



**United Utilities Water Limited  
Developer Services & Planning**  
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Ribble Valley Borough Council  
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**Your ref:** 3/2016/0146  
**Our ref:** DC/16/775  
**Date:** 14-MAR-16

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Location: Old Row, Whalley Rd, Barrow**  
**Proposal: residential development of 23 dwellings**

### **Drainage Conditions**

United Utilities will have no objection to the proposed development provided that the following conditions are attached to any approval:

#### **Foul Water**

##### ***Condition 1***

***Foul and surface water shall be drained on separate systems.***

***Reason: To secure proper drainage and to manage the risk of flooding and pollution.***

#### **Surface Water**

##### ***Condition 2***

***Prior to the commencement of any development, a surface water drainage scheme, based on the hierarchy of drainage options in the National Planning Practice Guidance with evidence of an assessment of the site conditions shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.***

***The surface water drainage scheme must be in accordance with the Non-Statutory Technical Standards for Sustainable Drainage Systems (March 2015) or any subsequent replacement national standards. In the event of surface water draining to the combined public sewer, the pass forward flow rate to the public sewer must be restricted to 5l/s.***

***Reason: To promote sustainable development, secure proper drainage and to manage the risk of flooding and pollution. This condition is imposed in light of policies within the NPPF and NPPG.***

The applicant can discuss any of the above with Developer Engineer, Daniel McDermott, by email at [wastewaterdeveloperservices@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:wastewaterdeveloperservices@uuplc.co.uk).

### **Management and maintenance of Sustainable Drainage Systems**

Regardless of the stage in the planning process, we recommend the Local Planning Authority includes a condition in their Decision Notice regarding a management and maintenance regime for Sustainable Drainage Systems. We suggest the following condition should be appropriate for most instances;

#### *Condition 3*

*Prior to the commencement of the development a sustainable drainage management and maintenance plan for the lifetime of the development shall be submitted to the Local Planning authority and agreed in writing. The sustainable drainage management and maintenance plan shall include as a minimum:*

- a. The arrangements for adoption by an appropriate public body or statutory undertaker, or, management and maintenance by a Resident's Management Company; and*
- b. Arrangements concerning appropriate funding mechanisms for its ongoing maintenance of all elements of the sustainable drainage system (including mechanical components) and will include elements such as ongoing inspections relating to performance and asset condition assessments, operation costs, regular maintenance, remedial works and irregular maintenance caused by less sustainable limited life assets or any other arrangements to secure the operation of the surface water drainage scheme throughout its lifetime.*

*The development shall subsequently be completed, maintained and managed in accordance with the approved plan.*

*Reason: To manage flooding and pollution and to ensure that a managing body is in place for the sustainable drainage system and there is funding and maintenance mechanism for the lifetime of the development.*

We recommend the developer also contacts the Local Planning Authority along with the Lead Local Flood Authority to discuss surface water drainage as they will ultimately be the decision maker on this matter.

### **Water Comments**

A water main crosses the site. As we need access for operating and maintaining it, we will not permit development in close proximity to the main. You will need an access strip of no less than 5 metres, measuring at least 2.5 metres either side of the centre line of the pipe. The applicant must comply with our standard conditions, a copy of which is enclosed, for work carried out on, or when crossing aqueducts and easements. This should be taken into account in the final site layout, or a diversion will be necessary, which will be at the applicant's expense. Any necessary disconnection or diversion required as a result of any development will be carried out at the developer's expense. Under the Water Industry Act 1991, Sections 158 & 159, we have the right to inspect, maintain, adjust, repair or

alter our mains. This includes carrying out any works incidental to any of those purposes. Service pipes are not our property and we have no record of them.

Our water mains will need extending to serve any development on this site. The applicant, who may be required to pay a capital contribution, will need to sign an Agreement under Sections 41, 42 & 43 of the Water Industry Act 1991.

A separate metered supply to each unit will be required at the applicant's expense and all internal pipe work must comply with current water supply (water fittings) regulations 1999.

Should this planning application be approved, the applicant should contact United Utilities on 03456 723 723 regarding connection to the water mains or public sewers.

The level of cover to the water mains and sewers must not be compromised either during or after construction

### **General comments**

It is the applicant's responsibility to demonstrate the exact relationship between any United Utilities' assets and the proposed development. United Utilities offers a fully supported mapping service and we recommend the applicant contact our Property Searches Team on 03707 510101 to obtain maps of the site.

Due to the public sewer transfer, not all sewers are currently shown on the statutory sewer records, if a sewer is discovered during construction; please contact a Building Control Body to discuss the matter further.

### **Supporting information**

United Utilities wishes to draw attention to the following as a means to facilitate sustainable development within the region.

### **Site drainage**

In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG), the site should be drained on a separate system with foul water draining to the public sewer and surface water draining in the most sustainable way.

The NPPG clearly outlines the hierarchy to be investigated by the developer when considering a surface water drainage strategy. We would ask the developer to consider the following drainage options in the following order of priority:

1. into the ground (infiltration);
2. to a surface water body;
3. to a surface water sewer, highway drain, or another drainage system;
4. to a combined sewer.

The comments made in this letter regarding site drainage reflect this approach.

**Justification for Pre-commencement condition**

*If a 'Pre-commencement' condition has been requested in this correspondence, please consider the following information as justification of this request.*

In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 Part 6, we have been asked to provide written justification for any pre-commencement condition we may have recommended to you in respect of surface water disposal.

The purpose of the planning system is to help achieve sustainable development. This includes securing the most sustainable approach to surface water disposal in accordance with the surface water hierarchy.

It is important to explain that the volume arising from surface water flows can be many times greater than the foul flows from the same development. As a result they have the potential to use up a significant volume of capacity in our infrastructure. If we can avoid and manage surface water flows entering the public sewer, we are able to significantly manage the impact of development on wastewater infrastructure and, in accordance with Paragraph 103 of the NPPF, minimise the risk of flooding. Managing the impact of surface water on wastewater infrastructure is also more sustainable as it reduces the pumping and treatment of unnecessary surface water and retains important capacity for foul flows.

As our powers under the Water Industry Act are limited, it is important to ensure explicit control over the approach to surface water disposal in any planning permission that you may grant.

Our reasoning for recommending this as a pre-commencement condition is further justifiable as drainage is an early activity in the construction process. It is in the interest of all stakeholders to ensure the approach is agreed before development commences.

Further information regarding Developer Services and Planning, can be found on our website at <http://www.unitedutilities.com/builders-developers.aspx>.

Yours faithfully

NAME  
United Utilities  
Developer Services and Planning