

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
WEST SUSSEX FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

HYDRANT CONDITION CONSULTATION WITH PLANNING AUTHORITY

Date: 03.09.2025

To: Nicola Pettifer

From: Ian Stocks

Planning Ref: DC/25/1269

Address: Land North of Guildford Road Bucks Green Rudgwick West Sussex

Description: Outline Planning Application for up to 90 no. residential dwellings
(including 40% affordable) all matters to be reserved apart from access.

Date of visit: N/A

RECOMMENDATION

Advice: ☒

Modification: ☐

More Information: ☐

Objection: ☐

No Objection: ☐

Refusal: ☐

Total number of hydrants required

Unknown

This application has been dealt with in accordance with the statutory obligation placed upon Fire and Rescue Service by the following act;

***Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004
Part 5, 38: Duty to secure water supply etc.***

- 1) A fire and rescue authority must take all reasonable measures for securing that an adequate supply of water will be available for the authority's use in the event of fire.*

This proposal has been considered by means of desktop study, using the information and plans submitted with this application, in conjunction with other available WSCC mapping and Fire and Rescue Service information. A site visit can be arranged on request.

I refer to your consultation in respect of the above planning application and would provide the following comments:

- 1) Prior to the commencement of the development details showing the proposed location of the required fire hydrants shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with West Sussex

County Council's Fire and Rescue Service. These approvals shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

- 2) Prior to the first occupation of any dwelling house forming part of the proposed development, they will at their own expense install the required fire hydrants in the approved location to BS 750 standards, on a minimum 90mm main size and arrange for their connection to a water supply which is appropriate in terms of both pressure and flow for the purposes of firefighting.
- 3) Prior to the first occupation of any dwelling house forming part of the proposed development they will notify the West Sussex County Council's Fire and Rescue Service that the fire hydrant(s) have been installed and are ready for operational use, to ensure that the Fire and Rescue Service are aware that the hydrant(s) is now a usable asset in the event of a fire.

The fire hydrant shall thereafter be maintained as part of the development by the water undertaker at the expense of the Fire and Rescue Service if adopted as part of the public mains supply (Fire Services Act 2004) or by the owner / occupier if the installation is retained as a private network.

As part of the Building Regulations 2004, adequate access for firefighting vehicles and equipment from the public highway must be available and may require additional works on or off site, particularly in very large developments. (BS5588 Part B 5) for further information please contact the Fire and Rescue Service.

If a requirement for additional water supply is identified by the Fire and Rescue Service and is subsequently not supplied, there is an increased risk for the Service to control a potential fire. It is therefore recommended that the hydrant condition is implemented.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and in accordance with policy CP13 of the Horsham District Local Development Framework; Core Strategy and DC40 of the Horsham District Local Development Framework: General Development Control Policies (2007) and policy CP3 of the Horsham District Local Development Framework Core Strategy (2007), HDPF Policies 33 and 39 and in accordance with The Fire & Rescue Service Act 2004.

Ian Stocks
Water and Access Manager
Email: frs.waterandaccess@westsussex.gov.uk