

Site Address: Custom House, The Terrace, Gravesend, Kent DA12 2BW
Date: May 2026

Condition 25 – Supporting Statement

This statement has been prepared to discharge Condition 25 attached to planning permission 20240687 at Custom House, The Terrace, Gravesend.

The submitted information sets out the proposed riparian lifesaving equipment and suicide prevention measures associated with the development. This statement is to be read alongside the proposed drawing 1906-C25-1_Proposed Riverside Plan.

Site Context

The application site is located adjacent to the River Thames; however, the development is separated from the river edge by a continuous tidal flood defence wall.

There is no direct access to the river from within the site. Access to the riverside is located to the east via a gated entrance, with access managed by the site management company.

The riverside walkways beyond the flood defence wall falls outside the ownership and control of the applicant.

Proposal

The proposed strategy adopts a proportionate response reflecting the physical separation between the development and the river.

The flood defence wall forms a continuous barrier and provides the primary safety function, preventing direct access to the water from within the site.

Riparian Lifesaving Equipment

Lifesaving equipment is proposed at the eastern access point as you enter the riverside within the site boundary, which provides the nearest connection towards the riverside environment.

This will comprise:

- A lifebuoy with integrated throw line.
- Mounted within a secure, marine-grade cabinet.
- Accompanied by appropriate emergency signage.

No additional equipment is proposed along the flood defence wall, or within the site as there is no direct access to the river in these locations.

All installed equipment will be maintained by the site management company. This will include regular inspection and replacement where necessary to ensure ongoing functionality.

Suicide Prevention Measures

A design-led approach has been adopted, focusing on passive safety measures. The continuous flood defence wall prevents access to the river and acts as the primary deterrent.

Additional measures include:

- Controlled gated access to the eastern boundary.
- Boundary treatments designed to discourage climbing.

Conclusion

The proposed measures provide a proportionate and appropriate response to the requirements of Condition 25.

The strategy reflects the site's physical characteristics that naturally limit access to the water edge, and provides additional user safety information in the event of an emergency.