

## SEWERS FOR SCOTLAND 2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS (NEW ITEMS)

#### Glossary

**Active public open space** – An area of land open to use by the public, that has specific provision for particular public use such as childrens' play areas or pitches for football and cricket.

**Attenuation** – Reduction of the peak rate of flow by providing storage to allow a volume of flow to discharge over a longer duration.

**Attenuation storage** – Storage provided to enable the peak rate of flow of runoff to the river to be reduced.

**Basin** – see **Detention basin**.

**Curtilage** – Area of land enclosed by the boundary of a property.

**Detention basin** – A vegetated depression that is normally dry except following storm events, constructed to store surface water temporarily in order to attenuate flows. It may also allow infiltration of surface water into the ground.

**Detention pond** – a pond designed to attenuate surface water runoff that has a permanent pool volume which is at least equal to one times the Treatment Volume (see Retention Ponds for comparison).

**Diffuse pollution** – Pollution arising from urban or rural land-use activities (including agriculture) that are dispersed across a catchment, or sub-catchment, and do not arise from an obvious discrete source.

**Drainage Assessment (DA)** – An assessment of the impact of the drainage of a site. This is normally required to support a planning application.

**Drainage system** – a single unit or collection of drainage units, including pipes, SUDS elements and drainage products, used to convey or store surface water runoff.

**Filter drain** – A linear drain consisting of a trench filled with a permeable material, often with a perforated pipe in the base of the trench to collect, store and convey water to an outfall. It can also be designed to permit infiltration.

**Filter strip** – A vegetated area of gently sloping ground designed to allow passage of water evenly off impermeable areas, filtering out silt and other particulates.

**Flood frequency** – The probability of a location being flooded in any year. For example, where the flood frequency is 1%, flooding will be expected to occur on average once every 100 years.

**Footway** – Part of a road reserved for the use of pedestrians. [Note the term pavement has another meaning and should not be used to mean footway]

**Groundwater** – Water that has percolated into the ground, including water in both the unsaturated zone and the water table.

**Impermeable surface** – A surface that does not permit the infiltration of water and therefore generates surface water runoff during periods of rainfall.

**Infiltration basin** – A basin, normally dry except following rainfall, designed to promote infiltration of surface water to the ground.

**Infiltration device** – A device designed to facilitate infiltration of surface water into the ground.

**Infiltration trench** – A trench, usually filled with permeable granular material, designed to facilitate infiltration of surface water to the ground.

**Long Term storage** – The temporary retention of a proportion of surface water runoff which is disposed by using infiltration or slow release (typically less than 2l/s/ha) to the receiving water. Long term storage is provided for the temporary flood storage of rare storm events and is normally separated from the attenuation storage.

**Management Train** - The management of stormwater using an appropriate selection of drainage systems to hydraulically control and treat stormwater runoff to provide an acceptable level of service and minimise the impact on the environment.

**Passive public open space** – An area of land open to use by the public, that specifically has no particular public use.

**Pavement** – Technical name for the road or car park surface and underlying structure, usually asphalt, concrete or block paving. This term should not be used to mean a footway.

**Percentage runoff** – The proportion of the amount of rainfall that is converted to runoff (see also runoff coefficient).

**Permeable surface** – A surface that is formed of material that is itself impervious to water, but allows infiltration of water to the underlying layers through the pattern of voids in the surface; for example concrete block paving.

**Pervious pavement** – A pavement with a permeable surface usually constructed for sub-surface storage of stormwater runoff and/or infiltration.

**Public sewer** - A sewer that is vested in, and maintained by, Scottish Water.

**Retention Pond** – A pond constructed to attenuate surface water runoff with a permanent pool volume up to 4 times the Treatment Volume for the site to maximise physical and biological treatment of the pollutants in the surface water runoff.

**Return period** – The average frequency of a specified condition. A 100-year rainfall event is one that has an annual probability of exceedance of 1%.

**Runoff coefficient** – The proportion of the amount of rainfall that is converted to runoff.

**Separate sewer** – A sewer used to convey either surface water or foul sewage, but not a combination of both.

**Soakaway** – A subsurface structure into which surface water is conveyed to allow infiltration into the ground.

**Source control** – The management of runoff at or near its source.

**SUD systems** – Sustainable urban drainage systems or sustainable drainage systems: a sequence of management practices and control structures designed to drain surface water in a more sustainable fashion than conventional techniques (may also be referred to as SUDS or SuDS).

**Surface Water** – Water resulting from run-off of rain, melted snow or hail.

**Swale** - A shallow vegetated channel designed to conduct and retain water, but may also permit infiltration; and the vegetation filters particulate matter from the flow.

**Treatment** - Improving the quality of water by physical, chemical and/or biological means.

**Treatment train** - The application of a selection of drainage systems which provides treatment of the surface runoff such that the pollution impact on the receiving waters is minimised.

**Treatment volume ( $V_t$ )** – A calculated volume of water (usually referring to the permanent pool volume in a pond) which provides partial treatment to surface runoff. It is normally based on the site impermeable area and the local hydrological characteristics (see CIRIA report C521).

**Underground storage** – An underground attenuation tank for holding surface water; different types of structures are used including oversized sewers and concrete chambers.

**Wetland** - A pond that has a high proportion of emergent vegetation in relation to open water.

**SPP** - Scottish Planning Policy

**PAN 69** - Planning and Building Standards Advice on Flooding