

## Operation & Maintenance Plan for Sustainable Drainage Systems

Proposed Residential Development, Harras Road, Whitehaven

John Swift Homes

Ref: K39108.OM/002

Version	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Approved By
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**3 CONTENTS**

1 Indemnities .....2

2 Copyright.....2

3 Contents.....3

4 Table of Tables .....3

5 Introduction .....4

5.1 Background .....4

5.2 SuDS Components.....4

6 Operation and Maintenance Requirements .....5

6.1 Attenuation Storage Systems & Flow Control Chamber.....6

6.2 Hydrodynamic Separator .....8

6.3 Filter Drains.....9

7 References ..... 10

**4 TABLE OF TABLES**

Table 6.1 Attenuation Storage Maintenance Activities and Schedule .....7

Table 6.2 Filter Drain maintenance activities and schedule .....9

## 5 INTRODUCTION

### 5.1 BACKGROUND

R. G. Parkins & Partners Ltd (RGP) has been appointed by John Swift Homes to provide an Operation and Maintenance plan for surface water drainage systems for a proposed residential development at Harras Road, Whitehaven.

In reviewing the enclosed information, reference should be made to the latest revisions of the following RGP drawings:

- K39108-100 Proposed Drainage Layout

### 5.2 SUDS COMPONENTS

The proposed residential development at Harras Road utilises a series of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) as part of the overall surface water drainage strategy for the site.

- The site is divided into 3 no. areas, each with their own access road. It is proposed that surface water runoff from roofs, driveways and the access roads shall discharge into 3 no. geocellular tanks, located within each access road. Flow control chambers located downstream of each geocellular tank with restrict flows into drainage network, before discharge to the existing unnamed watercourse. These tanks and associated pipework will remain private and will be maintained by a third-party management company, appointed by John Swift Homes.
- A proprietary hydrodynamic separator is to be provided on the surface water sewer prior to discharge into the unnamed watercourse. This system is specifically designed to remove suspended solids, hydrocarbons and floatable debris from stormwater runoff and will be privately maintained by a third-party management company, appointed by John Swift Homes.

All drainage systems have been designed to provide sufficient storage for the critical duration, 1 in 100-year design storm event with a 40% allowance for the future effects of climate change.

## 6 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

As with all traditional drainage systems, SuDS need to be inspected and maintained regularly to ensure that they operate correctly and efficiently. If SuDS are not properly maintained, then there is a risk that the components become overloaded during periods of prolonged heavy rainfall potentially resulting in localised flooding within the development. Recommendations for the maintenance of the SuDS components are detailed in the following section.

As part of this process, it is recommended that inspection and maintenance records are retained by the Management Company to track the progressive performance of the SuDS over time. The inspection records should include the following:

- Sediment condition and depth
- Water observations (sheen, smell, etc.)
- Unscheduled maintenance needs
- Components that do not meet performance criteria and require immediate maintenance
- Common problem areas, solutions and general observations
- Aesthetic conditions

For Health and Safety reasons as well as practicality, SuDS systems should be maintained during periods of dry weather wherever possible. Adhering to the recommended maintenance regimes outlined below will minimise the risk of maintenance activities being required when a fault becomes apparent, usually during a rainfall event.

## 6.1 ATTENUATION STORAGE SYSTEMS & FLOW CONTROL CHAMBER

Regular inspection and maintenance is important for the effective operation of below ground storage systems. The tanks will be protected from sediment loads by the use of upstream silt traps with sumps. The highest risk of blockage and siltation is during and immediately after construction. The geocellular tanks will be fitted with access turrets to allow inspection and maintenance of the inside of the tank.

The attenuation systems will connect into flow control chambers with Hydro-brake devices limiting flows to a max. 11.8 lit/sec. The Hydrobrake's will require little, if any, maintenance and has a design life in exceedance of the upstream drainage systems. In the unlikely event that the device blocks and the flow control chamber floods the device is fitted with a pivoting by-pass door which can be accessed and opened from ground level via a pull handle and operating steel rope. This will allow the chamber to be drained down to provide access for maintenance. Hydro International Ltd provides guidance for the operation and maintenance of their flow control devices, a copy of which is included in Appendix A.

Maintenance responsibility for the geocellular tanks and flow control chambers will be by a third-party management company, appointed by John Swift Homes. The following requirements outlined in Table 6.1, refer to the recommendations in The SuDS Manual (CIRIA C753)<sup>[1]</sup>.

**Table 6.1 Attenuation Storage Maintenance Activities and Schedule**

Maintenance Schedule	Required Action	Recommended Frequency
Regular maintenance	Inspect and identify any areas upstream of the system that are not operating correctly (i.e. rainwater pipe gullies, silt traps, inspection chambers). If required, take remedial action	Monthly for first 3 months, then six monthly thereafter
	Remove debris from any upstream catchment surfaces (may cause risks to performance)	Monthly for first 3 months, then six monthly thereafter (and after large storm events)
	Remove sediment from pre-treatment structures	Annually, or as required.
	Visual inspection of silt traps, access turrets and flow control chamber to ensure no obvious build-up of silt or other blockages. De-silt as required. Check to ensure there is no standing water in the chambers	Monthly for first 3 months, then six monthly thereafter (and after large storm events)
	Inspect external vent pipe and associated pipework to ensure free from blockage or damage	Annually, or as required
Remedial actions	Repair/rehabilitation of inlets, outlets and vents. De-silt as required.	As required
Monitoring	Inspect/check all upstream drainage inlets, outlets, vents and gullies to ensure that they are in good condition and operating effectively. Inspect access turrets and de-silt inside of tank if required	Monthly for first 3 months, then six monthly thereafter (and after large storm events)
	Survey inside of tank for sediment build up and remove if necessary	Every 5 years or as required.

## 6.2 HYDRODYNAMIC SEPARATOR

A proprietary hydrodynamic separator will act as an additional form of treatment to the stormwater run-off from roofs, highways and driveways. It is to be located directly upstream of the unnamed watercourse within the open space landscaped area. The hydrodynamic separator will remain private and will be maintained by a third-party management company, appointed by John Swift Homes.

The maintenance requirements for hydrodynamic separators are fairly low due to no moving parts. The only required maintenance as informed by the manufacturer is to employ a vacuum truck to remove floatables trapped on the top and sediment captured in the sump. As the frequency of maintenance can vary significantly between sites it is recommended to check and vacuum every 6 months for the first year and determine the standard maintenance frequency from this. Most typically a maintenance frequency of once per year or following a spill in the drainage facility is adequate.

## 6.3 FILTER DRAINS

Filter drains are shallow trenches filled with stone/gravel that create temporary subsurface storage for the attenuation, conveyance and filtration of surface water runoff. The trench is typically lined with a geotextile to prevent silt blocking the voids in the stone. A perforated pipe is provided near the base of the trench to collect and convey water to the downstream drainage component.

Regular inspection and maintenance is required to ensure the effective long-term operation of filter drains. The following requirements refer to the recommendations in The SUDS Manual (CIRIA C753), Section 16<sup>[1]</sup>.

It is anticipated the individual property owners will be responsible for drainage within their plot boundaries and any land drainage outside plot boundaries will be maintained by a third-party management company, appointed by John Swift Homes.

**Table 6.2 Filter Drain maintenance activities and schedule**

Maintenance Schedule	Required Action	Recommended Frequency
Regular maintenance	Remove litter (including leaf litter) and debris from filter drain surface and access chambers	Monthly (or as required)
	Inspect filter drain surface and inlet/outlet pipework for blockages, clogging, standing water and structural damage	Monthly
	Inspect inlets and pre-treatment systems for silt accumulation; establish appropriate silt removal frequencies	Six monthly
Occasional maintenance	Remove or control tree roots or vegetation where they are encroaching the sides of the filter drain	As required
	Where there is evidence of high pollution loading at the surface, remove geotextile and replace, and wash or replace overlying filter medium	Five yearly, or as required
	Clear perforated pipework of blockages	As required

Sediments excavated from filter drains that received runoff from residential roads and roof areas are generally not toxic or hazardous material and can therefore be safely disposed of by either land application or landfilling. However, consultation should take place with the environmental regulator to confirm appropriate waste management protocols and compliance with legislation.

## 7 REFERENCES

- [1] CIRIA, *The SuDS Manual*, Report C753, 2015.

**APPENDIX A: MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR HYDRO-BRAKE**

## HYDRO-BRAKE® FLOW CONTROL MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY DATA SHEET

### MAINTENANCE

Normally, little maintenance is required as there are no moving parts within the Hydro-Brake® Flow Control. Experience has shown that if blockages occur they do so at the intake, and the cause on such occasions has been due to a lack of attention to engineering detail such as approach velocities being too low, inadequate benching, or the use of units below the minimum recommended size. Hydro-Brake® Flow Controls are fitted with a pivoting bypass door, which allows the manhole chamber to be drained down should blockages occur. The smaller type conical units, below the minimum recommended size, are also available with rodding facilities or vortex suppressor pipes as optional extras.

Following installation of the Hydro-Brake® Flow Control it is vitally important that any extraneous material ie. building materials are removed from the unit and the chamber. After the system is made live, and assuming that the chamber design is satisfactory, it is recommended that each unit be inspected monthly for three months and thereafter at six monthly intervals with hose down if required. If problems are experienced please do not hesitate to contact the company so that an investigation may be made.

Hydro-Brake® Flow Controls are typically manufactured from grade 304 Stainless Steel which has an estimated life span in excess of the design life of drainage systems.

### COSHH

Hydro-Brake® Flow Controls are manufactured from Stainless Steel, which is not regarded as hazardous to health and exhibits no chemical hazard when used under normal circumstances for the stated applications.

### MANUAL HANDLING

The handling of Hydro-Brake® Flow Controls should be in accordance with current legislation and regulations:

- The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (amended 2003).
- The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (amended 2002).

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