



**United Utilities Water Limited  
Developer Services & Planning**  
Warrington North WWTW  
Barnard Street off Old Liverpool Road  
Gatewarth Industrial Estate  
Sankey Bridges  
Warrington  
WA5 1DS

Telephone: 01925 679333  
[Planning.liaison@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:Planning.liaison@uuplc.co.uk)

Ribble Valley Borough Council  
Council Offices, Church Walk  
Clitheroe  
BB7 2RA

**Your ref:** 3/2016/0344  
**Our ref:** DC/16/1742  
**Date:** 10-MAY-16

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Location: Land at Accrington RD, Whalley**

**Proposal: residential development for the elderly 37 bungalows & 40 retirement homes**

### **Drainage Conditions**

Following our review of Flood Risk Assessment, we can confirm the proposals are acceptable in principle to United Utilities.

***The drainage for the development hereby approved, shall be carried out in accordance with principles set out in the submitted Flood Risk Assessment (Ref No. T1528-D-01, Dated 14/02/12) which was prepared by PSA Design. No surface water will be permitted to drain directly or indirectly into the public sewer. Any variation to the discharge of foul shall be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of the development. The development shall be completed in accordance with the approved details.***

***Reason: To ensure a satisfactory form of development and to prevent an undue increase in surface water run-off and to reduce the risk of flooding***

The applicant can discuss any of the above with Developer Engineer, Matthew Dodd 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 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

Tracy Churchman  
United Utilities  
Developer Services and Planning