

**FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT & SuDS REPORT FOR
LAND SOUTH OF HAMMERWOOD ROAD, ASHURST
WOOD, WEST SUSSEX, RH19 3RX**

DOCUMENT NUMBER: C3655-R1-REV-DRAFT

PREPARED BY



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1. SITE DETAILS

Site Name	Land South of Hammerwood Road
Site Address	Land South of Hammerwood Road, Ashurst Wood, West Sussex, RH19 3RX
Purpose of Development	Residential
Existing Land Use	Brownfield
County	West Sussex County Council
Country	England
Local Planning Authority	Mid Sussex District Council

1.1 Site Location

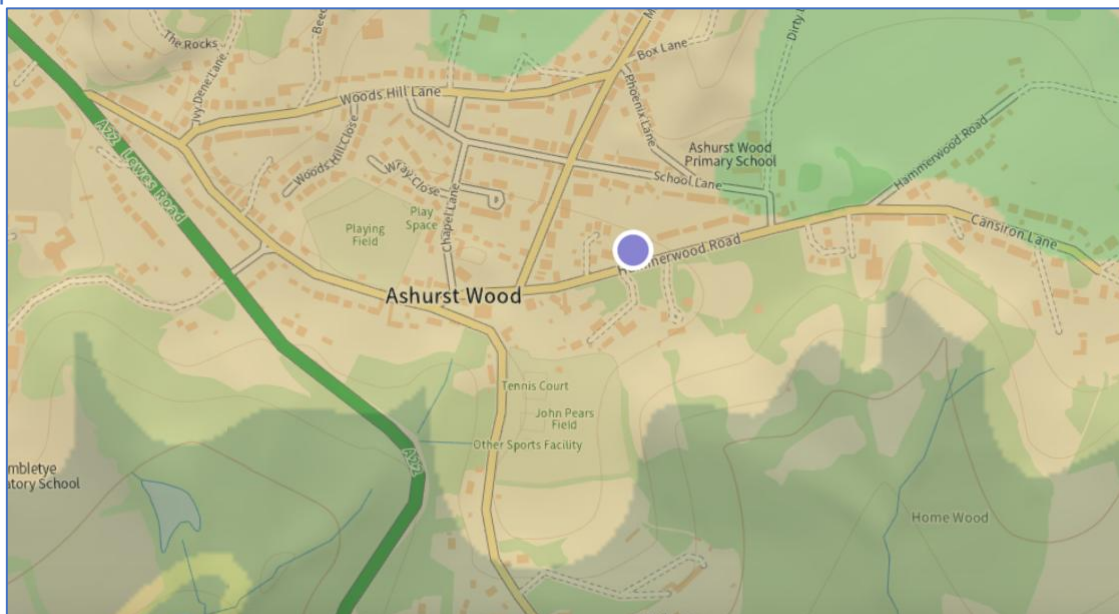
A location plan of the project site is provided within Appendix A.

1.2 Proposed Development

The proposal involves the erection of 12 dwellings, together with associated amenity space, car parking and landscaping.

1.3 Geology of The Area

According to the British Geological Survey, there are no superficial deposits information available at the site. The bedrock at the area consists of mudstone and is part of the Atherfield Clay formation, as shown in Figure 1 overleaf.



Geology

Bedrock geology

Wadhurst Clay Formation - Mudstone. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 139.4 and 133.9 million years ago during the Cretaceous period.

Figure 1 - Bedrock at the site. (Source: British Geological Society Website (contains British Geological Survey materials © NERC2025)).

2. PLANNING POLICIES

2.1 National Planning Policies

The report has been written in conjunction with the following National planning policies:

- National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024)
- National Planning Practice Guidance Suite (August 2022)
- CIRIA SUDS manual (C753)

2.2 Local Planning Policy

The report has been written in conjunction with the following local planning policies:

- SFRA Level 1 and Level 2 for Mid Sussex District Council;

3. FLOOD RISK

The possible causes of flooding set out in NPPF are considered in this section in relation to flood risk to the site itself and the effects of the development of the site on the flood risk elsewhere.

3.1 Flood Zones

The Environment Agency has developed a flood risk map which shows the relative risk of flooding for different return periods. Flood zones assume that no defences are present and so where these do exist, they are only indicative of the potential for flooding.

The Environment Agency's Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea), shown within Figure 2 overleaf, indicates the site is in Flood Zone 1 and is not at risk of flooding from rivers, or the sea.

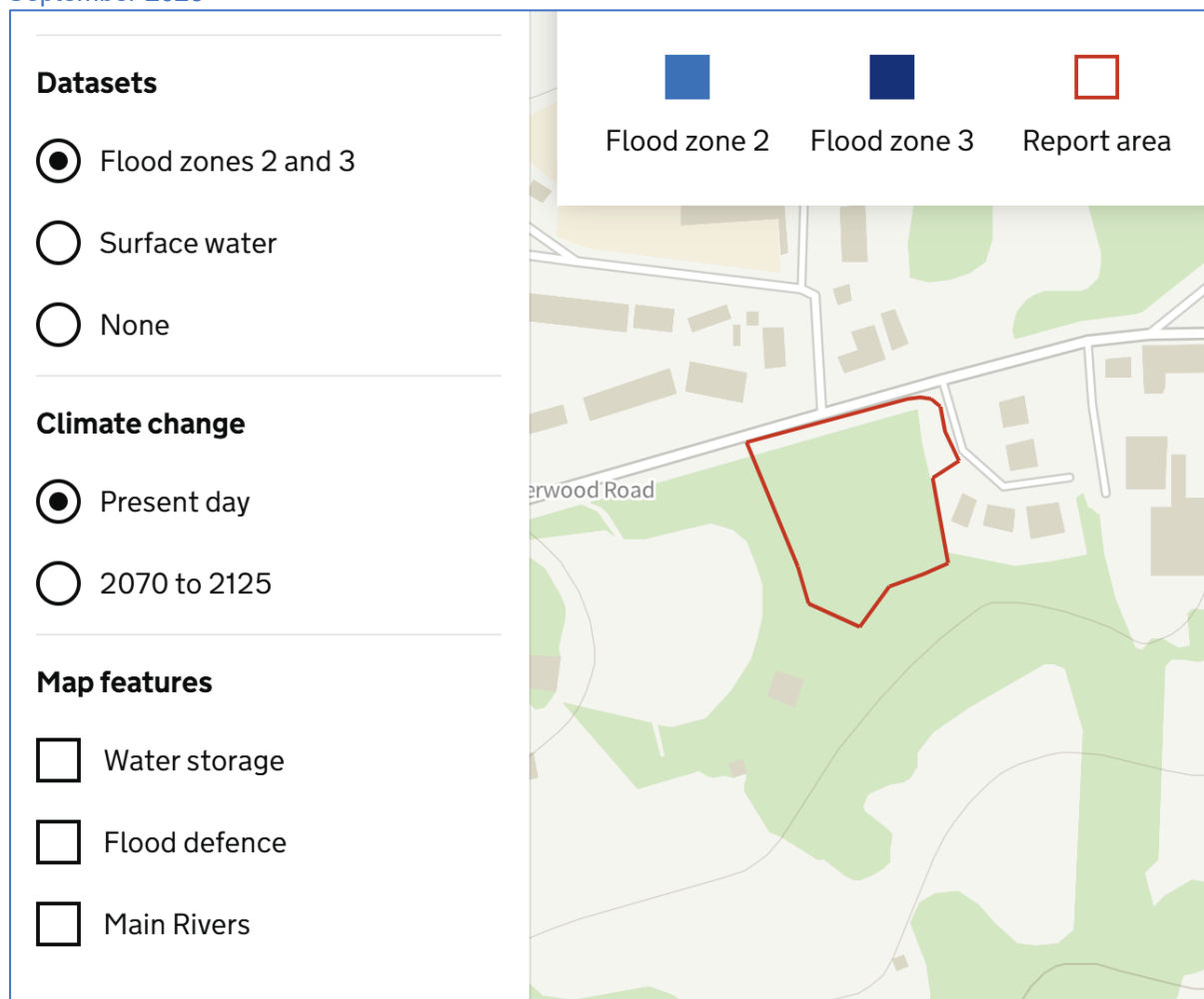


Figure 2 – Environment Agency Flood Map for flooding extent from rivers and sea for the proposed development

3.2 Flooding from Land (Overland Flow)

The proposed development site is at a very low risk of surface water flooding, as can be seen in the Environmental Agency's flood map within Figure 3 overleaf.

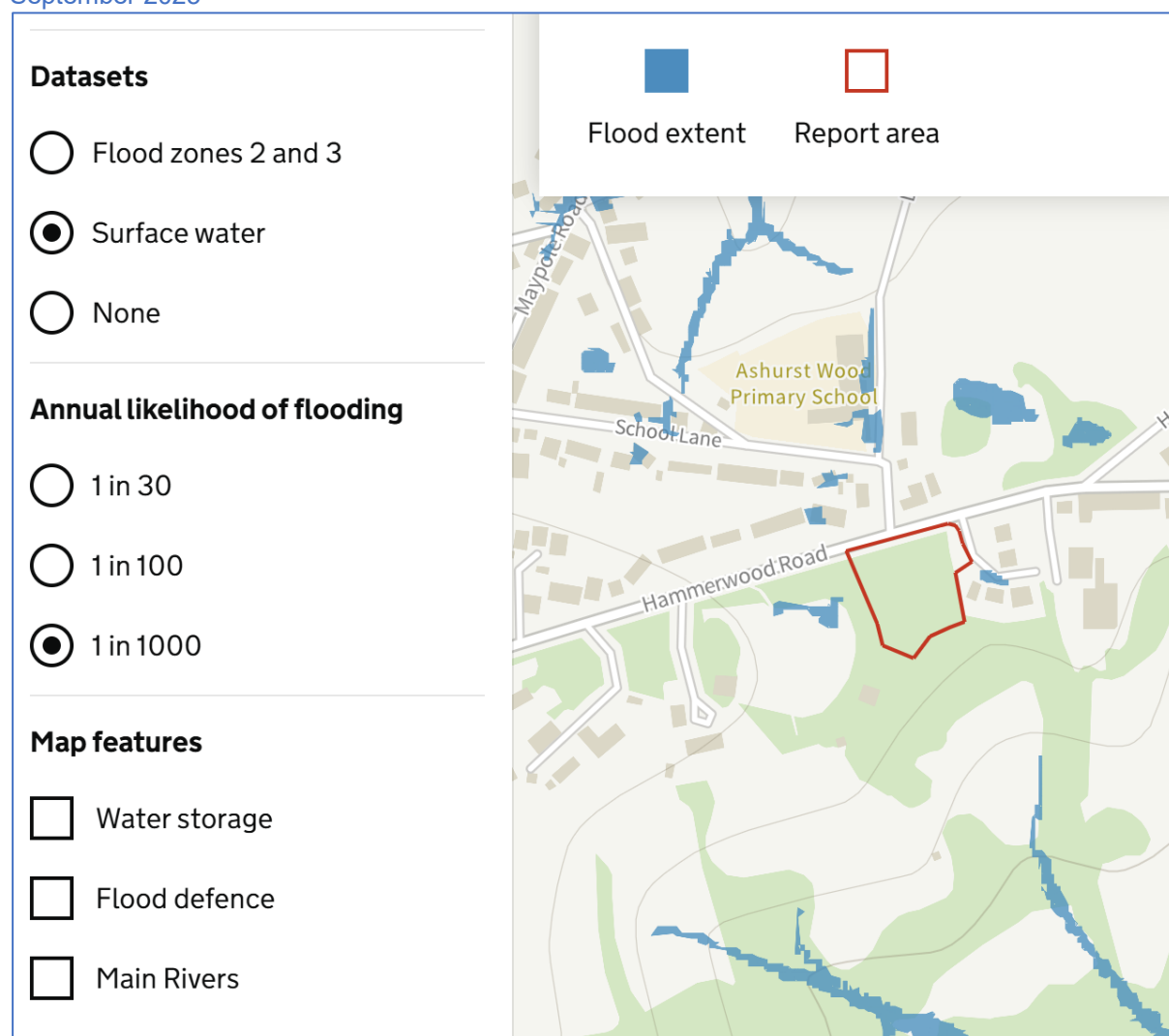


Figure 3 – Environment Agency Flood Map for 1:1000 surface water flooding for the proposed development

The surface water run off produced as a result of these development proposals will be dealt with through the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, which follow the SuDS hierarchy and therefore will reduce flood risk in the area.

3.3 Flooding from Groundwater

The Environment Agency's website confirms that groundwater flooding is unlikely at this proposed development site.

3.4 Flooding from Sewers

The existing site is greenfield, therefore there have been no incidents of sewer flooding at this site.

3.5 Flooding from Reservoirs, Canals or Other Artificial Sources

The Environment Agency's website, confirms that the site is not at risk of any reservoir flooding.

4. SUSTAINABLE URBAN DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

The total site area is 2368m², and the impermeable areas of the site prior to development are 715m². Following the development at this site, the impermeable areas have increased to 1567m², prior to any mitigation by using Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS).

Pre and post development surface water runoff calculations showing the peak flow rate leaving the site, can be found within Appendix B.

Surface water arising from a developed site should, as far as practicable, be managed in a sustainable manner to mimic the surface water flows arising from the site prior to the proposed development, while reducing the flood risk to the site itself and elsewhere, taking climate change into account.

Reducing the rate of surface water discharge from Urban Sites is one of the most effective ways of reducing and managing flood risk.

Traditional piped surface water systems work by removing the surface water from our developments as quickly as possible, however this can cause various adverse impacts:

- Increased downstream flooding, and sudden rises in flow rates and water levels in local water courses.
- Reduction in groundwater levels dry weather flows in watercourses.
- Reduce amenity and adversely affect biodiversity due to the surface water runoff containing contaminants such as oil, organic matter and toxic materials.

SuDS are defined as a sequence of management principles and control structures designed to drain surface water in a more sustainable fashion than conventional piped drainage techniques. SuDS should utilise the environmental, ecological and social benefits.

These include:

- Protection and enhancement of water quality – As well as providing on-site attenuation, SuDS treat the water, resulting in an improved quality of water leaving the site. This is achieved when the water passes through the fine soils and the roots of specially selected plants, pollutants washed off the hard landscaping by rainfall will be safely removed before the water reaches the natural water course.

- A sympathetic approach to the environmental setting by providing the opportunities to create habitats for flora and fauna in urban watercourses and open spaces.
- Meeting the amenity and social needs of the local community and residents in the creation of attractive green spaces.

The various types of SuDS include:

Permeable paving	
Soakaways;	
Swales and basins;	
Bioretention/ rain gardens;	
Green roofs and rainwater re-use;	
Infiltration trenches and filter drains	
Ponds and wetlands	

Preferably a combination of these techniques should be used as part of the surface water management train, and it is important for all stakeholders; such as developers, architects, landscape architects and engineers, to work together at the planning stage in order to determine a feasible solution.

The SuDS management train is shown in Figure 4 below, this has been followed when proposing the proposed Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems for this site.

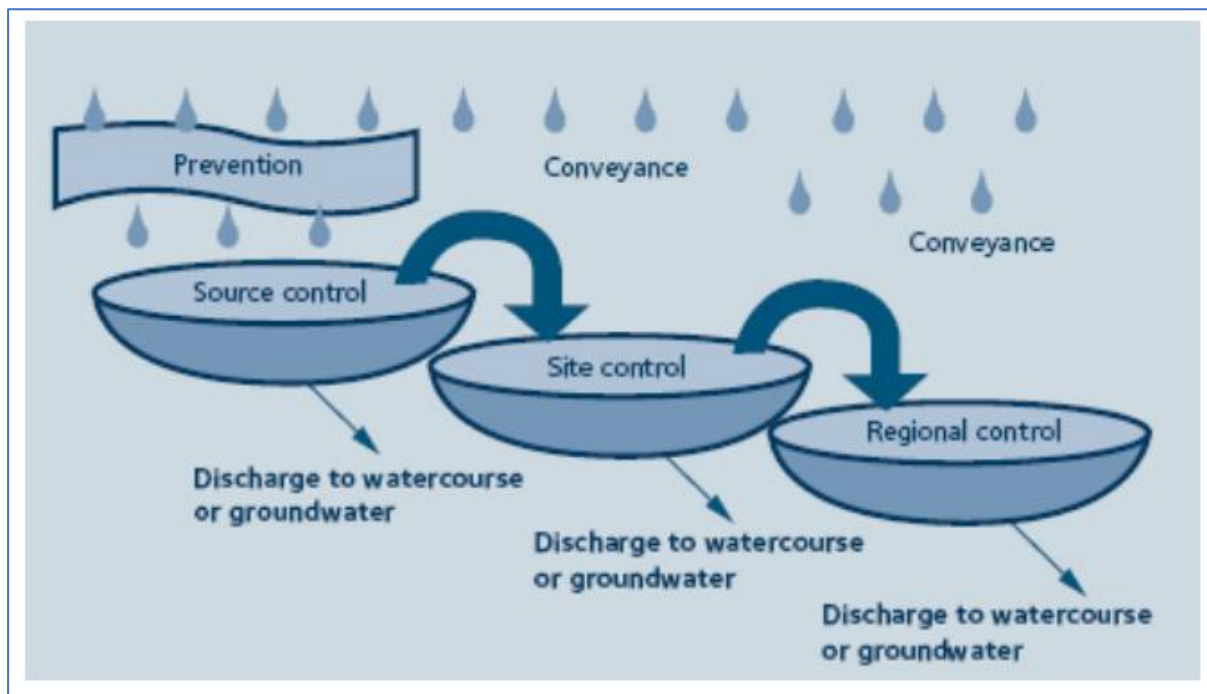


Figure 4 – SuDS Management Train

5. PROPOSED SuDS SOLUTION

In order to ensure that the SuDS management train has been followed, one wall mounted rainwater harvesting tank has been proposed for each dwelling, to encourage rainwater re-use. The proposed roofs are pitched, therefore green roofs are not viable, however we have proposed raingarden planters where feasible, to provide a level of treatment.

All proposed hardstanding areas will be formed of porous surfacing, with filter drains proposed to capture the surface water run off from all sloped areas.

The preferred method of dealing with remaining surface water from the above SuDS components would be to treat and deal with it at source using soakaways, therefore a BRE365 Percolation test will be carried out to confirm this.

5. TIMESCALE AND MAINTENANCE OF DRAINAGE WORKS

All drainage works shall be completed prior to first occupation and there shall be no adoption of any of the drainage works within the site, a management company will be formed and will be responsible to oversee the long-term maintenance of the communal drains. A Management & Maintenance Plan can also be found within Appendix A.

The following outline maintenance strategy sets out recommended timescales for maintenance of the proposed drainage works, in line with CIRIA SuDS Design Guide:

- Regular inspection will comprise the inspection and cleaning of catchment, gutters, filters and tanks to reduce the likelihood of contamination, this is recommended to be carried out every 3 to 6 months.
- The catchpit chamber and flow controls should be checked and cleaned every 3 months for the accumulation of debris/ silt, in order to ensure that there are no blockages.

The following table outlines the maintenance requirements for the rainwater harvesting systems:

Maintenance schedule	Required action	Typical Frequency
Regular maintenance	Inspection of the tank for debris and sediment build-up, inlets/outlets/withdraw devices, overflow areas, pumps, filters	Annually (and following poor performance)
	Cleaning of tank, inlets, outlets, gutters. Withdrawal devices and roof drain filters of silts and other debris	Annually (and following poor performance)
Occasional maintenance	Cleaning and/ or replacement of any filters	Three monthly (or as required)
Remedial actions	Repair of overflow erosion damage or damage to tank	As required
	Pump repairs	As required

Table 1: Operation and maintenance requirement for RWH systems.

The following table outlines the maintenance requirements for a soakaway:

Maintenance schedule	Required action	Typical frequency
Regular Maintenance	Inspect for sediment and debris in pre-treatment components and floor of inspection tube or chamber and inside of concrete manhole rings	Annually
	Cleaning of gutters and any filters on downpipes	Annually (or as required based on inspections)
	Trimming any roots that may be causing blockages	Annually (or as required)
Occasional Maintenance	Remove sediment and debris from pre-treatment components and floor of inspection tube or chamber and inside of concrete manhole rings	As required, based on inspections
Remedial Actions	Reconstruct soakaway and/or replace or clean void fill, if performance deteriorates or failure occurs	As required
	Replacement of clogged geotextile (will require reconstruction of soakaway)	As required
Monitoring	Inspect silt traps and note rate of sediment accumulation	Monthly in the first year and then annually
	Check soakaway to ensure emptying is occurring	Annually

Table 2: Operation and maintenance requirements for soakaways.

Maintenance schedule	Required action	Typical frequency
Regular maintenance	Pipe inlets to the raingarden planters should be checked every month and especially after an extreme rainstorm to ensure that there are no blockages.	Monthly
	Periodic inspections & removal of debris or other items that represent blockage risks particularly in vicinity of the inlet to the raingarden planters	Monthly
	Weeding, cutting of plants and removal of any dead plants to ensure that the system works effectively	Every three months
	For systems where rainfall infiltrates into the tank from above, check surface of filter for blockages by sediment, algae or other matter: remove and replace surface infiltration medium as necessary.	Annually
Remedial actions	Repair inlets, outlets, overflows	As required
Monitoring	Inspect/check all inlets, outlets, vents and overflows to ensure that the are in good condition and operating as designed	Annually

Table 3: Operation and maintenance requirement for rainwater garden planters

6. FOUL WATER DRAINAGE

The proposed foul water drainage from the site will discharge via gravity to the southern foul water sewer in Yewhurst Close.

7. CONCLUSIONS

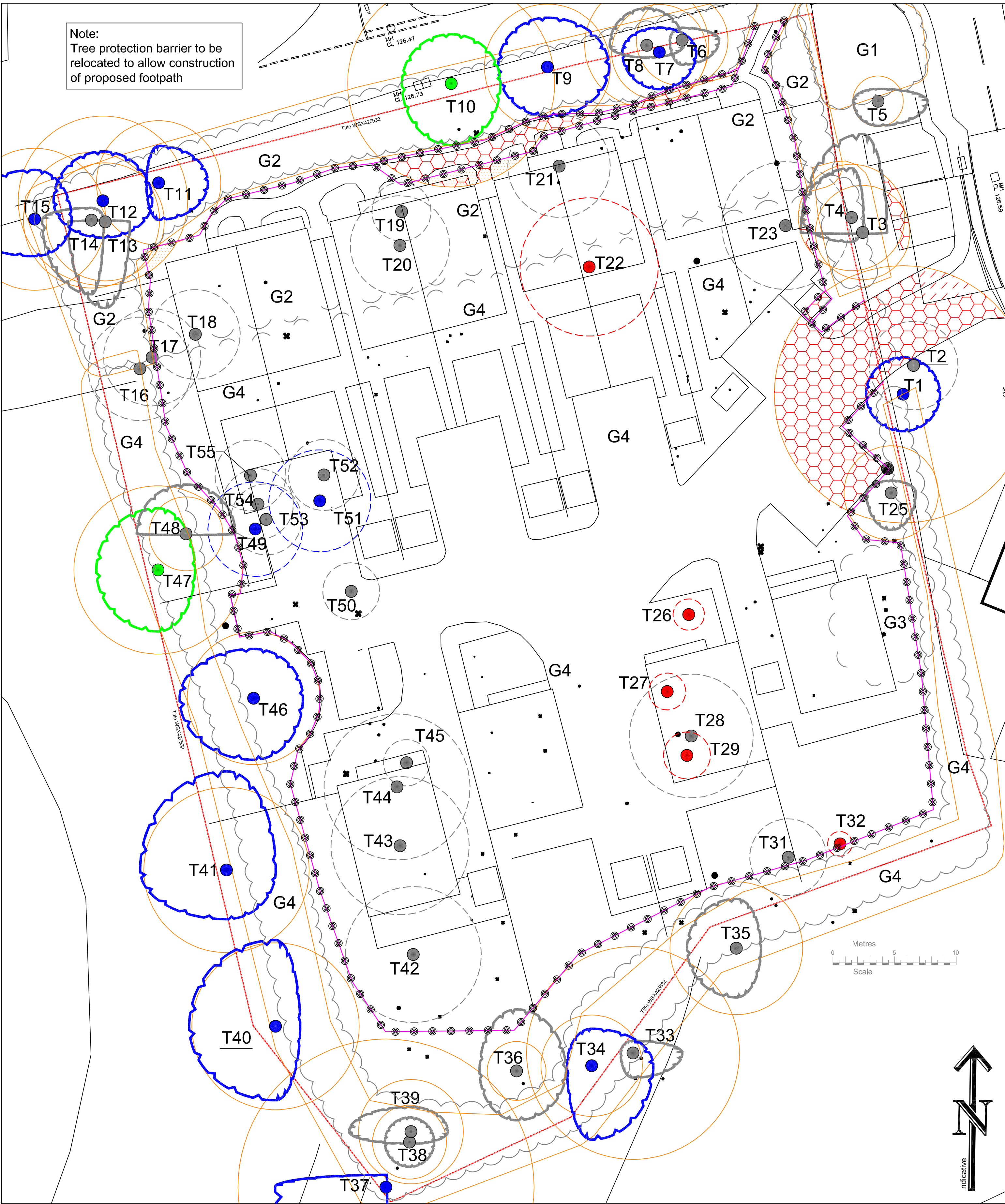
The site is at very low risk from flooding from tidal, fluvial, sewer, groundwater and reservoir flooding.

The proposals will not impact on any known flood flow route or flood storage area.

A suitable Sustainable Urban Drainage systems solution has been proposed which follows the SuDS hierarchy.

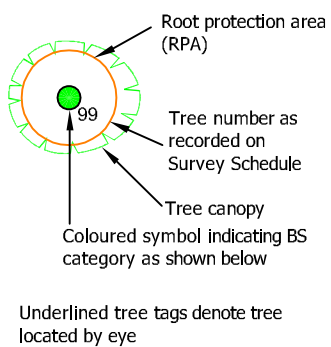
A foul drainage strategy that conveys the foul water from the site via gravity has also been proposed.

APPENDIX A – DRAWINGS



Tree Categories

Arboricultural Strategy



- Category A tree
BS5837 2012
- Category B tree
BS5837 2012
- Category C tree
BS5837 2012
- Category U tree
BS5837 2012

- Tree to be retained
Colour reference in accordance with the categories defined by BS:5837
- Tree to be removed
Colour reference in accordance with the categories defined by BS:5837
- Tree group/hedge to be retained
Colour reference in accordance with the categories defined above
- Tree group or part of tree group to be removed
Colour reference in accordance with the categories defined above

- Line along which Tree Protection Barrier should be installed, Refer to accompanying report for specification
- Area of hard surface to be installed following a 'no dig' method of construction
- Area where additional ground protection will be required, Refer to the accompanying report for details.
- Area of existing hard surface to remain in situ and used as a sub base for the proposed re-surfacing



Project	Land at Hammerwood Road, Ashurst Wood
Drawing	Tree Protection Plan
Date	23.09.25
Ref	22-1450-TPP
Drawn	NT
Checked	DR
Client	Virtue Land Ltd
Scale	1:200@A2



Promap
LANDMARK INFORMATION

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Plotted Scale - 1:1250. Paper Size - A4



Note: Levels are indicative and approximate. Final levels may vary according to construction and local conditions.

**MEASURES
SCARFE**
ARCHITECTS

Project
Land at Hammerwood Road
RH19 3RX (2025)

Client
Turnbull Land Ltd

Title
Site layout
Scale 1:200 @ A1 Date September 2025

Drawing Number 923:1181/PL100

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