

Lead Local Flood Authority - (LLFA)

Planning Application - Consultation Response

Flood Risk Management Team
Staffordshire County Council

Lead Local Flood Authority - (LLFA)

Planning Application Response

Local Planning Authority	Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (SMDC)
Planning application name	Erection of a 300 MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).Land off Leek Road, Werrington, Staffordshire , ST9 0DQ
Planning application reference	SMD/2025/0354
Type of application	Full
Date consulted	04/03/2026
Date of response	25/03/2026

Disclaimer

This response is made by the County Council in its capacity as a Lead Local Flood Authority as a statutory consultee. As a Lead Local Flood Authority, we respond to Planning Applications where resources allow and considering where development has the greatest ability to affect flood risk.

These comments should be taken as general comments on flood risk and drainage only. A detailed review of any technical methodology and results has not been undertaken by the Council. Liability for such technical work therefore rests with organisation(s) who have undertaken the said work.

General observations / local flooding information

Flood Zone	Flood Zone 1
Surface water risk	Yes, flow path shown on updated Flood Map for Surface Water affects site
Past flooding	None Known Our information about past flooding is based on data that the Flood Risk Management team holds. Where other authorities (such as LPAs) have been made aware of issues, we cannot guarantee they have passed this information on to us.
Watercourse within 5m of site	Yes, ordinary watercourse along southern site boundary
Other observations	n/a

Thank you for consulting us on this full planning application. Our response is detailed below.

Preamble

We have reviewed Version 2 of the Flood Risk Assessment and Conceptual Surface Water Drainage Strategy for the Land off Leek Road (794-PLN-NPI-00181, dated 21/11/2025).

In terms of surface water drainage, the Conceptual Drainage Strategy Drawing remains as a preliminary drawing, subject to detail design. As a full planning application, the LLFA would require that the detailed design to be submitted as part of the application, including all design of the proposed surface water system such that it can be listed as an approved document upon any decision notice.

Staffordshire County Council Flood Risk Management Position

Insufficient information has been submitted to demonstrate that an acceptable drainage strategy is proposed. We would therefore recommend that planning permission is not granted. The outstanding issues are as below:

Infiltration

Section 10.1.2 states that an infiltration co-efficient of 1×10^{-7} m/s has been used, however, it is not clear whether on site infiltration testing has been undertaken to determine the rate. If infiltration is proposed, the infiltration rate of any discharges to ground shall be confirmed by means of an onsite, BRE-365 Infiltration test.

Drawing Update

Please update the drainage drawing to show all manhole information (CL/IL etc.), pipe diameters and gradient

Detailed Design Information

Please provide the following detail/ drawings in Appendix G:

- Detailed design of the lined and un-lined gravel sub-base;
- Detailed design, including cross sections, of the proposed swale arrangement, including any inlets and outlets;
- Detailed design of the flow control manhole;
- Detailed design of petrol/ silt interceptor;
- Detailed design of headwall to watercourse and confirmation of bed level; and

- Detailed Design of penstock valves

Please re-consult us at flood.team@staffordshire.gov.uk when amended details are received.

Please note that the issues highlighted above are not necessarily exhaustive.

If you are minded to approve the application contrary to this advice, we request that you contact us again to allow further discussion.

Please contact us on flood.team@staffordshire.gov.uk if you have any queries about this response.

