# Managing Water at the Building Level



flood

esilien

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## Outline

- Rainwater Management Systems (RMS)
- Performance of the RMS
- Impact of RMS on urban water system



## **RWH to RMS?**



Urban flood

resilience

Melville-Shreeve, P., Ward, S., and Butler, D. 2017. Dual-purpose rainwater harvesting system design. In S., Charlesworth and

C., Booth. Sustainable Surface Water Management: A Handbook for SUDS.

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## **Rainwater Management Systems (RMS)**

- **RWH** single function, single benefit.
- **RMS** multi-function and/or multibenefit:
  - Reduced water demand
  - Reduced energy (embodied and operational)
  - Reduced stormwater discharges
  - Increased resilience and sustainability







## **Model set-up**



Three cases considered: 1. Standard [1]: water supply plus indirect stormwater management single 'oversized' tank (V=  $V_{D}+V_{SC}$ ) 2. Passive [2]: Water supply plus direct, passive stormwater management – two tanks (or tank compartments), 50/50 split  $(V_{D}=V_{SC})$ . 3. Active [3]: Water supply plus direct, active stormwater management – one tank designed to be operated actively (V).

**Rainwet model**: daily supply-demand balance of rainfall, water demand and overflow discharges based on "yield after spillage" (Fewkes and Butler, 2000).



## No water demand met, 100% discharge to



**Obluegree** EXETER Centre for Water Systems



# Water supply plus indirect stormwater management: Type 1





# Water supply plus direct, active stormwater management: Type 3



### Urban Water System Modelling Ebbsfleet Garden City





#### Model input:

- Weather data time series
- Inflow time series to water resources
- Database of pipeline characteristics
- Characteristics of Components
  Including:
- Transport/Storage capacity
- Consumption per unit volume of water for:
- Energy sources
- Chemicals
- Resource recovery
- Operational cost
- Water demand per capita/Daily water demand
- Demographic information
- Industrial development information
- Hydrologic characteristics
- Number of properties



#### Model output:

- Water flow
- Energy flow
- GHG flow
- Acidification flow
- Eutrophication flow
- Material flux
- Chemical flux
- Pollutant flux
- Cost flux



#### Water supply demand







urban flood

## **Sustainable Water Management Strategies**

- Rainwater Harvesting
- Grey Water Recycling
- Water efficient appliances
- Leakage reduction



#### Water management Interventions





## Conclusions

- All RMS systems deliver water saving benefits AND stormwater benefits to varying degrees.
- Where supply is low relative to demand (e.g. Ebbsfleet), tanks are likely to be emptied more frequently so water supply yield is lower, but this provides greater potential for stormwater control.
- **Passive** and particularly **active** control provides improved performance, w.r.t. **stormwater** management, especially **peak flows.**
- Other benefits can be achieved by design & operation optimisation: pollution control (CSO reduction), climate change adaptation (variable tank splits), resilience enhancement (supply failure) and reduction in urban heat island effects.
- **Multi-functional, multi-benefit systems** are the future as exemplified by rainwater management systems.



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