

30th January 2026

Our Ref: 333100409/A3/MO

C. Howard, Esq.  
Delivery Manager - Development Delivery  
Development & Regeneration  
Wokingham Borough Council  
Shute End  
WOKINGHAM  
RG40 1BN

**VIA PLANNING PORTAL: PP-14666968**

Dear Mr. Howard,

**NEW HEADQUARTERS BUILDING OF EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR MEDIUM-RANGE WEATHER FORECASTS (ECMWF) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF READING'S WHITEKNIGHTS CAMPUS – RE-DISCHARGE OF PLANNING CONDITION 18**

As commissioned by Mace Construct on behalf of Government Property Agency (GPA), for the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT), we submit this application to re-discharge planning condition 18 (drainage details) with regards to the approved planning application (Ref: 232475) for a new headquarters building for the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) at the University of Reading's Whiteknights Campus.

This application is supported by a report prepared by BDP titled '**Planning Condition Report 18 – Drainage**' (Ref: **ECMWF-BDP-ZZ-ZZ-RP-C-000011 P09**) which is to supersede the previous approved report titled 'Planning Condition Report 18 – Drainage' (Ref: ECMWF-BDP-ZZ-ZZ-RP-C-000011 P05)'.

The key design changes are summarised below, with further explanation and detail in the updated report.

- The pumped surface water discharge from the buildings previously connected to the outfall via an existing road gully connecting to a ditch to the east of the site. It is now proposed to connect this pumped discharge to the proposed eastern access road gravity system at manhole SW33. This system then connects to the rest of the proposed drainage system at manhole SW43.
- Following further site investigations works at the south of the site, it was identified that the existing UoR manhole previously proposed for discharge of surface water is approximately 244mm shallower than what was shown in the information which the drainage design was based upon. As such, the proposed surface water network has been redesigned and rerouted to instead discharge to an adjacent existing private UoR manhole downstream (Ex MH03). As Ex MH03 is located outside of the site planning boundary, all necessary stakeholder engagement has been carried out with UoR to approve the proposed strategy (correspondence with the UoR included at Appendix F of the above report).
- This invert level at the point of connection to the existing UoR foul sewer (manhole FW. 10) has been updated to reflect the levels measured on site.

The site surface water discharge serving the buildings, car parks and external areas catchments remains unchanged at 7.2l/sec, which is a betterment of 98% from existing pre-development runoff rates for the 100year +40% climate change event. Discharge from the Eastern Access Road Catchment remains unrestricted.

This application and its associated documentation have been submitted via the Planning Portal, however, if you require hard copies then please do inform us.

Office Address:  
Stantec UK Limited  
The Blade  
Abbey Square  
Reading  
RG1 3BE

Registered Office:  
Stantec UK Ltd  
Stantec House  
Kelburn Court  
Birchwood  
Warrington WA3 6UT  
Registered in England No. 01188070

We trust that you have sufficient information to register and validate this application and will therefore be able to determine the application favourably. Should you wish to discuss the application further, please do not hesitate to contact the writer on 0118 943 0000 or via email at: [mark.owen@stantec.com](mailto:mark.owen@stantec.com)

Yours sincerely,



**Mark Owen**  
**Associate Planner**  
**Stantec UK Limited**