



Horsham District Council  
Parkside  
Chart Way  
Horsham  
West Sussex  
RH12 1RL

Your ref  
DC/25/1830

Our ref  
DSA000049530

Date  
2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025

Contact  
Tel 0330 303 0119

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Proposal:** Erection of a commercial building with offices, staff welfare and toilets.

**Site:** Birchfield Nursery, Kidders Lane, Henfield, West Sussex, BN5 9AB.

Thank you for your correspondence. Please see our comments below regarding the above planning consultation application.

### **Proposed SUDS features**

If it is the intention of the developer for Southern Water to adopt the proposed SuDS, the system shall be designed and constructed in line with the Design and Construction Guidance [www.water.org.uk/sewerage-sector-guidance-approved-documents/](https://www.water.org.uk/sewerage-sector-guidance-approved-documents/).

### **No Soakaways should be connected to the public surface water sewer.**


The supporting documents make reference to drainage using Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). Where SuDS form part of a continuous sewer system, and are not an isolated end of pipe SuDS component, adoption of SuDS will be considered if requested by the developer if they comply with: Design and Construction Guidance (Appendix C), CIRIA guidance and Southern Water SuDS Guidance available here:

<https://www.water.org.uk/sewerage-sector-guidance-approved-documents/>

<https://www.ciria.org/ItemDetail?iProductCode=C753F&Category=FREEPUBS>

<https://www.southernwater.co.uk/media/l4ndl3db/suds-final-080824.pdf>

Where SuDS rely upon facilities which are not adoptable by sewerage undertakers the applicant will need to ensure that arrangements exist for the long-term maintenance of the SuDS facilities. It is critical that the effectiveness of these systems is maintained in perpetuity. Good management will



avoid flooding from the proposed surface water system, which may result in the inundation of the foul sewerage system.

Thus, where a SuDS scheme is to be implemented, the drainage details submitted to the Local Planning Authority should:

- Specify the responsibilities of each party for the implementation of the SuDS scheme.
- Specify a timetable for implementation.
- Provide a management and maintenance plan for the lifetime of the development.

This should include the arrangements for adoption by any public authority or statutory undertaker and any other arrangements to secure the operation of the scheme throughout its lifetime.

This initial assessment does not prejudice any future assessment or commit to any adoption agreements under Section 104 of the Water Industry Act 1991.

### **Septic tank proposed**

The Environment Agency should be consulted directly by the applicant regarding the use of a septic tank drainage which disposes of effluent to sub-soil irrigation.

For further advice, please contact Southern Water, Southern House, Yeoman Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN13 3NX (Tel: 0330 303 0119).

Website: [southernwater.co.uk](https://www.southernwater.co.uk) or by email at: [SouthernWaterPlanning@southernwater.co.uk](mailto:SouthernWaterPlanning@southernwater.co.uk)

Yours faithfully,

Future Growth Planning Team

[southernwater.co.uk/developing-building/planning-your-development](https://www.southernwater.co.uk/developing-building/planning-your-development)



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Controllable Valve			Flow Control			Inlet-Outfall	
Damboards	Penstock	Valve	Anti Flood Device	Pumped Anti Flood Device	Reflux Valve	Inlet	Outfall
Manhole							
BIF Bifurcation	Cascade	CP Catchpit	Head Of Public Sewer	IC Interceptor Chamber	Manhole	S Soakaway	WO Washout
Outfall Headworks		Overflow Chamber		Pipe Bridge		Pumping Station	
Outfall Headworks	CSO Combined Sewer Overflow	Emergency Overflow	EMO Emergency Overflow	Pipe Bridge	Micro Pumping Station	Pumping Station	
Sewer Level Monitor		Storage		Treatment Works		Weir	
Sewer Level Monitor	Storm Tank	Tidal Storage Tank		Treatment Works		Weir	Wastewater Site
Wastewater Pipe				Wastewater Use		Developer Services	
Culverted Water Course	Syphon	Tank Sewer	Trunk Sewer	Foul	Combined	Build Over Agreement	Section 104
Drain	Vacuum Main	Decommissioned Pipe		Sludge	Treated Effluent	Wastewater Area	
Outfall				Surface Water	Private	Catchment	Sub-Catchment
Overflow							
Rising Main							
Sewer							