



Charles Church

SuDS Maintenance Plan

December 2025

Land off the High Street, Sutton Benger

1 Introduction

This document sets out the principles for the management and maintenance of the surface water Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) at Land at High Street, Sutton Benger.

This document will set out the basis of the development SuDS Maintenance Plan to ensure that the adopting management company is provided with a robust inspection and maintenance programme, ensuring the operation of the surface water drainage network is continually maintained for the lifetime of the development.

The activities listed in this document are generic to the relative SuDS types and represent the minimum maintenance and inspection requirements, however additional tasks or maintenance frequency may be required. Specific maintenance needs of the SuDS elements should be monitored and maintenance schedules adjusted to suit requirements.

All those responsible for maintenance should follow relevant Health and Safety legislation for all activities listed within this report including lone working (if relevant) and risk assessments should always be undertaken.

Any contractor employed by the Management Company shall carry out periodic maintenance of all such SuDS in accordance with the schedules listed in this report. Inspection checks shall be carried out by a qualified and competent person, at the minimum intervals listed within the schedules and the appropriate work carried out.

2 SuDS Layout and Design

The storm water drainage strategy for the proposed development utilises SuDS features to intercept and convey all surface water runoff. The design of the system aims to attenuate runoff and encourage infiltration.

The proposed storm water system consists of an attenuation basin on the southern boundary of the site. There are three categories of maintenance activities referred to in this report:

- **Regular maintenance** (including inspections and monitoring).
 - Consists of basic tasks done on a frequent and predictable schedule, including vegetation management, litter and debris removal, and inspections.
- **Occasional maintenance**
 - Comprises tasks that are likely to be required periodically, but on a much less frequent and predictable basis than the routine tasks (sediment removal is an example).
- **Remedial maintenance**
 - Comprises intermittent tasks that may be required to rectify faults associated with the system, although the likelihood of faults can be minimised by good design. Where remedial work is found to be necessary, it is likely to be due to site-specific characteristics or unforeseen events, and as such timings are difficult to predict.

3 SuDS Management and Maintenance

Note; The operations contained within this section specific to the maintenance of landscaping shall also be read in conjunction with any development landscape maintenance plans.

The drainage system and attenuation basin will be subject to a routine monitoring and maintenance schedule as part of the general site management. This will be carried out at monthly intervals between 1 April and 31 October and once between 1 November and 31 March unless otherwise detailed. A record of maintenance visits and remedial operations shall be maintained. The following guidelines are offered as an initial framework, but maybe either increased or decreased by the management company depending on the local environment and any external contributing factors.

The key maintenance requirement will be the maintenance of vegetation and mowing of grass within and on the banks/verges and the removal of accumulated sediments and collection of litter and debris.

During the inspections the general operation, and structural condition of the inlet / outlet headwalls and any erosion of banks or scour control features should be identified and rehabilitated as required.

Vegetation within the banks of the pond should be trimmed twice a year, preferably in April and October to a height of 100mm to provide long grass margins which will discourage public access down to the water's edge. Cuttings from any clearance work should be removed from the pond to avoid it causing blockages downstream.

De-silting of the attenuation ponds will usually be on a 10-15 year cycle depending on the on-going silt level checking. The desilting work will be carried out under the supervision of consulting engineers and to a pre-agreed method statement. Prior to desilting works commencing, a suitably qualified ecologist shall undertake an assessment of the ecological interest within the pond and its margins. In the event that the attenuation ponds develop particular ecological interest, then careful consideration will be given to the timing of this operation.

Sediments excavated from the pond that receive runoff from greenfield areas are not toxic or hazardous material and can be safely disposed of by either land application or landfilling. However, consultation should take place with the environmental regulator to confirm appropriate protocols.

Maintenance Plan for Attenuation Basin

Maintenance Schedule	Required Action	Typical Frequency
Regular Maintenance	Remove litter and debris	Monthly
	Cut grass – for spillways and access routes	Monthly during growing season or as required
	Cut grass – meadow grass in and around basin	Half yearly (spring and autumn)
	Manage other vegetation and remove nuisance plants	Monthly for first year, then as required
	Inspect inlets, outlets and overflows for blockages and clear if required	Quarterly
	Inspect banksides, structures, pipework etc for evidence of physical damage	Quarterly
	Inspect inlets and facility surface for silt accumulation. Establish appropriate silt removal frequencies.	Quarterly for first year, then as required
	Check mechanical devices	Annually
	Tidy all dead growth before start of growing season	Annually
	Remove sediment from inlets, outlets and forebay	Annually or as required
	Manage wetland plants in outlet pool where provided	Annually or as required
Occasional Maintenance	Reseed areas of poor vegetation growth	As required
	Prune and trim any trees and remove cuttings	Every 2 yrs or as required
	Remove sediment from inlets, outlets, forebay and main basin when required	Every 5 yrs or as required
Remedial Actions	Repair erosion or other damage by reseeding or re-turfing	As required
	Repair/rehabilitation of inlets, outlets and overflows	As required
	Relevel uneven surfaces and reinstate design levels	As required