UNIVERSITY OF Southampton

# MCE Update

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## Wholly sustainable....

### Sustainability is high on the agenda for the MCE

A large, man-made hole has appeared outside the main Boldrewood building. Occupants of the building have been wondering why is it there - a swimming pool perhaps? The hole-in-the-ground does not have such a glamorous fate ahead of it, but instead it is destined to have a very practical and essential future as an *attenuation tank*.

Attenuation tanks collect surface rain water run-off, which allows the water to be released at a steady rate into existing surface water sewers. The tank therefore attenuates, or reduces, the impact of excess surface water (such as might occur after particularly heavy rainfall) on the drainage system.

Surface water runoff from the Boldrewood site will be diverted into various forms of attenuation around the site. One of the forms is a tank which contains a permeable granular sub-base that releases at a steady rate into existing surface water sewers. This is the type of attenuation tank currently being constructed as part of the Maritime Centre of Excellence (MCE) enabling works.

To mitigate any increase in downstream flood risk as a result of the redevelopment of the Boldrewood campus, surface water can be stored in attenuation tanks on site until the peak surface water flow in the sewer has passed. The attenuated water is released at a lower, acceptable flow rate into the drainage network.

Urban flooding is becoming an increasingly important issue, particularly as climate change scenarios predict increases in more intensive rainfall events. The installation of sustainable drainage systems, such as the attenuation tank, is a requirement of the University's sustainable buildings policy.

Following the demolition of the lecture theatre block, a small stretch of wall has been left in place so that a safe working platform is available for the construction works during the Phase 1 development. This wall is not required for the stability of the existing building.

The contractor is carrying out regular measurements of targets which have been strategically placed on Building 62 facade to ensure that any works that have or are being carried out do not de-stabilise Building 62 in any way. This measurement regime will continue throughout the Phase 1 development.

### Current work on Burgess Road

As part of the approved redevelopment of the Boldrewood campus, the University and Statutory Service providers are undertaking some work on Burgess Road to enable the new access road to the campus to be created. This work includes the installation of traffic lights to control future access to and from the campus, and physically linking the new traffic lights to existing traffic controls at the junctions with the Avenue and with Glen Eyre Road, as well as the re-routing of various utilities that run under the pavement.

While the work is undertaken, sections of Burgess Road will be reduced on from 3 to 2 lanes. At the start of the work the lane reduction will be for almost the full length of this section of road, with three lanes reinstated from each end as sections of work are completed. Pedestrian access along Burgess Road and vehicular access to properties on Burgess Road will be maintained at all times. This work is programmed to continue into the New Year.

**Questions?** Please send an email to: **estatedevelopment@soton.ac.uk**