

## Case Study

### Army Basing Programme, Salisbury

SDS flood-proofs Britain's first 'Super Garrison'



#### SDS Systems

SDS GEOLight® Attenuation Tanks and Soakaways.

#### Client

Veolia Water on behalf of Aspire Defence Capital Works (ADCW).

#### End Customer

Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO).

#### Project

Army Basing Programme (ABP).

#### Purpose

To provide housing and facilities to support the return from Germany of circa 4,300 British Army soldiers and their families to the MoD's Salisbury Plain encampments.

#### Brief to SDS

To protect the new and refurbished developments from flooding by excessive rainfall.

#### Timing

2014 to 2020.

#### Project Background Information

The ABP Salisbury Plain construction programme is part of the government's 2010 Strategic Defence and Security Review commitment to bring all units back from Germany by 2020 and is being delivered by ADCW at Larkhill, Bulford, Tidworth and Perham Down. The programme will enable nearly 100 Army units to relocate, reconfigure, disband or re-role and will produce savings increasing to £240 million per year.

The £1.644 billion programme has been described by the MOD as a project of 'unprecedented scale' and has received both the Sanctuary Sustainable Project and Sustainable Business Awards.

#### Project Objectives

To mitigate the increased risk for flooding that the redevelopment and extension of multiple MoD camps may introduce.

## Project Requirements

To implement a series of surface water drainage systems over an extended period of several years that underpin the construction of new camp facilities whilst also supporting building alterations, extensions, refurbishments and demolitions. New buildings include single- and family- living accommodation, dining halls, schools, sports and recreational, medical and community centres.

## Surface Water System Requirements

Flood risk assessments were completed in accordance with the NPPF for the majority of sites and SuDS were identified in the initial planning stages as a prerequisite for the developments.

Most of the new construction sites are located on currently undeveloped land with no existing foul water/ surface water drainage networks within the boundaries of the site.

The new developments are required to seek opportunities to enhance biodiversity. In particular, these must include measures to deliver biodiversity gains through opportunities to restore, enhance and create valuable habitats, ecological networks and ecosystem services.

## SDS Product Features

Throughout this extended period of development SDS has been the supplier of choice for SuDS, designing, manufacturing, delivering and installing a variety of systems and surface water capacities.

## Issues Overcome

Salisbury Plain is a protected habitat of international value and renowned as an historic landscape with many designated heritage assets. The area in and around Salisbury Plain hosts a number of camps, many of which are adjacent to settlements – these include Warminster, Bulford, Tidworth, Perham Down, Upavon and Larkhill. In the case of Salisbury Plain, an Overarching Environmental Appraisal (OEA) was produced to support Wiltshire Council with planning approval for the developments.

The Plain is also the largest surviving area of unimproved chalk down-land in north-western Europe and is a protected habitat of international value. As a government department, the MoD is statutory obligated to protect the habitats and the species that this supports. Full compliance of all drainage systems with stringent environmental measures is therefore of critical importance to the client.

