

[REDACTED]

Sent: 10 February 2026 15:56
To: Sam.Whitehouse
Subject: Re: DC/25/2006 Outline application
Attachments: slinfold sewage discharge.xlsx

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Dear Sam

As case officer for the above I want to draw your attention to a concerning issue that I have discovered regarding the capacity of foul sewage at Slinfold. I have submitted an on online objection about it, but because of its importance and urgency I write to you directly. I believe you need to request SW for comment ASAP. Attached is an xls file which shows the calculations for the evidence that I mention below.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

In essence -

Southern Water have commented that they have no objection to the above proposals, and state that foul capacity at a particular manhole node on Hayes Lane is 'adequate'.

What is not disclosed is the lack of capacity further downstream.

I can evidence to you that in the last 3 months ie 10/11/25 to 10/2/26 the sewage works at Slinfold has been discharging RAW sewage into the Arun for 26% of the elapsed time. These %'s are derived from the online records of the Slinfold works. ie -

<https://riversandseaswatch.southernwater.co.uk/release-history?Outfall=SLINFOLD>

This seems to be a blatant and deliberate obscuration by SW of the reality that the foul system is already over capacity.

Adding 38 houses to a system that is already demonstrably over capacity would directly contravene Paragraph 180 of the NPPF, which requires developments to prevent new and existing development from contributing to water pollution. As the Local Planning Authority, HDC has a duty under the Water Environment Regulations 2017 to ensure development does not lead to the deterioration of local water bodies.

I respectfully request that HDC asks Southern Water to clarify the basis of their 'adequate' capacity claim in light of these persistent discharges. Furthermore, the Environment Agency should be formally consulted to determine if the existing foul network can legally and safely accommodate this additional load.

As the facts stand at the moment, it seems that by focusing solely on a single manhole while ignoring documented capacity failures downstream, Southern Water's response appears to be a case of "selective disclosure". This misleads the planning process and risks a breach of their statutory duty under Section 94 of the Water Industry Act 1991 to 'effectually drain' the area. I urge the Council to use your power to impose a ruling that this development cannot go ahead UNTIL the Slinfold

treatment works are upgraded to handle current and additional load without further raw sewage discharges.