

West Suffolk Council  
Planning Department  
West Suffolk House  
Western Way  
Bury St Edmunds  
IP33 3YU

Fire Business Support Team  
Floor 3, Block 2  
Endeavour House  
8 Russell Road  
Ipswich, Suffolk  
IP1 2BX

Your Ref:  
Our Ref: FS/F281840  
Enquiries to: Water Officer  
Direct Line: 01473 260588  
E-mail: [Fire.BusinessSupport@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Fire.BusinessSupport@suffolk.gov.uk)  
Web Address: <http://www.suffolk.gov.uk>

Date: 10/11/2025

Dear Sirs

**Land off Homefield Road, Haverhill CB9 8QP**  
**Planning Application No: DC/25/1620/FUL**

I refer to the above application.

The plans have been inspected by the Water Officer who has the following comments to make.

**Access and Fire Fighting Facilities**

Access to buildings for fire appliances and firefighters must meet with the requirements specified in Building Regulations Approved Document B, (Fire Safety), 2019 Edition, Volume 1 - Part B5, Section 11 dwelling houses, and, similarly, Volume 2, Part B5, Sections 16 and 17 in the case of buildings other than dwelling houses. These requirements may be satisfied with other equivalent standards relating to access for fire fighting, in which case those standards should be quoted in correspondence.

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service also requires a minimum carrying capacity for hard standing for pumping/high reach appliances of 15/26 tonnes, not 12.5 tonnes as detailed in the Building Regulations 2000 Approved Document B, 2019 Edition.

**Water Supplies**

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service records show that the nearest fire hydrant in this location is over the recommended distance from the proposed build site and we therefore recommend that proper consideration be given to the potential life safety, economic, environmental and social benefits derived from the provision of an automatic fire sprinkler system. (Please see sprinkler information enclosed with this letter).

Consultation should be made with the Water Authorities to determine flow rates in all cases.

/continued

OFFICIAL

Should you need any further advice or information on access and fire fighting facilities, you are advised to contact your local Building Control or appoint Approved Inspector in the first instance. For further advice and information regarding water supplies, please contact the Water Officer at the above headquarters.

Yours faithfully

*Water Officer*

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service

Copy: [lee.frere@japarchitects.co.uk](mailto:lee.frere@japarchitects.co.uk)

Enc: Sprinkler information