

Addendum 2, April 2015



Sustainable Drainage

Under schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act, Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA) were to be required to establish SuDS Approval Bodies (SAB) which would have required Devon County Council (as the LLFA) to approve and adopt SuDS for new developments. This is detailed in Section 9.7 of Devon's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.¹

In December the Government announced that schedule 3 would not be enacted and SuDS would be dealt with by strengthening existing planning policy instead. This change, which takes effect on April 6th 2015, requires local planning authorities to ensure that SuDS are included on new developments. Whilst Devon County Council, as the LLFA, will no longer be required to establish a SAB, they will now become a statutory consultee for major developments which have surface water drainage implications.

This responsibility will require that LLFAs provide comments in relation to the surface water drainage aspects of planning applications within 21 days.

Guidance:

To assist with this new role, Devon County Council has developed guidance for use by developers and planners outlining expectations in relation to surface water drainage. This document aims to signpost users to relevant information and provides a checklist of information required to support an application.

This is currently in draft format. We hope to expand on this document with District specific requirements and local information such as geology characteristics to inform suitability of soakaways etc.

¹ Devon's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, June 2014,
<https://new.devon.gov.uk/floodriskmanagement/local-flood-risk-management-strategy/>