

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO AND DECISION OF PLANNING POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE ON 18 JUNE 2019

PART A : REPORT

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Policy in Relation to Surface Water in New Development

REPORT AUTHOR: Roger Spencer – Engineering Services Manager
DATE: May 2019
EXTN: 37812
PORTFOLIO AREA: Technical Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Report seeks the adoption of a Policy in relation to the disposal of surface water in all new development. It follows the approach adopted by West Sussex County Council (as Local Lead Flood Authority) in its published Policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Sub-Committee is asked to recommend to Full Council that:
the West Sussex Council Policy “West Sussex LLFA Policy for the Management of Surface Water” (November 2018 and as updated from time to time) is adopted particularly but not exclusively in relation to all new development within Arun District.

1. BACKGROUND:

- 1.1. Following the Flood and Water Management Act of 2010 there has been a shift in the way that surface water is dealt with in new development.
- 1.2. This shift aims to deal with the disposal of surface water in a sustainable manner and is commonly known as SuDS – Sustainable Drainage Systems.
- 1.3. Guidance is available on the Arun District website and various standards, guidance, codes of practice and other documents have been issued by Government and other bodies but this has not been coalesced into a single Policy document for Arun District.
- 1.4. Whilst there should be some consistency available from these various guides, there is little compulsion upon developers to adopt best practice other than discharging conditions applied to Planning Approvals. Conditioning is seen as potentially too late in the process; drainage should be considered at the inception of a development proposal, rather than an afterthought.
- 1.5. West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) is, under the terms of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, the Local Lead Flood Authority (LLFA) for this area. This Council acts as agent to WSSCC for consenting and enforcement of land drainage issues and seeks to apply a consistent set of standards for dealing with existing

systems and new development.

1.6. The Policy document produced by West Sussex County Council (see link in Background papers) serves this process and is considered fit for purpose as a formal policy document without Arun having to 'reinvent the wheel'.

1.7. It covers a number of areas including:

- the use of SuDS in Planning
- the National Planning Policy Framework,
- watercourse regulation,
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
- WSCC guidance (see Background Papers)
- Other guidance
- Sustainable Drainage and environmental policies

1.8. It also includes guidance for smaller developments.

2. PROPOSAL(S):

To adopt the West Sussex Council Policy "West Sussex LLFA Policy for the Management of Surface Water" particularly but not exclusively in relation to all new development within Arun District.

3. OPTIONS:

To adopt the WSCC Policy as proposed, or

Not to adopt the Policy, which would have the effect of weakening the Council's position on ensuring new development is undertaken in a sustainable and best practice manner.

4. CONSULTATION:

Has consultation been undertaken with:	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council		✓
Relevant District Ward Councillors		✓
Other groups/persons (please specify)		✓
5. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)	YES	NO
Financial		✓
Legal		✓
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment		✓
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act		✓
Sustainability	✓	

Asset Management/Property/Land		✓
Technology		✓
Other (please explain)		✓
6. IMPLICATIONS:		

7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:
 To raise awareness of the robust and consistent approach that Arun District Council takes in dealing with surface water in new development.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:
 WSCC Policy Document :
https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/12230/ws_llfa_policy_for_management_of_surface_water.pdf
 Guide prepared for Local Lead Flood Authorities of the South East of England
https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/2270/suds_design_guidance.pdf