

2793 – 151 Shaftesbury Avenue, Response to LB Camden Drainage Officer Comments

Status: Preliminary
 Date: 14.01.2025
 Rev 01
 Job no. 2793
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Issue	Date	Reason for Issue	Author
01	14.01.2025	Planning Response	Alex O’Hare

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1. Introduction

This report has been prepared by Heyne Tillett Steel (HTS) on behalf of Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited, in support of the recent planning application at 151 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8AL.

This note provides a response to comments received from London Borough of Camden's (LBC's) Drainage Officer on the planning application, received via email dated 19.12.24, via DP9 Ltd, and subsequent discussions with LBC Case officer and DP9 Ltd.

2. HTS Response to Officer Comments

2.1 Major / Minor Development & Run-off Rates

HTS determine the definition of a major application is as defined in [The Town and Country Planning Order \(TTCPO\) 2015](#) which states:

“major development” means development involving any one or more of the following:

- a) the winning and working of minerals or the use of land for mineral-working deposits;*
- b) waste development;*
- c) the provision of dwellinghouses where—*
 - a. the number of dwellinghouses to be provided is 10 or more; or*
 - b. the development is to be carried out on a site having an area of 0.5 hectares or more and it is not known whether the development falls within sub-paragraph (c)(i);*
- d) the provision of a building or buildings where the floor space to be created by the development is 1,000 square metres or more; or*
- e) development carried out on a site having an area of 1 hectare or more;*

A Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage strategy was submitted as part of the planning application. This includes details of the proposed drainage and SuDS strategy, referencing national, region, and local planning policy, including greenfield run-off rate requirements of the London Plan.

Opportunities have been maximised to reduce surface water run-off rates as far as possible within the constraints of the redevelopment.

Tables 5, 6, and 7 of the planning report summarise that SuDs have been accommodated in the form of blue and green roofs accommodated on upper roof and terrace which meet greenfield run-off rates for their respective catchment areas.

Maximising SuDs features achieves an overall betterment in surface water run-off of 38% from the site compared to existing greenfield run-off rates as targeted by the London Plan.

It is not feasible to provide further surface water attenuation across the scheme based on the following constraints:

- + Additional blue roofs on lower terraces are not feasible to be accommodated whilst maintaining step-free access to the terraces

- + Additional attenuation above the slab within the basement is not feasible due to the spatial requirements for other uses serving the site's needs – including provision of sprinkler tanks to upgrade the fire strategy.
- + Additional attenuation below the slab at basement level is unfeasible due to the presence of a 2.0m reinforced concrete raft foundation, unsuitable to be demolished to accommodate a tank within or below the foundation.

2.2 LBC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2024

The Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage strategy submitted in support of the planning application had erroneously referred to the LBC Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) 2014, not SFRA 2024.

A review of the SFRA 2024 report and mapping shows that the findings of the Flood Risk Assessment submitted for planning remains valid.

2.3 LBC SuDS Pro-Forma

A completed SuDs pro-forma is provided in Appendix A, in accordance with the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy, including greenfield run-off rates and their respective volumetric attenuation requirements.

Appendix A – LBC SuDs Proforma

1. Project & Site Details	Project / Site Name (including sub-catchment / stage / phase where appropriate)	2793 – 151 Shaftesbury Avenue
	Address & post code	151 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8AL
	OS Grid ref. (Easting, Northing)	E 530010
		N 181188
	LPA reference (if applicable)	
	Brief description of proposed work	Remove the existing façade and additional stories to the building. The proposal also includes an opening at ground floor level and other minor internal changes
	Total site Area	822 m ²
	Total existing impervious area	822 m ²
	Total proposed impervious area	822 m ²
	Is the site in a surface water flood risk catchment (ref. local Surface Water Management Plan)?	The site is in Critical Drainage Area Group3_005.
	Existing drainage connection type and location	Unknown. Survey and CCTV to be completed
	Designer Name	James Hayes
	Designer Position	Civil Engineer
	Designer Company	Heyne Tillett Steel

2. Proposed Discharge Arrangements	2a. Infiltration Feasibility		
	Superficial geology classification	Made Ground	
	Bedrock geology classification	London Clay Formation	
	Site infiltration rate	n/a	m/s
	Depth to groundwater level	m below ground level	
	Is infiltration feasible?	No	
	2b. Drainage Hierarchy		
		<i>Feasible (Y/N)</i>	<i>Proposed (Y/N)</i>
	1 store rainwater for later use	N	N
	2 use infiltration techniques, such as porous surfaces in non-clay areas	N	N
	3 attenuate rainwater in ponds or open water features for gradual release	N	N
	4 attenuate rainwater by storing in tanks or sealed water features for gradual release	Y	Y
	5 discharge rainwater direct to a watercourse	N	N
	6 discharge rainwater to a surface water sewer/drain	N	N
	7 discharge rainwater to the combined sewer.	Y	Y
	2c. Proposed Discharge Details		
	Proposed discharge location	Retain existing outfall	
Has the owner/regulator of the discharge location been consulted?	Yes		

3a. Discharge Rates & Required Storage				
	Greenfield (GF) runoff rate (l/s)	Existing discharge rate (l/s)	Required storage for GF rate (m ³)	Proposed discharge rate (l/s)
Qbar	0.11	 	 	
1 in 1	0.1	9.1	21	6.25
1 in 30	0.26	28	39	17.65
1 in 100	0.36	36.7	61	22.95
1 in 100 + CC	 	 	89	31.85
Climate change allowance used		40%		
3b. Principal Method of Flow Control		Blue Roof Orifice		
3c. Proposed SuDS Measures				
	Catchment area (m ²)	Plan area (m ²)	Storage vol. (m ³)	
Rainwater harvesting	0	 	0	
Infiltration systems	0	 	0	
Green roofs	0	15	0	
Blue roofs	0	322	24.52	
Filter strips	0	0	0	
Filter drains	0	0	0	
Bioretention / tree pits	0	0	0	
Pervious pavements	0	0	0	
Swales	0	0	0	
Basins/ponds	0	0	0	
Attenuation tanks		 	0	
Total	0	337	24.52	

3. Drainage Strategy

4a. Discharge & Drainage Strategy	Page/section of drainage report
Infiltration feasibility (2a) – geotechnical factual and interpretive reports, including infiltration results	NA
Drainage hierarchy (2b)	Section 5
Proposed discharge details (2c) – utility plans, correspondence / approval from owner/regulator of discharge location	Appendix C
Discharge rates & storage (3a) – detailed hydrologic and hydraulic calculations	Appendix D
Proposed SuDS measures & specifications (3b)	Section 5
4b. Other Supporting Details	Page/section of drainage report
Detailed Development Layout	Appendix A
Detailed drainage design drawings, including exceedance flow routes	
Detailed landscaping plans	
Maintenance strategy	Appendix E
Demonstration of how the proposed SuDS measures improve:	Section 5
a) water quality of the runoff?	
b) biodiversity?	
c) amenity?	

4. Supporting Information