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| <i>Date</i> | 8 February 2024 | <i>Email</i> | Swm.consultee@hants.gov.uk |

Dear Sir/Madam,

Outline planning application for demolition of existing buildings and erection of up to 270 dwellings, including affordable housing, with land for the potential future expansion of Halterworth Primary School, public open space, structural planting and landscaping, sustainable drainage system (SuDS) and vehicular access points. All matters reserved except for means of access at Land At Halterworth Lane, Halterworth Lane, Romsey,(Application No. 24/00174/OUTS

Hampshire County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority has provided comments in relation to the above application in our role as statutory consultee on surface water drainage for major developments.

This response does not reflect the position of Hampshire County Council as the Highway Authority. If there is a potential for the drainage features to be offered for adoption, this will need to be discussed separately with Highways development planning as they might not be considered acceptable by the Highway Authority.

In order to assist applicants in providing the correct information to their Local Planning Authority for planning permission, Hampshire County Council has set out the information it requires to provide a substantive response at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/planning>

The County Council has reviewed the following documents relating to the above application:

Flood Risk Assessment & Outline Drainage Strategy (Enzygo, January 2024)

Director of Universal Services
Patrick Blogg

The site is within Flood Zone 1 and is generally at very low risk of flooding from surface water.

Infiltration testing has been undertaken across the site with variable results. Good infiltration potential was recorded at TP1, TP3, TP4, TP6, TP7 and TP9. A perched water table was recorded at 3-4m below ground level in all three boreholes. Seepage and water strikes occurred at 1-2m below ground level in some trial pits. It is not clear whether there is a continuous band of less permeable material across the site at this level. For the design it must be assumed that there is, and that there may be an impact on infiltration features.

Groundwater was also encountered at greater depths. Winter groundwater monitoring is required to determine the peak groundwater level. This is required to prove that an infiltration drainage strategy is viable, retaining a one metre unsaturated zone beneath the bases of proposed infiltration basins. Monitoring wells should be installed so that the perched water table can be measured without it draining through the less permeable soils. They should also be installed to a depth one metre deeper than the bases of proposed infiltration basins.

If infiltration is found to not be viable, or the required evidence cannot be provided prior to determination of the planning application, an alternative drainage strategy should be presented at this stage. The land to the east has ditches adjacent to the road, and there may be culverted land drainage systems that are less obvious in the area. Further investigation for an attenuation drainage strategy may be required.

The outline calculations can be considered once further evidence has been provided for an infiltration or attenuation drainage system. It is important that a suitable discharge location for the drainage system is secured first.

Consideration has been given to water quality, SuDS maintenance and exceedance flow routes. More detailed information would be required at a later stage.

In order for us to provide a substantive response, the following information is required:

Winter groundwater monitoring records for the perched water table, to determine the peak levels for infiltration basin design.

Updates to the drainage strategy, as necessary.

We require this further information before we can make a decision on whether to recommend to the Local Planning Authority that planning permission is granted.

As a statutory consultee, the County Council has a duty to respond to consultations within **21 days**. The 21 day period will not begin until we have received sufficient information to enable us to provide a meaningful response.

Please ensure all data is sent to us via the relevant Local Planning Authority.

If you require additional guidance on providing the correct information, we recommend you use our **Surface Water Management Pre-application service** which will enable discussions with the reviewing engineer and scope out works that would address the points raised. For full details, please visit: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/planning> and click on [pre-application advice request form](#).

This response has been provided using the best knowledge and information submitted by the applicant as part of the planning application at the time of responding and is reliant on the accuracy of that information.

Yours faithfully,



Thomas Callaway
Senior FWM Project Officer

General guidance for the application

It is important to ensure that the long-term maintenance and responsibility for Sustainable Drainage Systems is agreed between the Local Planning Authority and the applicant before planning permission is granted. This should involve discussions with those adopting and/or maintaining the proposed systems, which could include the Highway Authority, Planning Authority, Parish Councils, Water Companies and private management companies.

For SuDS systems to be adopted by Hampshire Highways it is recommended that you visit the website at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/developers/constructionstandards> for guidance on which drainage features would be suitable for adoption.

Where the proposals are connecting to an existing drainage system it is likely that the authorities responsible for maintaining those systems will have their own design requirements. These requirements will need to be reviewed and agreed as part of any surface water drainage scheme.

Works in relation to ordinary watercourses

PLEASE NOTE: *If the proposals include works to an ordinary watercourse, under the Land Drainage Act 1991, as amended by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, prior consent from the Lead Local Flood Authority is required. **This consent is required as a separate permission to planning.***

Information on ordinary watercourse consenting can be found at the following link

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/c/hangewatercourse>

It is strongly recommended that this information is reviewed before Land Drainage consent application is made.

*For guidance on providing the correct information, we recommend you use our **Ordinary Watercourse Consents Pre-application service** and help avoid delays occurring at the formal application stage. A Pre-application service for Ordinary Watercourse Consents is available, allowing consents to go through in a smoother, often more timely manner. For full information please visit:*

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/c/hangewatercourse>