

Planning Application Consultation Response

Application Details

Application Number	DM/25/0263
Response Date	2025-04-28
Site Location	Sackville School Lewes Road East Grinstead West Sussex RH19 3TY
Development Description	The upgrade of existing Redgra surfaced sports facilities with associated artificial turf, mesh fencing, LED lighting, acoustic barrier, areas of hard standing and resurfaced long/triple jump pits
Recommendation ¹	No objection subject to condition Advice

Flood Risk

Information

[The Planning Practice Guidance for Flood Risk and Coastal Change](#) requires all sources of flood risk to be considered consistently with how fluvial and tidal flood risk is considered within the [National Planning Policy Framework](#). This means that surface water flood risk extents should be considered comparable to flood zones when assessing a development's vulnerability to flooding and the need for a site-specific flood risk assessment.

For clarity Mid Sussex District Council's Flood Risk and Drainage Team (in line with advice from West Sussex Lead Local Flood Authority) utilise the below table when considering flood risk.

Annual exceedance	Flood Zone	Surface Water Flood Risk
Greater than 3.3% (>1:30-year)	3b	High
Between 1% and 3.3% (1:100-year and 1:30-year)	3a	Medium
Between 0.1% and 1% (1:1,000-year and 1:100-year)	2	Low
Less than 0.1% (<1:1,000-year)	1	Very Low

Application specific comment

The site is in flood zone 1 and is at low fluvial flood risk (risk of flooding from Main Rivers). The site is shown to be at very low surface water flood risk (comparable to flood zone 1).

Mid Sussex District Council's records do not contain records of the site flooding. Our records also contain no records of flooding within the area immediately surrounding the site.

Mid Sussex District Council's records are not complete, and flooding may have occurred which is not recorded. A site having never flooded in the past does not mean it won't flood in the future.

Sewers on Site

¹ In line with guidance from the Planning Department the Flood Risk and Drainage Team, where considered appropriate, utilise conditions to address detailed drainage design and detailed design of flood mitigation measures.

The Southern Water public sewer map does not show any public sewers located within the redline boundary of the site.

There may be sewers located on the site not shown on the plan which are now considered public sewers. Any drain which serves more than one property, or crosses into the site from a separate site may be considered a public sewer. Advice in relation to this situation can be found on the relevant water authority's website.

Surface Water Drainage

Information

Surface water drainage will ultimately need to be designed to meet the latest national and local planning and drainage policies and guidance. The drainage system will need to consider climate change, the allowances for which should be based on the climate change guidance from the Environment Agency at the time of detailed design.

Detailed drainage design should consider the impact a flooded outfall could have on the proposed drainage system.

The recommendation for a drainage condition to be utilised for an application does not preclude the need for updated calculations or alterations to a drainage strategy. Recommendation for a drainage condition shows that the Flood Risk and Drainage Team are of the opinion that the development has shown that, in principle, drainage could successfully be provided on the site.

Application specific comment

The BGS infiltration potential map shows the site to be in an area with low infiltration potential. Therefore, the use of infiltration drainage such as permeable paving or soakaways is unlikely to be possible on site. To ensure the drainage hierarchy is followed this will need to be confirmed through infiltration testing on site as part of detailed drainage design.

Infiltration testing demonstrated that drainage via infiltration techniques was not feasible at the site, and an attenuation-based strategy is proposed.

Greenfield runoff rates have been estimated using the Revitalised Flood Hydrograph Model (REFH2) method. A discharge rate of 4.5 l/s is proposed for each artificial sports pitch. Discharge will be made at a combined 1 in 1 year greenfield runoff rate of 9 l/s to the watercourse north of the site or the ditch to the east of the site.

The applicant is advised that evidence will need to be provided at the detailed design stage that there is sufficient fall to connect to the existing watercourse on the school grounds.

The Flood Risk and Drainage Team acknowledge that the information submitted in relation to the drainage strategy shows that, in principle, surface water drainage could, subject to detailed design, be provided on the site.

Information into our general requirements for detailed surface water drainage design is included within our 'General Drainage Information Guide'. This level of information will be required to address the recommended drainage condition.

To ensure the final drainage design meets with the latest design requirements we would advise the applicant to confirm the design parameters required in relation to climate change etc prior to undertaking detailed design.

Condition Recommendation

Surface water drainage

The development hereby permitted shall not commence unless and until details of the proposed surface water drainage and means of disposal have been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The pitches shall not be brought into use until all the approved drainage works have been carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure that the proposal is satisfactorily drained and to accord with Policy DP41 of the Mid Sussex District Plan 2014 - 2031 and Policy ...'z'... of the Neighbourhood Plan.

For and on behalf of the Flood Risk and Drainage Team
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