Hydrock Dorset Innovation Park LDO Flood Risk Assessment

For Purbeck District Council

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1. INTRODUCTION

This Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) report has been prepared by Hydrock on behalf of Purbeck District Council in support of a local development order (LDO) to be submitted to Purbeck District Council for a proposed development at the Dorset Innovation Park. The Assessment will inform the drafting of the parameters, conditions and Design Guidance which, when read together, will ensure that appropriate development proposals are brought forward for consideration under applications for prior approval

Parts of the site are within Flood Zones 2 (Medium Risk) and Flood Zone 3 (High Risk). This FRA report has been prepared to address the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), through:

- Assessing whether the site is likely to be affected by flooding.
- Assessing whether the proposed development is appropriate in the suggested location.
- Presenting any flood risk mitigation measures necessary to ensure that the proposed development and occupants will be safe, whilst ensuring flood risk is not increased elsewhere.



2. SITE INFORMATION

2.1 Location

The site is situated west of Wool, Dorset, roughly bounded by the Christchurch to Dorchester railway line to the north, other industrial buildings and minor access roads before Gatemore Road to the west and the River Win to the southeast. The site location is shown in Figure 1, with full address and Ordnance Survey Grid Reference in Table 1.

Site Referencing Information		
Site Address	Dorset Green Technology Park Winfrith Newburgh, Wool, Dorchester DT2 8ZB	
Grid Reference	SY819869 381973, 86907	

Table 1: Site Referencing Information



Figure 1: Site Location
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2.2 Topography

Ground levels on site fall from approximately 26m AOD in the west to approximately 20m AOD in the east. A detailed topographical survey is included in Appendix A.

2.3 Existing Site

The site is currently partially developed with industrial buildings interspaced with areas of landscaping (i.e. grass and trees) and minor access roads. The existing site layout is shown in Appendix C and on the topographical survey in Appendix A.

2.4 Proposed Development

The proposed development is for the demolition of some of the existing buildings and construction of a number of new buildings. A draft layout proposal is included in Appendix C.



3. SOURCES OF FLOOD RISK

This section summarises the potential flood risk to the site from various potential sources. A summary of the flood risk from these sources is given in Table 2.

Summary of Potential Sources of Flood Risk		
Fluvial	Majority Low, some Medium and High from River Win	
Tidal	Negligible	
Surface Water	Low	
Groundwater	Low	
Sewer	Low	
Infrastructure Failure	Low	

Table 2: Summary of Potential Sources of Flood Risk

3.1 Fluvial Flooding

The River Win flows in a northeasterly direction along the eastern site boundary, and through the site below Monterey Avenue. This watercourse is designated a 'Main River' so the Environment Agency are responsible for the management of fluvial flood risk along the watercourse. Environment Agency mapping (Figure 2) shows that while there are areas of the wider site in Flood Zone 2 (Medium Risk) and in Flood Zone 3 (High Risk) around Chapman House and Monterey Avenue, the majority of the site is within Flood Zone 1 (Low Risk). These Fluvial Flood Zones are defined as follows (with relevance of Flood Zones 3a and 3b addressed in Section 5.1):

- Flood Zone 1 (Low Risk) comprises land assessed as having a ≤0.1% AEP of fluvial flooding in any given year, equivalent to the 1 in ≥1,000 year return period event.
- Flood Zone 2 (Medium Risk) comprises land assessed as having a 0.1-1% AEP of fluvial flooding in any given year, equivalent to the 1 in 1,000-100 year return period event.
- Flood Zone 3 (High Risk) comprises land assessed as having a ≥1% AEP of fluvial flooding in any given year, equivalent to the 1 in ≤100 year return period event.
 - » Flood Zone 3a (High Risk) comprises land assessed as having a 1-5% AEP of fluvial flooding in any given year, equivalent to the 1 in 100-20 year return period event.
 - » Flood Zone 3b (Functional Floodplain) comprises land assessed as having a ≥5% AEP of fluvial flooding in any given year, equivalent to the 1 in ≤20 year return period event.

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Figure 2. Environment Agency Fluvial Flood Map

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3.2 Tidal Flooding

Given the site's significant elevation above sea level (>20m AOD) and geographical location upstream of tidal reaches of the River Frome into which the River Win flows, the site is concluded to be at negligible risk of tidal flooding.

3.3 Surface Water Flooding

Surface water flooding occurs as the result of an inability of intense rainfall to infiltrate to ground. This often happens when the maximum soil infiltration rate or storage capacity is reached. Such flows either drain into existing land drainage features or follow the general topography which can concentrate flows and lead to localised ponding/flooding.

Environment Agency surface water flood mapping (Figure 3) shows the majority of the site to be at a 'very low' risk of flooding from this source though there are isolated areas of 'low', 'medium' and 'high' risk across the site. The mapping does not take account of existing drainage infrastructure nor differentiate risk along lower lying channels (which by definition is fluvial) and on this basis the overall risk of surface water flooding is considered to be low.

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Figure 3. Environment Agency Surface Water Flooding Map

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3.4 Groundwater Flooding

British Geological Survey (BGS) bedrock mapping shows the southeast of the site is underlain by West Park Member Sand with the northwest underlain by Pool Formation Sand. It is likely that following heavy rainfall, groundwater flows through this permeable geology are likely and groundwater depths in areas adjacent to the River Win are likely to be comparable to water levels in the channel. As there is a lack of steep slopes across the site, actual emergence onto the site is unlikely, and so the overall risk of flooding from this source is considered to be low.

3.5 Sewer Flooding

The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) (PDC, 2015, p6) states that surface water sewers are designed to 'a standard of around 1 in 20 to 30 years'. There is no specific risk of sewer flooding in or around the Dorset Innovation Park, and on this basis, the overall risk of sewer flooding at the site is considered to be low.

3.6 Infrastructure Failure Flooding

The site is not shown in the Environment Agency mapping to be at risk of flooding from reservoirs. There is also no known risk of flooding from canals or any other artificial source and so the site is concluded to be at low risk of flooding from infrastructure failure.



4. HISTORIC FLOODING

SFRA mapping (PDC, 2011, Map 3, included in Appendix D of this report) shows reported flooding incidents where the River Win passes below the railway line east of the site. Environment Agency records (Figure 4) show flooding along the River Frome north of the site in 1959. The records however show the site was not affected by this event.



Figure 4. Environment Agency Historic Flooding Map

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5. NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

5.1 Sequential Test

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Sequential Test requires that a sequential approach is followed to steer new development to areas with the lowest probability of flooding (i.e. Flood Zone 1, then 2, then 3).

An assessment has been made of the proposed development option's flood risk vulnerability (GOV.UK (B), Point 25, Table 2) and suitability of each within the Flood Zone in which it is proposed (GOV.UK (B), Point 25, Table 3). The proposed commercial development is considered 'less vulnerable' with respect to flood risk. Less vulnerable development is considered acceptable within the Flood Zone 1 (Low Risk) and Flood Zone 2 (Medium Risk) parts of the site in which they are proposed, and on this basis the proposals are demonstrated as being in accordance with the principles of the Sequential Test.

The site's allocation within the Purbeck District Council Adopted Local Plan is detailed further in the appended technical note (Appendix E).

5.2 Exception Test

A NPPF Exception Test (GOV.UK (B), Point 7) requires that a proposed development provides wider sustainability benefits to the community that outweigh flood risk, and that it will be safe for its lifetime, without increasing flood risk elsewhere and where possible reduce flood risk overall.

An Exception Test is not explicitly required as the proposals are in accordance with the principles of the Sequential Test. Further consideration has however been made to ensure the Exception Test conditions are met as far as practicable.

5.2.1 Flood Resistance

Details on recommended minimum Finished Floor Levels (FFLs) are included in the appended technical note (Appendix E).



6. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY RIPARIAN RESPONSIBILITIES AND PERMITS

It should noted that:

- Riparian ownership responsibilities as outlined in the 'Owning a Watercourse' online guidance (EA, 2018) apply as the River Win flows along the edge and through the site.
- Any works within 8m of the River Win may be subject to an Environmental Permit for Flood Risk Activities (EA, 2016).



7. DRAINAGE

A drainage strategy has been undertaken by Hydrock and is included in a separate report (ref. DIP-HYD-ZZ-XX-RP-D-001).



8. SUMMARY

This Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) report has been prepared by Hydrock on behalf of Purbeck District Council in support of a local development order (LDO) to be submitted to Purbeck District Council for a proposed development at the Dorset Innovation Park. The Assessment will inform the drafting of the parameters, conditions and Design Guidance which, when read together, will ensure that appropriate development proposals are brought forward for consideration under applications for prior approval. The main findings are as follows:

- The site is currently partially developed with industrial buildings interspaced with areas of landscaping (i.e. grass and trees) and minor access roads.
- The proposed development is for the demolition of some existing buildings, and construction of new buildings.
- Environment Agency mapping (Figure 2) shows that while there are areas of the wider site in Flood Zone 2 (Medium Risk) and in Flood Zone 3 (High Risk) around Chapman House and Monterey Avenue, the majority of the site is within Flood Zone 1 (Low Risk). There is also concluded to be a low risk of flooding from all other sources.
- There are no records of historic flooding at the site.
- The proposed commercial development is considered 'less vulnerable' with respect to flood risk. Less vulnerable development is considered acceptable within the Flood Zone 1 (Low Risk) and Flood Zone 2 (Medium Risk) parts of the site in which they are proposed and on this basis the proposals are demonstrated as being in accordance with the principles of the Sequential Test.
- An appended technical note includes details on the site's allocation within the Purbeck District Council Adopted Local Plan and on recommended minimum Finished Floor Levels (FFLs).
- Riparian ownership responsibilities as outlined in the 'Owning a Watercourse' online guidance (EA, 2018) apply as the River Win flows along the edge and through the site.
- Any works within 8m of the River Win may be subject to an Environmental Permit for Flood Risk Activities (EA, 2016).
- A drainage strategy has been undertaken by Hydrock and is included in a separate report (ref. DIP-HYD-ZZ-XX-RP-D-001).

The LDO is therefore concluded to meet the flood risk requirements of the NPPF.



9. **REFERENCES**

Summary of Potential Sources of Flood Risk			
Author	Date	Description	
Construction Industry Research and Information Association (CIRIA)	Nov 2015	C753 The SuDS Manual	
Environment Agency (EA)	Feb 2018	Owning a Watercourse (<u>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-</u> <u>watercourse</u>)	
Environment Agency (EA)	Nov 2016	Flood Risk Activities: environmental permits (<u>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-activities-</u> environmental-permits)	
GOV.UK	(A) Updated July 2018	National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), 10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change (<u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/natio</u> <u>nal-planning-policy-framework2</u>)	
GOV.UK	(B) Released 15/04/15, now evolving online guidelines	Planning Practice Guidance, Flood Risk and Coastal Change (<u>http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/</u> guidance/flood-risk-and-coastal-change/)	
GOV.UK	(C) Released 19/02/16	Environment Agency, Flood Risk Assessments: Climate Change Allowances (<u>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-</u> assessments-climate-change-allowances)	
Hydrock Consultants	Aug 2018	Dorset Innovation Park Drainage Strategy	
Purbeck District Council (PDC)	Sep 2011	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment v8	
Purbeck District Council (PDC)	Jan 2015	Purbeck Local Plan Partial Review Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	
Purbeck District Council (PDC)	Jan 2018	Purbeck Local Plan Partial Review Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	



Appendix A

Topographical Survey

Reference	Title
V14391_SX	Topographical Survey A1 (1 of 14) by Lewis Brown Chartered Land Surveyors dated 02.2015
V14391_SX	Topographical Survey A1 (2 of 14) by Lewis Brown Chartered Land Surveyors dated 02.2015
V14391_SX	Topographical Survey A1 (3 of 14) by Lewis Brown Chartered Land Surveyors dated 02.2015
V14391_SX	Topographical Survey A1 (4 of 14) by Lewis Brown Chartered Land Surveyors dated 02.2015
V14391_SX	Topographical Survey A1 (5 of 14) by Lewis Brown Chartered Land Surveyors dated 02.2015
V14391_SX	Topographical Survey A1 (6 of 14) by Lewis Brown Chartered Land Surveyors dated 02.2015
V14391_SX	Topographical Survey A1 (7 of 14) by Lewis Brown Chartered Land Surveyors dated 02.2015
V14391_SX	Topographical Survey A1 (8 of 14) by Lewis Brown Chartered Land Surveyors dated 02.2015









