7. WATER: HYDROGEOLOGY & HYDROLOGY

7.1 Introduction

This chapter of the EIAR comprises of an assessment of the likely impact of the proposed development on the surrounding surface water and hydrogeological environments, as well as identifying proposed mitigation measure to minimise any impacts.

Refer to Chapter 2.0 (Site Description) and Chapter 3.0 (Description of Development) for a detailed site and development description.

7.2 Characteristics of the Proposed Development

7.2.1 Hydrology

The development works include the attenuation of surface water flows to greenfield runoff rates. The proposed development will be attenuated using vortex flow control devices (Hydrobrake or equivalent) at the outfall, limiting the discharge rate to greenfield runoff rates in accordance with the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Strategy (GDSDS).

In order to adhere to this requirement, the calculated allowable surface water runoff for the entire development has been calculated as 25.65 l/s. It has been determined that a total attenuation volume of 3,064 m³ will therefore be required on site to accommodate for the 100-year storm event (provision for climate change included), as required by the GDSDS.

This information is used as the basis for the design of the surface water drainage network discussed in Chapter 13.0 (Material Assets).

The surface water drainage network, attenuation storage and site levels are designed to accommodate a 100year storm event (provision for climate change included). Floor levels of houses are set above the 100-year flood levels by a minimum of 0.5m. For storms in excess of 100 years, the development has been designed to provide overland flood routes along the various development roads towards the surface water drainage outfall. This overland flood route also reduces the development's vulnerability to climate change.

7.2.2 Hydrogeology

At soakaway test locations and trial pits locations from a site investigation carried out in 2018 (Appendix 6.A), excavations were carried out to depths ranging from 0.5m to 4.2m below existing ground level. Groundwater was encountered in TP03, TP04, TP12, TP13, TP15, TP20, TP30 at a depths of 2.4m, 0.8m, 0.5m, 2.20m, 2m, 1.20m and 2.20m below ground level respectively.

During construction, the deepest excavations are expected to be required for installation of surface water drainage lines and attenuation tanks (up to approximately 4.0m deep).

Therefore, it is possible that there may be infiltration of groundwater into excavations on site.

7.2.3 Flood Risk

The site is considered to have a low probability of flooding based on our review of OPW's Flood Hazard Mapping, the Eastern CFRAM Study and the Newcastle LAP, 2012. Refer to Section 7.3.3 below, which outlines that the Site is within Flood Zone C.

7.3 Receiving Environment

7.3.1 Hydrology

The proposed development site is within the Shinkeen Stream Catchment which is a tributary of the River Liffey located approximately 2.2 km to the northwest of the proposed development site (refer to Figure 7.1 below, extract from Newcastle Local Area Plan 2012).



Figure 7.1 Extract from Newcastle Local Area Plan (LAP) 2012 (not to scale)

The nearest Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated watercourse is a tributary of the River Liffey, referred to as 'Cornerpark' by the EPA, which is shown running through the residential developments to the east of the proposed development site and flowing in a north-easterly direction (refer to Figure 7.2 below). It appears the watercourse was diverted and culverted to discharge into the existing 450mm diameter culvert in Main Street as part of the residential developments under planning permission reg. ref SD05A/0344, The EPA records or South Dublin County Council records do not reflect this culverting.

The site is within the Liffey and Dublin Bay Catchment Area. The Leixlip hydroelectric dam is located approximately 3.5km upstream from where the "Cornerpark" watercourse enters the River Liffey, and the coast is approximately 20km to the east of the site.

A topographical survey of the site indicates that the site slopes towards the R120 Main Street to the north of the site. Therefore, it can be assumed that the site is part of a single surface water catchment as shown in Figure 7.1 above and is currently drained via a network of drainage ditches, which drain to the existing surface water sewers to the north and east of the site.



Figure 7.2 Extract from EPA Online Mapping Service

7.3.2 Hydrogeology

The Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) Online Data Services classifies the aquifer at the proposed development site as "Locally Important Aquifer – Bedrock which is moderately productive only in local zones".

GSI classifies the site's groundwater vulnerability from low to high. Low vulnerability is located in the central area, and moderate vulnerability is located to the north and south of the proposed development site. High vulnerability is present in small areas at the north-western and southern end of the site.



Figure 7.3 Extract from GSI Online Mapping Service (Groundwater Vulnerability)

Figure 7.4 Extract from GSI Online Mapping Service (Groundwater Aquifers)



7.3.3 Flood Risk

DBFL Consulting Engineers has undertaken a flood hazard assessment by reviewing information from the Office of Public Works (OPW) National Flood Hazard Mapping (www.floods.ie), the Eastern CFRAM Study and the Newcastle Local Area Plan (LAP) 2012. This assessment has been carried out in accordance with the procedure for a "Stage 1 Flood Risk Identification" as outlined in the OPW's Guidelines for Planning Authorities – The Planning System and Flood Risk Management (November 2009).

A review of the data available on the proposed development site showed no sign of fluvial flood risk on the site. In addition, the proposed drainage is designed to provide good protection against a possible pluvial flooding up to the 100 year return event. Should extreme pluvial flooding occur that is in excess of the

development's drainage capacity then overland flood routes to the drainage outfall can protect the development and houses with lower floor levels.

Following the flood risk assessment stages it was determined that the Site is within Flood Zone C as defined by the Guidelines, and therefore the residential development proposed is appropriate for the Site's flood zone category.

OPW Flood Hazard Mapping

OPW's Summary Local Area Report summarises all flood events within 2.5 km of the site. Nine previous flood events were highlighted within 2.5km of the site however none of these flood events were identified as having caused flooding within or in the immediate vicinity of the site.

Eastern CFRAM Study

As part of the EU Floods Directive, the OPW is undertaking a Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Study. An initial part of this Study was a national Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) to identify areas at risk of significant flooding.

The PFRA Flood Extents Maps show no risk of fluvial, coastal or pluvial flooding in the proposed development site up to the 1% AEP (Annual Exceedance Probability) event. The Rathcoole, Saggart and Baldonnel area was highlighted in the PFRA as a 'Probable Area for Further Assessment' which includes the eastern area of the proposed development site.

The CFRAM study provided further assessment of areas identified in the PFRA for further investigation and confirmed that the proposed development site is in Flood Zone C and is not affected by fluvial flooding.

Newcastle Local Area Plan 2012

The Newcastle Local Area Plan 2012 was adopted on the 7th December 2012. The Newcastle LAP 2012 includes a brief analysis of the provisional flood risk assessment data and flood events recorded by the OPW.

The LAP identifies a number of areas around Newcastle Village that could be at risk of potential flooding. The areas identified are located within the catchment of the River Griffeen and along Main Street. In addition, a number of flood events were recorded by the OPW along Aylmer Road and along Main Street. However, no flooding events or risks were identified within the proposed development site.

7.4 Assessment Methodology

Assessment of the likely impact of the proposed development on the surrounding surface water and hydrogeological environments included the following activities:

- Site inspection / walkover.
- Review of existing topographic survey information.
- Preliminary ground investigation carried out by Ground Investigations Ireland Limited between May and June 2018 which included 25 No. trial pits and 4 No. infiltration tests.

- Review of utility records obtained from South Dublin County Council (SDCC).
- Review of information available on the SDCC Online Planning Applications Service.
- Review of information available on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) online mapping service.
- Review of information available on the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) online mapping service.
- Review of Office of Public Works (OPW) National Flood Hazard Mapping and Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Studies (CFRAM Studies).
- Review of Newcastle Local Area Plan 2012.

As part of assessing the likely impact of the proposed development, surface water runoff calculations were carried out in accordance with the following guidelines:

• Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GDSDS)

7.5 Identification of Likely Significant Impacts

7.5.1 Construction Phase

Potential impacts that may arise during the construction phase are noted below:

- Surface water runoff during the construction phase may contain increased silt levels (e.g. runoff across areas stripped of topsoil) or become polluted by construction activities.
- Discharge of rain water pumped from excavations.
- Accidental spills and leaks associated with storage of oils and fuels, leaks from construction machinery and spillage during refuelling and maintenance contaminating the surrounding surface water and hydrogeological environments.
- Concrete runoff, particularly discharge of wash water from concrete trucks.
- Discharge of vehicle wheel wash water.
- Infiltration of groundwater into excavations.

7.5.2 Operational Phase

Potential operational phase impacts are noted below:

- Increased impermeable surface area will reduce local groundwater recharge and potentially increase surface water runoff (if not attenuated to greenfield runoff rate).
- Accidental hydrocarbon leaks and subsequent discharge into piped surface water drainage network (e.g. along roads and in driveway areas).

7.5.3 Risks to Human Health

A risk to human health from water, hydrology and hydrogeology can be linked to the potential for contamination of the potable water supply. The ground water and supply network would present possible pathways. The risk is considered below.

Groundwater Supply

As noted above the underlying receiving groundwater is a locally important aquifer. The risk to the contamination of this water supply source from surface water run-off from the development during construction and operation is considered to be low given the low infiltration rates obtained as part of the preliminary site investigation undertaken by Ground Investigations Ireland.

Network Supply

As noted above surface water outflow from the site ultimately discharges to the River Liffey which is the water source for the greater Dublin region. If surface water is not adequately treated and managed in accordance with the GDSDS it has the potential to impact human health.

Surface water drainage for the development has been designed in accordance with the GDSDS therefore the risk to human health has been mitigated.

7.5.4 Unplanned events

The following unplanned events could potentially give rise to impact on the receiving water and hydrology:

- Road traffic accident involving tanker carrying hazardous chemicals during construction or operational Phases.
- Flooding of the road network, preventing access to safe areas or prevention of emergency services from accessing buildings during the incident. The drainage network for the site is designed to accommodate flood events up to 1% AEP. In events above this risk level, the surface water network is designed to provide overland flood routes along the various development roads towards the surface water drainage outfall therefore mitigating the risk.

7.5.5 Potential Cumulative Impacts

The proposed surface water drainage infrastructure has been designed in accordance with the relevant guidelines. Any other future development in the vicinity of the site would have to be similarly designed in relation to permitted surface water discharge, surface water attenuation and SuDS, therefore, no potential cumulative impacts are anticipated in relation to surface water and flooding.

7.6 'Do Nothing' Scenario

There are no predicted impacts should the proposed development not proceed.

7.7 Mitigation Measures

7.7.1 Construction Phase

- A site-specific Construction Management Plan will be developed and implemented during the construction phase. Site inductions will include reference to the procedures and best practice as outlined in the Construction Management Plan.
- Rainwater pumped from excavations is to be directed to on-site settlement ponds.
- Surface water runoff from areas stripped of topsoil and surface water collected in excavations will be directed to on-site settlement ponds where measures will be implemented to capture and treat sediment laden runoff prior to discharge of surface water at a controlled rate.
- Weather conditions and seasonal weather variations will also be taken account of when planning stripping of topsoil and excavations, with an objective of minimizing soil erosion.
- In order to mitigate against spillages contaminating the surrounding surface water and hydrogeological environments, all oils, fuels, paints and other chemicals shall be stored in a secure bunded hardstand area. Refuelling and servicing of construction machinery will take place in a designated hardstand area which is also remote from any surface water inlets (where not possible to carry out such activities off site).
- Concrete batching will take place off site and wash out of concrete trucks will take place off site.
- Discharge from any vehicle wheel wash areas is to be directed to on-site settlement ponds.
- Groundwater pumped from excavations is to be directed to on-site settlement ponds.

7.7.2 Operational Phase

The design of proposed site levels (roads, finished floor levels etc.) has been carried out in such a way as to replicate existing surface contours, break lines etc., therefore replicating existing overland flow paths, and not concentrating additional surface water flow in a particular location.

Surface water runoff from the site will be attenuated to the greenfield runoff rate as outlined in the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GDSDS). Surface water discharge rates will be controlled by a Hydrobrake type vortex control device in conjunction with attenuation storage.

The following methodologies are being implemented as part of a SuDS surface water treatment train approach:

- Permeable paving in driveway areas.
- Surface water runoff from roofs will be routed to the proposed surface water pipe network via the porous aggregates beneath permeable paved driveways.
- Surface water runoff from greenlinks will drain to swales for treatment and runoff reduction.
- Attenuation of the 100-year return event storms.

- Installation of a Hydrobrake limiting surface water discharge from the site to greenfield runoff rates.
- Surface water discharge to pass via a Class 1 fuel / oil separator (sized in accordance with permitted discharge from the site).

7.8 Residual Impacts

7.8.1 Construction Phase

Implementation of the measures outlined in Section 7.7.1 will ensure that the potential impacts of the proposed development on water and the hydrogeological environment do not occur during the construction phase and that any residual impacts will be short term.

7.8.2 Operational Phase

As surface water drainage design has been carried out in accordance with the GDSDS, and SuDS methodologies are being implemented as part of a treatment train approach, there are no predicted residual impacts on the water and hydrogeological environment arising from the operational phase.

7.9 Interactions Arising

7.9.1 Soil and Geology

Quality of Effect: Negative.

Significance of Effect: Slight.

Surface water runoff during the construction phase may lead to erosion and contain increased silt levels (e.g. runoff across areas stripped of topsoil) or become polluted by construction activities.

Increased impermeable surface area will reduce local groundwater recharge and may potentially increase surface water runoff (if not attenuated to greenfield runoff rate).

Implementation of the mitigation measures described under section 7.7 will prevent and minimize the potential impacts of this interaction.

7.9.2 Flora and Fauna

<u>Quality of Effect</u>: Negative.

Significance of Effect: Slight.

Potential contamination of the surface water runoff during the construction and operational phase may cause chemical alterations that can impact on the flora and fauna of the site.

Implementation of the mitigation measures described under section 7.7 will prevent and minimize the potential impacts of this interaction.

7.10 Monitoring

Proposed monitoring during the construction phase in relation to the water and hydrogeological environment are as follows:

- Adherence to Construction Management Plan.
- Inspection of fuel / oil storage areas.
- Monitoring cleanliness of adjacent road network, implementation of dust suppression and vehicle wheel wash facilities.
- Monitoring sediment control measures (sediment retention ponds, surface water inlet protection etc.).
- Monitoring of discharge from sediment retention ponds (e.g. pH, sediment content).

During the operational phase an inspection and maintenance contract is to be implemented in relation to the proposed Class 1 fuel / oil separators, hydrobrakes and attenuation facilities.

7.11 Reinstatement

Oil, fuel etc. storage areas are to be decommissioned on completion of the construction phase. Any remaining liquids are to be removed from site and disposed of at an appropriate licenced facility. South Dublin County Council's Environmental Control Section is to be notified of the proposed destination for disposal of any liquid fuels.

All sediment control measures (e.g. sediment retention ponds) are to be decommissioned on completion of the construction phase. Such areas are to be reinstated in accordance with the landscape architects plan and engineer's drawings.

7.12 References

The baseline environment and the assessment of the development in this chapter was described based on the information collected from the sources mentioned under the Section 7.4.

APPENDIX 7.A SD05A-0344 Drainage Layout





DRAINAGE NOTES:

1. ALL WORKS SHALL BE CARRED OUT IN A SAFE MANNER AND IN ACCORDANCE with conrest statutory legelation including the safety, health and will are at work 4.2, 1988, and the safety, health and will are (construction)