

# Potential for retrofitting SUDS at Houston Industrial Estate, Livingston, West Lothian

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This study looks at the potential for retrofitting SUDS at each of the three levels of provision that would apply for new situations (premises, conveyance and regional). The specific objectives of the study are:

1. Gauge awareness of SUDS technology and relevant regulations using a simple questionnaire;
2. Review literature and work with key stakeholders to identify the typical barriers to SUDS retrofit;
3. Work with businesses and the Council to understand what types of SUDS would be suitable within the constraints there;
4. Assess willingness to retrofit and potential incentives; and,
5. Produce case studies to enable project findings to be widely applicable.

The initial awareness raising questionnaire (SUDS technology and pollution regulations) had a ‘Yes/No’ format, and contained a checklist of 10 types of common SUDS features, asking for a response to two categories of prompts – is the company familiar with the technique and is there an example of it on their premises at Houston? Colour images were used to aid recognition of specific features. This questionnaire was posted or emailed to the majority of premises on the estate, and delivered by hand when that was not possible or when there was no response. To date, more than 60 responses have been received and analysed. Preliminary analysis of the results revealed that although the majority of the companies (75%) were unfamiliar with the term 'SUDS', 90% claimed familiarity with at least one SUDS technique.

Detailed site visits to propose specific SUDS retrofits have identified opportunities at source on several premises, (only space for drain-down vessels for flow control in the small denser rented units); two possibilities for conveyance SUDS; and one opportunity for a regional detention basin. Potential drivers for retrofits include: regulatory requirements; reduced water charges; rainwater capture for use onsite; public relations. The barriers include: lack of awareness; finding the correct representatives; time and lack of incentive; public sector willingness; adequate evidence of benefits. Less than a quarter of all companies were aware of general binding rules (GBRs) regulating pollution prevention at industrial sites, and ownership of the premises did not appear to be a decisive factor influencing that knowledge.