Consultation Response from KC,
Lead Local Flood Authority

2022/90397 Newsome Bowling Green, St John's Avenue, Newsome, Huddersfield, HD4 6JP

Erection of 10 dwellings and associated works

Date Responded: 11th September 2023
Responding Officer:
Responding Ref:

Kirklees Flood Management & Drainage acting as Lead Local Flood Authority OBJECTS to this application on the grounds of flood risk and inadequate drainage scheme.

For a relatively small site, two trial pits showed that soakaways were unworkable. An isolated trial pit had better results but could be attributable to other reasons. The proposed area for soakaway has not been trialled. However, Kirklees Council as the land drainage authority adopt a precautionary approach where soakaways are not viable for large proportions of the site and rule them out as a method for disposing surface water for the whole of the site. This is to protect the whole site and surrounding area for re-emergence in storm conditions where water cannot migrate. This decision is made without substrata analysis from the applicant which could reveal additional reasons for rejection.

Kirklees Council object to the use of a surface water pump station. The site has combined sewers available in all directions and sewer requisition has not been pursued if third party land access is required. A surface water pump station introduces a flood risk not currently present to new and existing properties and therefore does not comply with NPPF. The use of energy to move water uphill is not sustainable. Other options with alternative layout can be pursued.

A surface water pump station (and foul for that matter) under the highway is not to adoptable standards.

The storage of surface water in the voids of highway substrata with, we assume, a lining, is not recommended for most applications and certainly not a housing estate. This is also unadoptable by the statutory undertaker and will also cause the access road to be unadoptable by the highway authority. We therefore advice the LPA that this severely compromises their obligation to ensure adequate maintenance and management of surface water systems since other methods are all available.