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United Utilities
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Lingley Mere Business Park
Lingley Green Avenue
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WA5 3LP

13 July 2026

Dear United Utilities Planning Team, DC/26/1706

Thank you for your comments regarding the submitted documents and your recommendation that Condition 9 is not discharged due to the absence of a set discharge rate and drainage calculations.

As agreed with the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), the proposed surface water drainage strategy utilises the existing attenuation pond, which ultimately discharges to the receiving watercourse. Flows from the pond are controlled by an existing hydrobrake, which restricts discharge from the attenuation pond to the approved rate.

The attenuation pond and associated flow control were approved under a previous planning permission to accommodate runoff from the application site and the surrounding industrial estate catchment. As such the approved pond storage volume already accounts for runoff from the site area as part of the wider contributing catchment. The principle of the site discharging to the pond has therefore already been established and accepted through the previous catchment.

A review of the approved drainage design and the existing as-built catchment has been undertaken. This assessment confirmed that the design and actual drained areas are broadly comparable and that the original design adopted a conservative approach. The approved pond design allowed for a contributing site area of approximately 2.14ha, whereas the actual site area contributing runoff is approximately 1.45ha, representing a reduction in contributing area compared with that assumed within the approved design. As such, the existing pond already accommodates a larger contributing area than is currently presented on site.

No concerns have been raised regarding the existing catchment currently draining to the attenuation pond, nor have any capacity constraints been identified in relation to the approved drainage system. This demonstrates that the pond is successfully accommodating the existing contributing area in accordance with the approved drainage strategy and us operating as intended.

A review of the pond storage characteristics has also been undertaken. The approved design identified an invert level of 78.64mAOD and a storage volume of 8,358m, whereas survey information indicates an actual invert level of 79.00mAOD and an actual storage volume of approximately 10,094m^3, both based on a pond depth of 1.79m. To provide conservative approach, the model has been ran with the original volume.

The hydraulic calculations demonstrates that, using the design storage volume of 8,358m^3, the pond provides sufficient attenuation during the 1 in 100 year plus climate change events. The modelling indicates a freeboard of approximately **0.182m** within the design scenario, demonstrating that the approved pond design continues to operate within acceptable parameters.

In addition, an assessment has been undertaken using the lowest known level capable of discharging into the pond, namely the gully level located to the south-west of the development. Using this level as the effective top

water level of the pond, the pond volume was recalculated using the actual surveyed invert level. This demonstrates an available storage volume of approximately **17,350m³** and an available freeboard of approximately **1.062m** under the 1 in 100 year plus 70% climate change event. This assessment indicates that the actual pond is significantly larger than assumed within the approved design, whilst the actual contributing catchment area is smaller than that originally assessed.

It is therefore considered appropriate that the development may discharge to the existing attenuation pond without any additional restriction, as both the contributing catchment area and the restricted runoff rate have already been accounted for within the approved pond design.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Jamie-lee Emmott
Civil Engineer