susdrain SuDS Champion Nomination Form 2021

1. Nomination details

Name of nominated person	Paul Quinn
Name of nominee's organisation or community	Newcastle University
Role of nominee in their organisation/community	Senior lecturer in Hydrology and Catchment Engineering
Role in championing SuDS	Paul is an academic at Newcastle University's School of Engineering in the water group. He has worked in catchment systems research for over 24 years and is a pioneer of catchment engineering and natural flood management. He has worked closely with Defra and the Environment Agency and many rural organisations, various urban stakeholders and NGO's, such as Natural England, The Rivers Trusts, CPRE and RSPB in catchment management. His work focuses on a wide range of soft engineered interventions for diffuse pollution management and flood risk mitigation (including ponds, wetlands, riparian and ditch management). His research interests focus on catchment instrumentation, GIS and modelling to provide the evidence to back policy and initiate change. More recently a major part of his work has arisen from consultancy projects which have targeted small catchment studies and flood alleviation strategies. Awarded the Robert Stephenson prize ICE North East 2015 for the Belford flood

	management project, Paul was also a Special Advisor to the Houses of Parliament Environment Food and Rural Affairs Committee on 'The Future of Flooding'.	
Experienced SuDS professional (worked with SuDS for more than 10 years) or 'rising star' (worked with SuDS for 10 years or fewer)		**Please indicate category**
	Established	Yes – Paul has been an academic for 24 years at Newcastle University and has been working with and advocating natural processes for at least 20 years.
	Rising star	No
Name and organisation of nominator	Adam Greatrix - Gillespies (Landscape Architects)	
Relationship of nominator to nominee	Gillespies were appointed as landscape architect from design concept to completion for both the Frederick Douglass Centre and the Catalyst public realm, two significant plots within the phased Helix masterplan in Newcastle; a new urban quarter in the city centre delivered through a joint venture between Newcastle University and Newcastle City Council. The Helix is an exemplar of sustainable urban development, attracting leading scientific and technology organisations to a mixed new community encompassing a variety of research and development, educational, business and residential uses. Gillespies worked with Paul and the university from the outset to deliver a collaborative and dynamic new 'living lab' as a platform for knowledge sharing and experimentation. Integral to the masterplan was introducing a visually attractive and interactive integrated network of SuDS to manage surface water runoff naturally across the site and from the wider catchment upstream, as part of a holistic masterplan drainage strategy to deliver a resilient and adaptable public realm and to educate and inspire.	

2. Please give us some bullet points to explain how your nominee inspires, informs and influences SuDS, with examples of SuDS delivery.

(Maximum 150 words total)

Inspire – how has your champion inspired others regarding SuDS?	• Paul has been designing and championing how best to manage surface runoff in rural, agricultural catchments for over two decades. He leads by example, applying hydrology to tackle flood risk directly at source when confronted with real life flooding issues, such as in the River Ouseburn water quality and catchment studies/ action plans. Throughout his career Paul has challenged the traditional approach of hiding and containing the movement of water and the traditional agricultural approach of removing water as fast as possible,

	advocating simple, natural, cost effective solutions. Paul approaches water management holistically; seeing beyond the restrictive 'red line boundaries' of individual plots to make basic hydrology function effectively through a network of holistic features all working together, such as on the Newcastle Helix masterplan.
Inform – how does your champion share good practice?	• Paul helps people to 'see and visualise' how to enhance natural processes, making SuDS/ NFM accessible to all by keeping things simple. Paul has been sharing good practice through his academic role at the university to inspire the next generation, teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students and mentoring live PhD projects, as well as being actively involved through all stages of the process of SuDS implementation, from working with local communities to educate and empower (e.g. his work with the Flow Partnership), through to working with a range of stakeholders, NGOs and advising on government policy.
Influence – how has your champion dealt with challenges and shared their enthusiasm about SuDS?	• Paul uses modelling, site-specific data collected from each unique project and his extensive knowledge to provide the evidence needed to respond to challenges effectively. Paul is unique in that he open, honest and transparent and so happy to share critical lessons learnt, including what didn't work as well as the great successes. He reaches out through his university teaching, various websites, video recordings and with appearances on the local news and at the House of Commons (Belford project), upholding his two basic principles for SuDS in any environment; 'slow, store and filter' and 'location, location, location'!

Please submit this form to Louise Walker (louise.walker@ciria.org)

by 30th April 2021