

Application address Land to the South of 59 Kennel Lane Witherley Atherstone Leicestershire	Planning ref. 25/00019/FUL
	Our ref. 2025/0019/04/F
Description Demolition of existing barn and construction of two dwellings with associated parking.	Consultation date 18/02/2025
	Response date 04/03/2025
Planning officer Sullivan Archer	Reviewing officer Andrew Smallwood
Application type Full	Extension requested ☐

LLFA Key Observations and Advice

Leicestershire County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) notes that the 0.1ha brownfield site is located within Flood Zone 1 being at low risk of fluvial flooding and a low risk of surface water flooding.

The proposals are not considered to be major as defined by the Town and Country Planning Order 2010. The LLFA is a statutory consultee in relation to surface water flood risk for major applications only and as such is not a statutory consultee for this application.

The LLFA would advise the LPA to consider the suitability of soakaway drainage elements and ensure that infiltration testing is undertaken that conforms to BRE Digest 365. It should also be noted that Witherley is a village that suffers extensive flooding via surface water and fluvial sources, and the LPA should be mindful to ensure that any new development provides a demonstrable betterment above greenfield where possible to reduce the strain on existing surface water and fluvial drainage infrastructure.

Leicestershire County Council as LLFA advises the LPA that the proposed development is not considered a major application and therefore the LLFA is not a statutory consultee for this application and offers **no comment**. Please refer to the enclosed standing advice.

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 – Ground floor levels

For developments in Flood Zone 2 or in 1:100 year Updated Flood Map for Surface Water outline, ground floor levels to be set at a minimum of whichever is higher;

- 300mm above the general ground level of the site OR
- 600mm above the Flood Zone 2 water level.
- Basement rooms to have unimpeded access internally to an upper level

In order to deliver safe development we advise that single storey buildings or ground floor subdivisions with no access to higher floors, should have access to a refuge set above the 1 in 1000 annual probability (0.1%) in any year flood level including an allowance for climate change.

5. 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.

6. Flood Resilient Construction

For household extensions located within fluvial Flood Zones 2 and 3, flood resilient construction should be considered to minimise the impact of a flooding event. Ensure flood resilience plans follow guidance in the CIRIA [Property Flood Resilience Code of Practice](#).

Standards for materials and design approaches that will speed the recovery of buildings after flooding are available in [British Standard 85500:2015](#).

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