

**Greater Norwich
Level 2
Strategic Flood
Risk Assessment
Detailed Site
Summary Tables**



Site details

Site Code	GNLP2114
Address/Grid Ref.	St Georges Works, Muspole Street/ 622945,309070
Area	0.55ha
Current land use	Commercial
Proposed land use	Residential led mixed use

Sources of flood risk

Location of site within catchment
The site is in the catchment of the River Wensum. The River Wensum rises between the villages of Colkirk and Whissonsett and flows through Fakenham and the Pensthorpe nature reserve, and on through Swanton Morley, Taverham and Norwich to its confluence with the River Yare.

Existing drainage features
The site is located approximately 110m from the River Wensum. The River Wensum is an Environment Agency designated main river and has been artificially modified through Norwich by the banks of the river being enforced with steel and concrete. There are no additional watercourses within the site boundary or near the site.

Fluvial

Proportion of site at risk:
FZ3b – 0%
FZ3a – 0%
FZ2 – 13%
FZ1 – 87%

The % Flood Zones quoted show the % of the site at flood risk from that particular Flood Zone/event, including the percentage of the site at flood risk at a higher risk zone, e.g. FZ2 includes the FZ3 %. FZ1 is the remaining area outside FZ2 (FZ2 + FZ1 = 100%).

Available data:
Modelling has been completed for the River Wensum using TUFLOW. Both defended and undefended scenarios have been modelled and the defended scenarios have been used to assess the risk of flooding to the site. Further modelling was undertaken to apply recent climate change uplifts to the fluvial model of the Wensum.

Flood characteristics:
Fluvial flooding associated with the River Wensum is wide in extent and is modelled to flood a small part of the site in an extreme event.

The site is not at risk of flooding during the 5% AEP and 1% AEP flood events. In the 0.1% AEP flood event, a small part of the site is at risk of flooding. Flood water flows into the site from the existing entrance from Muspole Street and ponds in a small area in the northern part of the site.

Flood depths on the site are shallow, up to 0.2m in depth. The modelled area of flooding has a flood hazard rating of 'Caution'.

Coastal and Tidal
The site is not at risk from coastal or tidal flooding.

<p>Surface Water</p>	<p>Proportion of site at risk (RoFfSW): 3.3% AEP – 0% Max depth 0m, Max velocity 0m/s 1% AEP – 0% Max depth 0m Max velocity 0m/s 0.1% AEP – 0% Max depth 0m Max velocity 0m</p> <p><i>The % SW extents quoted show the % of the site at surface water risk from that particular event, including the percentage of the site at flood risk at a higher risk zone (e.g. 1% AEP includes the 3.3% AEP %)</i></p> <p>Description of surface water flow paths: The site is not shown to be at risk of surface water flooding. A surface water flow path is present along Muspole Street during the 0.1% AEP flood event. The flow path flows south along the street onto Colegate and is below >0.3m in depth.</p>
<p>Reservoir</p>	<p>The site is not shown to be at risk of reservoir flooding from the available <u>online</u> maps.</p>
<p>Groundwater</p>	<p>The Environment Agency Areas Susceptible to Groundwater Flooding dataset, provided as 1km grid squares, shows the susceptibility of an area to groundwater flood emergence. The following comments can be made about groundwater flood risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The entirety of the site has a >50%- <75% susceptibility to groundwater flood emergence from superficial deposits. <p>This assessment does not negate the requirement that an appropriate assessment of the groundwater regime should be carried out at the site-specific FRA stage.</p>
<p>Flood history</p>	<p>The Environment Agency's historic flooding and recorded flood outlines dataset has a record of flooding on the site. The source of flooding was attributed to the River Wensum and flooding occurred in 1912.</p> <p>Flood history information provided in the Level 1 SFRA does not identify any historic flooding on or near the site.</p>
<p>Flood risk management infrastructure</p>	
<p>Defences</p>	<p>This site is not protected by any formal flood defences.</p>
<p>Residual risk</p>	<p>There is no residual risk to the site from flood risk management structures.</p>
<p>Emergency planning</p>	
<p>Flood warning</p>	<p>The southern boundary of the site is in the Environment Agency's 'River Wensum, through Norwich' flood warning area.</p> <p>The site is also located in the 'The River Wensum from New Costessey to Thorpe Bridge at Norwich' flood alert area.</p>
<p>Access and egress</p>	<p>The site is only accessible from the east of the site, from Muspole Street.</p> <p>In terms of fluvial flood risk, the existing entrance to the site is in the modelled 0.1% AEP flood extent and modelling shows that it could experience shallow flood of up to 0.2m. Access and egress would not be affected.</p> <p>In terms of surface water flood risk, there is no risk of flooding to the site. A surface water flow path is present on Muspole Street during the 0.1% AEP event. However, flooding remains largely below 0.3m in depth at the access point during this event and is unlikely to impact access.</p> <p>In the future, access and egress may be more significantly affected by flooding. Under the Upper End (+65%) Climate Change scenario, access remain unaffected during the 5% AEP event, however extensive flooding of the surrounding road network may impede access/egress. Furthermore, the entire site and surrounding area is at risk during the 0.1% AEP event (Future Flood Zone 2). Access and egress in the future with regards to climate change should be assessed and if it is found to be significantly impacted, a shelter in situ policy adopted. Any development should include a safe facility for all residents to shelter during an extreme event, with floor levels above the maximum flood level during the 0.1% AEP event, with an allowance for freeboard. For this site this is approximately 1.0m above ground level.</p>
<p>Dry islands</p>	<p>The site is located on a dry island.</p>

Climate change

Implications for the site

- The site is highly sensitive to climate change causing increased in fluvial flows in the River Wensum.
- Part of the site is in future Flood Zone 3a, which is the 1% AEP plus the Upper End (+65%) climate change scenario. Flood depths during this scenario range between 0.1m and 0.4m. Most of the site has a flood hazard rating of 'Caution', with a rating of 'dangerous to some' for two small areas in the north and south of the site.
- The site is in future Flood Zone 2 which is the 0.1% AEP plus the Upper End (+65%) climate change scenario. Flood extents across the site increases significantly, covering the whole site. The 1000 year plus the Upper End (65%) climate change scenario results in flooding across the site with depths of up to 0.95m present on the site. Most of the site has a flood hazard rating of 'dangerous to most', and lower hazard ratings for three areas in the north, east and south of the site.
- The modelled 1% AEP with 40% Climate Change Surface water flooding does not show a significant increase in surface water flooding on the site.

Proportions of the site in Future Flood Zones can be found in Table 6-2 of the Greater Norwich Level 2 SFRA Report

Requirements for drainage control and impact mitigation

Broad scale assessment of possible SuDS

Geology & Soils

- Geology at the site consists of:
 - Bedrock – Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation, Culver Chalk Formation, Portsdown Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) – Chalk.
 - Superficial – Alluvium (Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel).
- Soils at the site consist of:
- Fen peat soils - peaty, naturally wet, mixed fertility very low to lime-rich

SuDS

- Most source control techniques are likely to be suitable. Mapping suggests that permeable paving may have to use non-infiltrating systems given the possible risk both to and from groundwater.
- Infiltration may be suitable. Mapping suggests a medium risk of groundwater flooding and underlying soils may be permeable. Further site investigation should be carried out to assess potential for drainage by infiltration. If infiltration is suitable it should be avoided in areas where the depth to the water table is <1m. As the site is located within a Source Protection Zone, infiltration techniques should only be used where there are suitable levels of treatment although it is possible that infiltration may not be permitted. Additionally, proposed SuDS should be discussed with relevant stakeholders (LPA, LLFA and EA) at an early stage to understand possible constraints.
- Detention may be feasible provided site slopes are <5% at the location of the detention feature. If the site has contamination or groundwater issues, a liner will be required.
- Filtration techniques are probably suitable provided site slopes are <5% and the depth to the water table is >1m. If the site has contamination or groundwater issues, a liner will be required.
- All forms of conveyance are likely to be suitable. Where the slopes are >5% features should follow contours or utilise check dams to slow flows. If the site has contamination issues, a liner will be required.
- Developers should investigate and consider in full all Suds options and demonstrate that SuDS are not appropriate where they are not implemented
- The site is not designated by the Environment Agency as previously being a landfill site.

Opportunities for wider sustainability benefits and integrated flood risk management

- Due to the size of the site, there is likely to be limited space for green infrastructure. It is recommended that areas of hard paving are designed to ensure that flood water can be stored during a flood event alongside the use of green features such as rain gardens and tree pits.
- A resilient approach to urban design should be taken. Habitable floor levels must be above the 1% AEP flood level taking into account climate change upper end scenario with an allowance for freeboard, approximately 0.5m above ground level.

NPPF and planning implications

Exception Test requirements

The Local Authority will need to confirm that the sequential test has been carried out. The Sequential Test will need to be passed before the Exception Test is applied.

The NPPF classifies residential development as 'More Vulnerable' development. As the site is mostly covered by Flood Zone 2, the Exception Test is not required for the site.

The site however is in Future Flood Zone 3 and it is recommended that a precautionary approach is taken, and the Exception Test is applied.

Requirements and guidance for site-specific Flood Risk Assessment

Flood Risk Assessment:

- At the planning application stage, a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment will be required as the development is in Flood Zone 2.
- All sources of flooding, particularly the risk of fluvial and surface water should be considered as part of a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment.
- The site-specific FRA should be carried out in line with the National Planning Policy Framework; Flood Risk and Coastal Change Planning Practice Guidance, Norwich City Council's Local Plan policies, and the Norfolk County Council Lead Local Flood Authority's Statutory Consultee for Planning Guidance Document.
- Consultation with the Local Authority, Lead Local Flood Authority and the Environment Agency should be undertaken at an early stage.
- The development should be designed to ensure that mitigation measures are in place to ensure the development does not flood, or that ground level space is used for less vulnerable parts of the development.

Guidance for site design and making development safe:

- The developer will need to show, through an FRA, that future users of the development will not be placed in danger from flood hazards throughout its lifetime. It is for the applicant to show that the development meets the objectives of the NPPF's policy on flood risk. For example, how the operation of any mitigation measures can be safeguarded and maintained effectively through the lifetime of the development. (Para 048 Flood Risk and Coastal Change PPG).
- Safe access and egress will need to be demonstrated in the 1 in 0.1% AEP plus climate change fluvial and rainfall events, using the depth, velocity and hazard outputs. Ideally, the access route should be situated 300mm above the designed flood level and waterproofing techniques should be used where necessary. Raising of access routes must not impact on surface water flow routes or contribute to loss of floodplain storage. Consideration should be given to the siting of access points with respect to areas of surface water flood risk. Alternatively, the risk could be managed through the inclusion of higher refuge and a Flood Response Plan that meets the requirements of the Local Council and their Emergency Planner.
- Access and egress in the future with regards to climate change should be assessed and if it is found to be significantly impacted, a shelter in situ policy adopted. Any development should include a safe facility for all residents to shelter during an extreme event, with floor levels above the maximum flood level during the 0.1% AEP event, with an allowance for freeboard. For this site this is approximately 1.0m above ground level.
- Compensatory flood storage is required for any land raising and all proposed buildings whenever there is built development on land within the 1% +35% climate change flood extent.
- Due to the highly constrained nature of the site, resilience measures will be required if buildings are situated in the flood risk area. Raising Finished Floor Levels above the 1% AEP event with allowance for climate change may remove the need for resilience measures, approximately 0.5m above ground level.
- The risk from surface water flow routes should be quantified as part of a site-specific FRA, including a drainage strategy, to ensure that runoff from the development is not increased by development across any ephemeral surface water flow routes. A drainage strategy should help inform site layout and design to ensure there is no increase in runoff beyond current rates.
- Areas at risk from surface water flooding should ideally be integrated into green infrastructure, which presents wider opportunities to improve biodiversity and amenity as well as climate change adaptation. An integrated flood risk management and sustainable drainage scheme for the site is advised. It is essential that a detailed model of surface water flooding, using the existing drainage system, topographical and asset survey is constructed at the FRA stage. This will determine the risk from surface water flooding further and to ensure that overland flows do not overwhelm future sustainable drainage features.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brownfield sites should discharge surface water at the original pre-development (greenfield) runoff rate. If this is not possible, a significant reduction in the current rate of discharge should be achieved and agreed with the relevant drainage body (LLFA). • Developers should refer to Norfolk County Council's 'Norfolk County Council Lead Local Flood Authority Statutory Consultee for Planning Guidance Document' and the Level 1 SFRA for information on SuDS for guidance on the information required by the LLFA from applicants to enable it to provide responses to planning applications.
--	---

Key messages

The development is likely to be able to proceed if:

- Areas in Flood Zone 1 and then 2 are used for the most vulnerable parts of the development in accordance with Table 2 in the NPPF.
- If flood mitigation measures are implemented then they are tested to ensure that they will not displace water elsewhere (for example, if land is raised to permit development on one area, compensatory flood storage will be required in another).
- An integrated flood risk management and sustainable drainage solution is implemented.
- New developments should adopt exemplar source control SuDS techniques to reduce the risk of frequent low impact flooding due to post-development runoff. Assessment for runoff should include allowance for climate change effects.
- Brownfield sites should discharge surface water at the original pre-development (greenfield) runoff rate. If this is not possible, a significant reduction in the current rate of discharge should be achieved and agreed with the relevant drainage body (LLFA, IDB or Anglian Water).
- The site is accessed from Muspole Street to the east of the site. There are areas of both fluvial and surface water flood risk in this area and along the road. Although flood depths are not shown to be significant during the 0.1% AEP fluvial flood event, flooding could impact access and egress to and from Muspole Street during a flood event where the extent and depths of flooding were increased due to climate change.

Mapping Information

The key datasets used to make planning recommendations regarding this site were the broadscale 2D modelling outputs from the Environment Agency's Flood Map for Planning, River Wensum Flood Model and the Risk of Flooding from Surface Water map. More details regarding data used for this assessment can be found below.

Flood Zones	Flood Zones 2 and 3 have been taken from the Environment Agency's Flood Map for Planning mapping.
Climate change	Fluvial depth and hazard mapping has been taken from the River Wensum model for present day, and for future flood zones this was modelling produced for the Level 2 SFRA. This should be explored further at site-specific stage. Climate change allowances (for the 2080s) were modelled as part of Level 2 SFRA. This included Central (+25%), Higher central (+35%) and Upper end (+65%).
Fluvial depth, velocity and hazard mapping	The Risk of Flooding from Surface Water map has been used to define areas at risk from surface water flooding.
Surface Water	The surface water depth and hazard mapping for the 1 in 1% AEP event is taken Environment Agency's Risk of Flooding from Surface Water mapping.
Surface water depth, velocity and hazard mapping	Fluvial depth and hazard mapping has been taken from the River Wensum model for present day, and for future flood zones this was modelling produced for the Level 2 SFRA. This should be explored further at site-specific stage.