



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

# Sustainable Drainage Systems

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# Aim

- Policy context
- Consultation on changes to the planning system:  
your views NOW!
- Next steps

# Flooding



Image from the Pitt Review

# The Pitt Review

## 2007 floods

### Independent review – Pitt Review

- **Rec 10** – “The automatic right to connect surface water drainage of new developments to the sewerage system should be removed.”
- **Rec 20** – “The Government should resolve the issue of which organisations should be responsible for the ownership and maintenance of sustainable drainage systems.”



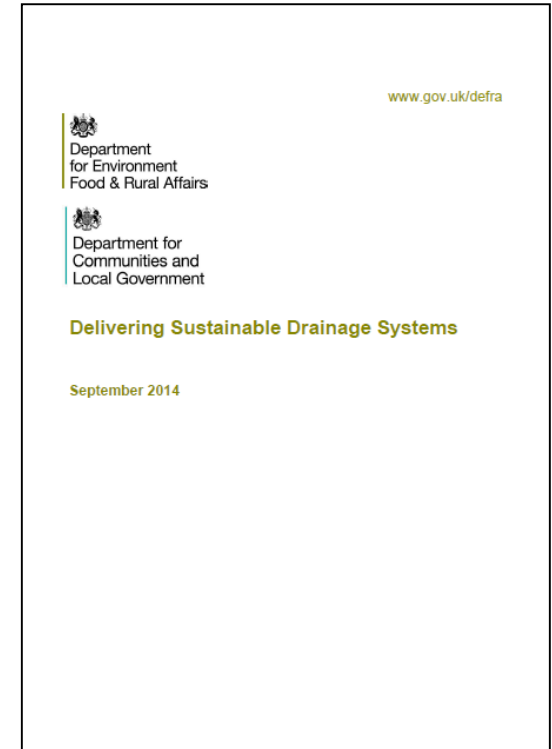
# So what are the problems to address?

- Deliver the Pitt recommendation
  - Increase the uptake of SuDS
  - Provide certainty for the long term maintenance
- Overcome the issues with Schedule 3



# Sustainable Drainage Consultation

- Launched 12 September 2014
- Closes 24 October 2014
- Options to deliver through strengthening planning regime



# Changes to planning policy and guidance

- **Q1. Do you agree that the proposed revision to planning policy would deliver sustainable drainage which will be maintained? If not, why?**
- **Q2. How should the Local Planning Authority obtain expert advice on sustainable drainage systems and their maintenance? What are the costs/benefits of different approaches?**
- **Q3. What are the impacts of different approaches for Local Planning Authorities to secure expert advice within the timescales set for determining planning applications?**



# Development size thresholds

- **Q4. Do you agree that minor size developments be exempt from the proposed revision to the planning policy and guidance? Do you think thresholds should be higher?**





# Maintenance options and costs

- **Q5. What other maintenance options could be viable? Do you have examples of their use?**
- **Q6. What evidence do you have of expected maintenance costs?**
- **Q7. Do you expect the approach proposed to avoid increases in maintenance costs for households and developers? Would additional measures be justified to meet this aim or improve transparency of costs for households?**

# So what are the major challenges to address?

- Are the key issues:
  - Charging?
  - Statutory consultees?
  - Local government preparedness?
- Or are there others?

# Next Steps

- Consultation period ends on Friday 24 October 2014
- Workshop at Nobel House on Thursday 30 October 2014
- Any changes to planning policy would come into force in Spring 2015



# Finally

Have your say  
[tinyurl.com/lhuas4c](https://tinyurl.com/lhuas4c)

