Storm Overflow Task Force

October 2022

from Southern Water

What are storm overflows?

Storm overflows are a pressure relief valve for the system to prevent the devastating impact of sewer flooding

WATER for LIFE from Southern Water

There are broadly 3 main types of intervention to reduce flooding and storm overflow use:

1. **Source control** (removing and slowing the flow of rain water)

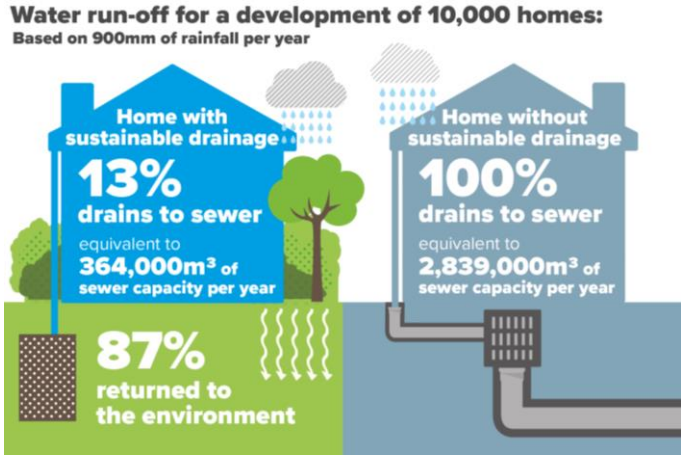
   Rainwater harvesting, Permeable paving, Green roofs, Soakaways (includes tree pits), Rain garden (swales), Planters

2. **Optimisation of existing infrastructure**

   Optimisation, tweaking of connected systems and interface, Different mechanical and electrical equipment (e.g. pumps), Improvements in pumping station and storm tank use and control, Smart network control with increased digitalisation

3. **Build bigger infrastructure** (building larger pipes, pumping stations, etc.)

   Wetlands treatment (Groundwater), Sewer lining/sealing (Groundwater), Larger sewers, Large storm tanks, Large treatment works



Sustainable solutions also have wider benefits.

Sustainable drainage

The risk of flooding and storm overflows can be reduced by slowing surface water runoff reaching the sewer. There are a number of ways we can do this...

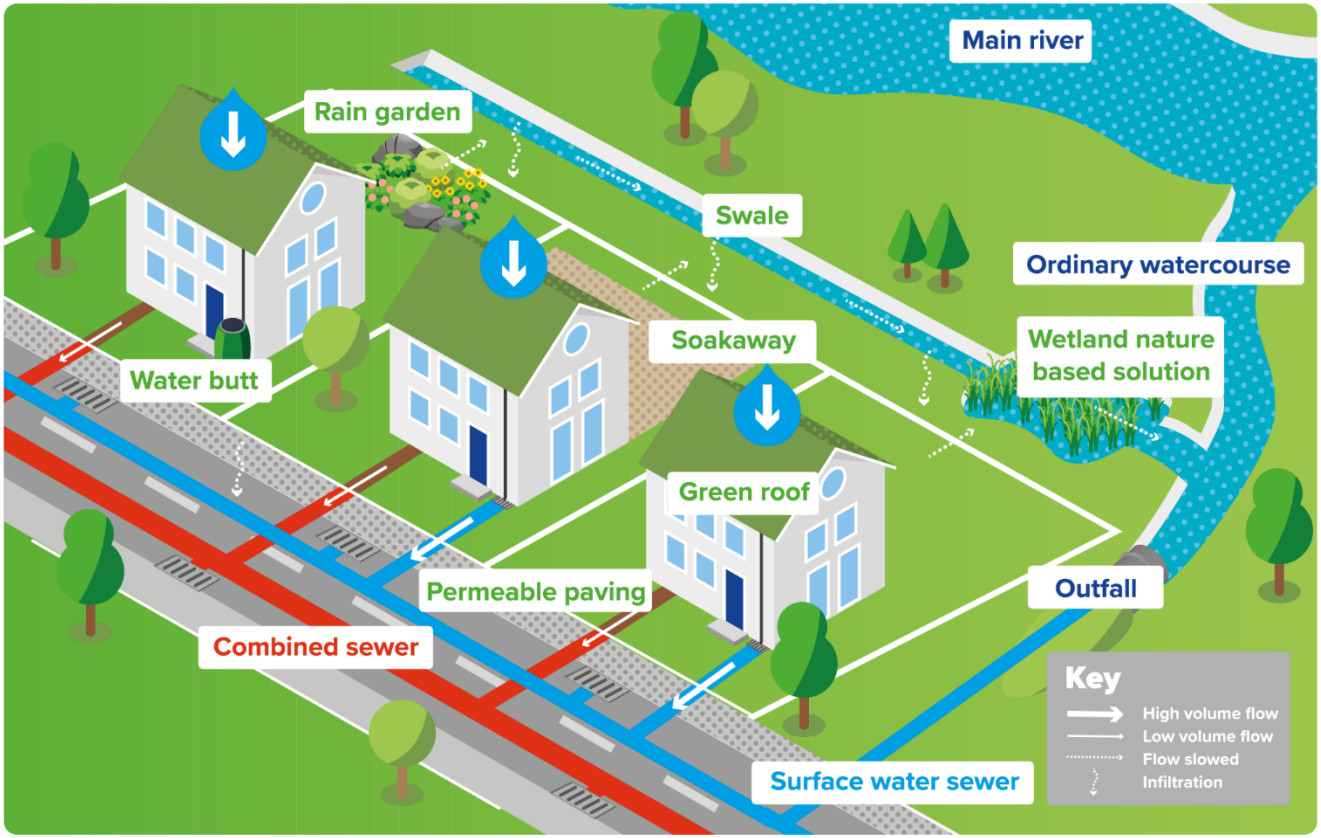
Permeable paving and soakaways

Green roofs

Swales and wetlands

Rain gardens

Water Butts



Gurnard & Havenstreet

Pathfinder Process
1. Optimisation
2. Misconnections
3. NHH SuDS
4. Highway Schemes
5. Household SuDS
6. Monitor (TS,SLM, PRD, FD, RD)

- UNESCO Biosphere Reserve & AONB
- 1 pumping station: Blackbridge Brook
- Permitted PFR: 12lps (8lps storm)
- 5mm rain, 12hrs
- 132 household, 6 NHH, 1 x Highways
- Waterbutt, planter, swale