



The Royal Society
of Ulster Architects

The Response of the Royal Society of Ulster Architects (RSUA) to the Committee for Infrastructure's public consultation on the Water, Sustainable Drainage and Flood Management Bill

3 December 2025

RSUA's role

The Royal Society of Ulster Architects (RSUA) strives to enhance Northern Ireland's built environment for the benefit of all through the promotion of architecture. We are the professional body for chartered architects in the region. We have around 850 chartered members who provide expert services to clients across Northern Ireland and further afield, in addition to over 400 student members.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this consultation on the Water, Sustainable Drainage and Flood Management Bill.

The Bill

RSUA welcomes the introduction of this legislation as an intended means of reducing pollution in watercourses, enhancing resilience to extreme weather events and promoting more sustainable, environmentally responsible approaches to the management of water resources.

We also recognise that this is enabling legislation and, as such, anticipate that the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) will set out more comprehensive proposals connected to the Bill's provisions in due course.

We look forward to responding to these proposals, beginning later this month with DfI's ongoing consultation on proposals for sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) in new housing developments. In this context, we intend to provide fuller feedback on aspects of policy facilitated by this legislation, including our views on the implementation of mandatory SuDS, the oversight of their installation and funding arrangements.

Further engagement

If you have any queries about this consultation response, please contact Curtis Large, RSUA Policy and Public Affairs Officer, at curtis@rsua.org.uk or on +4474 4956 5367.