

Annual Inland Flood Risk Management and National Partners Groups meeting

Cllr Mike Haines, Chair, Inland Flood Risk
Management Group

28 September 2011

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Item 1 - Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)

1. Oliver Grant – Senior Policy Adviser, Sustainable Drainage - Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
2. Sass Willis – Flood and Water Manager- Cambridgeshire County Council

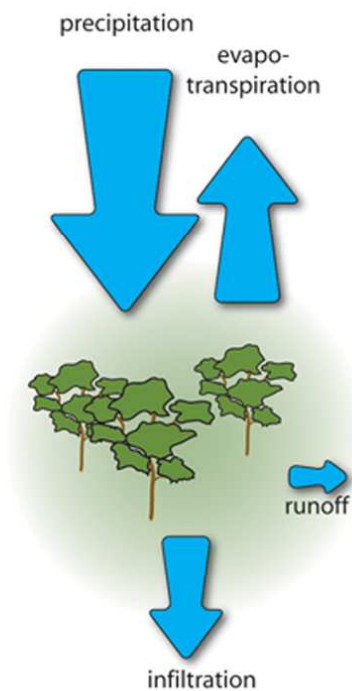
Followed by Q&A

Sustainable Drainage Systems (Flood and Water Management Act 2010)

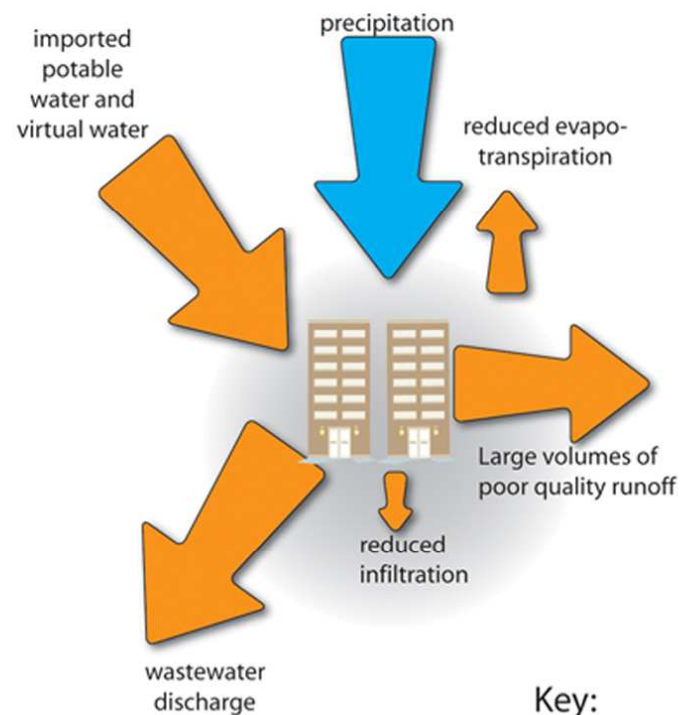
Oliver Grant
Senior Policy Advisor
2011



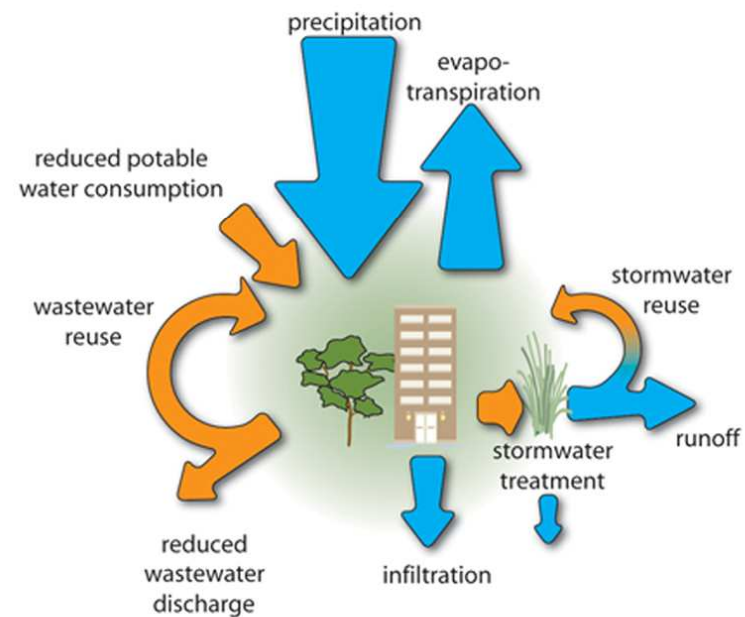
natural water balance



Urban water balance



WSUD water balance

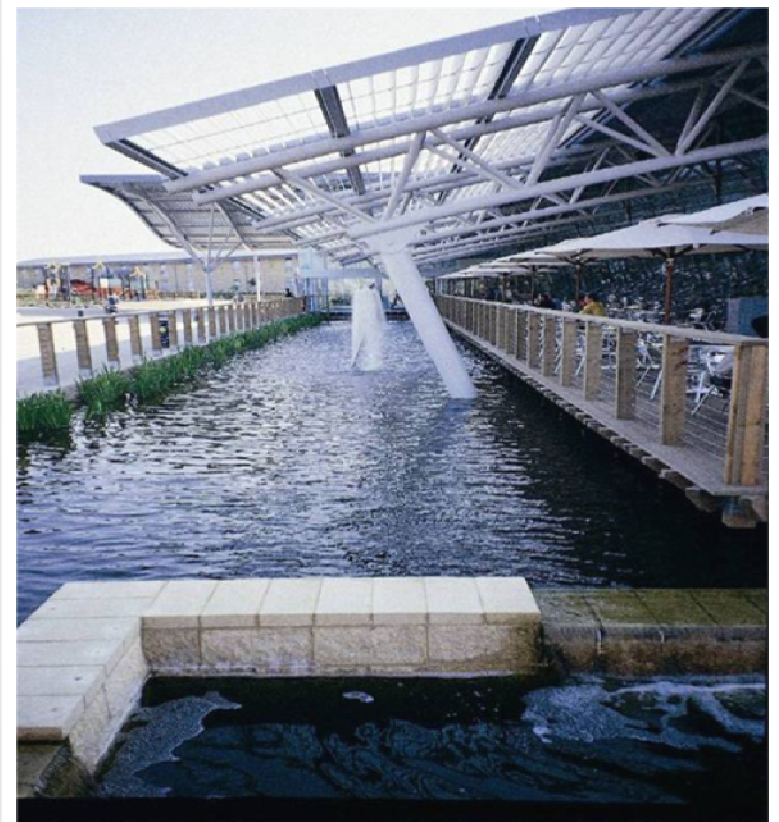


Key:

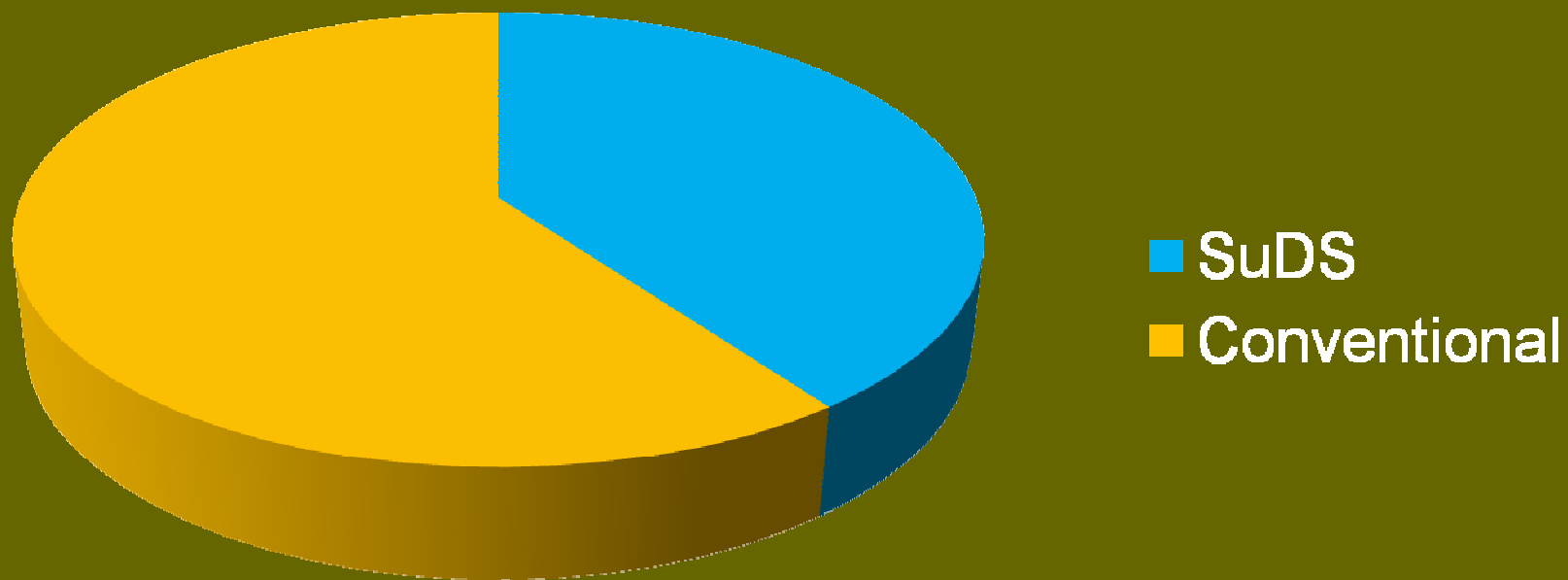


Hoban & Wong, 2006

Sustainable Drainage Systems



New (re)development drained by SuDS



Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (1/2)

- SuDS Approving Body (SAB) in unitary and county councils
- SABs must approve drainage before construction begins
- Drainage must comply with new National Standards
- SAB must consult WaSCs, EA, IDBs, British Waterways, Highways Authorities

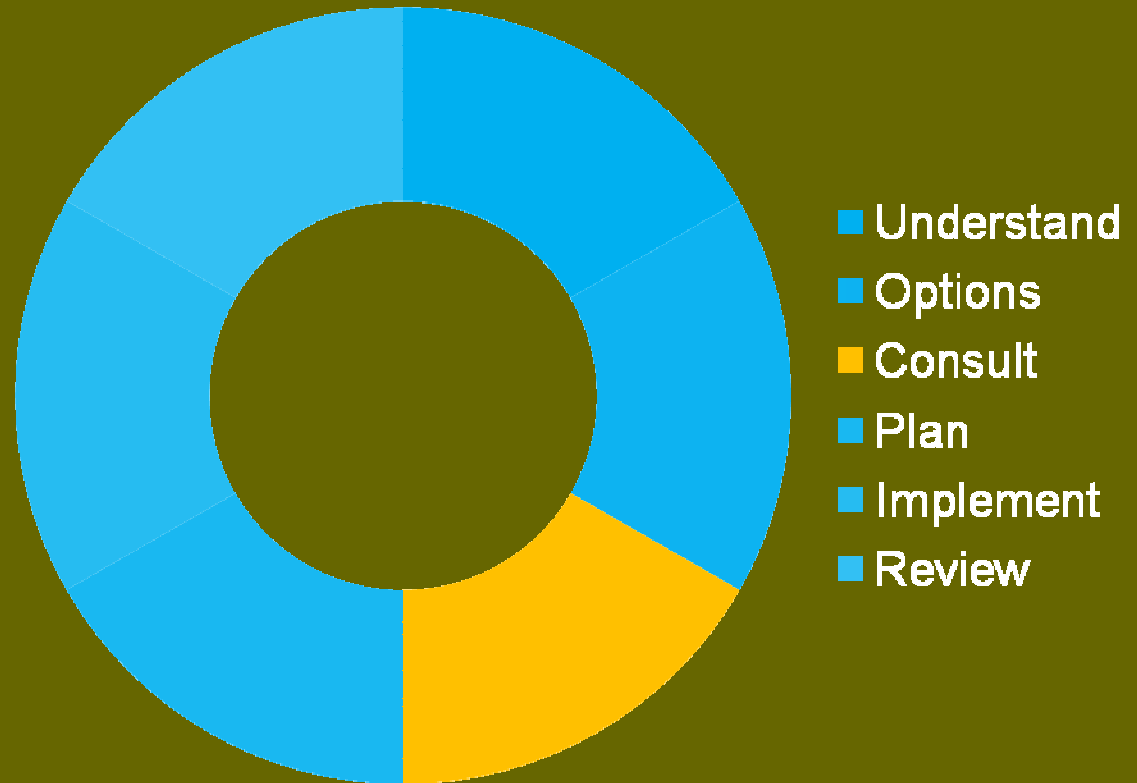
Flood and Water Management Act 2010

(2/2)

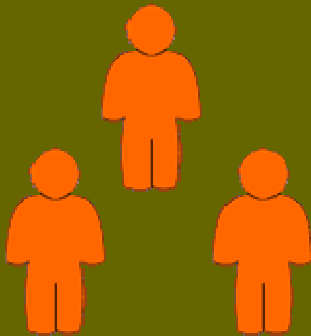
- SAB must adopt and maintain SuDS serving more than one property
- Right to connect surface runoff to public sewers conditional on SAB approval

Our progress

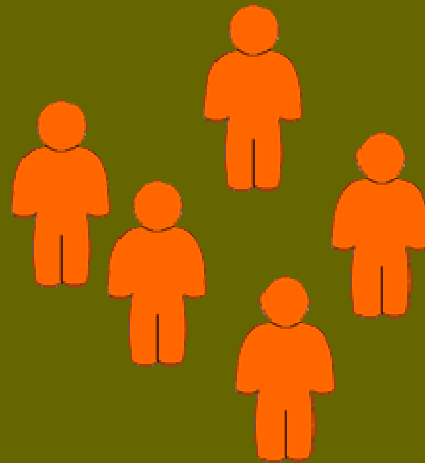
- ✓ Evidence approved
- ✓ Best policy for NPPF
- Consult this year
- Plan to implement next year



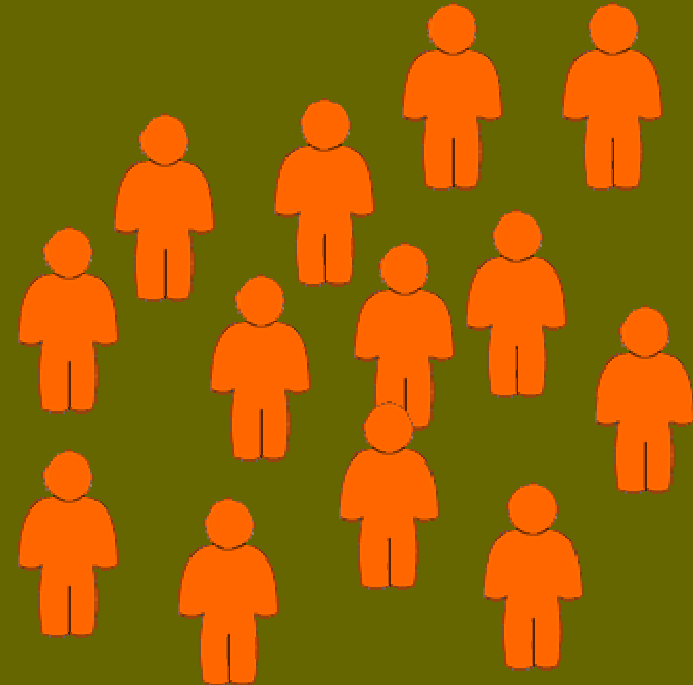
Better together



One government
WAG, CLG, BIS,
DFT, HMT

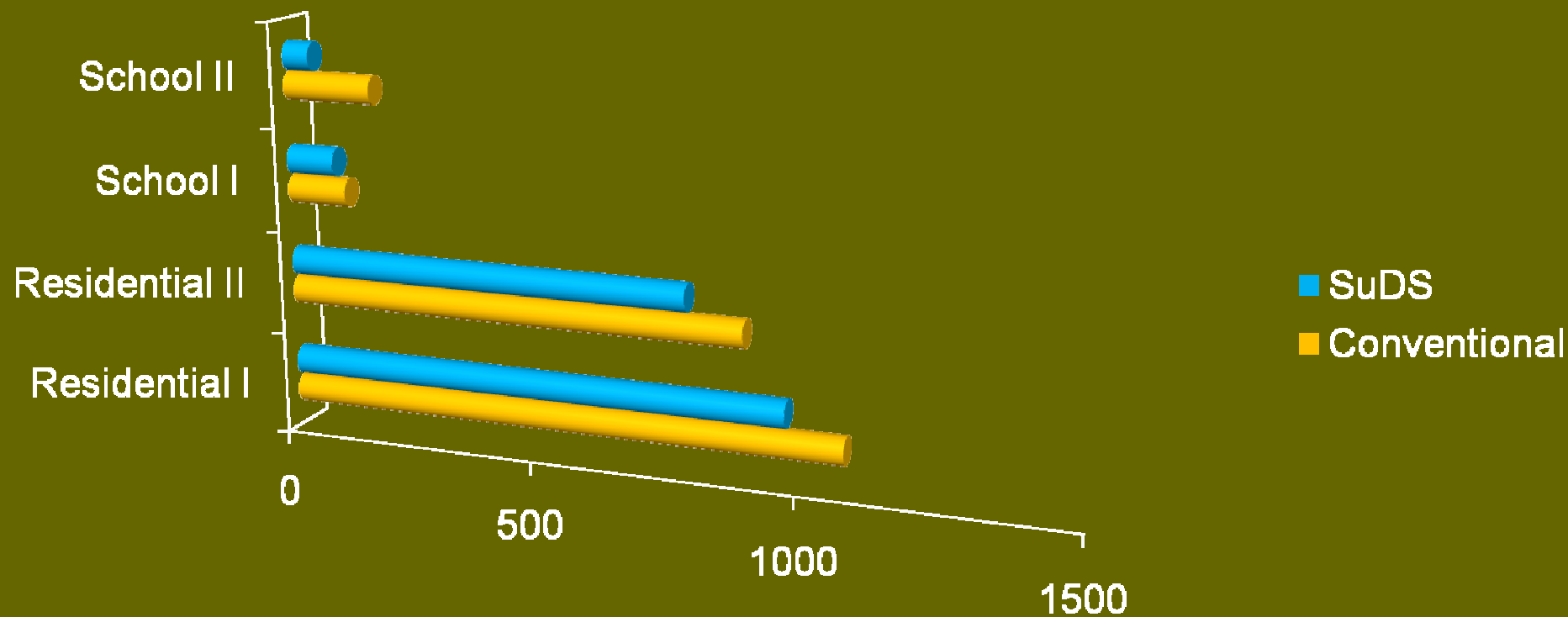


Best advisors
EA, LAs, LGA,
WaSCs, HBF,
BPF, OFWAT...



Consult everyone

Evidence at the heart



Who pays?

- SABs costs recouped by fees
- Maintenance funded until ca.2018 by Government
- Government working on proposals for long-term funding



Questions

suds@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Planning for SuDs



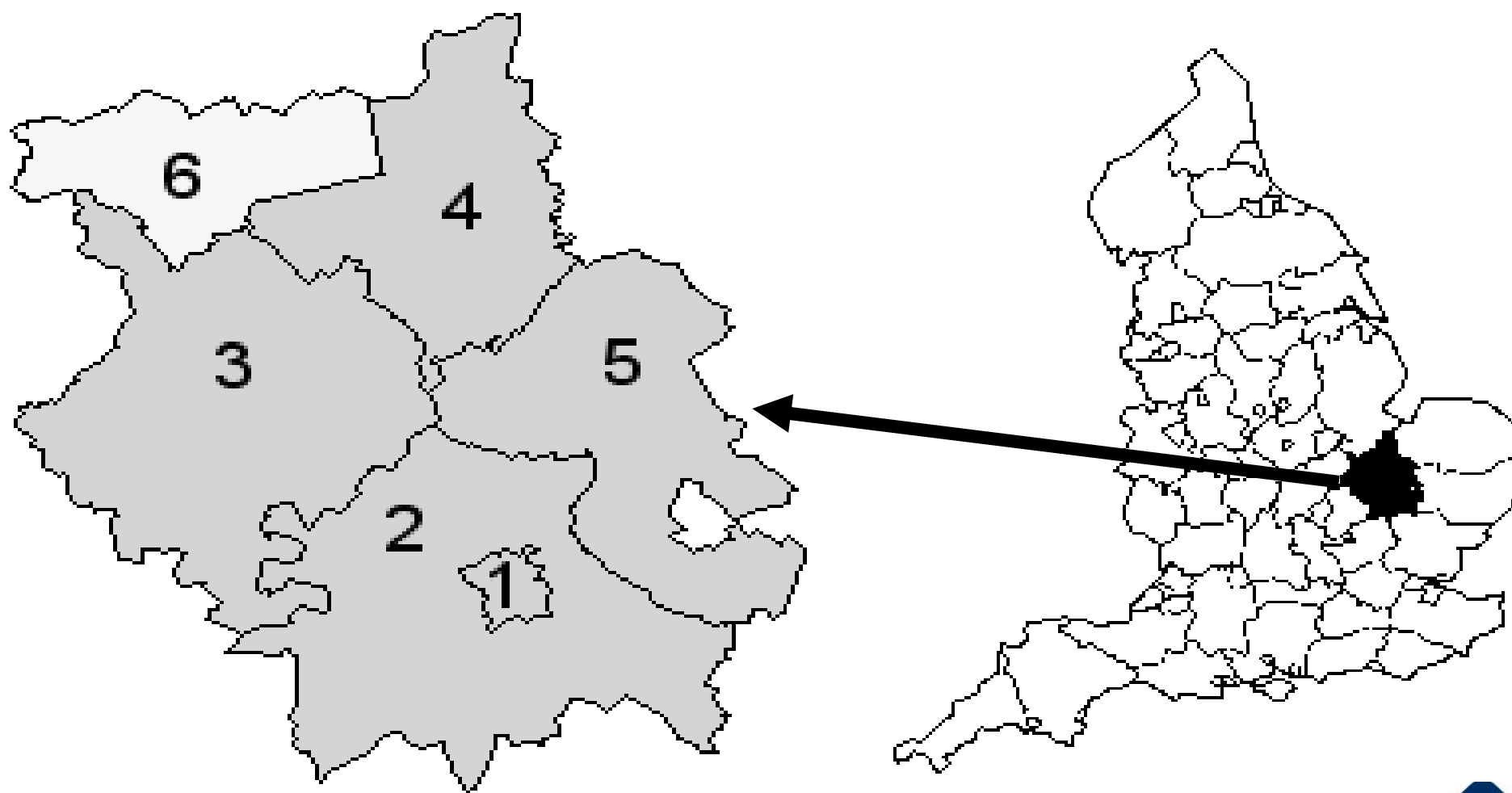
**Sass Willis – Flood and Water Manager
Cambridgeshire County Council**

Annual Inland Flood Risk Management Group and National Partners Group
meeting - 28 September 2011

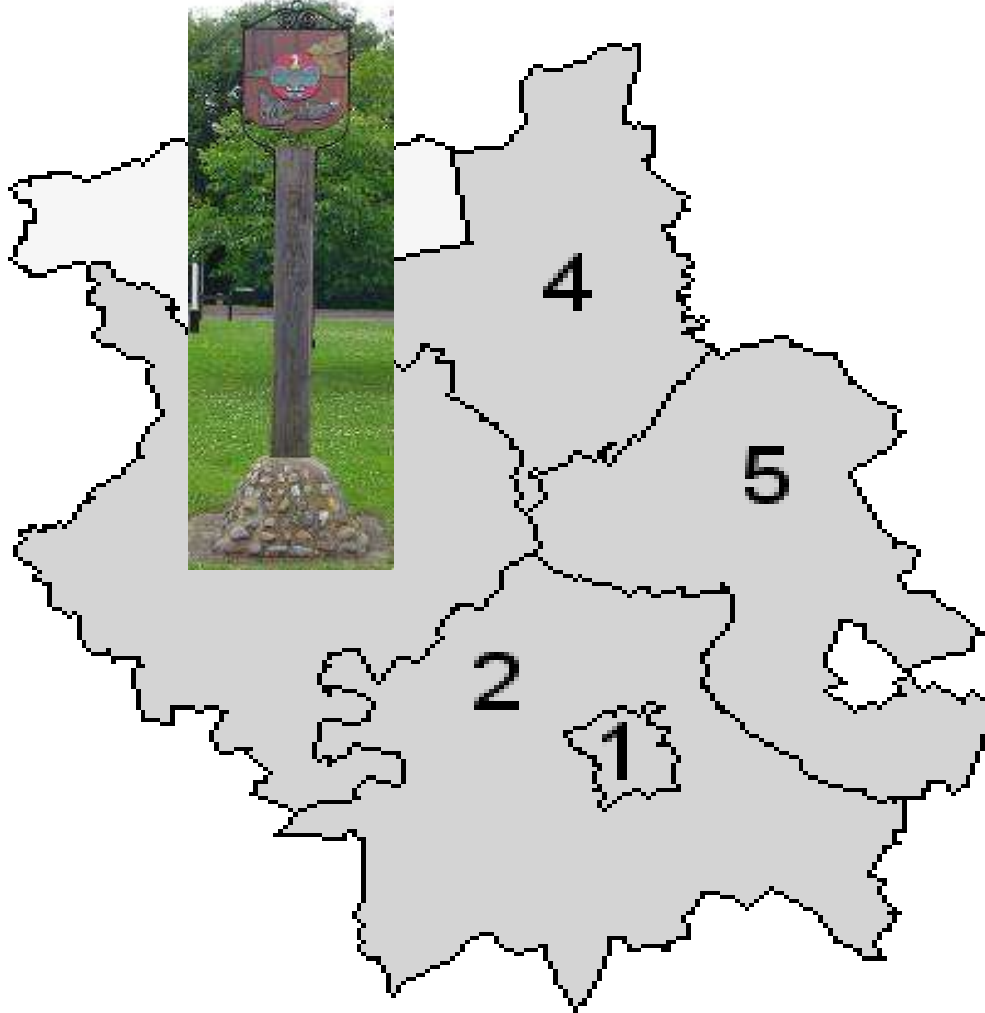
I've been asked to cover

- ◆ How Cambridgeshire is preparing for SuDs implementation and how we plan to work with key stakeholders around SuDs
- ◆ Benefits of Sustainable Drainage Systems
- ◆ Challenges we face in terms of the new SAB duties
- ◆ Other work in flood risk management

Cambridgeshire



Cambridgeshire



- ◆ Five districts - LPAs
- ◆ Predominantly artificially drained regime – 63 Internal Drainage Boards
- ◆ Large areas low lying – Holme Fen lowest point in UK – (9.8ft below sea level)
- ◆ The planned growth for Cambridgeshire was 75,500 new homes (2021)

Preparing for SAB implementation

Still unclear...

- ◆ Timescales and content - Defra consultation
- ◆ Implementation date and timescales for new SAB duties
- ◆ Role out and level of implementation (major developments first?)
- ◆ Level of guidance/training being offered...
- ◆ Content of National Standards
- ◆ SUDS enforcement (adoptable SUDS and private SUDS)
- ◆ Details of funding (pre-application discussion, approval and maintenance)

But what can we do now ...

- ◆ Established SuDs Project Board
- ◆ Produced an SuDs options paper on implementation –roles, options for implementation BUT awaiting Defra consultation
- ◆ Procuring software to process applications
- ◆ Anticipated five staff approval (plus adoption and enforcement) – recruitment process approx. 3 months
- ◆ Redundancies – re-skill/ redeploy
- ◆ Looking into developing bespoke training for new SAB officers
- ◆ Appetite for SuDs – developing County SuDs manual – design guide
- ◆ Engaging with developers
- ◆ For implementation we need to allocate budget this Oct - if implemented next financial year
- ◆ Pre commencement we will need to fund a SAB team leader role

Benefits of SuDs – Lamb Drove

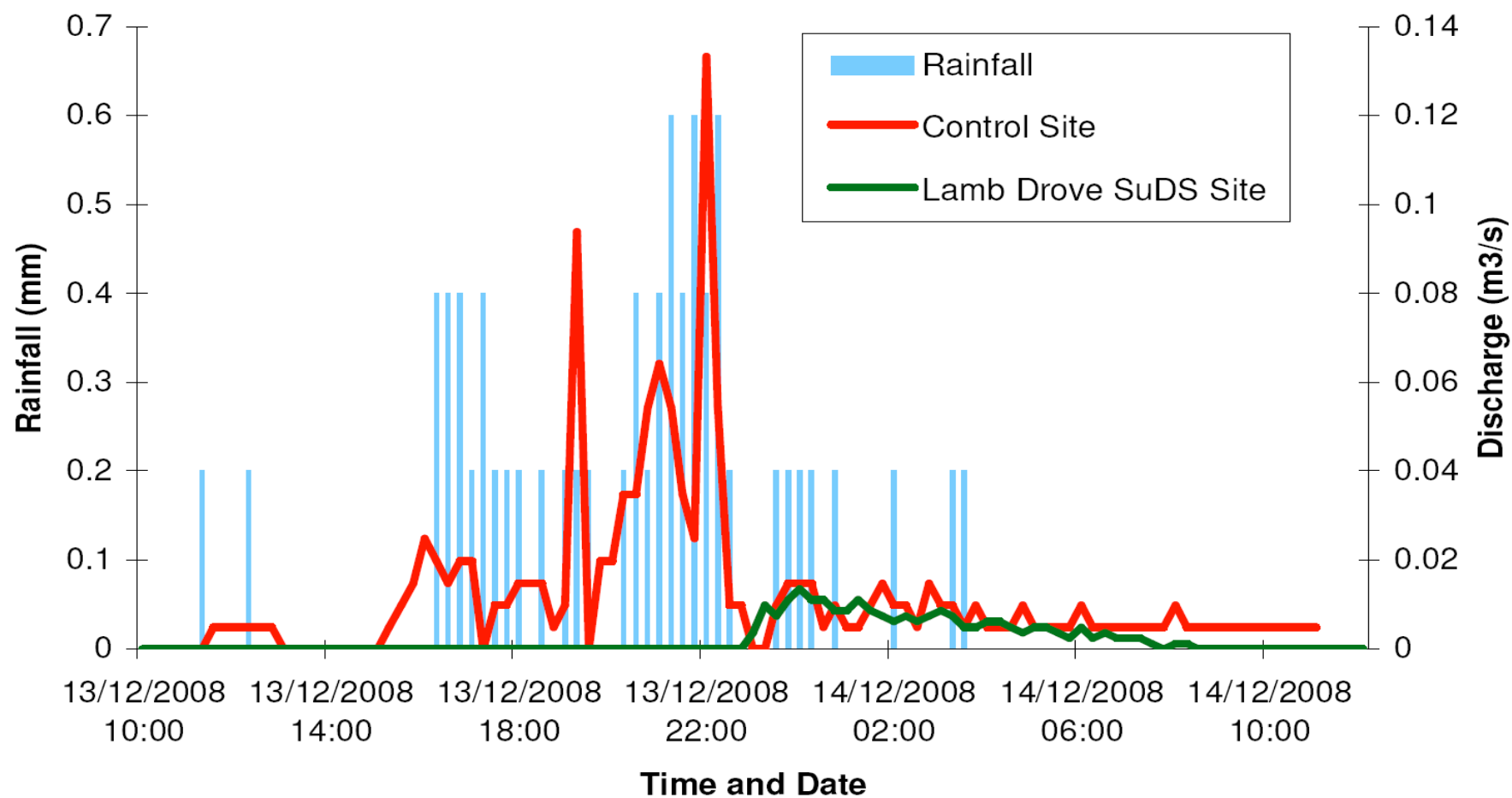
- ◆ European funded FLOWS programme
- ◆ Built in 2006 to showcase SuDs in a housing development located in Cambourne, Cambridgeshire.
- ◆ Project aims:
 - ◆ to demonstrate how SuDs can be used to reduce the impact of flooding;
 - ◆ How SuDs improve water quality; and
 - ◆ Provide positive benefits for the environment and for residents.



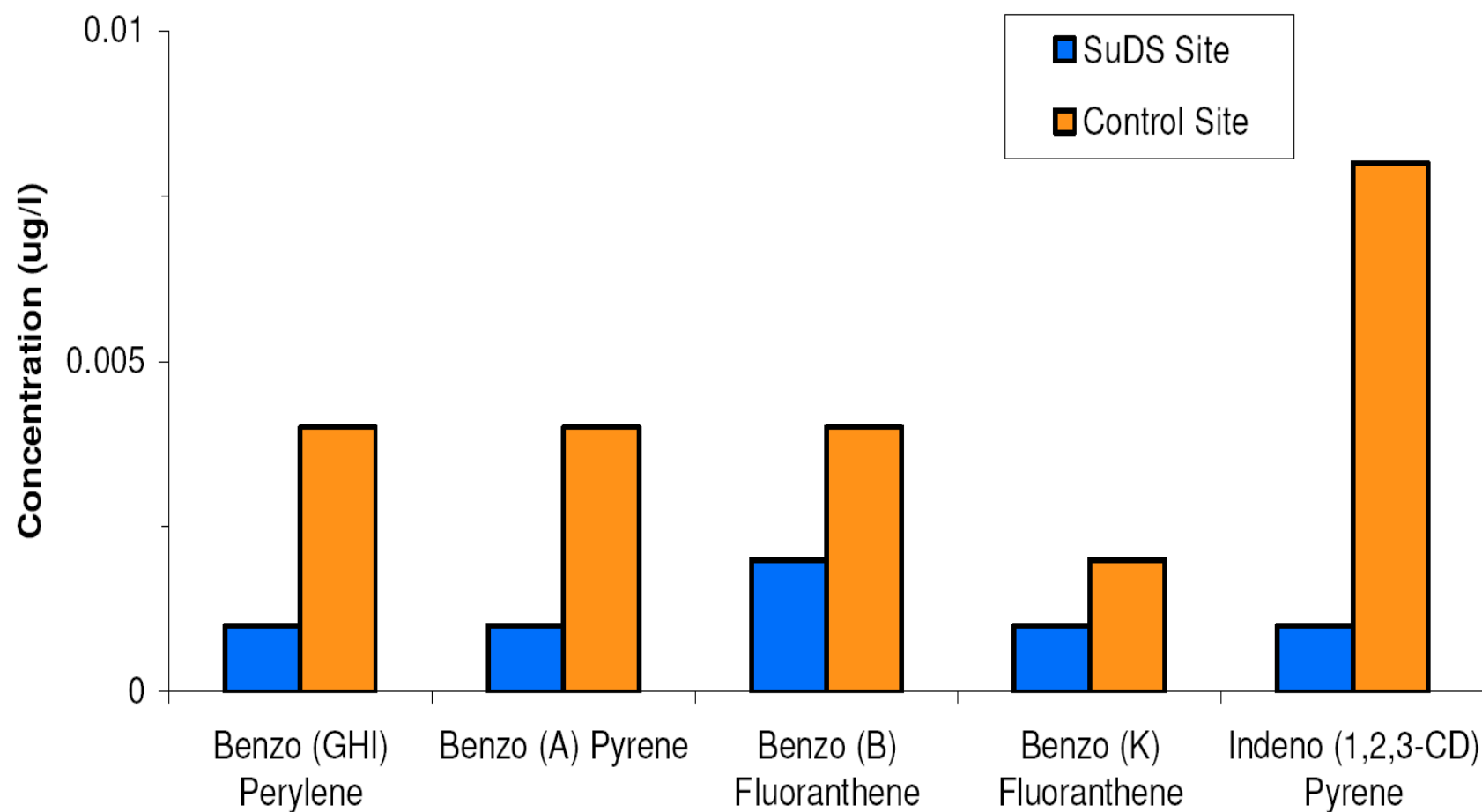
Benefits of SuDs

- ◆ Interim report provides the monitoring results of the first two years (2009 - 2010). Final Report is expected to be published in March 2012.
- ◆ **Key Findings in Lamb Drove:**
 - ◆ attenuates more flows than site using conventional drainage systems;
 - ◆ reduction in the concentration of a variety of pollutants in the water discharging into the watercourses;
 - ◆ higher number of species when compared to the conventional drainage site;
 - ◆ total maintenance cost is £1,300 per year - 20 – 25% lower than the maintenance costs of conventional drainage systems;
 - ◆ The residents of Lamb Drove have a high regard for the aesthetics and visual appearance of the open spaces within the SuDs scheme.

Comparison of Discharge at the Lamb Drove SuDS site and the Control Site in December 2008



Comparison of hydrocarbon concentrations at the SuDS site and control site



Key Challenges

- ◆ Funding (pre-application discussion, approval and maintenance)
- ◆ Member involvement in the SAB decisions
- ◆ Interplay between SAB decisions and the LPAs decisions
- ◆ SUDS enforcement (adoptable SUDS and private SUDS)

Other FRM work

- ◆ Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Partnership
- ◆ Developing a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
 - ◆ CFRMP has agreed draft objectives and draft content being written
 - ◆ Working with key LLFA on joint approach to the Fens
- ◆ Flood Asset Register
 - ◆ Tailored highways Insight database for this purpose, added functionality, and beginning data collection Oct.
 - ◆ Developing a web enabled self service function.
- ◆ Communication and reporting of flood incidents
 - ◆ Online map facility to report issues

Other FRM work

- ◆ Surface Water Management Plans
 - ◆ Cambridgeshire Strategic SWMP completed.
 - ◆ Cambridge and Milton detailed SWMP completed, and have applied for funding to implement flood risk reduction measures in Cambridge and Milton
 - ◆ Four additional SWMP underway in Ely, St Neots, March and A14 Girton.
- ◆ Undertake a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (comply with Flood Risk Regulations (2009))
 - ★ PFRA approved and submitted – rated as substantially above compliance.
- ◆ Consenting and enforcement for Ordinary Watercourses
 - ◆ Preparing for commencement next year

**Thank you for listening
Happy to take questions...?**



**Sass Willis
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www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Item 2 –'Partnership for flood risk management' – Lord Chris Smith

- **Keynote speaker: Lord Chris Smith – Environment Agency Chairman**
 - *Followed by Q&A*
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Lunch

- Lunch will be served in the lobby from 12.45pm – 1.25pm

