

Policy W2

Surface Water Management

1. Development that could affect drainage on or around the site must include adequate drainage provision for the management of surface water runoff, ensuring that flood risk is not increased, both onsite and elsewhere, making allowances for climate change. This should be an integral part of the design process and in the form of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) unless demonstrated to be inappropriate.
2. Drainage solutions must deliver surface water flow rates and volumes of runoff as agreed by the Lead Local Flood Authority, mimic natural drainage flows as closely as possible and ensure that surface water is managed as close to its source as possible using the following hierarchy of drainage options:
 - a. Collection for non-potable use
 - b. Infiltration into the ground
 - c. Discharge into a surface water body
 - d. Discharge into a surface water sewer, or other piped surface water drainage system
 - e. Discharge into a combined sewer.

Discharge into a surface water or combined sewer will only be acceptable if infiltration into the ground or discharge into a surface water body are demonstrated to be inappropriate, an assessment of the capacity of the sewer has been undertaken, and there would be no increase in flood risk both onsite and elsewhere.
3. The discharge of surface water runoff into a foul-only sewer will not be permitted.
4. Where used, SuDS should form an integral part of the development, be multi-functional and follow the principles and standards set out within DEFRA's 'National standards for sustainable drainage systems' so far as possible, including relating to water quality, amenity and biodiversity.
5. Approval of the design, operation and maintenance of SuDS over the lifetime of the development will be required prior to the commencement of development.
6. In Groundwater Source Protection Zones, SuDS may not be appropriate unless it can be demonstrated that there would be no increased pollution of surface and groundwater sources, and appropriate mitigation measures can be implemented in accordance with Policy W3 (Water Supply and Quality).
7. Where SuDs are incorporated into development, compliance with Policy W2 (Surface Water Management) should be demonstrated through the submission of a proportionate surface water drainage strategy.