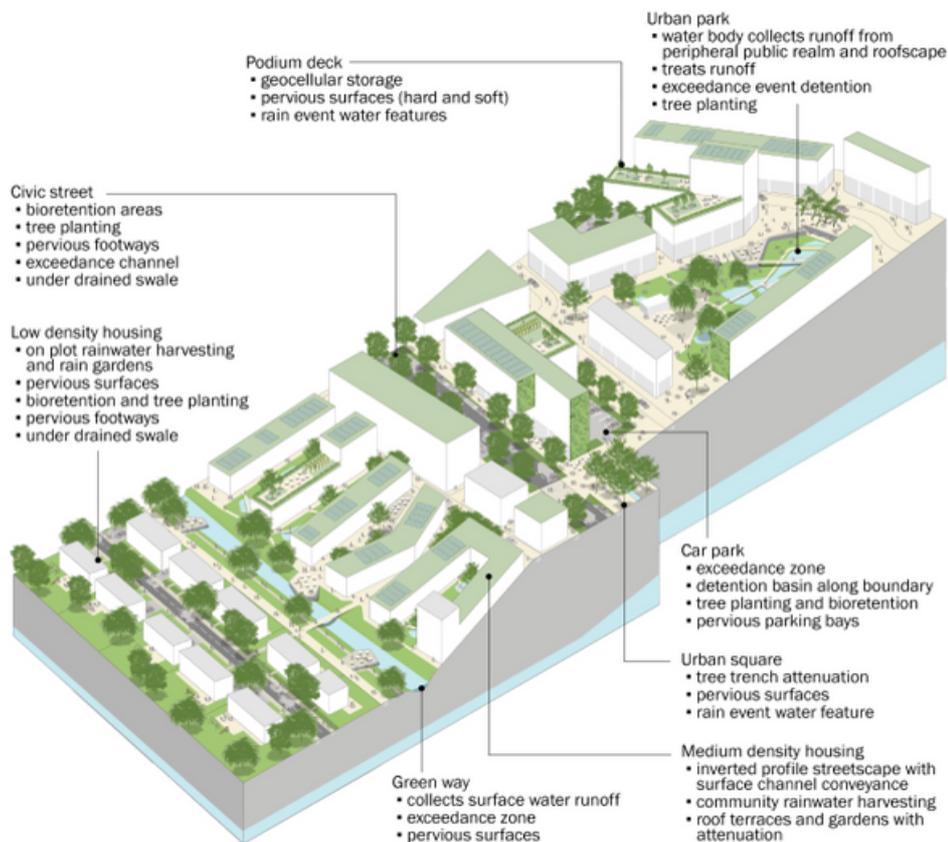


# The SuDS Manual update 2024

Updating the iconic guidance



## About CIRIA

CIRIA is the Construction Industry Research and Information Association, a neutral, independent and not-for-profit member organisation.

Our vision is to be the leading enabler and preferred partner to drive collaboration across the built environment and construction sectors, to research, develop and transfer knowledge.

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## CIRIA Products

CIRIA delivers robust, authoritative, independent good practice guidance which is applicable across sectors. Our guidance is designed for a range of users, from policy makers to practitioners.

Our guidance is developed collaboratively with industry and academic experts. Our methods ensure consensus, quality and the latest thinking underpin everything we do. We use high quality practitioner case studies to share knowledge and illustrate practice through examples.

We raise awareness of our good practice guidance through training, events, communities of practice, social media, blogs and press releases. Our key messages are widely disseminated to help embed good practice into industry throughout the UK and internationally.

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## CIRIA Research Ambitions

CIRIA's sixty plus year history and future purpose are aligned to our ambitions, designed to make a tangible difference to the sectors in which we work.

We take a holistic, systems-based approach to critical industry challenges within our five core research ambitions:



**Embedding  
Sustainability**



**Achieving Net  
Zero Carbon**



**Increasing  
Resilience**



**Improving  
Delivery**



**Harnessing  
Innovation**

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## Background

CIRIA has focused significant industry and government investment into more sustainable approaches to managing surface water that deliver multiple benefits across wide-ranging policy areas.

Its thriving community of practice 'susdrain' has over forty member organisations and has played a key role in delivering good practice, awareness raising and technical events to thousands of people over the past ten years.

Through susdrain, CIRIA collaborates with key SuDS stakeholders and provides a channel for new ideas, design approaches, good practice and case studies. Risks and challenges are shared and evaluated.

## Drivers for the update

The forthcoming implementation of Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act (2010) in England will require robust guidance for all SuDS stakeholders, both existing and new. This will include how to meet new statutory standards, with frameworks for both design and approval processes. The resulting good practice guidance will remain applicable UK-wide.

To provide effective detailed support, the updated SuDS Manual will embed the philosophy of the standards and their philosophy as well as the mechanisms for their delivery. It will include learning from Scotland where SUDS have been long established and from Wales following implementation of Schedule 3 there in 2019 and detailed review in 2023.

Whilst securing the implementation and adoption of SuDS in new developments is a major driver, it has become clear the challenges of climate change and water quality within existing built environments are equally important.

These drivers related to the appropriateness of surface water management techniques using SuDS and the need to deliver affordable solutions at scale aligned with placemaking and community wellbeing agendas.

## Key content updates

Key areas identified for the 2024 update are:

- Restructure to:
  - improve online functionality and searchability
  - reduce size, facilitate access and future updates
  - provide freestanding sections
- New introductory overview with links to appropriate sections
- Include Standards developed as part of Schedule 3 in England and Wales, referenced throughout the manual and as a standalone section
- New section on retrofit SuDS including
  - technical learning from large-scale projects across the UK
  - partnership funding
  - collaborative approaches for the range of stakeholders involved
  - recommended delivery processes for maximum value for money and good community outcomes
- New section on good practice for smaller sites to support the proportionate approach identified as necessary through research and experience
- Simplified and proportionate approach to hydraulic calculations
- More detail on delivery of benefits by SuDS for:
  - biodiversity
  - water quality
  - climate change resilience
  - urban cooling
  - carbon net zero
  - other relevant UK-wide government priorities

## Delivery

The updated SuDS Manual will be delivered to coincide with the implementation of Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act (2010) in England.

The work will be steered by an independently chaired cross-industry, UK-wide group including policy makers, regulators, consultants, designers, local authority planners and approvers. Funders of the project are automatically eligible for a place on the project steering group.

The work will be subject to continuous and independent peer review. The updated manual will be designed and formatted by CIRIA and will be accessible, clear and navigable.

Find out more here:

[https://www.ciria.org/Research/Project\\_proposals2/P3256\\_SuDS\\_Manual\\_Update.aspx](https://www.ciria.org/Research/Project_proposals2/P3256_SuDS_Manual_Update.aspx)

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## Indicative Timeline



# Why invest in a CIRIA project?

The benefits to your company from contributing to our projects



## Our downloads

Our Guidance is downloaded over 50,000 times per year



## Our reach

Our members and downloads span 50 countries worldwide

## Our reputation

Our reputation in the industry is long established and widely recognised. The principles of quality, sustainability and collaboration have been the foundation for what we do for many years.

The benefits of being involved in a CIRIA project are various:

- Deliver significant corporate value for modest levels of investment
- Raise awareness of your corporate brand through logo on outputs and submission of case studies and content
- Network with peers, clients and thought leaders in the sector
- Get your message heard and influence industry direction.
- Demonstrate tangible leading contribution to improvement in the sector, fulfilling ESG goals
- Provide CPD for your staff, aiding routes to chartership and personal career growth
- Assist future work winning through involvement with industry leading good practice

# Want to know more?

## This Project



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