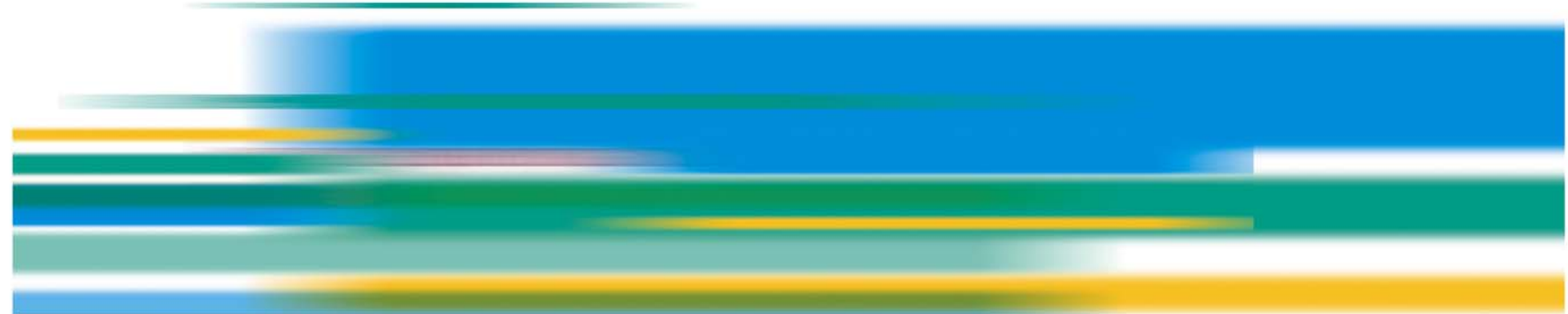


ENGINEERING AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES RESEARCH COUNCIL

# THE SUSTAINABLE URBAN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

13 January 2010



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Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council

# EPSRC & the Sustainable Urban Environment

**EPSRC Key Aim:** To support a portfolio of international quality research and a vibrant and sustainable research environment able to respond to future socio-economic challenges in the urban environment

## **Key strategies include:**

- Encouraging & supporting risk taking and transformative research - building new research capability and backing world leading researchers
- Stimulating collaboration across discipline boundaries, within EPSRC and with other Research Councils
- Working in partnership with universities, business and other organizations and maximising knowledge exchange

## **And from an Engineering Perspective:**

- Raising the impact of engineering in an increasingly competitive environment and maximizing the contribution of engineering to improving quality of life for all

**The SUE Programme contributes to all of the above ....**

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## EPSRC Interests & Role

- ■ What are the key research challenges?
- ■ What do stakeholders need?
- ■ What evidence is needed to support future decision-making?



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# A SHORT HISTORY OF SUE



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# Aims of SUE

## Key drivers:

- To improve the quality of life of UK citizens
- To support the sustainable development of the UK economy and society
- To meet the needs of users of EPSRC-funded research

## Specific objectives:

- To develop and promote a strategic research agenda to address sustainability in the urban environment for the 21st century
- To strengthen the capability of the UK research base in sustainability issues related to the urban environment
- To engage with end users in industry, commerce, and the public sector



## Some statistics

Programme was initiated in 2001

To date 20 multidisciplinary research consortia have been established

Over £38M research funded

Over 160 different principal and co-investigators

Over 400 research and technical staff posts

Over 400 project partners

Collaborations with 25 different local authorities

Collaborations with industry, charities, professional organisations, public organisations



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# SUE activities so far

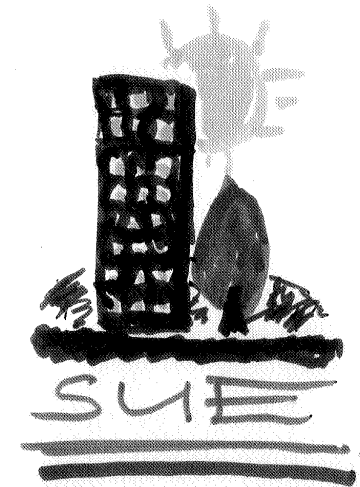
**SUE1** – developed through consortium building workshops.  
Awards were made in 4 clusters:

- Built Environment
- Water and Waste
- Transport
- Metrics, Knowledge Management and Decision Tools

**SUE2** – took an holistic and integrated view of sustainability

**KT-SUE (ISSUES)** – knowledge transfer

£38M supporting 16 consortia; Phase 3 in progress

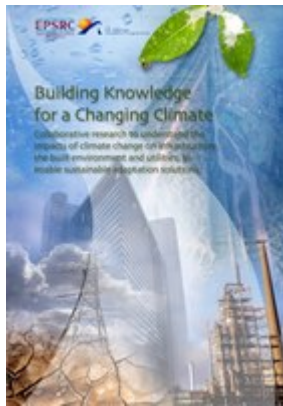


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# Programmes related to SUE



Low impact buildings  
Innovation Platform



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# Successes of the SUE programme to date

- Internationally leading research
- Inter-disciplinary working
- Capacity building
- Breadth of the programme
- Wide range of partners
- Wide variety of outputs
- Raised levels of interest & awareness



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# Longer Term Successes

- Enthusing researchers to pursue longer-term agendas, challenging today's thinking
- More effective design of future research programmes that meet the needs of their communities
- A broader view of engineering and its impacts on society and the environment
- Rapid and effective dissemination and take up of research findings
- A new perspective on the future Urban Environment



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