

Havant Borough Council
Development Control
Civic Offices Civic Centre Road
Havant
Hampshire
PO9 2AX

Our ref: HA/2020/122046/01-L01
Your ref: APP/20/00061

Date: 21 February 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

**PROPOSED TWO STOREY EXTENSION TO WAREHOUSE AND PARKING
PLATFORM.**

UNIT 3, STATION APPROACH, NORTH STREET, EMSWORTH, PO10 7PW

Thank you for the consulting the Environment Agency on the above application.

We have reviewed the information as submitted and set out our position and comments below.

Environment Agency position

In the absence of a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA), we **object** to this application and recommend that planning permission is refused.

Reasons

The application site lies within Flood Zones 2 and 3, which is land defined by the Planning Practice Guidance for the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) for Flood Risk and Coastal Change as having a high and medium probability of flooding. The NPPF (paragraph 163, footnote 50) states that an FRA must be submitted when development is proposed in such locations.

An FRA is vital to making informed planning decisions. In its absence, the flood risks posed by the development are unknown. This is sufficient reason for refusing planning permission.

Overcoming our objection

To overcome our objection, the Applicant should submit an FRA which demonstrates that the development is safe without increasing risk elsewhere. Where possible, it should reduce flood risk overall.

If this cannot be achieved, we are likely to maintain our objection.

Please re-consult us on any revised FRA submitted and we will respond within 21 days of receiving it.

Environment Agency
Portfield Depot Oving Road, Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 2AG.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency

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Advice to the Local Planning Authority

If you are minded to approve the application contrary to our objection, we would be grateful if you could re-notify us to explain why material considerations outweigh our objection, and to give us the opportunity to make further representations. Should our objection detailed above be removed, it is likely we will recommend planning conditions to be included on any subsequent approval.

We will always support and substantiate our objections to major development proposals at appeal wherever a refusal is lodged in line with our advice. If you are minded to grant permission against our advice, please contact the Sustainable Places Advisor named below before making a formal decision to discuss the conditions and advice that we would wish to apply to this proposal.

In accordance with the Planning Practice Guidance (Ref. ID: 20150415), please notify us by email within 2 weeks of a decision being made or application withdrawn. Please provide us with a URL of the decision notice, or an electronic copy of the decision notice or outcome.

Advice to Applicant

Sources of information for an FRA

We do not prepare or provide FRAs. However, our Customers and Engagement teams can provide any relevant flood risk information that we have available. Please email SSDEnquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk and request a 'Product 4' or flood data for your site location. When sending a request, please also send a plan identifying the site boundary. Requests are usually dealt with within 20 working days.

Your Local Planning Authority should have undertaken a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) which will also include local flood risk information to inform your FRA. Please contact your Local Planning Authority to determine what information is available.

Guidance on how to prepare a flood risk assessment can be found on the gov.uk website here - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessment-for-planning-applications>.

A checklist on what should be included in a flood risk assessment can also be found on the gov.uk website here – <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-and-coastal-change#Site-Specific-Flood-Risk-Assessment-checklist-section>.

Please do not hesitate to contact me using the contact details shown below should you have any queries regarding the above information.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Anna Rabone
Sustainable Places Advisor

Direct dial 02077 140525
Direct e-mail anna.rabone@environment-agency.gov.uk

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