from Southern Water

Ashford Borough Council
Civic Centre
Tannery Lane
Ashford
TN23 1PL

Your ref
OTH/2025/1437

Our ref
DSA000046309

Date
15th of September 2025

Contact
Tel 0330 303 0119

Dear Sir/Madam,

Proposal: Retention of the existing buildings, Goods Vehicle parking spaces, entry lanes, refrigerated semi-trailers, staff car parking spaces, access, site infrastructure, utilities, hardstanding, landscaping and ancillary facilities and associated works; and ongoing use of the site for an Inland Border Facility and Border Control Post, operating 24 hours per day, seven days per week.
Site: Sevington Inland Border Facility, Mersham, Ashford, TN25 6GE.

Thank you for your correspondence, please see our comments below regarding the above application.

Septic tank proposed

The Environment Agency should be consulted directly by the applicant regarding the use of a septic tank drainage which disposes of effluent to sub-soil irrigation.

Proposed SUDS features

If it is the intention of the developer for Southern Water to adopt the proposed SuDS, the system shall be designed and constructed in line with the Design and Construction Guidance www.water.org.uk/sewerage-sector-guidance-approved-documents/

No Soakaways should be connected to the public surface water sewer.

The supporting documents make reference to drainage using Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). Where SuDS form part of a continuous sewer system, and are not an isolated end of pipe SuDS component, adoption of SuDS will be considered if requested by the devloper if they comply with: Design and Construction Guidance (Appendix C), CIRIA guidance and Southern Water SuDS Guidance available here:

https://www.water.org.uk/sewerage-sector-guidance-approved-documents/

https://www.ciria.org/ItemDetail?iProductCode=C753F&Category=FREEPUBS

https://www.southernwater.co.uk/media/l4ndl3db/suds-final-080824.pdf

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.

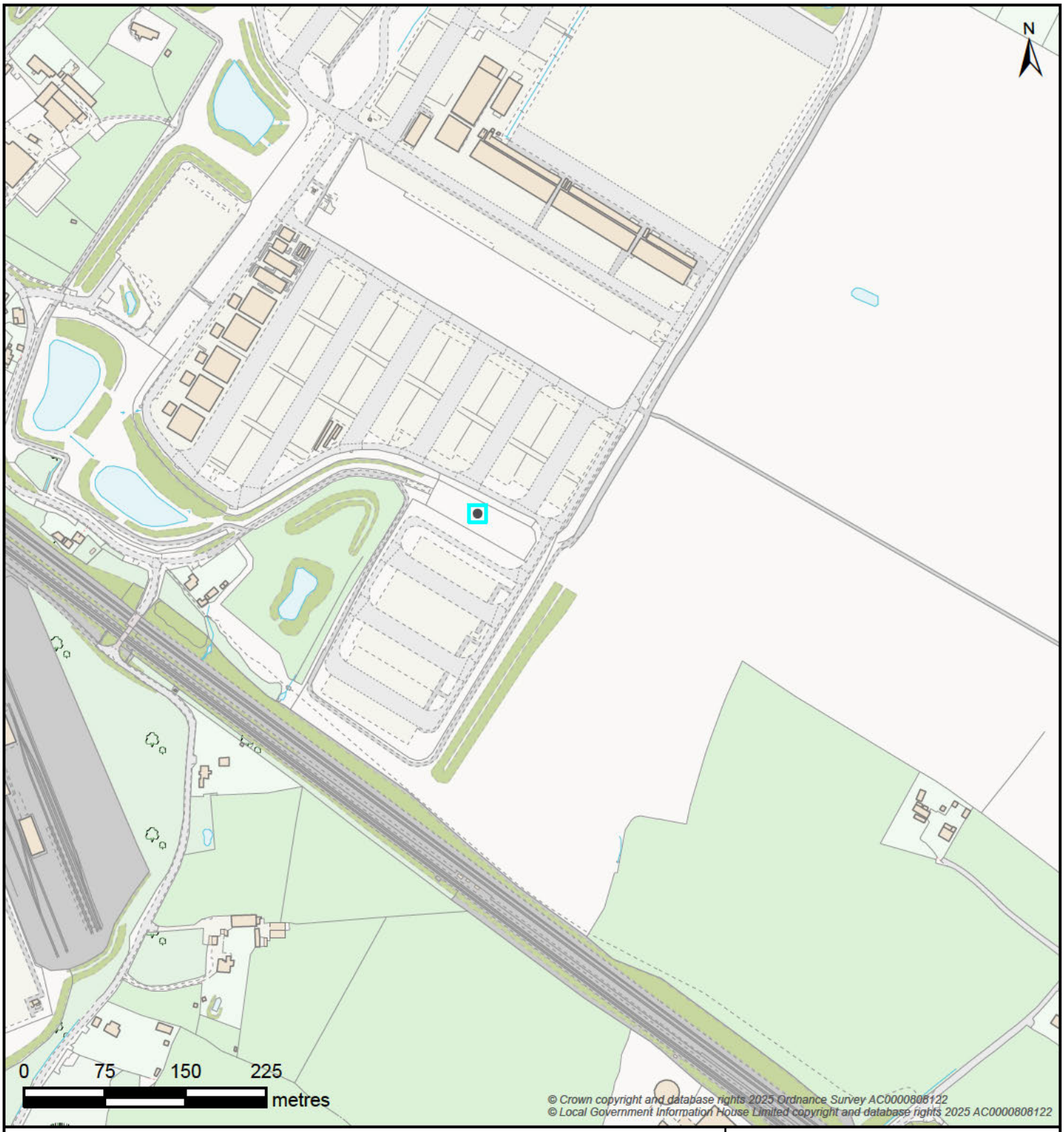
This should include the arrangements for adoption by any public authority or statutory undertaker and any other arrangements to secure the operation of the scheme throughout its lifetime. This initial assessment does not prejudice any future assessment or commit to any adoption agreements under Section 104 of the Water Industry Act 1991.

For further advice, please contact Southern Water, Southern House, Yeoman Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN13 3NX (Tel: 0330 303 0119)

Website: southernwater.co.uk or by email at: SouthernWaterPlanning@southernwater.co.uk

Yours faithfully,

Future Growth Planning Team
southernwater.co.uk/developing-building/planning-your-development



Controllable Valve
Dambeards | Penstock | Valve

Flow Control
Anti Flood Device | Pumped Anti Flood Device | Reflux Valve

Inlet-Outfall
Inlet | Outfall

Manhole
BIF Bifurcation | Cascade | CP Catchpit | Head Of Public Sewer | IC Interceptor Chamber | Manhole | S Soakaway | WO Washout

Outfall Headworks
Outfall Headworks

Overflow Chamber
CSO Combined Sewer Overflow | EMO Emergency Overflow

Pipe Bridge
Pipe Bridge

Pumping Station
Micro Pumping Station | Pumping Station

Sewer Level Monitor
Sewer Level Monitor

Storage
Storm Tank | Tidal Storage Tank

Treatment Works
Treatment Works

Weir
Weir

Wastewater Site
Wastewater Site

Wastewater Pipe
- Culverted Water Course
- Drain
- Outfall
- Overflow
- Rising Main
- Sewer
- Syphon
- Tank Sewer
- Trunk Sewer
- Vacuum Main
- Decommissioned Pipe

Wastewater Use
- Foul
- Combined
- Sludge
- Treated Effluent
- Surface Water
- Private

Developer Services
Build Over Agreement | Section 104

Wastewater Area
- Catchment
- Sub-Catchment

Map Title: DSA000046309 GIS

Printed By [redacted]

Date Printed: 15/09/2025

Map Scale: 5000

The information provided is believed to be correct but is provided on an 'as is' basis and without any warranty or condition express or implied, statutory or otherwise as to its quality or fitness for purpose. Actual positions of assets should always be determined on site.

WATER for LIFE from Southern Water