

Application address Cliffe Hill Farm, Little Shaw Lane, Markfield LE67 9PP		Planning ref. 25/00931/FUL	
		Our ref. 2025/0931/04/R1	
Description Development of a logistics park for storage and distribution (Class B8), general industry (Class B2), ancillary office space (Class E) and associated infrastructure.		Consultation date 01/12/2024	
		Response date 15/12/2025	
Planning officer Emma Baumer		Reviewing officer Rob Ryan-Matthews	
Application type Full		Extension requested ☐	
Refer to standing advice ☐	Conditions ☐	Further consultation required ☒	Concerns ☐

Consultation checklist

No.	Description	Check
1	Location plan	☒
2	Proposed layout plan	☒
3	Evidence that the site can be drained	☒
4	Topographic and ground investigation details	☒
5	The total impermeable area pre and post development	☒
6	All potential flood risk sources have been identified and assessed	☒
7	Existing and proposed peak discharge rates	☒
8	Consideration of sustainable drainage systems	☒
9	Attenuation volume calculations	☒
10	Consideration of the maintenance and management of all drainage elements	☒

LLFA Key Observations and Advice

Leicestershire County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) notes that the 28.2 ha. greenfield site is located within Flood Zone 1 being at low risk of fluvial flooding, with areas of medium and high surface water flood risk located within the site, associated with the existing watercourse network within the site.

Further to the LLFA's previous response the applicant has made further amendments to the proposed drainage network, reducing the proposed discharge rate from the site to 24.9l/s, representing the QBAR rate for the site as a whole.

The development sits across two sub-catchments with the proposed surface water drainage network discharging to an on-site open watercourse at a single point of discharge. National Planning Policy and guidance encourages development to mimic pre-development run-off rates, discharging to sub-catchments in all but extreme circumstances. In this instance the applicant has stated that the western sub-catchment discharges to the existing National Highways drainage network associated with Junction 22 of the M1 – indicating that National Highways usually has a preference for connections to be removed from their infrastructure. In this instance, the LLFA would not accept this as sufficient justification for catchment transfer to be approved. If an overland surface water flow routes currently drains to the National Highways drainage asset, this connection should be maintained in order to mimic pre-development run-off rates.

The existing drainage regime for the site is unclear. It is important to ensure that the proposed receptor will not see an increase in run-off and that catchment transfer isn't being proposed. It is also unclear where the National Highways asset and the east catchment connect downstream.

Leicestershire County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) advises the Local Planning Authority (LPA) that the application documents as submitted are insufficient for the LLFA to provide a substantive response at this stage.

Advice to the Local Planning Authority

1. Standing Advice – National Planning Policy Framework

When determining planning applications, the local planning authority should ensure flood risk is not increased elsewhere and only consider development appropriate in areas at risk of flooding where informed by a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) confirming it will not put the users of the development at risk. Where an FRA is applicable this should be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework and accompanying Planning Practice Guidance.

2. Standing Advice – Consent

Where there are any works proposed as part of an application which are likely to affect flows in an ordinary watercourse or ditch, the applicant will require consent under Section 23 of the Land Drainage Act 1991. This is in addition to any planning permission that may be granted. Guidance on this process and a sample application form can be found via the following website: <http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/flood-risk-management>

Applicants are advised to refer to Leicestershire County Council's culverting policy contained within the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Appendix document, available at the above link. No development should take place within 5 metres of any watercourse or ditch without first contacting the County Council for advice.

This consent does not consider local watercourse bylaws. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check if the local borough or district council has their own bylaws which the proposals will also need to consider.

3. Standing Advice – Maintenance

Note that it is the responsibility of the Local Planning Authority under the DEFRA/DCLG legislation (April 2015) to ensure that a system to facilitate the future maintenance of SuDS features can be managed and maintained in perpetuity before commencement of the works.

4. Standing Advice – Minor works

If a proposed building/wall or other construction appears to sit astride an indicated surface water flow route, the new build may deflect floodwater onto another person's property or raise flood levels by a significant amount locally. In these circumstances, the planning officer should contact the County Council to discuss whether consultation is necessary in that particular case.

5. Standing Advice – Greenfield Development Runoff

For greenfield sites, the peak runoff rate from the development to any drain, sewer or surface water body for the 1 in 1 year rainfall event and the 1 in 100 year rainfall event should never exceed the peak greenfield runoff rate for the same event.

The runoff volume from the development in the 1 in 100 year, 6 hour rainfall event should not exceed the greenfield runoff volume for the same event. Where an increase in discharge volume is unavoidable, the proposals should discharge at QBar or provide alternative mitigation in line with CIRIA C753.

6. Standing Advice – Drainage and waste disposal

Where a drainage or waste disposal system is to be constructed or altered that is not proposed to be adopted by either the WASC (Water and Sewerage Company) or the County Council as highway authority then the system should be constructed in accordance with Part H of Building Regulations 2010.

7. Standing Advice – Overland flow routes

Overland flow routes as shown on the 'extent of flooding from surface water' maps should be considered such that buildings are not placed directly at risk of surface water flooding. Such flow routes should be utilised for roads and green infrastructure.

8. Standing Advice – Ditches

Where a drainage ditch adjoins or flows through a development, provision should be made such that the ditch can be made throughout the life of the development. The ownership and responsibility for maintenance of the ditch should also be clearly identified and conveyed to the relevant parties.

9. Standing Advice – External surfaces

To prevent an increase in the discharge rate or volume due to development of external surfaces, permeable surface material should be utilised where possible, without an impermeable lining unless required to prevent mobilisation of contaminants or groundwater flooding.

Additional information and guidance is available here:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/flooding-and-drainage/>

Note: Response provided by the Lead Local Flood Authority under the delegated authority of the Director of Environment and Transport.