



Head of Planning & Regeneration Services  
Gravesham Borough Council  
Civic Centre  
Windmill Street  
Gravesend  
Kent  
DA12 1AU

Your ref  
20240473

Our ref  
DSA000034901

Date  
26 June 2024

Contact  
Tel 0330 303 0119

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Proposal:** Demolition of Annex and Extension to the original Kesson House. Erection of extension to Kesson House and use of building as 9 x 1-bedroom units for supported living use and overnight staff accommodation (Class C3b). Erection of 4 x 1 bed flats and 16 x 2 bed flats (Class C3a) in two separate blocks, hard and soft landscaping, parking spaces and cycle storage.

**Site:** 20240473: - Kesson House Care Home Council Avenue, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 9HN.

Thank you for your letter dated 05 June 2024.

Following the review of the submitted documents, we have the below comments for the Planning consultation.

### **Protection of Public Apparatus**

The attached plan shows that the proposed development will lie over an existing public foul sewer which will not be acceptable to Southern Water. The exact position of the public sewer must be determined on site by the applicant before the layout of the proposed development is finalised.

It might be possible to divert the sewer, so long as this would result in no unacceptable loss of hydraulic capacity, and the work was carried out at the developer's expense to the satisfaction of Southern Water under the relevant statutory provisions.

- The 300 mm and 150 mm public foul sewer requires a clearance of 3 metres on either side of the gravity sewer to protect it from construction works and to allow for future access for maintenance.
- No development or tree planting should be carried out within 3 metres of the external edge of the public gravity sewer without consent from Southern Water.
- No new soakaways should be located within 5 metres of a public sewer.

- All existing infrastructure should be protected during the course of construction works.

Please refer to: [Microsoft Word - DS Stand off distances V1.1NEW.docx \(southernwater.co.uk\)](#)

Alternatively, the applicant may wish to amend the site layout, or combine a diversion with amendment of the site layout. If the applicant would prefer to advance these options, items above also apply.

It is possible that a sewer now deemed to be public could be crossing the development site. Therefore, should any sewer be found during construction works, an investigation of the sewer will be required to ascertain its ownership before any further works commence on site.

**In order to protect drainage apparatus, Southern Water requests that if consent is granted, the following condition is attached to the planning permission; The developer must advise the local authority (in consultation with Southern Water) of the measures which will be undertaken to divert the public sewers, prior to the commencement of the development.**

### **Foul and Surface Water Drainage**

Southern Water requires a formal application for a connection to the public sewer to be made by the applicant or developer.

To make an application visit Southern Water's Get Connected service: [developerservices.southernwater.co.uk](https://developerservices.southernwater.co.uk) and please read our New Connections Charging Arrangements documents which are available on our website via the following link: [southernwater.co.uk/developing-building/connection-charging-arrangements](https://southernwater.co.uk/developing-building/connection-charging-arrangements)

The supporting documents make reference to drainage using Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).

Under certain circumstances SuDS will be adopted by Southern Water should this be requested by the developer. Where SuDS form part of a continuous sewer system, and are not an isolated end of pipe SuDS component, adoption will be considered if such systems comply with the latest Design and Construction Guidance (Appendix C) and CIRIA guidance available here:

[water.org.uk/sewerage-sector-guidance-approved-documents/](https://water.org.uk/sewerage-sector-guidance-approved-documents/)

[ciria.org/ItemDetail?iProductCode=C753F&Category=FREEPUBS](https://ciria.org/ItemDetail?iProductCode=C753F&Category=FREEPUBS)

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.

**We request that should this planning application receive planning approval, the following informative is attached to the consent: Construction of the development shall not commence until details of the proposed means of foul sewerage and surface water disposal have been submitted to, and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with Southern Water.**

### **Water Connection**

Our investigations indicate that Southern Water can facilitate water supply to service the proposed development. Southern Water requires a formal application for a connection to the water supply to be made by the applicant or developer.

To make an application visit Southern Water's Get Connected service: [developerservices.southernwater.co.uk](https://developerservices.southernwater.co.uk) and please read our New Connections Charging Arrangements documents which are available to read on our website via the following link [southernwater.co.uk/developing-building/connection-charging-arrangements](https://southernwater.co.uk/developing-building/connection-charging-arrangements)

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

Yours faithfully,

Future Growth Planning Team  
**Developer Services**

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