

Cumberland Council  
By email

**Your ref:** 4/23/2132/0R1  
**Our ref:** DC/23/1723  
**Date:** 06-JUN-23

Dear Planning Team

**Location: LAND AT ARLECDON ROAD, ARLECDON**  
**Proposal: RM - RELATING TO ACCESS, APPEARANCE, LANDSCAPING, LAYOUT & SCALE FOR 2 DETACHED DORMER DWELLINGS WITH INTEGRAL GARAGE (PURSUANT TO OUTLINE PLANNING APPROVAL 4/21/2469/001)**

United Utilities wish to make the following comments regarding the proposal detailed above.

A large diameter trunk main is located in the vicinity of the site. It must not be built over, or our access to the pipeline compromised in any way. We require an access strip as detailed in our 'Standard Conditions for Works Adjacent to Pipelines', which can be found on our website: <https://www.unitedutilities.com/builders-developers/your-development/planning/building-over-or-working-near-our-assets/working-near-our-pipes/>. The applicant must comply with this document to ensure pipelines are adequately protected both during and after the construction period.

*The submitted application does not include evidence to demonstrate that the trunk main has been precisely located by way of a non-intrusive survey. We also request that the submitted plans plot the location of this main accurately and includes the easement width measurements to demonstrate no encroachment from the development both during and after construction.*

Following our review of the proposed site layout, we can confirm that the proposal is not currently acceptable to United Utilities as proposed features appear to be in close proximity to our water main. Until such time as the applicant has resolved all concerns regarding the proximity of proposed development to our water assets, our position is that we OBJECT to the proposal.

Given the size and nature of the pipeline concerned, we strongly recommend that if they have not already done so, the applicant contacts our Developer Services team at the earliest opportunity for advice on determining the precise location of the pipeline and additional

protection measures they must consider both during and after construction. They should contact **Sara Livesey** by email ([DeveloperServicesWater@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:DeveloperServicesWater@uuplc.co.uk)).

### **DRAINAGE**

In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG), the surface water should drain in the most sustainable way. United Utilities will request evidence that the drainage hierarchy has been fully investigated and why more sustainable options are not achievable before a surface water connection to the public sewer is acceptable.

Please note, United Utilities is not responsible for advising on rates of discharge to the local watercourse system. This is a matter for discussion with the Lead Local Flood Authority and / or the Environment Agency (if the watercourse is classified as main river).

If the applicant intends to offer wastewater assets forward for adoption by United Utilities, their proposed detailed design will be subject to a technical appraisal by our Developer Services team and must meet the requirements outlined in 'Sewerage Sector Guidance Appendix C – Design and Construction Guidance v2-2' dated 29 June 2022 or any subsequent iteration. This is important as drainage design can be a key determining factor of site levels and layout.

The applicant should not presume that the principles outlined within a drainage strategy will meet the detailed requirements for a successful adoption application. We strongly recommend that no construction commences until the detailed drainage design, has been assessed and accepted in writing by United Utilities. Any works carried out prior to the technical assessment being approved is done entirely at the developers own risk and could be subject to change.

### **UNITED UTILITIES PROPERTY, ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Where United Utilities' assets cross the proposed red line boundary, developers must contact our Developer Services team prior to commencing any works on site, including trial holes, groundworks or demolition. Please see 'Contacts' section below.

#### **Water pipelines**

United Utilities will not allow building over or in close proximity to a water main.

To discuss the proposal in relation to the water main we recommend the applicant contacts our Developer Services team. If direct communication, between the applicant and our Developer Services team, results in an acceptable solution to address our current objection, the applicant must submit any agreed details to the Council for formal consideration. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the Council have all information that is relevant to their application.

Should the LPA deem the application acceptable prior to the resolution of our objection, we request the following condition it attached to the Decision Notice:

#### **CONDITION**

***No construction shall commence until details of the means of ensuring the water main that is laid within the site boundary is protected from damage as a result of the development have***

***been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing. The details shall outline the potential impacts on the water main from construction activities and the impacts post completion of the development on the water main infrastructure that crosses the site and identify mitigation measures to protect and prevent any damage to the water main both during construction and post completion of the development. Any mitigation measures shall be implemented in full in accordance with the approved details.***

***Reason: In the interest of public health and to ensure protection of the public water supply.***

### **Wastewater pipelines**

United Utilities will not allow a new building to be erected over or in close proximity to a public sewer or any other wastewater pipeline. This will only be reviewed in exceptional circumstances. *Nb. Proposals to extend domestic properties either above, or in close proximity to a public sewer will be reviewed on a case by case basis by either by a building control professional or following a direct application to United Utilities (see our website for further details).*

### **Important information regarding water and wastewater pipelines and apparatus**

It is the applicant's responsibility to investigate and demonstrate the exact relationship between United Utilities' assets and the proposed development.

A number of providers offer a paid for mapping service, including United Utilities (see 'Contacts' section below). The position of the underground apparatus shown on water and wastewater asset maps is approximate only and is given in accordance with the best information currently available. Therefore, we strongly recommend the applicant, or any future developer, does not rely solely on the asset maps to inform decisions relating to the detail of their site and instead investigates the precise location of any underground pipelines and apparatus. Where additional information is requested to enable an assessment of the proximity of proposed development features to United Utilities assets, the proven location of pipelines should be confirmed by site survey; an extract of asset maps will not suffice. The applicant should seek advice from our Developer Services team on this matter. See 'Contacts' Section below. United Utilities Water will not accept liability for any loss or damage caused by the actual position of our assets and infrastructure being different from those shown on asset maps.

Developer's should investigate the existence and the precise location of water and wastewater pipelines as soon as possible as this could significantly impact the preferred site layout and/or diversion of the asset(s) may be required. Unless there is specific provision within the title of the property or an associated easement, any necessary disconnection or diversion of assets to accommodate development, will be at the applicant/developer's expense. In some circumstances, usually related to the size and nature of the assets impacted by proposals, developers may discover the cost of diversion is prohibitive in the context of their development scheme.

Any agreement to divert our underground assets will be subject to a diversion application, made directly to United Utilities. This is a separate matter to the determination of a planning application. We will not guarantee, or infer acceptance of, a proposed diversion through the planning process (where diversion is indicated on submitted plans). In the event that an

application to divert or abandon underground assets is submitted to United Utilities and subsequently rejected (either before or after the determination of a planning application), applicants should be aware that they may need to amend their proposed layout to accommodate United Utilities' assets.

Where United Utilities' assets exist, the level of cover to United Utilities pipelines and apparatus must not be compromised either during or after construction and there should be no additional load bearing capacity on pipelines without prior agreement from United Utilities. This would include sustainable drainage features, earth movement and the transport and position of construction equipment and vehicles.

Any construction activities in the vicinity of United Utilities' assets, including any assets or infrastructure that may be located outside the applicant's red line boundary, must comply with national building and construction standards and where applicable, our 'Standard Conditions for Works Adjacent to Pipelines', a copy of which is available on our website. The applicant, and/or any subsequent developer should note that our 'Standard Conditions' guidance applies to any design and construction activities in close proximity to water pipelines and apparatus that are no longer in service, as well as pipelines and apparatus that are currently operational.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that United Utilities' required access is provided within any proposed layout and that our infrastructure is appropriately protected. The developer would be liable for the cost of any damage to United Utilities' assets resulting from their activity.

### **WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICES**

If the applicant intends to receive water and/or wastewater services from United Utilities they should visit our website or contact the Developer Services team for advice at the earliest opportunity. This includes seeking confirmation of the required metering arrangements for the proposed development. See 'Contacts' Section below.

If the proposed development site benefits from existing water and wastewater connections, the applicant should not assume that the connection(s) will be suitable for the new proposal or that any existing metering arrangements will suffice. In addition, if reinforcement of the water network is required to meet potential demand, this could be a significant project and the design and construction period should be accounted for.

In some circumstances we may require a compulsory meter is fitted. For detailed guidance on whether the development will require a compulsory meter please visit <https://www.unitedutilities.com/my-account/your-bill/our-household-charges-20212022/> and go to section 7.7 for compulsory metering.

To promote sustainable development United Utilities offers a reduction in infrastructure charges for applicant's delivering water efficient homes and draining surface water sustainably (criteria applies). For further information, we strongly recommend the applicant visits our website when considering any water or wastewater design <https://www.unitedutilities.com/builders-developers/your-development/planning/building-sustainable-homes/>

Business customers can find additional information on our sustainable drainage incentive scheme at <https://www.unitedutilities.com/Business-services/retailers/incentive-schemes/>

To avoid any unnecessary costs and delays being incurred by the applicant or any subsequent developer, we strongly recommend the applicant seeks advice regarding water and wastewater services, and metering arrangements, at the earliest opportunity. Please see 'Contacts' Section below.

## **CONTACTS**

### **Website**

For detailed guidance on water and wastewater services, including application forms and the opportunity to talk to the Developer Services team using the '**Live Chat**' function, please visit: <http://www.unitedutilities.com/builders-developers.aspx>

### **Email**

For advice on water and wastewater services or to discuss proposals near to pipelines, email the Developer Services team as follows:

**Water mains and water supply, including metering - [DeveloperServicesWater@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:DeveloperServicesWater@uuplc.co.uk)**

**Public sewers and drainage - [WastewaterDeveloperServices@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:WastewaterDeveloperServices@uuplc.co.uk)**

**Telephone - 0345 072 6067**

### **Property Searches (for asset maps):**

A number of providers offer a paid for mapping service including United Utilities. For more information, or to purchase a sewer and water plan from United Utilities, please visit <https://www.unitedutilities.com/property-searches/>

Water and sewer records can be viewed for free at our Warrington Head Office by calling 0370 751 0101. Appointments must be made in advance. Public sewer records can be viewed at local authority offices. Arrangements should be made directly with the local authority.

The position of the underground apparatus shown on asset maps is approximate only and is given in accordance with the best information currently available. United Utilities Water will not accept liability for any loss or damage caused by the actual position being different from those shown on the map.

We request that a copy of this letter is made available to the applicant.

Yours faithfully

The Planning, Landscape and Ecology Team