FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT
FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT
ELDA, CHURCHGATE, GEDNEY

FINAL REPORT

ECL1678/STATUS DESIGN

DATE NOVEMBER 2025

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CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

2.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION
- 2.1 Site Location
- 2.2 Existing Site
- 2.3 Proposed Development
- 2.4 Local Development Documents
- 2.5 Available Flood Risk Information

3.0 FLOOD RISK VULNERABILITY
- 3.1 The Sequential and Exception Test
- 3.2 Vulnerability Classification
- 3.3 Application of the Sequential and Exception Test

4.0 SITE SPECIFIC FLOOD RISK
- 4.1 Local Flood Assets
- 4.2 Sources of Flooding
- 4.3 Probability of Flooding
- 4.4 Historic Flooding
- 4.5 Climate Change
- 4.6 Residual Risks

5.0 FLOOD RISK MITIGATION
- 5.1 Summary of Risks
- 5.2 Mitigation Measures

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

ATTACHMENT 1 – Site Plan (Dwg SD24-027/3)

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Flood Risk Assessment has been prepared in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and supporting planning practice guidance (PPG) on Flood Risk and Coastal Change.

In areas at risk of flooding or for sites of 1 hectare or more, developers are required to undertake a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment to accompany an application for planning permission. This Flood Risk Assessment has been produced on behalf of Status Design in respect of a development that consists of an annexe at Elda, Churchgate, Gedney.

A planning application for the proposed development has been submitted by Status Design.

2.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

2.1 Site Location

The site is located at Elda, Churchgate, Gedney, Spalding, PE12 0BZ. The National Grid Reference of the site is 54076/32422.

The location of the site is shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1 – Location Plan (© OpenStreetMap contributors)

2.2 Existing Site

The site is on the south eastern side of Churchgate. The site comprises a residential dwelling, outbuilding, garage, parking area, and the surrounding garden. There are dwellings to west of the site and agricultural land to the south and east. The area of development is approximately 0.10 hectares.

Environment Agency LiDAR data shows that the site is flat with a typical ground level of +3.0m OD. The agricultural land to the south east of the site is generally between +2.5m OD and +2.8m OD.

The site is in the South Holland Internal Drainage Board (IDB) District. Surface water at the site would naturally drain through soakaway and hence to the riparian drainage network and then to the Board's main drain system. There is a riparian drain on the field boundary to the south east of the site and IDB High Priority Watercourse 650m south east of the site.

The online British Geological Survey maps indicate that the site is likely to be underlain by Ampthill Clay Formation mudstone. The bedrock is shown to be overlain with superficial deposits of clay and silt.

2.3 Proposed Development

The proposed development consists of the change of use of an outbuilding to form an annexe. The annexe will be single storey. Details of the proposed development are provided in Attachment 1.

2.4 Local Development Documents

The South East Lincolnshire Local Plan 2011 – 2036, adopted in March 2019, is the Local Plan for the district. Policy 4: Approach to Flood Risk states the requirements for flood risk reduction.

The South East Lincolnshire Level 1 and Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) was prepared in June 2017.

The Joint Lincolnshire Flood Risk and Drainage Management Strategy has been prepared by Lincolnshire County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority. The purpose of the Strategy is to increase the safety of people across Lincolnshire by reducing the number of people at risk of flooding, increasing the resilience of local communities, and reducing the impact of flooding.

2.5 Flood Zones

An extract from the Environment Agency Flood Map for Planning is shown in Figure 2. The site is located within Flood Zone 3, an area with a high probability of flooding.

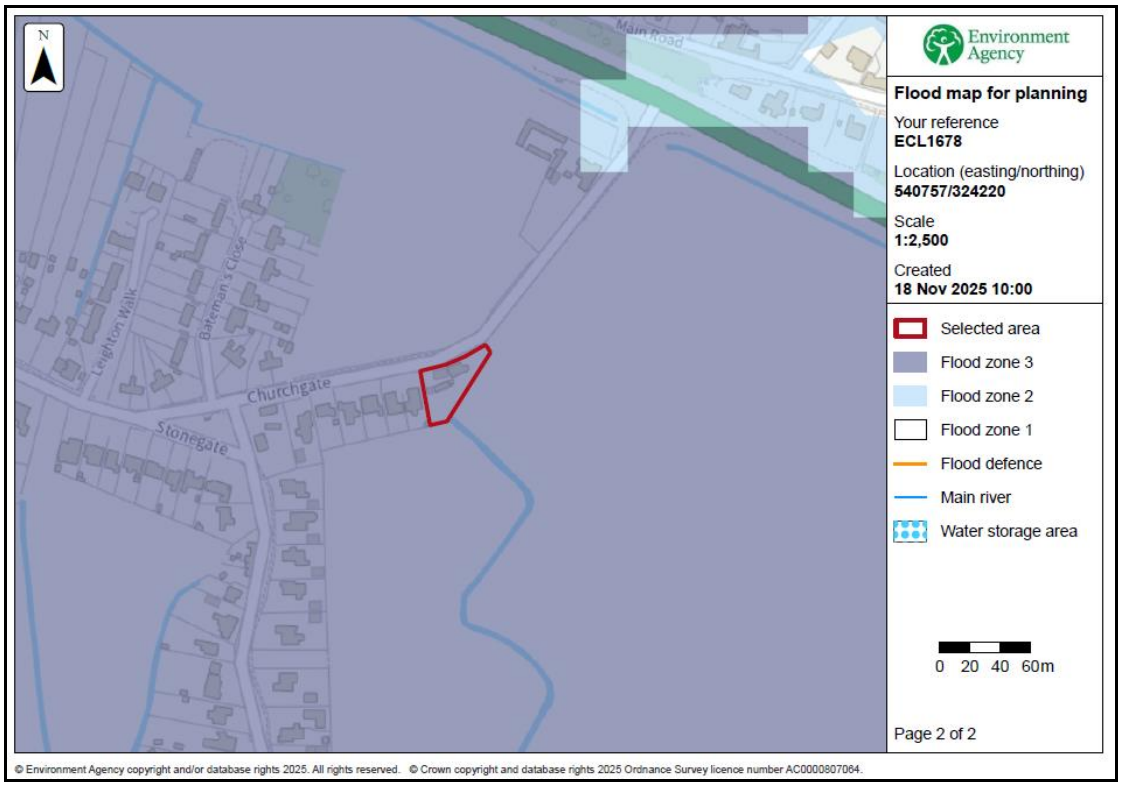


Figure 2 – Environment Agency Flood Map for Planning

The Environment Agency Long Term Flood Risk maps provide an indication of the risk from the primary sources of flooding. The details provided with these maps are summarised in Table 1. The depth of flooding identified is the maximum depth that occurs during a low chance (between 0.1% and 1% chance each year) event.

	Present Day		2050 Epoch	
	Risk of Flooding	**Depth (Low chance)**	**Risk of Flooding**	**Depth (Low chance)**
Rivers and the Sea	The site has a low chance (between 0.1% and 1% chance each year)	No data available	No data available	No data available
Surface Water	The site is outside of the area shown at risk	Not at risk	The site is outside of the area shown at risk	Not at risk
Reservoir	Outside the area at risk.			

Table 1 – Environment Agency Long Term Flood Risk Maps

Table 2 shows the level of risk at the site within the South East Lincolnshire SFRA.

SFRA Map	Present Day	2116
Residual Flood Hazard Map for the 1% fluvial and 0.5% tidal event	The site is outside the 'Low Hazard' area	The site is outside the 'Low Hazard' area
Residual Peak Depth Map for the 1% fluvial and 0.5% tidal	The site is outside the area at risk	The site is outside the area at risk

Table 2 – Flood Risk within SFRA Maps

3.0 FLOOD RISK VULNERABILITY

3.1 The Sequential and Exception Test

The NPPF requires the application of a Sequential Test to ensure that new development is in areas with the lowest probability of flooding.

The Exception Test is a method to demonstrate and help ensure that flood risk to people and property will be managed, while allowing necessary development to go ahead in situations where suitable sites at lower risk of flooding are not available.

3.2 Vulnerability Classification

Table 2 of the PPG Flood Risk and Coastal Change categorises different types of uses and development according to their vulnerability to flood risk. The proposed development is covered by the description of buildings used for dwellings and is classified as 'More Vulnerable'.

Table 3 of the PPG Flood Risk and Coastal Change sets out Flood Risk Vulnerability and flood zone 'compatibility'. The site is in Flood Zone 3 and the development is 'More Vulnerable' therefore it is necessary to complete the Exception Test.

PPG Flood Risk and Coastal Change defines that the lifetime of the development in terms of flood risk and coastal change is 100 years.

3.3 Application of the Sequential and Exception Test

It is for the Local Planning Authority, using the evidence provided and taking advice from the Environment Agency as appropriate, to consider whether an application passes the Sequential Test.

Paragraph 033 of planning practice guidance (PPG) on Flood Risk and Coastal Change states that 'The Sequential Test does not need to be applied for applications for Change of Use (except for a change of use to a caravan, camping or chalet site, or to a mobile home or park home site)'.

Paragraph 048 of the PPG states that 'A Change of Use may involve an increase in flood risk if the vulnerability classification of the development is changed. In such cases, the applicant will need to show in their flood risk assessment that future users of the development will not be placed in danger from flood hazards throughout its lifetime.' The mitigation measures proposed in Section 5.2 of this flood risk assessment are such that risks to future users are mitigated.

The Exception Test requires consideration of the wider sustainability benefits of a development and that the development would be safe and residual risks managed.

Section 5 of this Flood Risk Assessment describes the flood mitigation measures and the management of the residual risks, demonstrating that this development will be safe and not increase flood risk elsewhere. The development is considered to pass the Exception Test.

4.0 SITE SPECIFIC FLOOD RISK

4.1 Local Flood Assets

The South Holland IDB district is protected by the Wash tidal defences along the Holbeach Marsh frontage with embankment levels at a minimum of +7.0m OD. The Wash tidal defences are 8.1m from the site. The River Nene tidal defences are 8.3km to the east of the site. The River Welland tidal defences are 11.5km to the north west of the site. All three defences are the responsibility of the Environment Agency.

There is a long-term strategy for the maintenance of the Environment Agency defences which is reviewed and updated periodically.

There is an extensive local drainage network managed by South Holland IDB. There is an IDB High Priority Watercourse 650m south east of the site. The site and the surrounding land are within the Lutton Leam catchment and which discharges to the tidal River Nene at Lutton Leam Tidal Sluice.

During the operation and maintenance of its pumping stations, associated structures and channel systems, the IDB seeks to maintain a general standard capable of providing flood protection to its district. A routine maintenance programme is in place to ensure that the Boards assets are commensurate with the standard of protection that is sought.

Current maintenance standards of the South Holland Internal Drainage Board and the Environment Agency are generally good.

4.2 Sources of Flooding

A summary of the sources of flooding is provided in Table 3.

Source of Flooding	Level of Risk
Drainage Network Flooding	The risk is assessed in Section 4.3.
Surface Water Flooding	Based upon the EA maps the risk is very low.
Fluvial Flooding	The risk is not at risk of fluvial flooding.
Tidal Flooding	The risk is assessed in Section 4.3, 4.5 and 4.6.
Reservoir Flooding	Based upon the EA maps the site is not at risk of flooding from reservoirs.
Groundwater Flooding	There is no evidence to suggest the site is at risk of groundwater flooding.

Table 3 – Sources of Flooding

4.3 Probability of Flooding

The probability of flooding associated with blockages in the South Holland IDB drainage system is low due to the maintenance standards achieved and managed by the IDB. Failure of Lutton Leam Tidal Sluice could lead to an increased level of risk in the IDB catchment.

Through the operation and maintenance of the pumping stations and the channel system the Board seek to maintain a general standard capable to providing flood protection to agricultural land and developed areas of 1 in 20 years and 1 in 100 years, respectively. The risk associated with flood events that exceed the standard of protection provided is lowered due to the South Holland IDB main drains incorporating freeboard. This freeboard provides storage during the exceedance events.

The site is within an area benefitting from defences. The flood embankments to the Wash and the River Nene and River Welland tidal defences provide protection during a 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200 chance each year) tidal event. The flood risk from the Wash is lowered further by second line defences and various informal banks constructed during the reclamation of Holbeach Marsh.

4.4 Historic Flooding

During the preparation of this assessment, no evidence was discovered of the site being flooded.

4.5 Climate Change

Climate change is likely to impact the site through increased rainfall intensity and duration affecting the local drainage network and increased flood levels.

The tidal flood level during the 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200 chance each year) event inclusive of climate change to 2115 is estimated to be 7.2m AOD. The minimum defence level of the Wash, River Nene, and River Welland embankments is 7.0m AOD. There is a low risk during such an event for wave and wind action to cause overtopping and/or breaching of the tidal defences. However, the second line defences with embankment levels of 6.0m AOD would further reduce the probability of flood water reaching the development site.

In summary the existing systems and defences are appropriate for the design life of the development (i.e., 100 years).

4.6 Residual Risk

There is a residual risk of flooding at the site should a breach occur. The South East Lincolnshire SFRA includes maps demonstrating the residual peak depth in 2115.

The peak flood depth in the vicinity of the site during the 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200 chance each year) event is shown in Figure 3 below. The site is outside the area at risk during a breach.



Figure 3 – 0.5% (1 in 200) 2115 Residual Peak Depth Map

The proposed development is a single storey annexe and therefore the finished floor level needs to consider the 0.1% annual probability (1 in 1000 chance each year) event in 2115. The South East Lincolnshire SFRA includes 0.1% annual probability (1 in 1000 chance each year) maps for specific locations, but these do not cover the site.

Through a comparison of the flood depths in the areas covered by the maps during the 0.5% and 0.1% annual probability events for 2115 it can be estimated that flood depths are 0.1m higher for the more extreme event. Through a comparison of the ground levels within the agricultural land to the south east of the site and those within the site it is not anticipated that the annexe will be at risk.

5.0 FLOOD RISK MITIGATION

5.1 Summary of Risks

The probability of this development flooding from localised drainage systems is low. Failure of Lutton Leam Tidal Sluice could lead to an increased level of risk at the site.

The probability of the site flooding from any Environment Agency system is less than 1% annual probability (1 in 100 chance each year) because of the standards of the existing flood defences. Over time there will be a gradual increase in risk to the site due to climate change. During the design life of the development it is not anticipated that the site would flood.

The SFRA considers the residual risk associated with overtopping and a breach in the defences in 2115. The development is outside of the area at risk.

The proposed development increases the impermeable area and therefore has the potential to increase the rate of surface water runoff from the site.

5.2 Mitigation Measures

The site has a low 'actual risk' of flooding. Based upon the information available during the preparation of this flood risk assessment it is recommended that the floor level of the annexe is 0.3m above surrounding ground level and there is 0.3m of flood resilient (recoverability) construction above finished floor level.

The developer should ensure that the occupier of the annexe is sufficiently aware of the risk of flooding, and the standard of the existing defences. The Environment Agency operates a flood warning system for properties at risk of flooding to enable householders to protect life or take actions to manage the effect of flooding on property. Floodline Warnings Service is a national system run by the Environment Agency for broadcasting flooding warnings. The occupier of the annexe should register to receive flood warnings.

During an exceedance event it is anticipated that sufficient time would be available to take precautionary actions to limit the potential impact of flooding.

Should there be a failure of Lutton Leam Tidal Sluice and conditions were such to put properties and land at risk of flooding, the Internal Drainage Board would take emergency action to maintain the drainage level of service by using temporary pumping equipment.

It is recommended that surface water run-off is managed so that stormwater from the development will not increase the flood risk elsewhere.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

As a result of the assessment, the following conclusions have been reached.

- The proposed development consists of the change of use of an outbuilding to form a single storey annexe at Elda, Churchgate, Gedney.

- The site is located within an Internal Drainage Board catchment and through the operation and maintenance of the pumping stations and the channel system the Board seek to maintain a general standard capable to providing flood protection to agricultural land and developed areas of 1 in 20 and 1 in 100 years, respectively.

- The proposed development is in Flood Zone 3. The site benefits from defences that provide protection during the 1% annual probability (1 in 100 chance each year) fluvial event and 0.5% annual probability (1 in 200) tidal event including climate change.

- The site is not at risk during a breach of the tidal defences.

- It is recommended that the floor level of the annexe is 0.3m above the surrounding ground levels and there is 0.3m of flood resilient (recoverability) construction above finished floor level.

- The development passes the Sequential Test and Exception Test and is therefore suitable for the proposed location.

ATTACHMENT 1

SITE PLAN
(DWG SD24-027/3)

General Notes

Do not scale from this drawing.

This drawing is copyright and may not be altered, traced, photographed or used for any purpose other than that for this it is issued without written permission from Status Design.

The General Contractor is to check all dimensions on site and report discrepancies to the Architect.

All details shown on this drawing are based upon typical site conditions relation to the area. No responsibility can be accepted for abnormal conditions unless reported to the Architects so that design amendments may be considered. Site soil surveys are recommended in respect of foundations to establish specific site conditions before foundation work is undertaken.

Please note this drawing is not a conveyance drawing.

Proposed onsite roadways to be maintained by the owner for the life duration of the property.

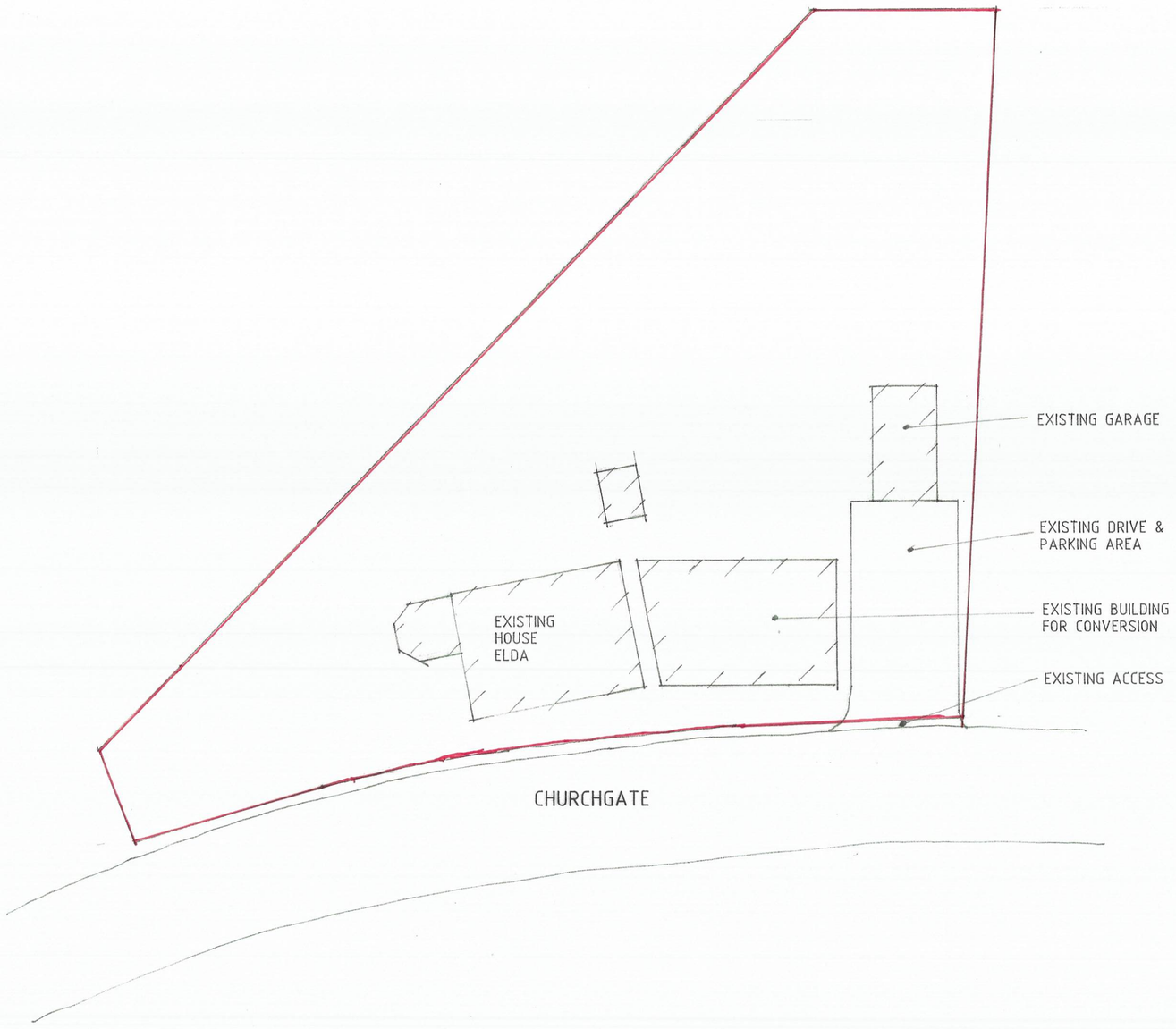
This drawing is limited in the amount information contained and does not purport to contact a full specification of the works. It is solely for the purpose of obtaining planning and building approvals. This drawing must not be used as a contract document alone. The works will not be supervised or inspected by Status Design unless specifically contracted to do so. It is the client or their agent's responsibility to control workmanship, substitution of materials, adherence to specification variations to contract etc.

All materials to be new unless stated otherwise and all components and materials etc to be used, fitted, and installed etc, in strict accordance with manufacturers instructions and relevant Code of practice. Materials should conform to appropriate British standard, specification or BBA certificate or European Code equivalent.

The Employer/Client shall ensure that the selected contractor is conversent with and adopts all measures necessary to achieve compliance with Health & Safety Legislation for Building Sites and Work Places. The Employer/client is advised that should the works need to comply with the construction design and Management Regulations 2015 (CDM) and Health and Safety at work etc. Act 1974 (HSW Act) an independent Planning supervisor will be required whom should be supplied with a set of relevant drawings etc.
The works shall comprise of all that shown on the drawings and information, etc. Works that may not specifically be shown but may be reasonably inferred as necessary to carry out the works shall be deemed to be included.

These notes relate to this drawing and all associated drawings.

It is the property/landowners' responsibility to be aware of the Party Wall etc Act 1996 when building or carrying out alterations in close proximity to adjoining neighbours' boundaries.



SITE PLAN

THIS DRG. TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH
SD24-027/1, SD24-027/2

Status DESIGN
CONSULTANTS IN ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING

PROPOSED CONVERSION OF EXISTING OUTBUILDING TO ANNEXE AT ELDA, CHURCHGATE, GEDNEY
FOR
MRS. K. HUNT.

SITE PLAN

1:200	SD24-027/3
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