

## Sharon Craig

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**From:** Hitchmough, Emma <Emma.Hitchmough@uuplc.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 05 June 2025 11:03  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** Planning application ref: 3/2025/0401

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**Planning Ref: 3/2025/0401**

**Location: Buckley Dene Preston Road Ribchester PR3 3YD**

Please find below relevant information for the applicant.

**United Utilities has no further comment on this application.**

### **UNITED UTILITIES' PROPERTY, ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

It is the applicant's responsibility to investigate the existence of any pipelines that might cross or impact their proposed site and also to demonstrate the exact relationship between United Utilities' assets and the proposed development.

We recommend the applicant visits our website for further information on how to investigate the existence of water and wastewater pipelines and what to do next if a pipeline crosses or is close to their red line boundary: [Working near our pipes - United Utilities](#)

**United Utilities will not allow building over or in close proximity to a water main.**

**United Utilities will not allow a new building to be erected over or in close proximity to a public sewer or any other wastewater pipeline.** Nb. Proposals to extend domestic properties either above, or in close proximity to a public sewer will be reviewed on a case by case basis by either by a building control professional or following a direct application to United Utilities.

Any construction activities in the vicinity of United Utilities' pipelines, including pipelines that may be outside the applicant's red line boundary, must comply with national building and construction standards and where applicable, our 'Standard Conditions for Works Adjacent to Pipelines' which can also be found on our website: [standard-conditions-for-works-adjacent-to-pipelines-issued-july-2015.pdf \(unitedutilities.com\)](#)

The level of cover to United Utilities pipelines and apparatus must not be compromised either during or after construction and there should be no additional load bearing capacity on pipelines without prior agreement from United Utilities. The applicant should not rely solely on the detail contained within asset maps when considering a proposed layout. Unless there is specific provision within the title of the property or an associated easement, any necessary disconnection or diversion of assets to accommodate development, will be at the applicant/developer's expense.

Where United Utilities' assets exist, it is essential that the applicant, or any subsequent developer, contacts our Developer Services team prior to commencing any works on site, including trial holes, groundworks or demolition.

## **DRAINAGE**

We strongly encourage all developments to include sustainable drainage systems to help manage surface water and to offer new opportunities for wildlife to flourish. We request that Local Planning Authorities and applicants do all they can to avoid surface water entering the public sewer. The flows that come from this surface water are very large when compared with the foul water that comes from toilets, showers, baths, washing machines, etc. It is the surface water that uses up a lot of capacity in our sewers and results in the unnecessary pumping and treatment of surface water at our pumping stations and treatment works. If new developments can manage flows through sustainable drainage systems that discharge to an alternative to the public sewer, it will help to minimise the likelihood of sewers spilling into watercourses and the flooding of homes and businesses.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) advise that surface water from new developments should be investigated and delivered 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 applicant should consider their drainage plans in accordance with the drainage hierarchy outlined above.**

In the event that the applicant, or any subsequent developer, approaches United Utilities regarding a connection for surface water to the public sewer, it is likely that we will request evidence that the drainage hierarchy has been fully investigated and why more sustainable options are not achievable. This will be managed through either our 'S106 Sewer Connections' or 'S104 Adoptions' processes.

## **WATER EFFICIENCY IN NEW DEVELOPMENT**

Local planning authorities have the option to set additional technical requirements in respect of water use for the construction of new build dwellings, exceeding the minimum standards required by Building Regulations. All new homes are required to meet the mandatory national standard of 125 litres of water used per person per day as set out in Building Regulations Approved Document G. Where there is a clear local need, a local planning authority's development plan policies can require new-build dwellings to meet the tighter Building Regulations optional requirement of 110 litres of water used per person per day. If your adopted development plan includes a policy that implements the tighter water efficiency standard for new-build dwellings in Part 3 of Building Regulations, you should ensure that this is a condition of any planning permission you may grant. You should also consider whether there is any adopted development plan policy relating to a water efficiency in the construction of non-residential development. As this is a matter for the local planning authority / building control body, United Utilities would not be involved in the discharge of conditions relating to water efficiency.

## **CONTACT DETAILS FOR ANY QUERIES WHICH MAY RESULT FROM THIS EMAIL:**

**For applicants / developers:**

Drainage / wastewater infrastructure: [SewerAdoptions@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:SewerAdoptions@uuplc.co.uk)  
Water supply / water infrastructure: [DeveloperServicesWater@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:DeveloperServicesWater@uuplc.co.uk)

Local planning authorities / Planning Officers: [Planning.Liaison@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:Planning.Liaison@uuplc.co.uk)

To enable us to answer enquiries as quickly as possible, we request enquiries are not sent to multiple mailboxes – this will delay our response.



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