

Ms Lesley Keal

Leicestershire County Council

Planning Ref: 26/00223/DISCON

11th May 2026

Dear Danielle Degville

Application to discharge C12 (CTMP) C13 (PROW) C16 (Surface water drainage) C17 (Surface water during construction) C18 (Long term management drainage) C19 (Infiltration testing) C20 (Landscaping) C23 (CEMP Ecology) C24 (LEMP) C25 (BNG) C27 (Arboricultural method statement) attached to planning permission 21/01242/FUL.

Applicant Response to LLFA Comments (April 2026)

This letter provides the Applicants' response to the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) comments provided 2026/0223/04/FDis16-19 relating to planning application 21/01242/FUL.

Please find below additional information/clarification of the points raised. Points raised by the LLFA are italicised while the technical response follows.

The response should be read in conjunction with the Flood Risk Assessment produced by Arcus (September 2021) and LLFA response (March 2026).

Condition 16

No Development approved by this planning permission shall take place until such time as a surface water drainage scheme has been submitted to, and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

LLFA comments (April 2026)

Details of an overarching drainage scheme have been submitted however further detailed information is required by the LLFA:

- 1. Locations of swales are shown in the site plan, however there is no details of minimum depth, width and side slope for each swale. There need adding to the submitted plan.*
- 2. Gravel strips need to be added around all transformers, substations and storage containers. These gravel strips need to be noted on plans along with details of depth and width of the gravel strip.*
- 3. The submitted drainage plan shows flow routes across the site; however, it is not clear which of these are defined ditches and which are simply surface flow routes. Any ditches need clearly marking on plans and where these are to be obstructed by construction works this should be made clear and details on how they are reconnected need to be made. Any ditch*



diversions need to be discussed with the LLFA prior to works happening to discuss any needs for Ordinary Watercourse Consents.

4. *It is unclear where the connection to the grid is being made. The LLFA needs to understand the cable route for the grid connection and any ditch or watercourse crossings required.*

Applicants' Response

1. Details of the swales has been provided within the original LLFA response. The plan has been updated to include the swale details as well as the gravel strip details, see Appendix A.
2. As stated above, the drainage plan has been updated to include details of the gravel strips, see Appendix A.

The required attenuation storage for each aspect of development infrastructure and the attenuation capacity of the gravel strips is provided in Table 1. The attenuation storage required is based on the 1 in 100-year plus 40% climate change event. The capacity of the aggregate is based on a 30% porosity.

It should be noted that the substation area is 34.28 m² and not 65.92 m² as mentioned in the previous response. The total area of the substation area including the gravel strip is 65.92 m².

The dimensions of the gravel strips, including width around the development infrastructure and depth is included within the layout plan, Appendix A.

Table 1: Required attenuation and proposed attenuation capacity

Infrastructure	Area (m ²)	Required storage (m ³)	Attenuation capacity (m ³)
Transformers (per unit)	14.71	2	2.62
Storage area (3 units)	44.22	5	5.42
Substation	34.28	3	3.42

3. A plan has been provided to include a distinction between watercourse and flow pathways; see Appendix B. Watercourses were derived from Ordnance Survey mapping and hill shade LiDAR data to identify land drains located around the Site. Construction work is not anticipated to obstruct any ditches on site. No ditch diversions proposed as part of the Development.
4. The connection to the grid is being applied through a separate planning application and no grid connection is proposed as part of this application.

Condition 17

No Development approved by this planning permission shall take place until such time as details in relation to the management of surface water on Site during construction of the Development has been submitted to, and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

LLFA comments (April 2026)

Details of surface water management during construction have been submitted however further detailed information is required by the LLFA:

- 1. Details on any topsoil stripping required on site needs to be submitted, including a phase plan of the works (note that any stripping should be minimised and only to areas specifically being worked, in order to minimise increases in surface water run-off and contamination).*
- 2. The measures need to be fixed and confirmed by the contractor on site and details of who will be putting these measures in place approved.*
- 3. Details of the perimeter drain around the temporary storage compound need confirming, i.e. minimum depth, width etc.*
- 4. Details of pre-construction site works which may affect surface water both pre and during construction should be provided, such as chisel ploughing prior to construction, etc. Chisel ploughing is required to minimise risk of compaction. Compaction can have a significant negative impact on surface water discharge rates.*

Applicants Response

1. Soil stripping will be limited to construction roads and construction areas. Details regarding soil stripping and a phase of works are provided in the Soil Management Plan.
2. The contractor, Sunnerg is responsible for implement the measures. Following construction, Clump Farm Solar Ltd will be responsible for maintaining the Development site.
3. Details regarding the perimeter swale for the temporary construction compound have been provided in Appendix A.
4. There are no pre-construction works that may affect surface water. All construction management practices are provided within the CEMP.

Condition 18

Prior to completion of the Development approved by this planning permission shall take place until such time as details in relation to the long-term maintenance of the surface water drainage system



within the Development have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme of long-term maintenance scheme as approved shall thereafter be implemented for the operational phase of the Development.

LLFA comments (April 2026)

No information has been submitted on who will be responsible for the maintenance of the drainage on site, this needs to be detailed information to ensure it can be followed up should it be required. This maintenance includes all drainage features and the existing features on site such as ditches and watercourses.

Applicants Response

As per the LLFA response, the maintenance of the drainage on Site will be managed by the Site operator, Clump Farm Solar Ltd.

A maintenance schedule for each drainage features (gravel strips and swales) and watercourse / land drains is provide in Tables 2, 3 and 4.

Table 2: Long term maintenance schedule for a swale

Maintenance Schedule	Required Action	Typical Frequency
Regular maintenance	Remove litter and debris	Monthly, or as required
	Cut grass – to retain grass height within specified design range	Monthly (during growing season), or as required
	Manage other vegetation and remove nuisance plants	Monthly at start, then as required
	Inspect inlets, outlets and overflows for blockages, and clear if required	Monthly
	Inspect infiltration surfaces for ponding, compaction, silt accumulation, record areas where water is ponding for > 48 hours	Monthly, or when required
	Inspect vegetation coverage	Monthly for 6 months, quarterly for 2 years, then half yearly
	Inspect inlets and facility surface for silt accumulation, establish appropriate silt removal frequencies	Half yearly
Occasional maintenance	Reseed areas of poor vegetation growth, alter plant types to better suit conditions, if required	As required or if bare soil is exposed over 10% or more of the swale treatment area

Remedial actions	Repair erosion or other damage by re-turfing or reseedling	As required
	Relevel uneven surfaces and reinstate design levels	As required
	Scarify and spike topsoil layer to improve infiltration performance, break up silt deposits and prevent compaction of the soil surface	As required
	Remove build-up of sediment on upstream gravel trench, flow spreader or at top of filter strip	As required
	Remove and dispose of oils or petrol residues using safe standard practices	As required

Table 3: Long term maintenance schedule for a gravel strips

Maintenance Schedule	Required Action	Typical Frequency
Regular maintenance	Brushing and vacuuming (standard cosmetic sweep over whole surface)	Once a year, after autumn leaf fall, or reduced frequency as required, based on site-specific observations of clogging or manufacturer's recommendations – pay particular attention to areas where water runs onto pervious surface from adjacent impermeable areas as this area is most likely to collect the most sediment
Occasional maintenance	Stabilise and mow contributing and adjacent areas	As required
	Removal of weeds or management using glyphosate applied directly into the weeds by an applicator rather than spraying	As required – once per year on less frequently used pavements
	Remediate any landscaping which, through vegetation maintenance or soil slip, has been raised to within 50 mm of the level of the paving	As required

Remedial actions	Remedial work to any depressions, rutting and cracked or broken blocks considered detrimental to the structural performance or a hazard to users, and replace lost jointing material	As required
	Rehabilitation of surface and upper substructure by remedial sweeping	Every 10 to 15 years or as required (if infiltration performance is reduced due to significant clogging)
Monitoring	Initial inspection	Monthly for three months after installation
	Inspect for evidence of poor operation and/or weed growth – if required, take remedial action	Three-monthly, 48 hr after large storms in first six months
	Inspect silt accumulation rates and establish appropriate brushing frequencies	Annually
	Monitor inspection chambers	Annually

Table 4: Maintenance plan for existing watercourse and land drains

Maintenance	Required Action	Recommended Frequency
Vegetation cutting	Recommended to trim to just above water level. Cutting from the work should be removed and not placed adjacent to the watercourse to avoid potential blockages.	One a year, no more than three times a year. March to mid-July should be avoided during animal spawning season.
Debris removal	Remove all physical obstructions, including large stones, rubble, fallen trees, branches, and waste materials (such as litter and grass cuttings), to ensure the free flow of water within the watercourse. All non-organic waste arising from maintenance activities shall be fully removed from site and disposed of appropriately at a licensed facility.	Inspections every 6 months to 12 months. Inspections should be taken after storm events.

	Vegetation and other green waste generated during ditch maintenance may be temporarily placed at a safe distance from the bank for a short period to allow any displaced organisms to return to the watercourse; thereafter, the material shall be removed to prevent it being washed back into the channel. Do not store or deposit materials adjacent to the watercourse where they could hinder maintenance activities, compromise bank stability, or be washed into the channel.	
Silt removal / maintenance	Excess silt shall be removed along the full length of the ditch to ensure water flows efficiently and in the correct direction. Where pipes discharge into or from the ditch, silt shall be removed to the same level as, or below, the invert (bottom) of the pipe(s) to maintain hydraulic connectivity. Where practicable, the original gradient and cross-section of the ditch shall be retained during de-silting works. Alterations to the ditch profile may change flow patterns and could increase erosion or flood risk upstream or downstream. Provided the silt is confirmed as non-hazardous, excavated material may be temporarily placed on the bank of the watercourse to allow displaced organisms to return to the channel. • Deposited silt must not obstruct adjacent ditches, nearby roads, or impede natural drainage pathways into the watercourse (for example, runoff from higher ground). • Silt shall be deposited as close as practicable to its point of removal, either on the bank of the originating watercourse or on land immediately adjacent to it. Where there is reason to believe the excavated material may be contaminated or hazardous (for example, containing oils or other pollutants), appropriate guidance on disposal methods shall be followed, and advice sought from the Environment Agency as necessary.	Inspections quarterly to six months.
Invasive species	All invasive species require specific management. If invasive species are located on site, contact a specialist and follow the guidance provided.	Inspection once a year.

I trust that the above information, provides sufficient information, alongside the original LLFA response to address the points raised, and enables the Council to discharge Conditions 16 -18. However, should you or the LLFA require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,



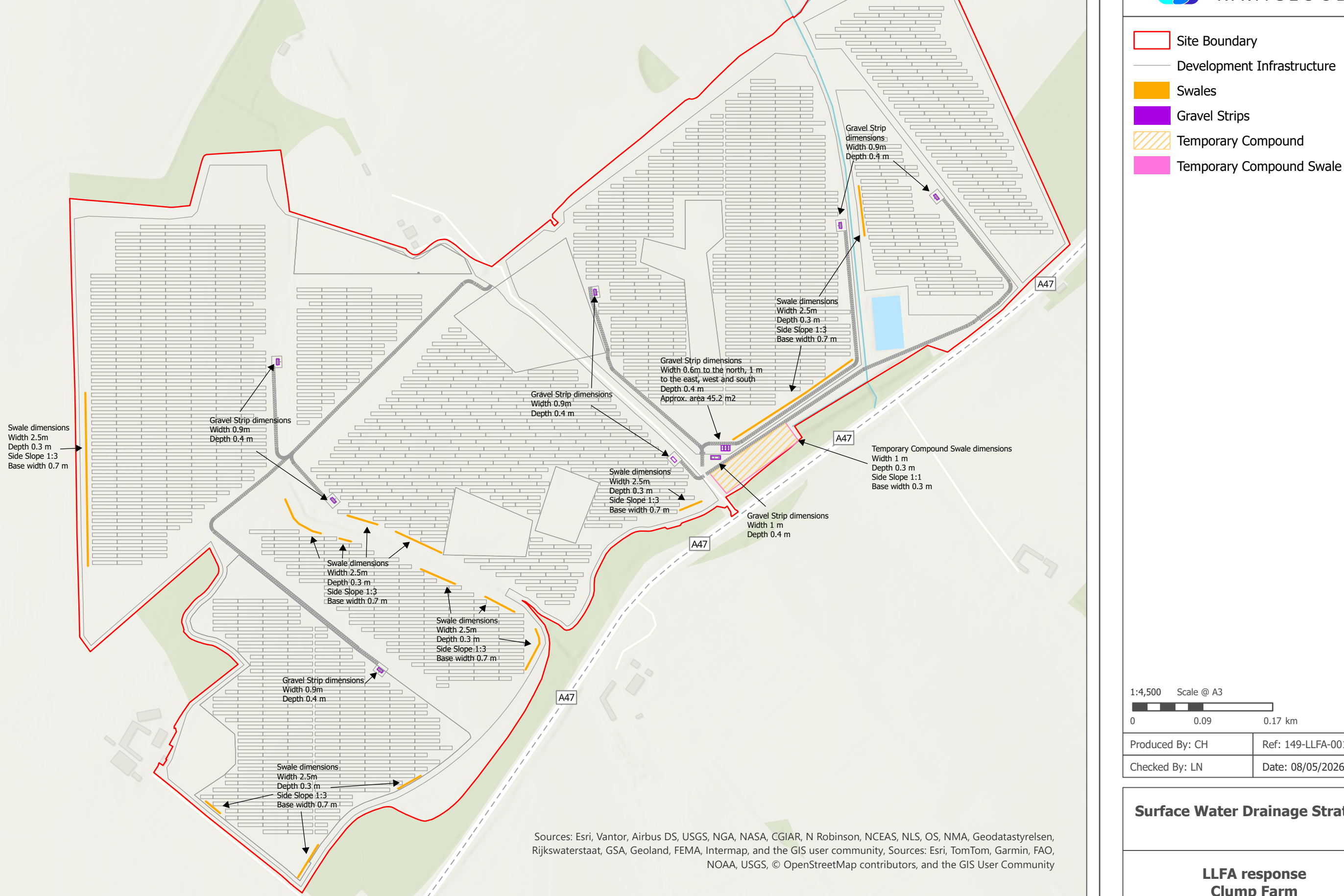
Liam Nevins

BSc (Hons) MCIWEM C.WEM

Founder & Director



APPENDIX A – REVISED DRAINAGE LAYOUT



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1:4,500 Scale @ A3



0 0.09 0.17 km

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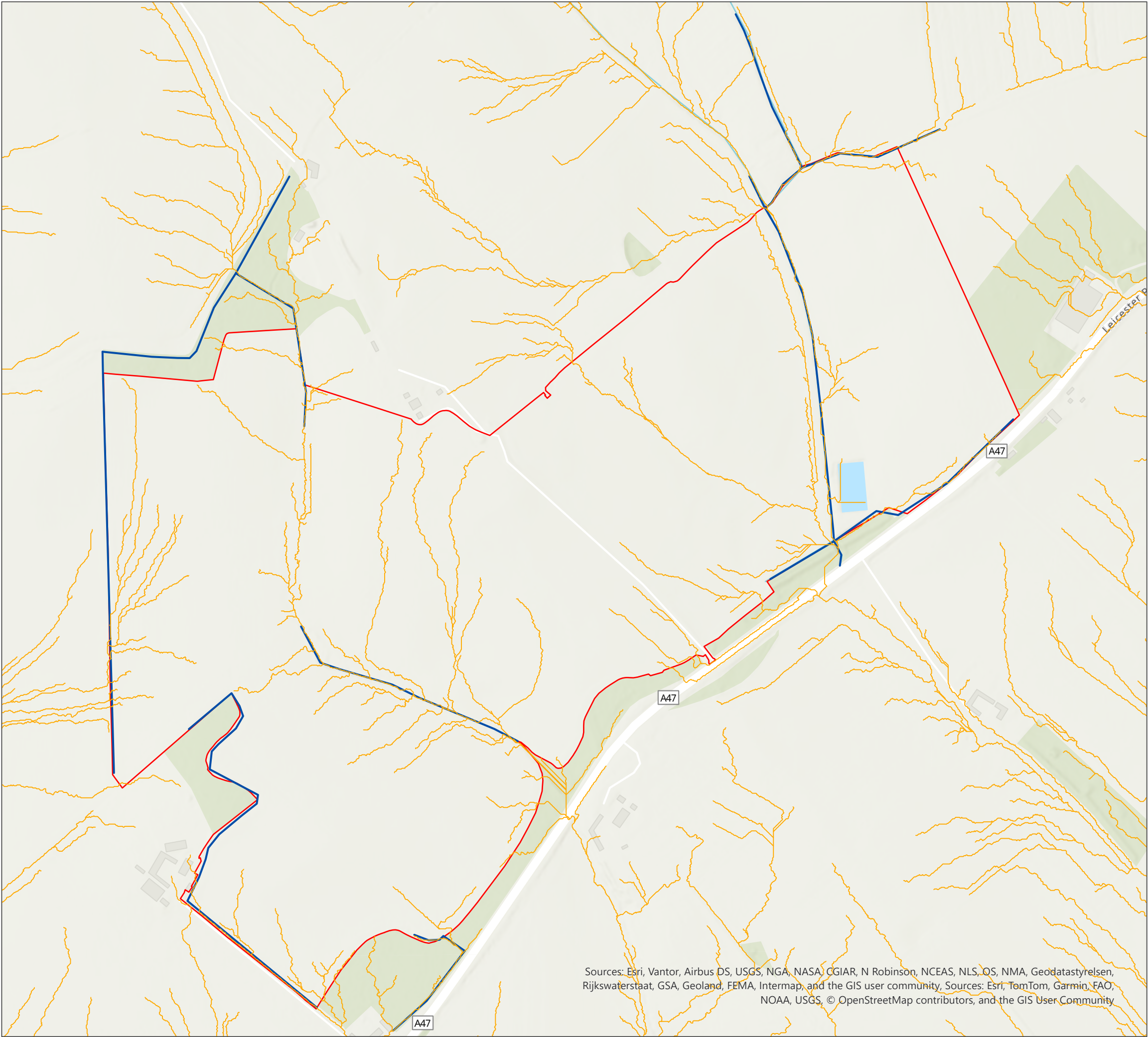
Surface Water Drainage Strategy

LLFA response

Clump Farm

APPENDIX B – WATERCOURSE AND FLOW PATHWAY MAP

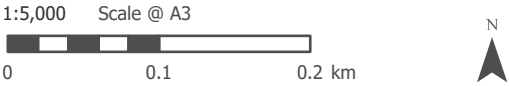
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- Site Boundary
- Flow Pathways
- Watercourses



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Watercourses and flow pathways

LLFA response
Clump Farm