

SEWERAGE SECTOR GUIDANCE

CHANGE PROPOSAL FORM

Please complete the form below to submit a change proposal to the Sewerage Adoption Panel.

Name of Proposed Change:

Add new sub-clauses in DCG for Plastic Corrugated Wall Arch Structures for below ground stormwater attenuation & storage applications.

Section 1 - Proposed Change

A. Please outline the details (including any relevant supporting documentation) of the proposed change.

Sewers for Adoption (SfA) has evolved over time with the original focus on sewer pipelines and associated ancillary components. The new Design & Construction Guidance (DCG) has, in effect, resulted in an ongoing evolution from SfA with a broader definition of a sewer to facilitate adoption by water companies of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) assets, for example DCG includes modular geocellular crate systems. Components not identified within DCG and not meeting the required levels of performance, will not be accepted for adoption by water companies.

Plastic Corrugated Wall Arch Structures are a credible alternative to geocellular crates, large diameter pipes, etc for below ground stormwater attenuation & storage applications. Due to their unique characteristics and absence from DCG, they are deemed not to comply with DCG and as a result water companies are refusing to accept Plastic Corrugated Wall Arch Structures when offered by developers for adoption.

This Proposal identifies the gaps within DCG such that Plastic Corrugated Wall Arch Structures are suitably defined to comply with DCG and provide quality, resilient infrastructure by ensuring that their use is specified consistently.

For uniformity with the current DCG and for simplicity, this Proposal is structured with a common format to the sub-clauses within DCG for geocellular crate systems.

Proposal #1

New sub-clause after C7.8.3 / before C7.8.4

C7.8.3(b) The structural design of Thermoplastic Corrugated Wall Stormwater Collection Chambers (Arches) should be carried out by a person competent to do so using ASTM F2787, ASTM F2418 and ASTM F2922. Verified product performance data specific to ASTM F2418 Clause 5.6.2 and ASTM F2922 Clause 5.6.2 should be used for the engineer to make their assessment (see E2.49).

Proposal #2

New sub-clause after E2.48

E2.49 Thermoplastic Corrugated Wall Stormwater Collection Chambers

1. Thermoplastic Corrugated Wall Stormwater Collection Chambers (Arches), including integral components, to be used for the control and management of stormwater run-off, shall comply with the requirements of ASTM F2787. Product performance data used in the structural design of these attenuation and infiltration systems shall be determined through testing carried out in accordance with ASTM F2418 and ASTM F2922.

B. Has the proposed change been considered previously (including during any prior consultation process)? If so, please provide details.

No.

C. Does the proposed change need to be considered by a specific date? If so, please explain why?

As soon as possible. The absence of Plastic Corrugated Wall Arch Structures within DCG is preventing developers from using such systems and being able to get them adopted by water companies.

D. Does the proposed change raise any health and safety issues? If so, please provide details.

No.

E. Please provide any further information relevant to the change proposal.

Section 2 - Scope of the Proposed Change

A. Which section(s) of the Sewerage Sector Guidance and Model Adoption Agreement does the proposed change concern? Please provide specific references to the relevant documentation.

Please refer to Section 1A.

B. What consequential amendments to the Sewerage Sector Guidance and Model Adoption Agreement would be required as a result of the proposed change? Please provide specific references.

Please refer to Section 1A,

Section 3 - Rationale for the proposed change

A. What is the nature and effect of the current position/existing arrangements?

The scope of below ground stormwater attenuation & storage options currently available within DCG is incomplete. Note that Section 21 of CIRIA C753 The SuDS Manual identifies numerous types of attenuation storage tank including 21.1.2 Plastic corrugated wall arch structures.

Plastic Corrugated Wall Arch Structures have already been installed within a number of water company locations and some installations have been part of successful trial sites.

Plastic Corrugated Wall Arch Structures systems have been taken over for adoption and the precedent is already established, but without DCG compliance, future adoption is not allowed. This is a contradictory and retrograde situation.

B. What is the nature and effect of the proposed change?

DCG will provide a more complete range of options for the designer and developer and they will be able to offer Plastic Corrugated Wall Arch Structures to the water company for adoption. Each system type will have its own nuances and benefits. Extending DCG to include Plastic Corrugated Wall Arch Structures will enable the value and benefits specific to a wider range of system types to be realised.

C. Why is the proposed change necessary?

To enable designers and developers to take advantage of a wider and fairer choice of solutions to deliver adoptable below ground stormwater attenuation & storage sustainable drainage solutions.

To provide water companies with the opportunity to realise a greater range of value propositions for adoption within their asset base.

D. What is the desired outcome of the proposed change?

Plastic Corrugated Wall Arch Structures are included in DCG and in doing so, they are recognised as compliant and deemed acceptable for adoption by water companies.

Section 4 – Impact on the Principles and Objectives of the Code

A. Outline, how and why the proposed change maintains consistency with the principles and objectives of the Code for Adoption Agreements, and any relevant statutory or regulatory requirements?

By adding the proposed new sub-clauses, it ensures a fairer, consistent and uniform approach to adoption for below ground stormwater attenuation & storage assets.

It supports a level playing field for adoption agreements and enables developers to offer a more complete range of alternatives for adoption.

Section 5 – Impact on Customers and Sewerage Companies

A. What is the impact of the proposed change (be it positive and/or negative) on Customers?

Positive: By widening the choices available, the potential to achieve better value is increased. As an example, this may translate to lower asset lifetime costs and lower customer bills.

B. Is there any evidence of customer concern relating to the proposed change? If so, please provide details.

No.

C. What is the impact of the proposed change (be it positive and/or negative) on Sewerage Companies?

Positive: By widening the choices available, the potential to achieve better value is increased. As an example, this may translate to lower asset lifetime costs and lower customer bills.

D. Estimate how much notice Customers and Sewerage Companies may reasonably require to be able to meet any new requirements arising from the proposed change.

None.

E. What is the suggested implementation date of the proposed change?

ASAP (see Section 1C).

Section 6 – Stakeholder Engagement

A. Please outline any informal/formal consultation undertaken with relevant stakeholders likely to be affected by the proposed change, including details of any responses provided by stakeholders.

Numerous discussions with developers and water company experts. Developers want to use specific brands of arch type structure and have enquired if they will be accepted for adoption. Feedback from water companies has been consistent; compliance with DCG is required to enable adoption to be permitted. Developers are frustrated with the current situation and want DCG changed so that arch type structures can be adopted.

Section 7 – Applicant’s Details

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