

Director of Environment & Infrastructure:
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Date 25 February 2019

RE: 6/2019/0085/MAJ – Chancellors School, Pine Grove, Brookmans Park, Hatfield, AL9 7BN

Dear David,

Thank you for your consultation in relation to the above planning application for the erection of building comprising sports hall with associated changing facilities and 7 x classrooms built on existing hard play tennis courts; 4 x hard play sports pitches to be provided to replace existing; provision of 33 x parking spaces; and two mobile classrooms to be provided for the duration of the project, at Chancellors School, Pine Grove, Brookmans Park, Hatfield, AL9 7BN.

We have reviewed the list of supporting documents and note that a surface water drainage strategy has not been included. In the absence of a surface water drainage strategy, the flood risks resulting from the proposed development are unknown.

Therefore, we object to this application and recommend refusal of planning permission until a satisfactory surface water drainage strategy has been submitted.

Details for the management of surface water drainage is required under the NPPF for all Major Planning Applications as amended within the NPPG from the 6 April 2015. The applicant should therefore provide a surface water drainage strategy that includes the following:

1. A statement of compliance with the NPPF and NPPG policies, LPA local plan policies and HCC SuDS Guidance and Policies.
2. Anecdotal information on existing flood risk with reference to most up to date data and information.
3. Location and extent of any existing and potential flood risk from all sources including existing overland flow routes, groundwater, flooding from ordinary watercourses referring to the national EA fluvial (River) and surface water flood maps.

4. Evidence of ground conditions/ underlying geology, permeability including BRE Digest infiltration tests and topographical survey to metres AOD.
5. Detailed calculations of existing surface water storage volumes and flows.
6. Detailed post development calculations/ modelling in relation to surface water are to be carried out for all rainfall events up to and including the 1 in 100 year including an allowance for climate change (for brownfield sites we require pre- and post-development run-off rates and volumes).
7. Full detailed drainage plan including location of SuDS measures, pipe runs and discharge points, informal flooding (no flooding to occur below and including the 1 in 30 Year rainfall return period). All drawings to be 'final' not 'preliminary' or 'draft'.
8. Detailed modelled outputs of flood extents and flow paths for a range of return periods up to the 1 in 100 year + climate change event and exceedance flow paths for surface water for events greater than the 1 in 100 year + climate change.
9. Full details of any required mitigation/ management measures of any identified source of flooding.
10. Evidence that if the applicant is proposing to discharge to the local sewer network, they have confirmation from the relevant water company that they have the capacity to take the proposed volumes and run-off rates.
11. Justification of SuDS selection.
12. Details of required maintenance of any SuDS features and structures and who will be adopting these features to the lifetime of the development.

Overcoming our objection

The LLFA would consider it is a Major Development. Therefore, we require information of how the applicant intends to manage the surface water flows and volumes.

The applicant should explain if there is an existing system, how it works and if it is intended to be used. The applicant must demonstrate whether connect to the local surface water sewer that water company accepts the proposed discharge rate. As LLFA, we need to ensure that all the opportunities to improve the situation on site and in the surrounding of the development have been considered.

Informative to the LPA

The LLFA has produced a surface water drainage advice webpage, which contains a Developers Checklist and Guide, HCC SuDS Policies and reference to other technical guidance. We ask that the LPA advises the applicant to review this information prior to submitting a surface water drainage strategy.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/recycling-waste-and-environment/water/surface-water-drainage/>

The applicant can overcome our objection by submitting a surface drainage assessment which covers the deficiencies highlighted above and demonstrates that the development will not increase risk elsewhere and where possible reduces flood risk overall, and gives priority to the use of sustainable drainage methods.

If this cannot be achieved we are likely to maintain our objection to the application.

We ask to be re-consulted when the amended surface drainage assessment will be submitted. We will provide you with bespoke comments within 21 days of receiving formal reconsultation. Our objection will be maintained until an adequate surface water strategy has been submitted.

Yours sincerely,

Julia Puton
SuDS Officer
Hertfordshire County Council