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Date: 25 April 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

APPLICATION CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Application Number:	3/2019/0012
Location:	Land to south-west of Barrow and west of Whalley Road Barrow BB7 9XW
Proposal:	Full planning application for details of the layout, scale and appearance of the buildings and landscaping of a residential development of 233 dwellings and associated works.

Thank you for re-consulting the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) on the above application. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 sets out the requirement for LLFAs to manage 'local' flood risk within their area. 'Local' flood risk refers to flooding or flood risk from surface water, groundwater or from ordinary watercourses.

Comments provided in this representation, including conditions, are advisory and it is the decision of the Local Planning Authority (LPA) whether any such recommendations are acted upon. It is ultimately the responsibility of the Local Planning Authority to approve, or otherwise, any drainage strategy for the associated development proposal. The comments given have been composed based on the current extent of the knowledge of the LLFA and information provided with the application at the time of this response.

Lead Local Flood Authority Position

The LLFA has **no objection** to the proposed development subject to the inclusion of the following recommended planning conditions:

Condition 1 (Final Surface Water Drainage Scheme to be submitted):

No development shall commence until final details of the design, based on sustainable drainage principles, and implementation of an appropriate surface water sustainable drainage scheme have been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. Those details shall include, as a minimum:

- a) Information about the lifetime of the development, design storm period and intensity, temporary surface water storage facilities, details of the methods employed to delay and control surface water discharged from the site, details of any measures taken to prevent flooding and pollution of the receiving groundwater and/or surface waters, including watercourses, and details of flood levels in AOD;
- b) The drainage strategy should demonstrate that post development surface water run-off from the application site will not exceed the existing pre-development runoff rate for the corresponding rainfall event.
- c) A site layout plan showing flood water exceedance routes, both on and off site;
- d) A timetable for implementation, including phasing as applicable;
- e) Details of water quality controls, where applicable;
- f) Details of an appropriate management and maintenance plan for the surface water drainage scheme for the lifetime of the development. This should also include details regarding the future management and maintenance of any ordinary watercourses located within or adjacent to the application site.

The scheme shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details prior to first occupation of any of the approved dwellings, or completion of the development, whichever is the sooner. Thereafter the drainage system and ordinary watercourses shall be retained, managed and maintained in accordance with the approved details.

Reasons:

- 1. To ensure that the proposed development can be adequately drained.
- 2. To ensure that there is no flood risk on or off the site resulting from the proposed development
- 3. To ensure that water quality is not detrimentally impacted by the development proposal
- 4. To ensure that appropriate maintenance mechanisms are put in place for the lifetime of the development

Condition 2 (Construction Phase Surface Water Management Plan Approval):

No development shall commence until details of how surface water and pollution prevention will be managed during each construction phase have been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Reasons:

1. To ensure that the construction phase(s) of development does not pose an undue flood risk on site or elsewhere;
2. To ensure that any pollution arising from the development as a result of the construction works does not adversely impact on existing or proposed ecological or geomorphic condition of water bodies.

Lead Local Flood Authority Advice:**Sustainable Drainage Systems:**

[The National Planning Policy Framework \(NPPF\)](#) and [Written Statement on Sustainable Drainage Systems \(HCWS161\)](#) requires that surface water arising from a developed site should, as far as it is practical, be managed in a sustainable manner to mimic surface water flows arising from the site prior to the proposed development, whilst reducing flood risk to the site itself and elsewhere, taking climate change into account. The LLFA encourages that site surface water drainage is designed in line with the [Non-Statutory Technical Standards for Sustainable Drainage Systems](#) and Planning Practice Guidance, including restricting developed discharge of surface water to greenfield runoff rates making suitable allowances for climate change and urban creep, managing surface water as close to the surface as possible and prioritising infiltration as a means of surface water disposal where possible.

Sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) offer significant advantages over conventional piped drainage systems in reducing flood risk by attenuating the rate and quantity of surface water run-off from a site, promoting groundwater recharge, absorbing diffuse pollutants and improving water quality. Ponds, reedbeds and seasonally flooded grasslands are also particularly attractive features within public open space.

The wide variety of available sustainable drainage techniques means that virtually any development should be able to include a scheme based around these principles and provide multiple benefits, reducing costs and maintenance needs.

The LLFA also strongly encourages developers to take into account designing drainage systems for exceedance and working with the natural topography for the site. Should exceedance routes be used, the applicant must provide a site layout plan with these displayed, in line with Standard 9 of DEFRA's Technical Standards for SuDS.

Flow balancing SuDS methods which involve the retention and controlled release of surface water from a site may be an option for some developments at a scale where uncontrolled surface water flows would otherwise exceed the pre-development greenfield runoff rate. Flow balancing should seek to achieve water quality treatment as part of a treatment train and amenity benefits as well as managing flood risk.

It should be noted that some SuDS features, for example rainwater harvesting and permeable paving used on driveways, must not be included as part of the hydrological calculations for the development proposal. This is because occupants may change or remove these features in the future - this could have the potential to increase surface water runoff which was previously unallocated for in the design of the sustainable drainage system. Where SuDS features such as rainwater harvesting and permeable paving are included in the hydrological calculations of a development proposal, the local planning authority is advised to consider the removal of permitted development rights for permeable paving.

Ordinary Watercourse Land Drainage Consent:

The LLFA is the consenting body for works on Ordinary Watercourses. Under Section 23 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 (the "LDA") (as amended by paragraph 32 of Schedule 2 of the FWMA 2010) anyone who intends to carry out works which may obstruct or affect the flow of an ordinary watercourse needs written consent from Lancashire County Council.

It is important to note that Land Drainage Consent is a separate application process that lies outside the planning legislation. It should not be assumed therefore the grant of planning permission means that Land Drainage Consent will automatically be given. Parallel processing of Land Drainage Consent applications is advised, as any land drainage consenting issues could directly impact the suitability of the proposed site layout.

Land Drainage Consent applications can take up to eight weeks to process following receipt of all required information and payment (£50 per structure). Retrospective consent cannot be issued.

Surface water drainage scheme:

Following discussions with the applicant, the LLFA understands that the surface water drainage scheme outlined on drawing no. 6241 02-03 Rev A is only a preliminary issue and may be subject to change following further detailed design and investigation. As the submitted plans are still subject to change, the plans cannot be

considered for approval at this time. The applicant will instead need to provide the final details once the detailed design and investigation work has been completed. The final plans will need to be submitted to and approved by the LPA prior to the commencement of any development, and must comply with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework and the non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems; March 2015. The LLFA is satisfied that the final drainage details can be secured through the inclusion of the above recommended planning condition.

Construction Phase including enabling works:

It is critical that flood risk is appropriately managed during the construction phase(s). Compaction of the soil is likely to speed up the run-off rate whilst the site is cleared and the permanent drainage systems and/or attenuation systems are constructed and brought into use.

The developer should identify the flood risk associated with this phase of the development and provide details of how surface water will be managed during construction, including any mitigation.

Reason for pre-commencement conditions:

Drainage is not only a material consideration but an early and fundamental activity in the ground construction phase of any development and it is likely to be physically inaccessible at a later stage by being buried or built over. It is of concern to all flood risk management authorities that an agreed approach is approved before development commences to avoid putting existing and new communities at risk.

The revised NPPF considers sustainable drainage systems to be important and states that they should be incorporated unless there is clear evidence that this would be inappropriate and, as such the LLFA needs to be confident that flood risk is being adequately considered, designed for and that any residual risk is being safely managed. To be able to do this the LLFA requires an amount of certainty either by upfront detail or secured by way of appropriate planning condition(s).

The proposed pre-commencement condition(s) allows for the principle of development to be granted and detailed drainage designs to be conditioned for approval via a discharge of condition application which could be more favourable to developers in terms of less delay and less financial outlay early in the process. Non-acceptance of the pre-commencement condition could lead the LLFA to object to the principle of development until all residual risk issues are safely managed.

Highway matters:

Should the applicant intend to install any sustainable drainage systems under or within close proximity to a public road network (existing or proposed), then they will need to separately discuss the use and suitability of those systems with the local highway authority. For the avoidance of doubt, the LLFA does not comment on the suitability for future highway adoption under Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980. This is for the Local Highway Authority to comment on.

The applicant is also encouraged to discuss the suitability of any overland flow routes and/or flood water exceedance with the local highway authority should they have the potential to impact the public highway network and drainage infrastructure (existing or proposed).

Material changes:

If there are any material changes to the submitted information which impact on surface water, the local planning authority is advised to consider re-consulting the LLFA. The LLFA also wishes to be formally consulted on all subsequent drainage strategies for this proposed development.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Dunderdale

Lead Local Flood Authority

