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## SUDS in the City

### Delivering SUDS in a dense urban environment

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## Why Promote SUDS in Islington?

- Reduces surface water flood risk
- Provides sewerage capacity for new developments
- Brings clean water back into the urban environment for reuse, play and biodiversity
- Reduces the need for artificial watering
- Reduce subsidence by rehydrating clay soils
- Reduced capital and maintenance costs?
- Benefits from improved water quality?



Surface Water Areas & Site Allocations Map



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MURRAY'S WELLS TO HIS


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Green roof,  
Newington Green

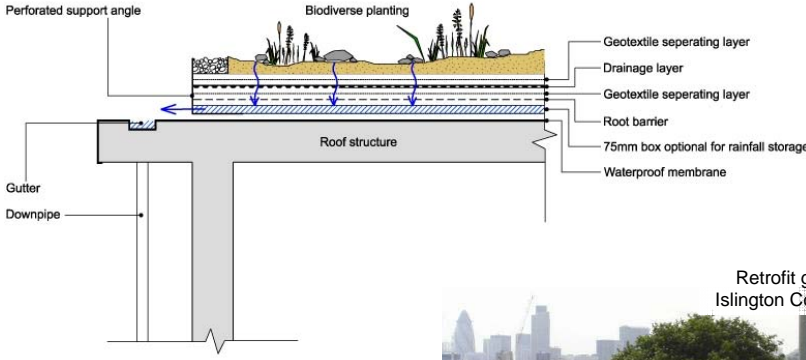

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## SuDS in Urban Developments


- Every urban surface must act as a rainfall collector – multi-functionality vital
- May need more engineered techniques to make the most of confined space
- Quality becomes important as precursor for use of water in urban area
- May seek betterment rather than greenfield runoff rate?
- Important techniques include green roofs, permeable surfaces, 'raingardens' and urban water features

Accessible green roof with rainwater harvesting and PV, Ropemaker

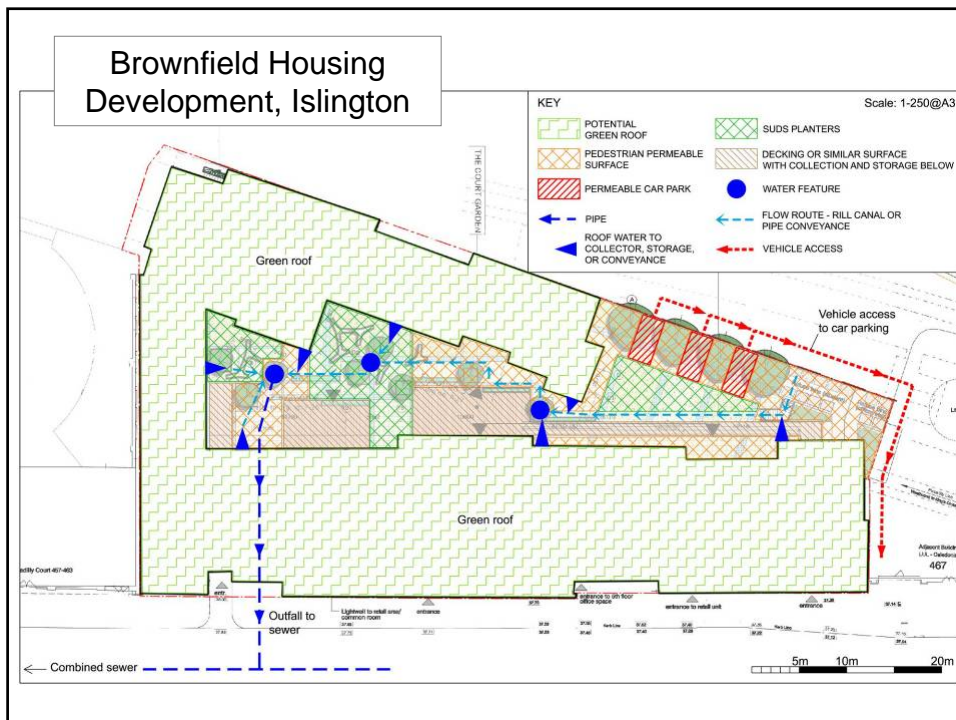
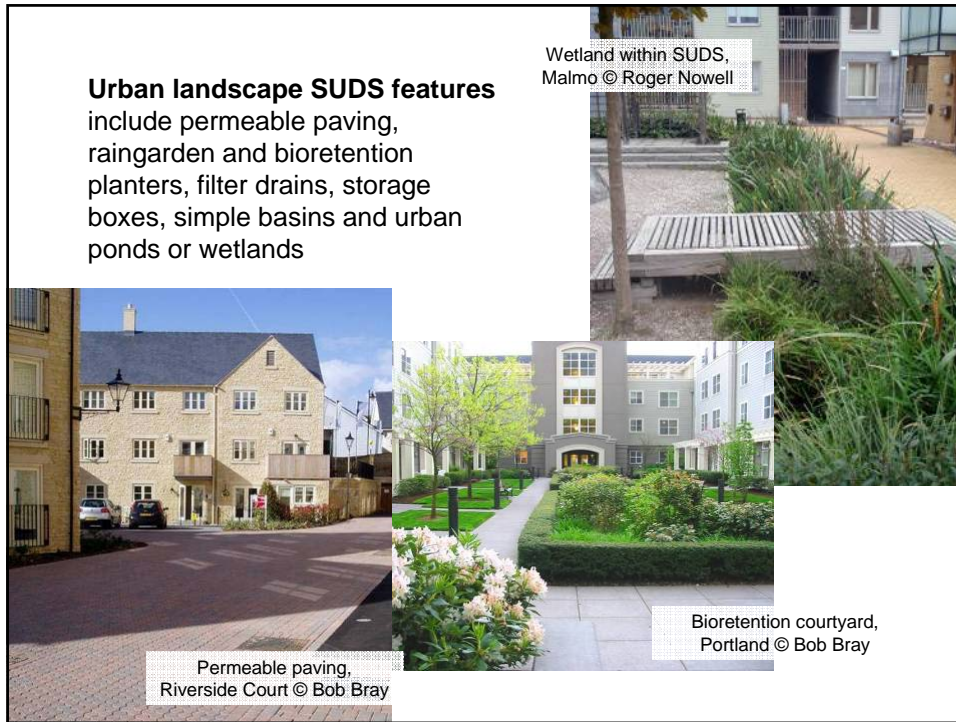




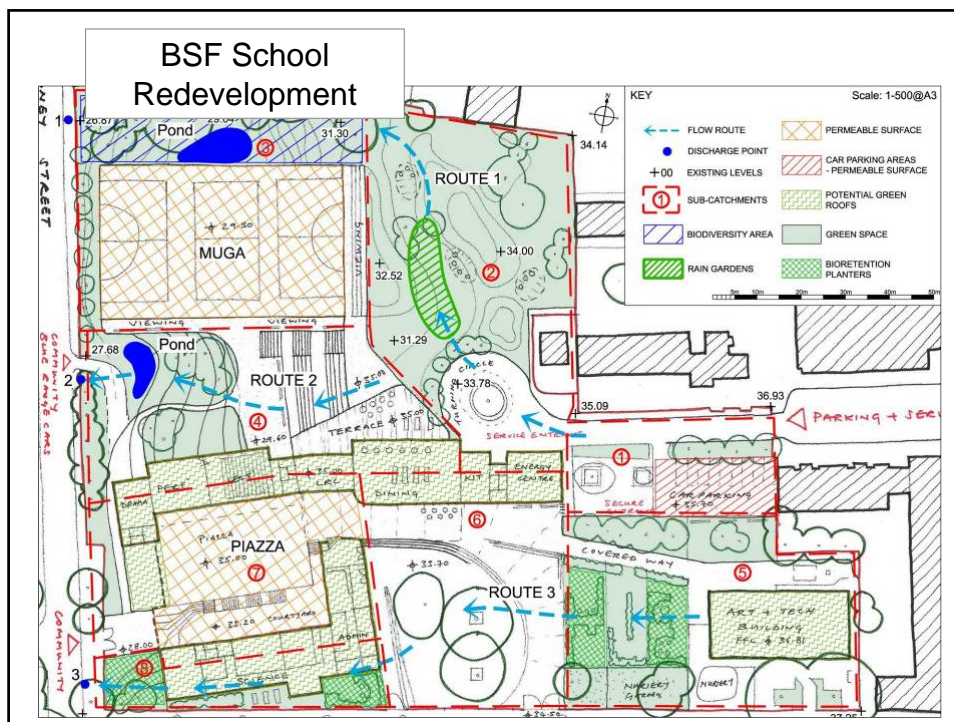
Retrofit green roof, Islington Council offices




**Green roofs** providing 40-60% attenuation and clean water for use in the development








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## Where are we in practice? Successes and challenges

- Moving from SUDS techniques to systems - great at green roofs, getting there with permeable paving... but how do we join these up?
- Good on quantity where requirements imposed...
- But challenges around amenity, particularly in bringing water to the surface
- Culture change alongside policy change
- Increasing focus on retrofit?




Permeable paving,  
Islington Town Hall

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## Retrofitting SuDS in Urban Areas


- Huge potential for retrofitting cost effective landscape techniques in urban areas
- Parks, housing estate greenspace, and potentially highways, provide major opportunities
- Simple techniques such as raingardens, swales, detention basins and wetlands
- In addition to flood mitigation, delivers wider benefits, eg improved appearance, biodiversity, reduced need for irrigation, reduces subsidence



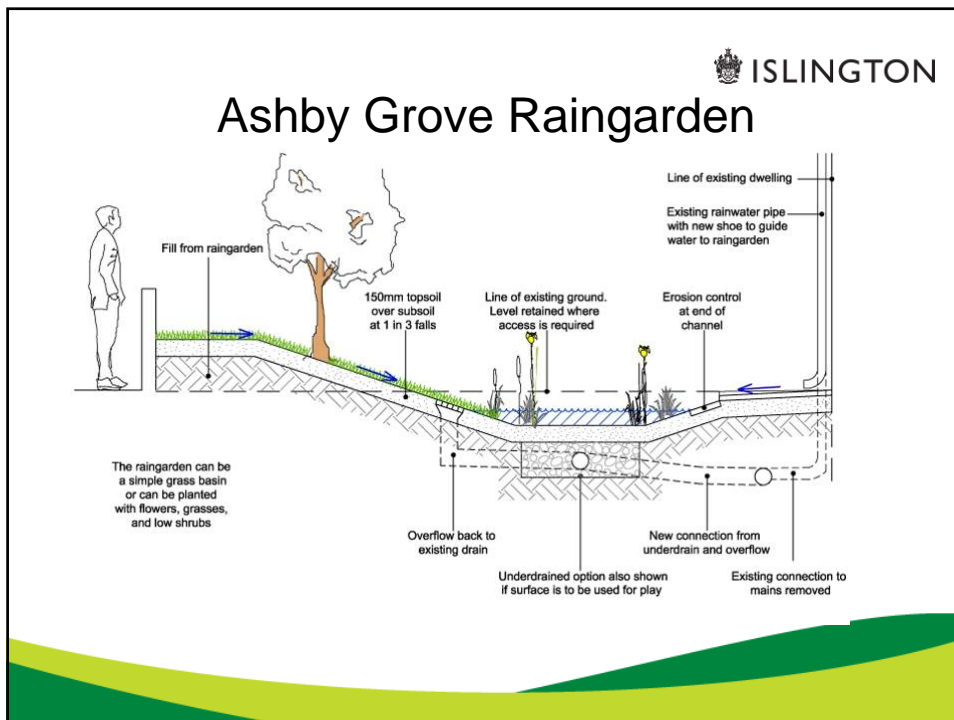
Flood attenuation scheme, Manor Park, Sheffield © Roger Nowell





SUDS planter, Green Streets programme Portland



Retrofitted SUDS on social housing estate, Malmo © Bob Bray




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www.islington.gov.uk

**Promoting Sustainable Drainage Systems**  
Design Guidance for Islington



**More information**

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[www.islington.gov.uk/environment/sustainability/sus\\_water/SUDS.asp](http://www.islington.gov.uk/environment/sustainability/sus_water/SUDS.asp)