

BY EMAIL

Our Reference:
WSSC-793952528

04/02/2026

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: Ordinary Watercourse Consent Application 1 Highfields, Brighton Road, Warninglid RH17 5SY

Thank you for your recent application for Ordinary Watercourse Consent (OWC) at the above site.

The ordinary watercourse consent process exists to enable us, as the Lead Local Flood Authority, to appraise any proposed works within the flow channel of ordinary watercourses that have the potential to obstruct flow and/or increase flood risk. Consentable works and activities include; the construction of structures that protrude into the flow channel, culverting/de-culverting, and the diversion of watercourses.

Structures, such as headwalls for discharges from surface water drainage systems, that are either "set back into" or "set flush with" the existing bank profile of the receiving ordinary watercourse (where no part of the structure encroaches/protrudes into the flow channel of the watercourse) do not result in an obstruction to flow and therefore do not fall within the scope of the ordinary watercourse consent process.

An ordinary watercourse consent application was made seeking approval for the construction of a "*new surface water outfall pipe secured by the concrete bag-work headwall*" for a discharge to a pond at the above address. The submitted drawings clearly stated that the "*Bag-work following the line of the bank. No part of the headwall to project into the flow area.*" These proposals do not result in any structures encroaching into the flow path of an ordinary watercourse, we can confirm that no formal consent is required from us for those works.

However, for clarity: Our position only relates to "consentable works" and does not remove the need for the details of the surface water drainage strategy serving the development to be approved by the local planning authority through the planning process.

Lead Local Flood Authority
OWC@westsussex.gov.uk

Ground Floor, Northleigh,
County Hall
Chichester
PO19 1RH



Additionally, works that do not fall within the scope of the ordinary watercourse may still require other agreements, such as permission from 3rd party landowners and/or asset owners regarding new or revised connections piped systems.

We hope this assists

Yours faithfully

Mrs Natalie Biddulph

West Sussex County Council - Lead Local Flood Authority