



Maidstone Local Development Framework

Sustainable Construction Supplementary Planning Document

Adopted July 2006





1	Introduction to the SPD	2
	Tackling Climate Change and Promoting Sustainable Development	2
	How Maidstone is affected	2
	How we define Sustainability	3
	How we are producing the SPD	4
	How the SPD will address the issues	5
	Keeping the advice up to date	6
2	Development Plan Policy	7
	Policy background	7
3	Timetable	11
4	Part 1 - Using Water	12
	The Issue	12
	Approaches	17
	Water Saving	17
	Rainwater harvesting	18
	Greywater drainage	19
	Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS)	20
	Further Information	22

1. Introduction to the SPD



Tackling Climate Change and Promoting Sustainable Development

- 1.1** Maidstone Borough Council is committed to tackling climate change, promoting sustainable development, conserving natural resources and protecting and enhancing the environment. Modern society impacts on the environment at an unsustainable rate, while the extremities of climate are experienced ever more frequently. The Sustainable Construction SPD promotes sustainable development, sustainable living, and sustainable consumption of resources as a way of meeting this commitment. Additional development and growth in consumption patterns inevitably increase the demand on the local environment and natural resources such as water, and local energy supply. However, environmental protection and energy use are only part of the concept of sustainability; to not develop at all is also unsustainable. This document addresses how all development, regardless of the levels of growth, can contribute to more sustainable development patterns.

“If everyone in the world lived as most Europeans do, we would need three planets to support us.”

One Planet Living

(Bio Regional/WWF, 2004)

How Sustainable Construction is related to the commitment

- 1.2** We all conduct our lives in buildings – living and working, learning and leisure; and directly or indirectly, they consume the limited resources of our environment, while producing potentially harmful waste as a by-product. Through constructing all future buildings, extensions and renovations to high environmental standards including the application of the techniques and design considerations in this document, the consumption and waste of our buildings can be minimised and carbon emissions can be significantly reduced.

How Maidstone is affected

- 1.3** The Draft South East Plan identifies Maidstone as a regional hub, designated for further growth. This means that for the period 2006 until 2026, there will be significant growth in the Borough of both housing and employment.
- 1.4** The housing required by the South East Plan will be in the range of 8200 to 9200 and up to 10080 if Maidstone is designated new growth point status. The people in these dwellings will need new schools, and services, as well



as general infrastructure – roads, water, electricity, gas and sewers. On top of the housing, new employment of all types will be built on a scale relative to the increasing population, and in addition to the existing needs of the Borough.

- 1.5** The sheer scale of this growth makes it clear that new high environmental standards including building with sustainable technologies and techniques, such as those identified throughout this document, must be embraced by all, if we are help combat climate change. An ever more sustainable approach must become the standard expectation for all future development.
- 1.6** Developers are encouraged to embrace these issues from the first pre-planning application and design stage of new development right through the planning application process and construction and building regulations stage.
- 1.7** Developers can find further guidance throughout this SPD as to how they can meet the sustainability requirements of the Council and are encouraged to discuss these matters in cooperation with Development Control officers, Building Control officers and others to identify which sustainability solutions can be best used and applied.
- 1.8** In rural areas, developers should also take account of any local sustainability considerations given in Parish Plans and Village Design Statements.

How we define Sustainability

“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

Our Common Future

(The World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987)

- 1.9** Sustainability has different meanings to different people, but the widely accepted definition was developed in 1987 by The World Commission on Environment and Development. To be able to deliver this goal, Government guidance in Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 1: Delivering Sustainable Development makes it clear what this means to local planning authorities.

1. Introduction to the SPD



- Making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives to improve people's quality of life
- Contributing to sustainable economic development
- Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities
- Ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design, and the efficient use of resources
- Ensuring that development supports existing communities and contributes to the creation of safe, sustainable, liveable and mixed communities with good access to jobs and key services for all members of the community

Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development

(Office for the Deputy Prime Minister, 2005)

How we are producing the SPD

- 1.10** Sustainable construction technologies and techniques are constantly being devised and updated, and the overall viability of such solutions is increasing from day to day. The SPD will be produced in a folder format, consisting of separate documents, that can be updated at later dates when such action is needed. The initial document considers Using Water; subsequent documents will address Using Energy, Renewable Energy, Improving Accessibility, Supporting Lifetime Homes, Minimising Waste, and Site Considerations and Design Aspects.
- 1.11** Sustainable construction can in part be addressed through the arenas of planning development control and building control. It can be expected that changes will be made to both national planning policy statements and guidance and to the Building Regulations to promote sustainable construction. The Government has recently issued draft Sustainable Building Codes for consultation to encourage this and in time, further encouragement or regulation can be anticipated. The cross over between planning and building control on these matters is important and may change in the near future.



How the SPD will address the issues

Using Water: This section of the SPD addresses issues that are becoming increasingly obvious with climate change; hotter summers, decreasing rainfall, and increasing water demand. Water-saving and water-recycling applications are relatively easy and cheap to employ, offering substantial long-term savings.

Using Energy: For much of the energy that is used within our buildings, a significant amount is also wasted. Indeed, in the United Kingdom, over 50% of Carbon Dioxide emissions come from buildings. The Using Energy document will address the fundamental issues causing so much energy to be used in the first place.

Renewable Energy: Planning Policy Statement 22: Renewable Energy makes provision for local authorities to require a percentage of energy used in new developments to come from on-site provision. The Renewable Energy document looks at the options from micro-generation to perhaps a grander scale, depending on the development at hand.

Improving Accessibility: Demonstrating the wide topic range that the term 'sustainability' can refer to, Improving Accessibility deals primarily with mobility impairment and the issues related to this. The October 2004 update to the 1995 Disability Discrimination Act requires businesses and other organisations to take reasonable steps to tackle physical features that act as a barrier to disabled people who want to access their services. This section of the SPD will build on these requirements, establishing standards for residential and commercial development.

Supporting Lifetime Homes: Following the lead set by the Improving Accessibility document, Supporting Lifetime Homes also takes into account a wider perspective. In life, our housing requirements are likely to change as we change, by making adjustments to the initial design and construction of homes, the need to make major internal alterations to a house, or even move elsewhere, can be allayed.

1. Introduction to the SPD



Minimising Waste: Incorporating elements from the other disciplines, the Waste document ensures a comprehensive approach to the reuse and recycling of materials – in construction, and throughout the life of the building.

Site Considerations and Design Aspects: This document shows how the aspects covered in the previous six documents can be incorporated into a coherent design. It will look at the suitability of sites, addressing on-site construction issues and consider materials that can be used. The use of good design can make the best of a site and of the building being constructed, this section will cover aesthetics, the exploitation of natural features, as well as encouraging biodiversity.

Keeping the advice up to date

- 1.12** To make the SPD as readable and as accessible as possible, the documents are purposely brief, and focus on introducing the relevant issues and general techniques. Each document contains a 'Further Information' page for those requiring more detail. In addition, the Council will maintain a Sustainable Construction SPD/sustainable technologies page on the Maidstone website, so the that the SPD is linked to the latest technological developments, as well as showcasing schemes where the technologies have been used, illustrating their benefits.



Policy background

2.1 The Planning Acts enable the production of SPDs to elaborate on statutory development plan policies. This SPD is an elaboration of statutory policies in the following plans, and makes clear the actions that the Council would consider in line with these policies.

- Maidstone Borough-Wide Local Plan 2000
- Kent and Medway Structure Plan 2006

Maidstone Borough-Wide Local Plan 2000

Strategic Objective 1

“To ensure that all development proposals, land use policies, and transportation schemes, are consistent with the need to ensure a sustainable future, and that the stewardship of the environment undertaken by today’s administrators, developers, residents, businesses and visitors, does not create unavoidable problems for their successors.”

Kent and Medway Structure Plan 2006

[Partial] Policy SP1: Conserving and Enhancing Kent's Environment and Ensuring a Sustainable Pattern of Development

Responding to the implications of long term climate change by:

- advancing the conservation and prudent use of energy, water and other natural resources;
- minimising pollution and assisting the control of greenhouse gas emissions;
- safeguarding areas of potential flood risk from development.

2. Development Plan Policy



Kent and Medway Structure Plan 2006

Policy NR1: Development and the Prudent Use of Natural Resources

Proposals for development should incorporate sustainable construction techniques and demonstrate that their design and layout contributes to:

- (a) the conservation and prudent use of energy, water and other natural resources, including provision for recycling facilities, water conservation and energy efficiency; and
- (b) a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions through re-use, or the more efficient use, of resources.

2.2 Emerging policies will complement, then gradually take the place of adopted plans:

- Development plan documents (DPD) in Local Development Framework (LDF) - replacing: Maidstone Borough-Wide Local Plan 2000
- South East Plan - replacing: Kent and Medway Structure Plan 2006

Submission Draft, South East Plan

Policy CC1: Sustainable Development

The principal objective of the Plan shall be to achieve and to maintain sustainable development in the region. The strategy and policies of the Plan promote measures that contribute to:

- i. Achieving a sustainable economy.
- ii. Promoting good governance.
- iii. Using sound science responsibly.
- iv. Living within environmental limits.
- v. Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society.

All public authorities shall ensure that their actions contribute to meeting the objectives set out in the Integrated Regional Framework (IRF).



Submission Draft, South East Plan

[Partial] Policy CC2: Climate Change

The strategy and policies of the Plan will promote measures to mitigate and adapt to the forecast effects of climate change and should be implemented through application of local planning policy and other mechanisms. Behavioural change will be essential in implementing this policy and the measures identified. Mitigation, through reducing greenhouse gas emissions, will primarily be addressed through greater resource efficiency including:

- improving energy efficiency performance of new and existing buildings and influencing behaviour of occupants
- Encouraging development and use of renewable energy

In addition, and in respect of carbon dioxide emissions, regional and local authorities, agencies and others shall include policies and proposals in their plans, strategies and investment programmes to help reduce the region's carbon dioxide emissions by at least 20% below 1990 levels by 2010 and by at least 25% below 1990 levels by 2015. A target for 2026 will be developed and incorporated in the first review of the Plan (and no later than 2011). Adaptation to risks and opportunities will be achieved through:

- i. Guiding strategic development to locations offering greater protection from impacts such as flooding, erosion, storms, water shortages and subsidence
- ii. Ensuring new and existing building stock is more resilient to climate change impacts
- iii. Incorporating sustainable drainage measures and high standards of water efficiency in new and existing building stock
- iv. Increasing flood storage capacity and developing sustainable new water resources
- v. Ensuring that opportunities and options for sustainable flood management and migration of habitats and species are not foreclosed.

2. Development Plan Policy



Submission Draft, South East Plan

Policy CC3: Resource Use

In order to reflect the Plan's emphasis on more sustainable resource use the Regional Assembly will promote measures that seek to stabilise the South East's ecological footprint by 2016, and to reduce the ecological footprint during the second half of the Plan period. Implementation will require a sustained new programme of action incorporating:

- i. Increased efficiency of resource use in new development
- ii. Adaptation of existing development to reduce its use of energy, water and other resources
- iii. Complementary legislation and fiscal measures by Government
- iv. Changes in behaviour by organisations and by individuals.

Submission Draft, South East Plan

Policy CC4: Sustainable Construction

The construction of all new buildings, and the redevelopment and refurbishment of existing building stock, will be expected to adopt and incorporate sustainable construction standards and techniques. This will include:

- i. High standards of energy and water efficiency that exceed current standards required by the Building Regulations and reflect best practice
- ii. Designing to increase the use of natural lighting, heat and ventilation, and the provision of a proportion of energy demand from renewable sources
- iii. Reduction and increased recycling of construction and demolition waste and procurement of low-impact materials
- iv. Designing for flexible use and adaptation to reflect changing lifestyles and needs and the principle of 'whole life costing'.

- 2.3** The Maidstone Core Strategy DPD, being produced 2005-2007 and the Design Quality DPD, scheduled to be produced 2007 onwards, will give further weight to the SPD and anchor it within more specific policy. In turn, this will lead to the need to revise the SPD.



Maidstone Local Development Framework

Sustainable Construction SPD

Part 1 - Using Water

Adopted July 2006



4. Part 1 - Using Water



The Issue

- 4.1** This part of the SPD focuses on the use of water. The issues facing Maidstone and different approaches to saving water are outlined.
- 4.2** Background work to the South East Plan, produced by the South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA), forecasts water supply and demand from 2005 until 2030.
- 4.3** Figure 4.1 (East Sub-Region – Dry Year Annual Average) illustrates rising demand for, and supply of, water based on average dry years going forward, and assumes that water efficiency savings of at least 8% are made in new homes. The problem is that average dry years are already being exceeded, and as of 2005, no significant water efficiency measures are being implemented, with nothing near to 8% being achieved. Maidstone needs to act now.

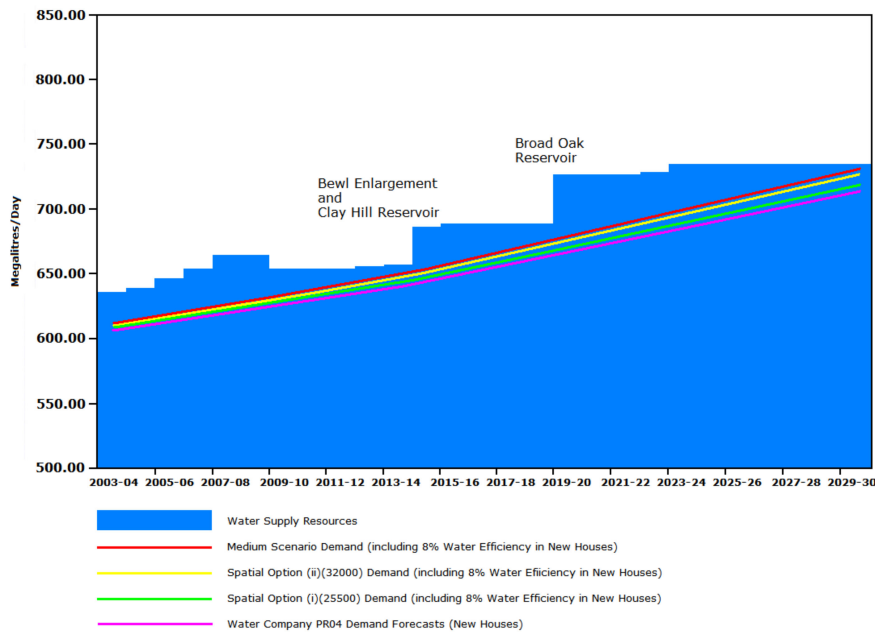


Figure 4.1 East Sub-Region (Dry Year Annual Average). © Environment Agency copyright and/or database right 2006. All rights reserved.

- 4.4** Kent water supply is drawn predominantly from aquifers, however these need to be recharged from rainfall to ensure their quality and ongoing viability. Figures 4.2 and 4.3 illustrate the long-term trend of rainfall in the South East, and the extremes of low rainfall, which are being experienced more frequently. As dry periods occur more often, aquifer supply will become increasingly threatened.

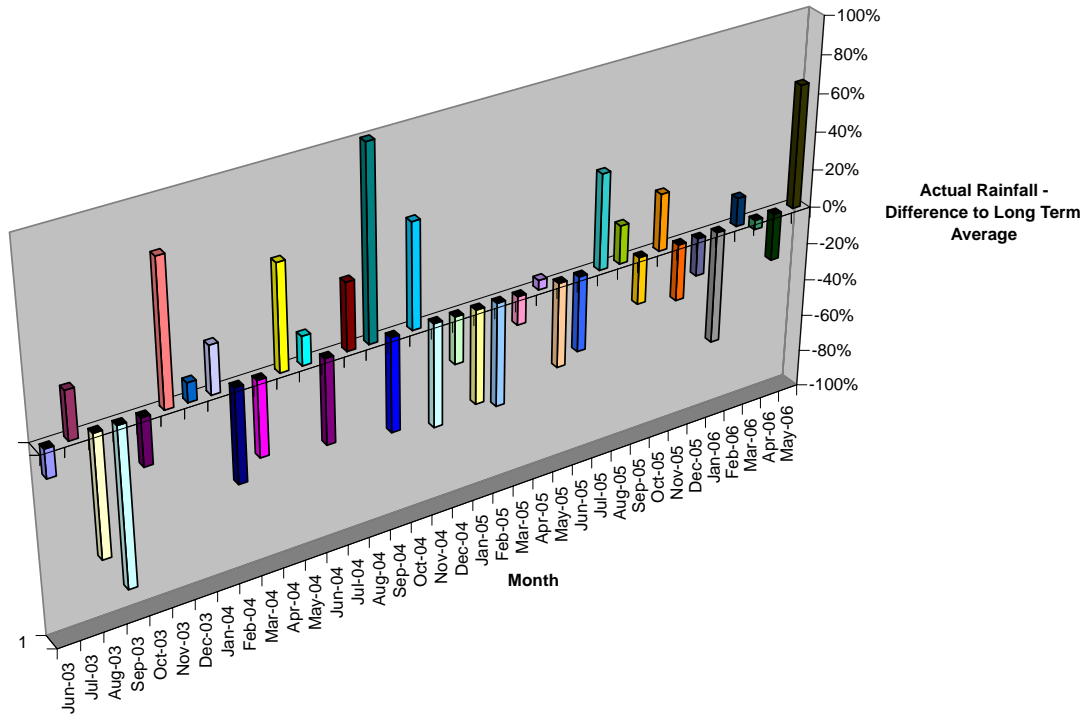


Figure 4.2 Actual rainfall, showing the percentage difference to the long term average for these months, that fell in the 36 months until May 2006. © Environment Agency copyright and/or database right 2006. All rights reserved.

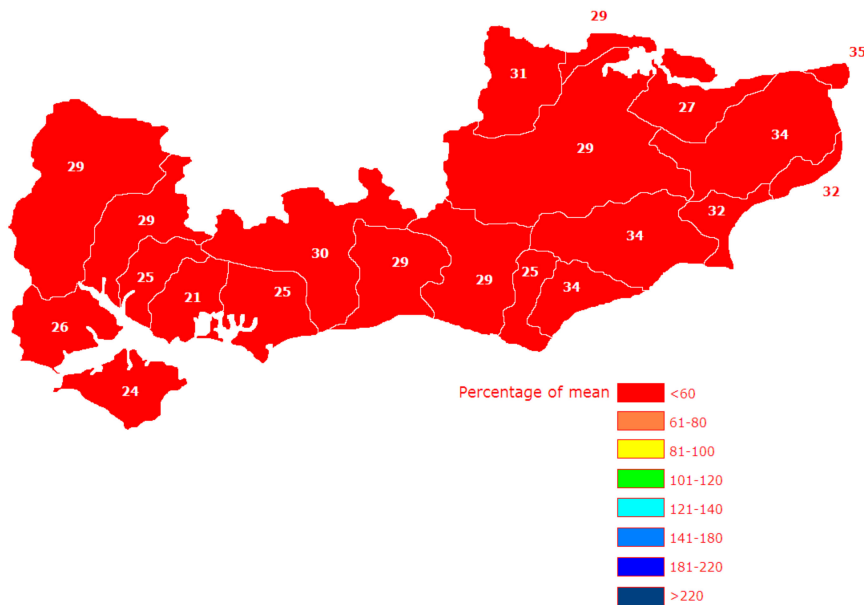


Figure 4.3 January 2006. Percentage of rain that fell in south-east catchment areas, compared to the long term average for this time of year. © Environment Agency copyright and/or database right 2006. All rights reserved.

4. Part 1 - Using Water



- 4.5** The measures that are taken to maintain water supply in times of low rainfall are unsustainable in the long-term. Abstraction, in this case from the River Medway to fill Bewl Water reservoir, can ultimately harm natural habitats and reduce flow rates significantly – there is only so much water to go around.
- 4.6** The Council acknowledges that an enlarged Bewl Water would actually store more water in times of rainfall surplus, so that times of rainfall deficit do not hit so hard. The problem that the Borough faces however, is that the enlargement of Bewl is not scheduled until 2013/14 at least.

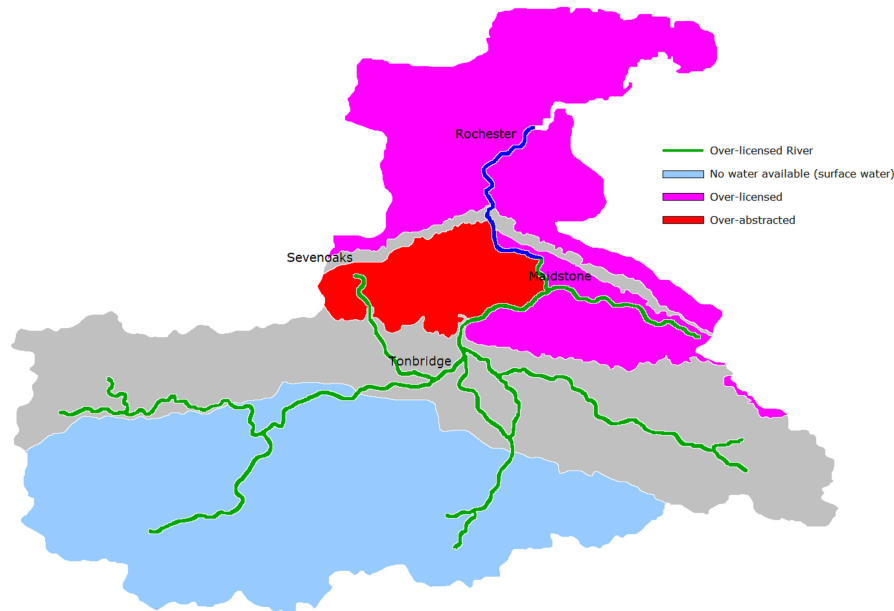


Figure 4.4 Medway Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS) Water Availability status at low flows.
© Environment Agency copyright and/or database right 2006. All rights reserved.

- 4.7** Relying on strategic, longer-term measures, while taking little or no short-term action, will leave Maidstone residents and businesses short of water. Folkestone and Dover Water Services has already been granted water scarcity status, allowing for the compulsory installation of water meters on existing properties (meters are already compulsory for new properties). It may be the case that compulsory installation becomes necessary in Maidstone too, and the Council is very sympathetic with the situation in the Folkestone and Dover area.
- 4.8** Water metering is an effective tool, but can be seen to be inequitable for certain groups in society, such as lower income families. The Council does not wish to disadvantage any group unnecessarily, and sees significantly increased efficiency measures as a far more equitable approach. The Council



cannot through the SPD compel the residents and businesses of Maidstone to install efficiency measures, but will support the introduction of mandatory features as they become more feasible.

- 4.9** The influence that planning can have on water consumption is a valuable and necessary tool. Changing habits in the use of water however, can have a great effect, particularly in the short term.
- 4.10** Standards set by Ofwat (including the pricing structure) mean that water companies seek to achieve an 'economic level of leakage', whereby it is not economically viable to reduce leakage further. On average, in Maidstone 17% of water supplied is lost daily, although approximately a third of that is lost on customer properties.
- 4.11** Given that leakage will always exist in properties, on business premises, and on the water network (in fact it is tackled as effectively as possible in Maidstone); and given that weather and climate cannot be controlled, it stands to reason that wasteful use of water must be addressed.
- 4.12** In construction terms, the use of water can be addressed by the installation of water-efficient devices and drainage systems. Increasingly, these devices are becoming more affordable.

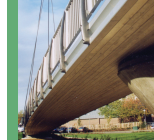


Figure 4.5 Components of Household Demand in Kent. Source: Mid Kent Water

4. Part 1 - Using Water



- 4.13** Typically, household water use is broken down as illustrated in figure 4.5, however this does vary, especially in new homes. Only 3% of treated water is actually used for drinking. Presently, the majority of households use purified water piped from reservoirs for all of these categories.
- 4.14** By adopting a more considered approach to water use, it is possible to reduce the per capita consumption (pcc) in buildings. In households, new homes have a pcc of approximately 150 litres per head per day (l/h/d), although the average measured pcc for north Kent ranges from 160-170 l/h/d, and unmeasured use ranges between 170-180 l/h/d.
- 4.15** With water-efficient fittings and appliances, the pcc of a new home could possibly be reduced to 100 l/h/d - this is before any water recycling devices (rainwater harvesting, greywater drainage) or changes in habit are considered.
- 4.16** Although these savings could technically be achieved, applying the techniques in this guidance represent only part of the solution. The regulatory background to water use and installations, as well as occupants' awareness and behaviour, also need to change before the full savings figures can be met.



Approaches

Water Saving

- 4.17** Measures for rainwater harvesting, greywater drainage and SUDS are more economical to install during the initial construction phase than as part of a retro-fitting scheme, this is particularly applicable in domestic situations. Water-saving/efficient devices and appliances are just as economical to install into an existing building as they are at the initial construction phase.

Devices and Appliances to Save Water

Spray Taps – many taps can be retro-fitted with a spray head to reduce the flow of water. Account should be taken of who would be using the tap and for what purposes.

Flow Regulation – due to the water pressure being set by water companies, regulation is generally more applicable than restriction. The maintenance of a standard flow rate can be achieved by in-pipe fittings, or outlet fittings, such as specially adapted shower heads.

Water-efficient Toilets – toilets can account for 25% of water-use in a typical household. Low-flush toilets and dual-flush toilets are inexpensive ways to rein in the amount of water used. Low-flush toilets simply use less water in the cistern, whereas dual-flush toilets can vary the flush depending on the amount of waste.

Urinals – depending on the potential usage of urinals, systems to restrict flushing, or even remove flushing, can be employed.

Showers – generally, showers use less water than baths, however this is mainly due to personal preference when washing. Power showers are actually more likely to waste water than a bath. Fitting a flow-regulation device to the shower head can maintain both the comfort and water-saving aspects of usage.

Appliances – although not strictly a construction issue, many new homes are fitted with washing machines and dishwashers, the use of energy efficient appliances (usually A or B rated) can help to cut water usage.

Meters – water meters do not specifically save water themselves but can cut consumption. By linking water habits to a charging structure, it is likely that householders and businesses alike will take steps to ensure that less water is wasted.

- 4.18** Water-efficient fittings should provide performance comparable to current standard (less efficient) fittings, to ensure that the occupants of the house do not feel the need to replace them.



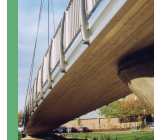
Rainwater harvesting

- 4.19** Rainwater harvesting involves the channelling of water from one or more roofs via a filter into a storage tank placed in a convenient location. Table 4.1 displays the potential for water collection, depending on the size of roof used. Consequently, the installation of a single collection system is often more suited to a larger building; with smaller buildings benefiting from a linked, communal system, such as on a housing estate.
- 4.20** Rainwater harvesting potentially reduces the initial pcc of 150 l/h/d to 80 l/h/d, although this will be dependent on rainfall and roof area. The potential rainwater yield is illustrated in table 4.1.

Rainfall (mm per year)	Roof Area (m ²)				
	50	75	100	125	150
600	18000	27000	36000	45000	54000
800	24000	36000	48000	60000	72000

Table 4.1 Rainwater Annual Yield (litres). Source: Environment Agency.

- 4.21** Water harvested from roofs has been shown to be suitable for use in toilets and washing machines. Additionally, it can be used for other non-potable purposes, such as general cleaning. A dual water supply ensures that when rainfall has been minimal, appliances such as washing machines (and any other use that relies principally on rainwater) can be switched to the mains supply.
- 4.22** The installation of a harvesting system is more cost-effective and less energy-intensive if incorporated at the outset of construction. Where the installation of a rainwater system is unlikely (such as in an existing single dwelling), smaller measures can be taken usefully e.g. the use of garden water butts, which cost less and provide a quicker return on investment. All harvesting systems will require periodic maintenance to ensure their ongoing quality and effectiveness.



Greywater drainage

19

- 4.23** Greywater – the water that has already been used in hand basins, baths and showers – can be recycled to save up to 49 litres per head per day (l/h/d) (equating to 18000 litres per person per year), representing on average 33% of household water use. After basic processing, the water can be reused around the home, including flushing toilets, watering the garden or general cleaning purposes i.e. windows, floors etc.

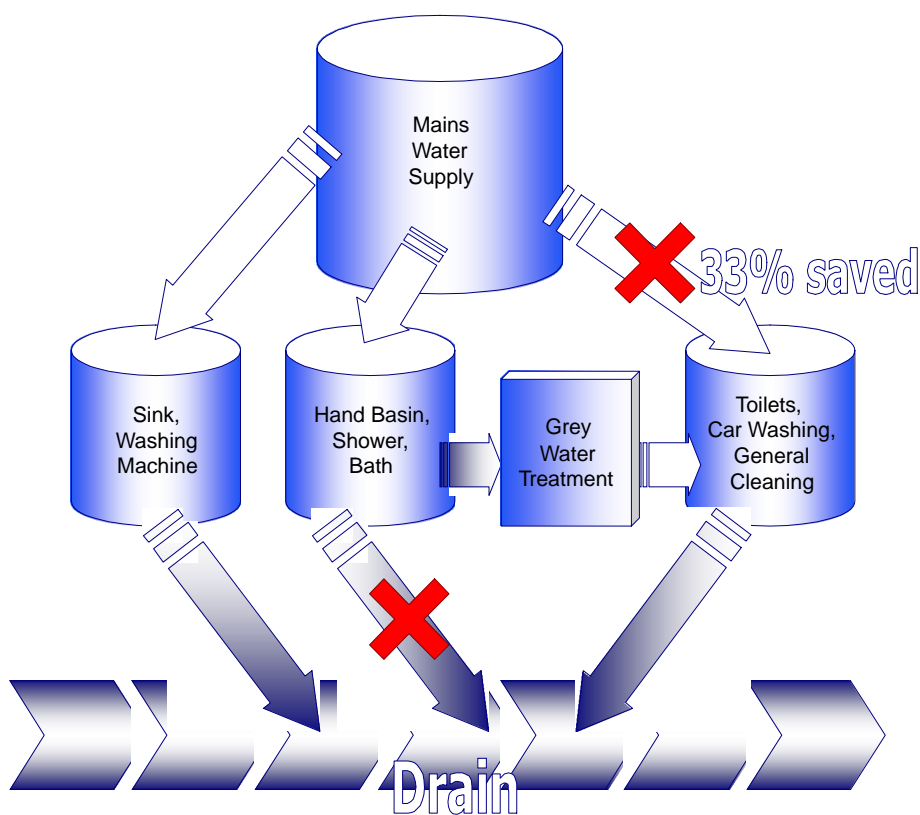


Figure 4.6 Per Person Per Day Saving

- 4.24** Based on standard charges in the Maidstone area for a four-person metered household, figure 4.6 represents a saving of approximately £135 per year.
- 4.25** Installation and processing options may vary depending on the size of the scheme e.g. a house extension could make provision for a limited installation only. The required process involves the water being filtered and disinfected to prevent bacterial growth in storage, prior to reuse. Greywater systems will require periodic maintenance to ensure their ongoing quality and effectiveness.



Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS)

- 4.26** Most of our contemporary streets, pavements and hardstandings have been built using impermeable surfaces. Consequently, existing urban drainage systems have been constructed to remove the collected rainfall from streets, pavements and hardstanding areas to a discharge point as rapidly as possible. The success of the system is tempered by adverse effects, notably:
- Flooding – caused by a rapid concentration of rainwater into discharge points
 - Pollution – many pollutants can be picked up with the surface run off, subsequently causing ill effects at discharge points
 - Ground Water – the level of ground water can be depleted as permeability is removed and rainwater is channelled away from the point that it fell
- 4.27** Approaches that utilise natural filtration techniques can restrict the rapid flow of water to discharge points, remove much of the pollutants, and maintain a healthy water table. The characteristics of each site will determine the best scheme and which solution/s should be applied.

SUDS Approaches

Planted Roof – using the appropriate plant types, these roofs can limit discharge into drains as well as provide an element of filtration.

Permeable Paving – porous ground cover can reduce or remove the need for drains and sewers, as well as maintaining ground water levels.

Infiltration Trenches and Filter Drains – similar structures to one another, the infiltration trench provides water storage and infiltration through a stone-filled trench. A filter drain filters water through soil into a perforated underground pipe, providing more storage and some infiltration.

Swale – providing temporary storage and passage of water, with some filtration and infiltration potential, these grass covered channels are very cost effective and also provide landscape features.

Basin – as the name suggests, basins initially retain storm water, before a process of filtration and infiltration through the underlying rocks.

Ponds and Wetlands – as part of a wider infrastructure of SUDS, ponds and wetlands can be designed specifically – by means of intended capacity and planting – to increase storage capacity and provide a high quality filtering system.



- 4.28** The effectiveness of SUDS type systems will depend on many factors, including run-off rates, ground conditions and topography in relation to size, type and density of the development. It is therefore important that SUDS are designed to match local geological and hydrological conditions.
- 4.29** It is also important that SUDS are properly maintained to ensure their successful operation. Where SUDS are proposed, legal agreements for their maintenance, or agreed acceptable alternatives, must be secured and approved by the Borough Council.

4. Part 1 - Using Water



Further Information

Maidstone Sustainable Construction SPD Online - www.digitalmaidstone.co.uk/digitalmaidstone/Default.aspx?page=4867

The page maintained by Maidstone Borough Council giving more detail on water technologies. As the application of these techniques become more widespread, this page will detail existing schemes.

Mid Kent Water - www.midkentwater.co.uk

Mid Kent Water supplies the water to Maidstone and is currently involved in a number of water saving initiatives across Kent.

Southern Water - www.southernwater.co.uk

Southern Water deals with drainage in the Borough, and provides guidance concerning Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS).

Environment Agency - www.environment-agency.gov.uk

The leading public body for protecting and improving the environment in England and Wales, the Environment Agency plays a key role in water preservation.

Water Efficient Homes - www.kent.gov.uk

Technical appendix to the Kent Design Guide, developed by Mid Kent Water, Kent County Council, and WS Atkins; these guidelines provide developers with example schemes, costs and links to suppliers in the industry.

Enhanced Capital Allowances - www.eca-water.gov.uk

A tax relief scheme for businesses that employ water saving and reuse methods.



Green Alliance – Better Buildings: Design for Water Efficiency -
www.green-alliance.org.uk/ourwork/BetterBuildings

An environmental charity working closely with decision-makers in Government and businesses.

Kent Sustainable Business Partnership -
www.egeneration.co.uk/centre/modules/water_efficiency/

The Kent Sustainable Business Partnership works with businesses large and small to enable them to develop sustainable environmental practices as a central and essential part of business operations.

Interim Code of Practice for Sustainable Drainage Systems -
www.ciria.org.uk/suds/publications.htm

Owned by private and public sector interests, as well as educational facilities such as universities, CIRIA develops and promotes best practice within the construction industry.

Water Regulations Advisory Scheme - www.wras.co.uk

An advisory service for and on behalf of Water Suppliers and for any other person or body seeking guidance on the principles of Water Regulations.