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# Good practice notes for sustainable development

Introduction

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# Good practice for sustainable development

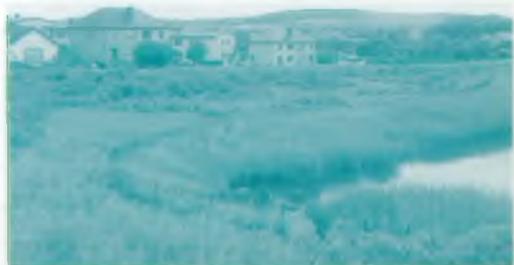
## Introduction

One of the main roles of the planning system is to promote sustainable development. This is new development which aims to meet our needs for housing, employment and recreation while protecting the environment.

The Environment Agency is a statutory consultee in the land-use planning process. We advise local planning authorities and developers on the environmental aspects of planning guidance and development proposals.

To help those applying for planning permission, our Hampshire and Isle of Wight area has produced a series of Good Practice Notes. In keeping with the principles of sustainable development, the good practice advice offers social and economic benefits as well as environmental ones.

In line with the Government's Sustainable Communities agenda, local planning authorities are seeking higher standards of design in new development. These Good Practice Notes are intended to complement this aim. They are a prompt for developers to consider how they can contribute to achieving sustainable development. They are also a guide to sources of further information and advice.



**Environment Agency Good Practice Notes cover the following topics:**

***Flooding***

Practical advice on how to ensure new development is at minimal risk of flooding and does not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere.

***Drainage***

Practical advice for designing drainage schemes to avoid pollution and help return water to the environment naturally.

***Watercourses***

Practical advice on restoring and enhancing watercourses, to benefit wildlife and the community.

***Wise use of resources***

Practical advice for resource-efficient design and construction, to conserve natural resources and reduce operational costs.

It should be noted, however, that many aspects of new development are also controlled by regulations outside the planning system.

For detailed practical guidance on how to comply with these visit our website:

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/netregs](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/netregs)

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