

Essex County Council  
**Development and Flood Risk**  
**Waste & Environment**  
C426 County Hall  
Chelmsford  
Essex CM1 1QH



Ms Elizabeth Milne  
Rochford District Council  
Planning Services

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
Our Ref: SUDS-007153  
Your Ref: 23/00949/FUL

Dear Elizabeth,

**Consultation Response – 23/00949/FUL – Land West of 4 Spruce Drive and North of Rectory Road, Hawkwell**

Thank you for your email with additional information which provides Essex County Council (ECC) with the opportunity to assess and advise on the proposed surface water drainage strategy for the aforementioned planning application.

As the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) ECC provides advice on SuDS schemes for major developments. ECC have been statutory consultee on surface water since the 15th April 2015.

In providing advice this Council, and their appointed consultants, looks to ensure sustainable drainage proposals comply with the required standards as set out in the following documents:

- Non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems
- Essex County Council's (ECC's) adopted Sustainable Drainage Systems Design Guide
- The CIRIA SuDS Manual (C753)
- BS8582 Code of practice for surface water management for development sites.

**Lead Local Flood Authority position**

As we have been consulted on a minor application, we are assuming that there is a potential flood risk on site, therefore we are considering the impact of increased run off rates. The cumulative impacts of minor developments can increase flood risk in an area.

Current processes for assessing major applications cannot be applied in the same way to minor applications as reduced orifice sizing to meet the greenfield 1 in 1 rate can increase the risk of blockages and therefore flood risk.

The required storage volume and run off for the site can be calculated using the UK SUDS website.

Having reviewed the application and the associated revised documents which accompanied the planning application we **do not object** to the granting of planning permission.

### **Summary of Flood Risk Responsibilities for your Council**

We have not considered the following issues as part of this planning application as they are not within our direct remit; nevertheless these are all very important considerations for managing flood risk for this development, and determining the safety and acceptability of the proposal. Prior to deciding this application you should give due consideration to the issue(s) below. It may be that you need to consult relevant experts outside your planning team.

- Sequential Test in relation to fluvial flood risk;
- Safety of people (including the provision and adequacy of an emergency plan, temporary refuge and rescue or evacuation arrangements);
- Safety of the building;
- Flood recovery measures (including flood proofing and other building level resistance and resilience measures);
- Sustainability of the development.

In all circumstances where warning and emergency response is fundamental to managing flood risk, ECC advise local planning authorities to formally consider the emergency planning and rescue implications of new development in making their decisions.

Should further correspondence be required, please contact the SuDS team directly using the below details.

Yours sincerely

**Richard Atkins**

**Development and Flood Risk Officer**

Team: Green Infrastructure and Sustainable Drainage

Service: Climate Action and Mitigation

Essex County Council

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