



**United Utilities Water Limited  
Developer Services & Planning**  
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Ribble Valley Borough Council  
Council Officers  
Church Walk  
Clitheroe  
BB7 2RA

**Your ref** 3/2017/0920  
**Our ref** DC/17/4321  
**Date** 13-NOV-17

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Location: Back St Pauls Street, Low Moor, Clitheroe, BB7 2LS.**  
**Proposal: Application for five town-houses.**

#### **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 and unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority, no surface water shall discharge to the public sewerage system either directly or indirectly.***

***The development shall be completed in accordance with the approved details.***

***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, **Graham Perry**, by email at [wastewaterdeveloperservices@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:wastewaterdeveloperservices@uuplc.co.uk).

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

Without effective management and maintenance, sustainable drainage systems can fail or become ineffective. As a provider of wastewater services, we believe we have a duty to advise the Local Planning Authority of this potential risk to ensure the longevity of the surface water drainage system and the service it provides to people. We also wish to minimise the risk of a sustainable drainage system having a detrimental impact on the public sewer network should the two systems interact. We therefore recommend the Local Planning Authority include a condition in their Decision Notice regarding a management and maintenance regime for any sustainable drainage system that is included as part of the proposed development.

For schemes of 10 or more units and other major development, we recommend the Local Planning Authority consults with the Lead Local Flood Authority regarding the exact wording of any condition. You may find the below a useful example.

#### ***Example condition***

*Prior to occupation 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. Arrangements for adoption by an appropriate public body or statutory undertaker, or, management and maintenance by a resident's management company; and*
- b. Arrangements for inspection and ongoing maintenance of all elements of the sustainable drainage system 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 ensure that management arrangements are in place for the sustainable drainage system in order to manage the risk of flooding and pollution during the lifetime of the development.*

**Please note, United Utilities cannot provide comment on the design, management and maintenance of an asset that is not in our ownership and therefore should the suggested condition be included in the Decision Notice, we will not be involved in discharging this condition.**

## **Water Comments**

**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.**

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

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.

## **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 at [Property.Searches@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:Property.Searches@uuplc.co.uk) 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.

If the applicant intends to offer wastewater assets forward for adoption by United Utilities, the proposed detailed design will be subject to a technical appraisal by an Adoptions Engineer as we need to be sure that the proposal meets the requirements of Sewers for adoption and United Utilities' Asset Standards. The proposed design should give consideration to long term operability and give United Utilities a cost effective proposal for the life of the assets. Therefore, should this application be approved and the applicant wishes to progress a Section 104 agreement, we strongly recommend that no construction commences until the detailed drainage design, submitted as part of the Section 104 agreement, has been assessed and accepted in writing by United Utilities. Any works carried out prior to the technical assessment being approved is done entirely at the developers own risk and could be subject to change.

### **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

Shireen Lawrenson  
United Utilities  
Developer Services and Planning