



# Peterborough SuDS

Working to promote and improve Sustainable Drainage in Peterborough

Newsletter

August 2019

## Catchment Management: The Declaration

In the beginning of this year, Peterborough City Council signed up to the [Catchment Management Declaration](#) with the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL). The declaration sets out a series of principles that will help us to be more ambitious in responding to the [Government's 25 Year Environment Plan](#). These principles largely match the way we like to work, whether that's sharing best practice, increasing awareness or working with our partners to get the most benefits we can for our residents and the local environment.

## FLOODEX

In February 2019, Peterborough Arena was the host to [FLOODEX and IRRIGEX](#), which provided organisations, experts and consultants with an opportunity to network and share knowledge across the sector with opportunities to see the latest products entering the market!



There was plenty of representation for SuDS at the event with presentations and discussions in the ASA Theatre.

## ASA

FLOODEX also saw the launch of the [Association of SuDS Authorities \(ASA\)](#), formerly known as LASOO.



ASA's aims to; share and promote good practice to enhance the effectiveness of sustainable drainage; to own and develop the guidance of the [Non-Statutory Technical Standards for Sustainable Drainage Systems](#); and to engage with Government in developing policy and regulation for surface water management.

They promote the use of sustainable drainage (SuDS) within all new developments and offer one voice to promote and provide consistency on SuDS nationally across Lead Local Flood Authorities.

## Cuckoo's Hollow Consultation

Following the public consultation the preferred option for the Cuckoo's Hollow reach of the [Werrington Brook Improvements](#) is to install a silt trap upstream of the lake, carry out maintenance to the weir and to trial the use of a calcium carbonate powder to naturally break down the silt already in the lake.

In March, the maintenance to remove reed and algae was underway and the first application of calcium carbonate was added. In addition to this a Werrington Brook Open Space Management Plan has been completed and a new permeable footpath made from recycled tyres has been laid alongside the rivers. The works to the weir and installation of the silt trap are anticipated to take place later this year.

## Concrete in Gully

Recently, our Engineer was called out to a report of a blocked gully, which was found to be filled with concrete. Gullies are only designed to carry rainwater, and with many gullies leading straight to watercourses and rivers. Disposing of waste down gullies pollutes our local water environment.

Where the concrete in this gully was above the outlet pipe, this meant rainwater had no way of entering the drainage system and in turn increasing flood risk on the highway.



Our [Yellow Fish Campaign](#) carried out in Summer 2018 and 2019 aims to raise awareness of this issue.

## Middle Level Commissioners

In August and September 2018, our Drainage Engineer Joely and other trainees from Cambridgeshire County Council, attended four Flood Risk Trainee sessions held by the [Middle Level Commissioners](#) (MLC).

The sessions provided an overview of the MLC's processes and enabled the trainees to gain an in depth understanding of the role of IDBs, their process of planning and consenting, governance and byelaws, watercourse maintenance and even a guided tour of St Germans Pumping Station. Following the experience, an article was written by one of the trainees and was published in the Winter 2018 edition of the [ADA Gazette](#).

## Yellow Fish and DrainArt

In July 2019, we continued our [Yellow Fish Campaign](#) in the Gunthorpe, Paston and Walton wards. The aim of the campaign is to improve the quality and sustainability of the water environment by raising awareness in Peterborough that only rain should go down the drain! The majority of the drains in this area end up out falling into the Paston and Werrington Brook.



As a part of this campaign, we sprayed yellow fish and placed drain markers next to road gullies in the area. Most of the drains you see in the roads take water to our local rivers, unfortunately this means that anything else that goes down those drains also ends up in the same place and ultimately damages our environment.

As a wider part of the project, a [DrainArt competition](#) was held within Discovery Primary in Walton. The winning design was produced by 8 year old Kenia, who saw her design adapted and recreated on the footpath outside her school. In the previous year, two other DrainArt pieces were produced outside Werrington and Norwood Primary, to help passers-by understand that anything that is put down the drain will end up in the water environment!

