



Planning Applications – Anglian Water Objection

If you would like to discuss any of the points in this document please contact us on 0345 0263912

AW Site 227462/1/0236609

Reference:

Local Planning Authority: North Hertfordshire District

Site: Land South East Of Holwell Road And North Of Hambridge Way, Pirton Herts

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of up to 130 dwellings with public open space, landscaping, sustainable drainage system and associated works with all matters reserved save for access (additional supporting information received 17th Septe

Planning application: 25/01696/OP

Prepared by: Pre-Development Team

Date: 13 January 2026

ASSETS

Section 1 - Assets Affected

There are assets owned by Anglian Water or those subject to an adoption agreement within or close to the development boundary that may affect the layout of the site. Anglian Water would ask that the following text be included within your Notice should permission be granted.

Anglian Water has assets close to or crossing this site or there are assets subject to an adoption agreement. Therefore the site layout should take this into account and accommodate those assets within either prospectively adoptable highways or public open space. If this is not practicable then the sewers will need to be diverted at the developers cost under Section 185 of the Water Industry Act 1991. or, in the case of apparatus under an adoption agreement, liaise with the owners of the apparatus. It should be noted that the diversion works should normally be completed before development can commence.

WASTEWATER SERVICES

Section 2 - Wastewater Treatment

.When assessing the receiving water recycling centre's (WRC) dry weather flow (DWF) headroom we take the latest Q90 DWF figures, as verified by the Environment Agency and add to this, sites with planning consent. Based on the above assessment Hitchin WRC is within the acceptance parameters and can accommodate the flows from the proposed growth.

Section 3 - Used Water Network

Anglian Water OBJECTS to any connection into our foul network from the proposed development due to capacity constraints and pollution risk.

A sustainable point of connection (SPOC) cannot be given due to the development flows contributing to pollution and deterioration of the watercourse. Anglian Waters position is to object. However, if the LPA are minded to approve the application, despite our objection and risk of pollution, we recommend the following condition is applied:

Condition: no development shall commence until a strategic foul water strategy has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local Planning Authority, in consultation with Anglian Water. This strategy will identify a sustainable point of connection to the public foul network. Prior to occupation, the foul water drainage works must have been carried out in complete accordance with the approved scheme.

Reason: to protect water quality, prevent pollution and secure sustainable development having regard to paragraphs 7/8 and 180 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

If permission is granted we require the applicant to engage with us via our pre-development services and to submit a Tier 2 Foul Pre-Development enquiry (PPE) in order to define a Sustainable Point of Connection (SPOC). Information can be found on our website:

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/developing/planning--capacity/how-to-apply/>

Section 4 - Surface Water Disposal

The preferred method of surface water disposal would be to a sustainable drainage system (SuDS) with connection to sewer seen as the last option. Building Regulations (part H) on Drainage and Waste Disposal for England includes a surface water drainage hierarchy, with infiltration on site as the preferred disposal option, followed by discharge to watercourse and then connection to a sewer.

From the details submitted to support the planning application the proposed method of surface water management does not relate to Anglian Water operated assets. As such, we are unable to provide comments on the suitability of the surface water management.

The Local Planning Authority should seek the advice of the Lead Local Flood Authority or the Internal Drainage Board. The Environment Agency should be consulted if the drainage system directly or indirectly involves the discharge of water into a watercourse.

If planning permission is granted, the strategy should be listed within the decision notice with any approved plans.

Should the proposed method of surface water management change to include interaction with Anglian Water operated assets, we would wish to be re-consulted to ensure that an effective surface water drainage strategy is prepared and implemented. .

The applicant has indicated on their application form that their method of surface water drainage is via SuDS. If the developer wishes Anglian Water to be the adopting body for all or part of the proposed SuDS scheme the Design and Construction Guidance must be followed. We would recommend the applicant contact us at the earliest opportunity to discuss their SuDS design via a Pre-Design Strategic Assessment (PDSA). The Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) are a statutory consultee for all major development and should be consulted as early as possible to ensure the proposed drainage system meets with minimum operational standards and is beneficial for all concerned organisations and individuals.

We promote the use of SuDS as a sustainable and natural way of controlling surface water run-off. We please find below our SuDS website link for further information.

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/developers/drainage-services/sustainable-drainage-systems/>

