

Application address Land Adjacent Mira Technology Park, Caldecote.		Planning ref.	22/00882/OUT
		Our ref.	2022/0882/04/F
Description Outline planning application (all matters reserved) for extension of MIRA Technology Park to comprise employment use (Class B2); associated office and service uses (Class E g); storage (Class B8); new spine road; car parking, landscaping and enabling works.		Consultation date	07/10/2022
		Response date	27/10/2022
Planning officer	Christopher Brown	Reviewing officer	Martin Coleman
Application type	Outline	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 59.5 ha greenfield site is located within Flood Zone 1 being at low risk of fluvial flooding and a very low to low risk of surface water flooding. The proposals seek to discharge at the greenfield rate of 6.2 l/s/ha via pervious paving swales, underground storage and attenuation basins to the watercourse running through the centre of the site. Surface water will discharge via two outfalls. One outfall

will discharge surface water from the northern part of the site, the other will discharge surface water from the southern part of the site.

Geological data suggests that infiltration would not be a feasible method of draining the site. Ground investigations would need to be conducted in order to confirm this.

While the details submitted are of a high quality, the applicant appears to have miscalculated the discharge rate on which the surface water drainage proposals are based. The applicant's calculation of 6.2 l/s/ha is very high, resulting in a total proposed discharge rate of 248 l/s. The LLFA has checked the rate and found the correct rate at this location to be 4.4 l/s/ha. This translates to a total discharge of 176 l/s. This error represents a considerable 30% difference between the applicant's and the LLFA's QBar discharge calculation.

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. In order to provide a substantive response, the applicant should update the proposed discharge Qbar rate to 4.4 l/s/ha and amend the proposals to suit.

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 – Overland flow routes

Overland flow routes as shown on the update map for surface water 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. 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.

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.