

Dear Clare,

HYBRID APPLICATION FOR THE ERECTION OF UP TO 190 RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS COMPRISING PHASE A - FULL PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE ERECTION OF 93 DWELLINGS WITH ASSOCIATED WORKS (INCLUDING ACCESS, PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, LANDSCAPING, SUSTAINABLE URBAN DRAINAGE SYSTEMS AND OTHER ASSOCIATED WORKS) AND PHASE B - OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR UP TO 97 DWELLINGS (WITH ALL MATTERS RESERVED); HALSNEAD GARDEN VILLAGE, PHASE 3, LAND TO THE SOUTH OF HALSNEAD PARK, AND TO THE NORTH OF THE M6, KNOWSLEY, L35 1QR

PLANNING REFERENCE 26/00166/HYB

In response to the comments received from India Blythin of the Environment Agency, dated 3rd July 2026, in relation to the application above, please find our responses below with any relevant information or updated documents attached.

Comments and/or Queries

Substantive Concern: Phase 3B – Outline Application

Please see attached the following document(s):

- Phase 3B, Whiston - Ground Investigation Report REV 2 - FINAL - Feb 26
- Whiston Phase 3 (Northern and southern Parcel) Coal Mining Risk assessment

In conjunction with the document(s) above, please see our responses below in *italics*:

In January 2026 additional rotary boreholes BH101 to BH108 were undertaken in the eastern part of Phase 3A and 3B to investigate the location of the geological fault and coal seams. The drawing for the additional rotary investigation in January 2026 shows trial pits, window samples and boreholes located within the Phase 3B part of the site. However, the data from these intrusive investigation locations is not included in the site investigation report. No sampling for pesticides was carried out on the soil samples.

Based on the findings of the site investigation and soil contamination testing the soils in Phase 3A appear to present a low risk to controlled waters. No evidence of shallow coal workings were found on site, however the report recommends site vigilance during the site strip for any unrecorded shafts or workings. Shallow groundwater was identified close to the ground surface across the site. No groundwater sample analysis has been presented in the report. Therefore,

groundwater quality is not known. The report states that groundwater sampling will be carried out. This has not been reported.

Please find attached a copy of a Desktop Study produced by Betts which confirms the Outline Parcel is of low risk for Coal Mining, in accordance with fault line investigations that have taken place on our existing scheme known as Phase 2A of Halshead Garden Village. Also enclosed is the phase 2 site investigation for 3B which wasn't made available in the original submission.

I trust the information I have submitted in response to the comments received from the Environment Agency provide the requested clarifications and information.

Yours Sincerely,



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Senior Design & Planning Executive

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