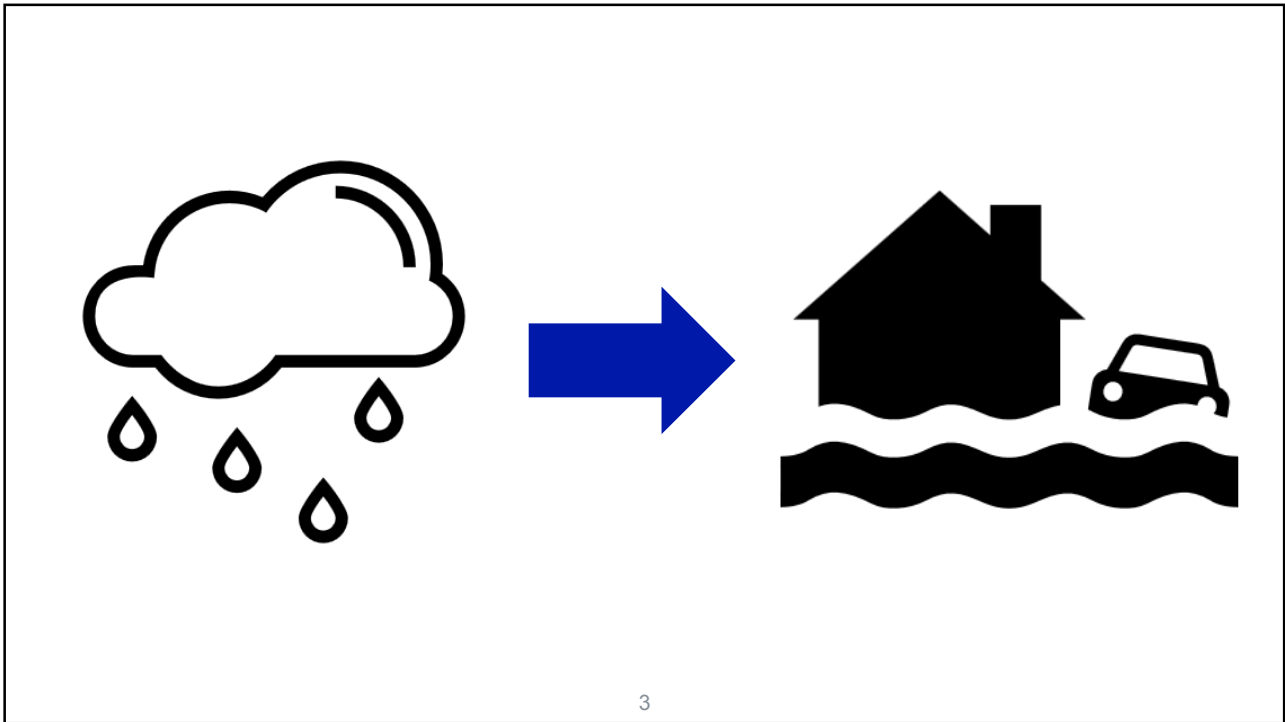


## SuDS in London: A Guide

Robin Buckle & Johanna Gibbons



# Introduction



## Surface water flood risk



**Greatest short term climate risk**



**MANAGING RISKS  
AND INCREASING  
RESILIENCE**

THE MAYOR'S CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGY  
OCTOBER 2011

MAYOR OF LONDON

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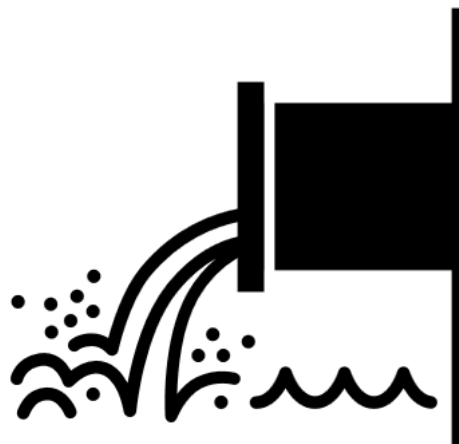
## London Sustainable Drainage Action Plan

- Consultation: October 2015
- Aim: step-change in rainwater management in London
- Rainwater  as an asset:
  - Capture
  - Use
  - Delay
  - Absorb



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## London Sustainable Drainage Action Plan



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London Sustainable Drainage Action Plan

**LAUNCH DATE:  
17 NOVEMBER**



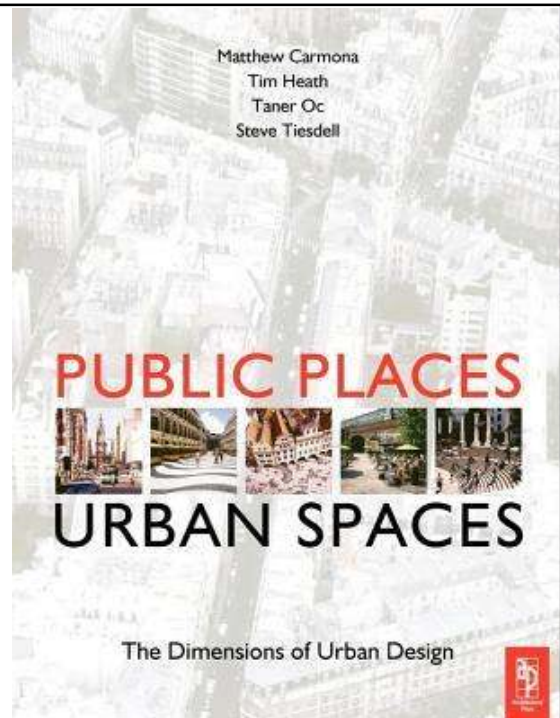
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Why?

## URBAN DESIGN

*“The processes of making better places for people than would otherwise be produced”.*

Carmona, Heath, Oc and Tiesdell (2003)



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## Public spaces in London

# 80%

Streets, roads, footways, paths

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*The guidance provides advice for  
all Highways Authorities and those  
responsible for:*

- *Designing*
- *Building*
- *Operating*
- *Maintaining*

*London's streets and public realm*



# Who?

## Steering Group



**GREATER  
LONDON  
AUTHORITY**

### London Drainage Engineers Group



## Consultation

- August – September 2016
- 450 recipients
- 24 sets of responses
- 368 individual comments



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# Contents



## Contents

1. Introduction
2. Principles of SuDS
3. London Context
4. SuDS Components
5. SuDS in London's Streets
6. Case Studies
7. Implementation
8. Cost Benefits

Quantity:  
Permeable  
paving, grit  
jointing



Quality:  
Reed bed  
planting

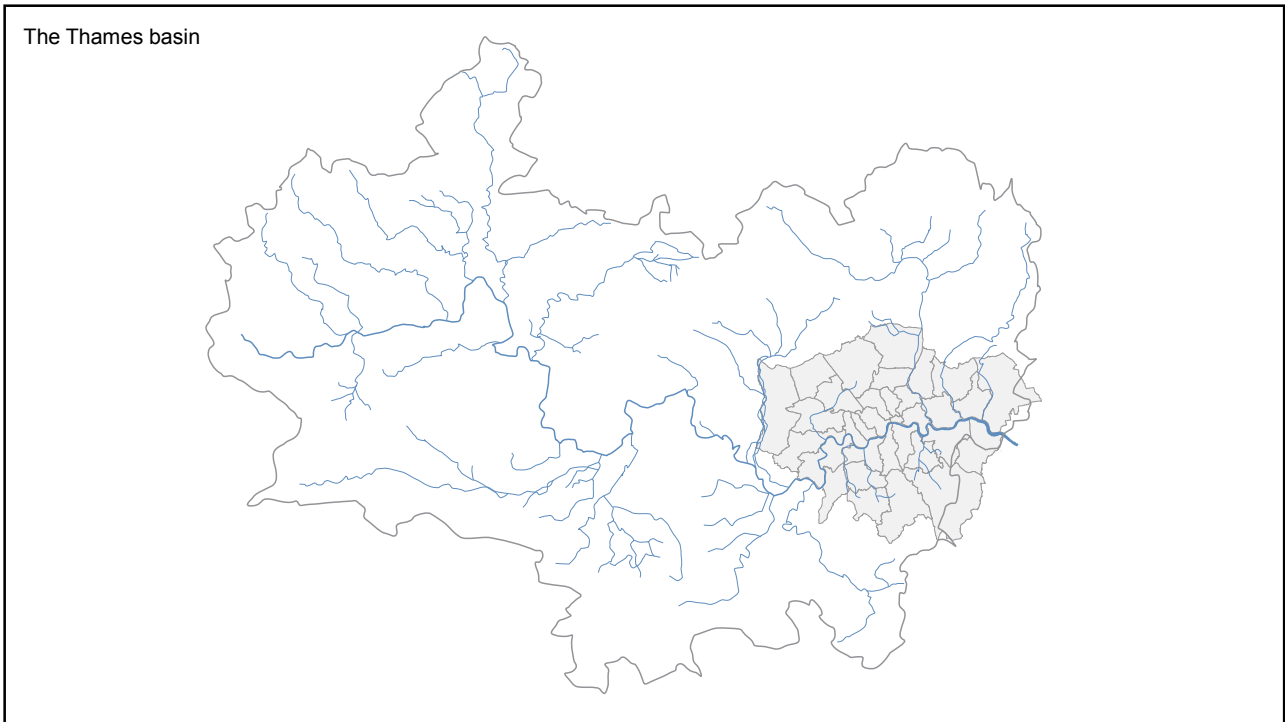
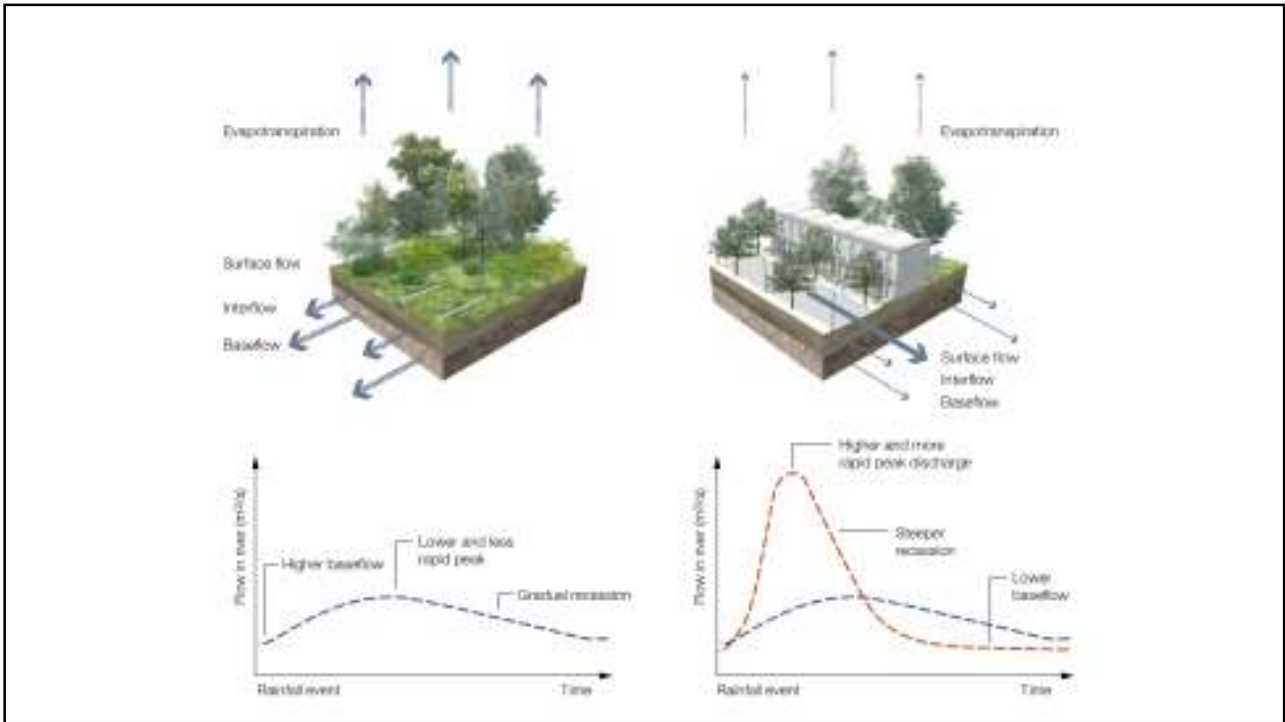


Amenity:  
Community  
planting



Biodiversity:  
Reedbed  
habitat











St James's Park: Parks provide natural storage, attenuation, infiltration, interception

**Swale - Case study 6:**

**Location:** Mill Pond Road  
London Borough of Wandsworth

**Date:** 2016

**SuDS Components:**  
Bioretention swales  
Kerb inlets  
Tree trench planting

**Objectives:**  
Mill Pond Road is a new road within a development at Nine Elms. It is constructed with a central planting bed acting as a swale to attenuate surface water.

**Outcomes:**  
The surface water run off is collected along bespoke broken kerb units and fed into the central planting zone where it filters through to an underground collection and holding tank before being released slowly into the mains sewer system. It is anticipated that there will not be standing water for more than one or two days following extreme rainfall events; the plants have been selected to be tolerant of these conditions.

Images courtesy of Camlin  
Plan  
Bioretention swale

**Permeable paving - Case study 11**

**Location:** Mendora Road  
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

**Date:** 2016 (under construction)

**SuDS Components:**  
Permeable paving retrofit

**Objectives:**  
This Thames Water Utilities Limited (TWUL) project aims to trial the retrofit of SuDS within the highway with a focus on their flood risk benefits. Three streets were selected for the trial as part of the Counters Creek SuDS Retrofit Pilot Schemes.

**Outcome:**  
Mendora Road involves the installation of permeable paving within the parking bays on each side of the road, with underground storage provided by geo-cellular structures on one side and aggregate on the other, with a flow control outlet to the existing sewer.

The scheme is lined to ensure monitoring data carried out by Thames Water gives an accurate representation of the scheme with no infiltration losses.

During construction
After

Images courtesy of Atkin

Images courtesy of Susdrain

**Timber planters as a trial solution for SuDS**

**Intention - Case study 9**

**Location:** Granton Road  
London Borough of Lambeth

**Date:** 2015

**SuDS Components:**  
Rain planters

**Objectives:**  
Trial project: The local school needed to tackle illegal parking on the yellow zig-zags, traffic congestion and conflict as parents queued in their cars outside the school.

**Outcome:**  
A six-month trial saw the installation of timber planters. During term-time the planters were maintained by the school children, although this proved problematic over the longer summer break. Traffic was monitored before, during and after the trial. A permanent solution will now seek to incorporate in-ground SuDS, that will address the seasonal issue and provide a learning facility for the school.

**The results: 1 year on**  
 Traffic volumes dropped by **44%\***

132 cars

↓

72 cars

Traffic speeds have decreased with more cars travelling at 10-15mph\*

**What the parents think**  
 86% of parents surveyed agree it is safer now  
 94% of parents surveyed would like the planters to be made permanent\*\*

\*between the hours of 7.30-9am in term time  
 \*\*we surveyed 53 parents, 11% of the school roll

**Results of trial**

### 3.24 Green Roofs on Depots: Trial Project



**After installation**

**Early green roof growth within 6 months**

**Location** Ruislip Depot  
Middlesex

**Extent** 125m<sup>2</sup>

**Cost** £30,000 (trial project)

**Date** 2012

**Credits:** London Underground Limited  
GLA  
University of East London  
GRC

**SuDS Components**

- Greenroofs

**Summary**  
Retrofit green roof and monitoring of source control

**Project Description**  
A small-scale trial to allow evaluation of the effectiveness of green roof, retrofitted for LUL depot environments. From the results it will be ascertained whether LUL could benefit from a broader application.

**Objectives**


- Experimenting in environmentally-friendly engineering solutions to address runoff from depot roof
- Achieve low maintenance
- Address Mayoral policy for SuDS by installing a green roof source control

- Ensure retrofitting on operational railway followed the rigorous assurance and safety procedures of London Underground, without any interruption of service

**Actions and Results**

- Biodiverse extensive green roofs types, each 18.5 metres x 3.3 metres, have been installed on a section of flat roof
- One section (south) has a drainage board with 65mm of extensive green roof substrate. The other section (north) uses recycled wool fibre instead of drainage board
- Both roofs are vegetated with sedum cuttings and seeded/planted with annual and perennial wildflowers
- The two trials are separated by an impermeable barrier to facilitate the measurement of run off. Total saturated loading is less than 100kg/m<sup>2</sup>
- With the assistance of the University of East London, monitoring devices have been installed in two downpipes of a green roof and two downpipes of a conventional control roof to measure water attenuation
- GLA support through Drain London. A small fund enables monitoring performance

### 5.1 Priory Common rain meadow



**Priory Common after installation**

**Location** Priory Common  
London Borough of Haringey

**Extent** 85m<sup>2</sup>

**Cost** £48,000 (Construction only)

**Date** 2016

**Credits:** London Borough of Haringey  
Thames21  
Robert Bray Associates

**SuDS Components**

- Filter strip
- Infiltration basin
- Channels

**Summary**  
Green space enhancement and re-purposing for surface water interception and infiltration.

**Project Description**  
Next to Priory Road is a linear green space with mature plane trees planted along the roadside. The verge is about 75 metres long and was highlighted as a site to deal with surface runoff from the road, via a sewer connection directly to the River Moselle. This project is part of a suite of SuDS schemes locally that will cumulatively improve water quality.

**Objectives**

- Intercept road runoff pollutants at source and use the existing landscape to allow 'interception loss' (ie, prevent water from reaching the ground) for everyday rainfall
- Clean and cool run-off during summer when the watercourse is most susceptible to the effects of pollution and water temperature increases (which inhibits the ability of water to carry dissolved oxygen)

**Actions and results**

- Runoff is diverted at the surface into a gully in Redston Road and collected in a five-sett channel that directs water onto the grass verge along Priory Road
- Verge re-profiling carries water for its full length until it reaches the sewer
- Early observations indicate that water flows quickly into the rain meadow but slows as it travels through the grass, soaking into the tree-lined verge before reaching the letterbox outfall to a road gully. Performance will improve as the meadow grows



**5.28 Rue Garibaldi**



**Location** Lyon, France  
**Extent** 1.5ha  
**Cost** £19.3m (total scheme 1st phase)  
**Date** 1st phase 2014  
**Credits** Grand Lyon  
 Atelier des Paysages

**SuDS Components**

- Retention basins
- Swales
- Soakaways
- Depaving

**Summary**  
 Transformation of an urban motorway to a planted boulevard and high quality civic space

**Project Description**  
 Rue Garibaldi, east of the River Rhône, is a north to south six-lane carriageway, constructed in the late 1960s. It is fronted with high storey buildings and features that are synonymous with an urban motorway. The environment for pedestrians and cyclists is hostile.

The configuration and high capacity of the streetscape meant the effects of urban heat island were exacerbated. Air (principally NOx and PM) and water quality was low (principally hydrocarbons and total suspended solids). Runoff into the combined sewer overflow was high, particularly during heavy or prolonged peak rainfall, considering the sub-catchment area of 65,000m<sup>2</sup>.

These conditions, coupled with a carriageway reconfiguration proposal, presented the opportunity to reconsider hydrological management of the 2.6km stretch of highway.

**Objectives**

- Minimise runoff into the combined sewer overflow by installing a SuDS scheme
- Improve connection between districts bordering Rue Garibaldi by design and planning consideration, within the wider green space context of the area
- Reduce maintenance and utility costs by installing a water recycling system
- Reconfigure carriageway function by instating separate carriageways for public transport, pedestrians, cyclists and other vehicles
- Improve management of water quality and mitigate urban heat island effect by planting trees and installing a SuDS scheme

Riff and de-paving



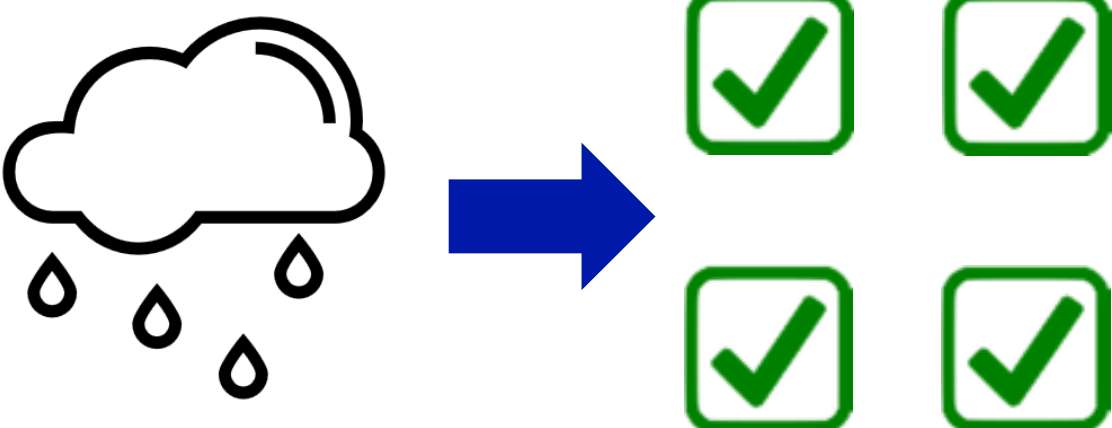




# Conclusion



Conclusion



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TRANSPORT  
FOR LONDON  
EVERY JOURNEY MATTERS