

## CON29 question 3.3 (a) to (c) – Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)

Swindon Council Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) is currently reviewing their approach to SuDS approval and inspection. It is important to note that as schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act has not been enacted, the Authority does not have a legal duty or responsibility to keep records of any new or existing Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) at present. For this reason our current procedures do not allow for the provision of comprehensive answers in relation to question 3.3 of CON29.

The LLFA is consulted on major planning applications so has knowledge and influence over some of the SuDS systems which may be installed in the Borough. The LLFA do not have a role in checking final as built drawings though and in some cases, SuDS can be implemented without the need to obtain planning permission. Even where the LLFA is consulted on major applications before planning permission is granted, there is no assurance that the scheme will have been implemented at all, or implemented as approved. Furthermore, the Council does not normally adopt SuDS which are on private property unless they are serving public highway. It is strongly advised that a purchaser undertakes their own checks of planning approvals by referring to the local planning portal and by referring to documentation held by the vendor including maintenance agreements for SuDS. Purchasers may also wish to contact Thames Water to obtain records of any SuDS features that they have adopted.