

Newport City Council

Newport City Council
Regeneration Investment & Housing
Civic Centre
Godfrey Road
Newport NP20 4UR

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Application for Outline Planning Permission with some matters reserved

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Publication of applications on planning authority websites

Please note that the information provided on this application form and in supporting documents may be published on the Authority's website. If you require any further clarification, please contact the Authority's planning department.

Site Details

If you cannot provide a postcode, the description of site location must be completed. Please provide the most accurate site description you can, to help locate the site - for example "field to the North of the Post Office".

Number Suffix

Property Name

Liberty Steel

Address Line 1

Corporation Road

Address Line 2

Town/city

Newport

Postcode

NP19 4XE

Description of site location (must be completed if postcode is not known)

Easting (x)

333350

Northing (y)

184789

Description

Applicant Details

Name/Company

Title

Mr

First name

Ben

Surname

Hooton

Company Name

Era4 Limited and Rutland Limited

Address

Address line 1

The Black and White Building

Address line 2

74 Rivington Street

Address line 3

Town/City

London

Country

United Kingdom

Postcode

EC2A 3AY

Are you an agent acting on behalf of the applicant?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Applicant Contact Details

Primary number

***** REDACTED *****

Secondary number

Email address

***** REDACTED *****

Site Area

What is the site area?

0.99

Scale

Hectares

Does your proposal involve the construction of a new building which would result in the loss or gain of public open space?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Description of the Proposal

Please indicate all those matters for which approval is sought as part of this outline application (tick all that apply)

- ☒ Access
☐ Appearance
☐ Landscaping
☐ Layout
☐ Scale

Note: if this application is approved, the matters not determined as part of this application will need to be the subject of an "Application for approval of reserved matters" before the development may proceed.

Description

Please describe the proposed development

Outline planning application for the creation of a secure compound and the installation of external plant and equipment to create a modular data centre together with associated equipment and structures, engineering operations, staff accommodation and associated works.

Has the work already been started without planning permission?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Existing Use

Please describe the current use of the site

Vacant previously developed land associated with the former steel works.

Is the site currently vacant?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If Yes, please describe the last use of the site

Open ground last used in association with the adjacent steel works.

When did this use end (if known)?

dd/mm/yyyy

Does the proposal involve any of the following?

Land which is known or suspected to be contaminated for all or part of the site

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

A proposed use that would be particularly vulnerable to the presence of contamination

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Application advice

If you have said Yes to any of the above, you will need to submit an appropriate contamination assessment.

Does your proposal involve the construction of a new building?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Materials

Does the proposed development require any materials to be used in the build?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Please provide a description of existing and proposed materials and finishes to be used in the build (including type, colour and name for each material)

Type:

Other

Other (please specify):

Prefabricated modular units

Existing materials and finishes:

n/a

Proposed materials and finishes:

Profile metal sheeting painted in neural colours.

Type:

Other

Other (please specify):

Freestanding equipment

Existing materials and finishes:

n/q

Proposed materials and finishes:

As per manufacturers specifications.

Type:

Boundary treatments (e.g. fences, walls)

Existing materials and finishes:

n/a

Proposed materials and finishes:

Open mesh high security fencing.

Are you supplying additional information on submitted plans, drawings or a design and access statement?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Planning Statement, Design and Access statement and the following plans:

- VAH-FEA-S1-XX-DP-A-1202 : Images of Proposed Equipment and Fencing
- VLS-FEA-S1-XX-DP-A-3400 : Site Section
- VAH-FEA-S1-XX-DD-A-6900 : Fencing Details
- VAH-FEA-S1-00-DD-A-6902 : Data Module
- VAH-FEA-S1-00-DD-A-6903 : Power Module
- GB3-05289-25052-007E : Chiller Detail
- GB3-05289-25052-007F : Dry Cooler Detail
- GB3-05289-25052-007G : LCS Pump Skid Detail
- GB3-05289-25052-007H : ACS Pump Skid Detail
- GB3-05289-25052-007J : Buffer Vessel Detail

Pedestrian and Vehicle Access, Roads and Rights of Way

Is a new or altered vehicle or pedestrian access proposed to or from the public highway?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Are there any new public roads to be provided within the site?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Are there any new public rights of way to be provided within or adjacent to the site?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Do the proposals require any diversions/extinguishments and/or creation of rights of way?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please show details of any existing or proposed rights of way on or adjacent to the site, as well as any alterations to pedestrian and vehicle access, on your plans or drawings.

Vehicle Parking

Is vehicle parking relevant to this proposal?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please provide information on the existing and proposed number of on-site parking and cycling spaces on your plans.

Trees and Hedges

Are there trees or hedges on the proposed development site?

☐ Yes

☒ No

And/or: Are there trees or hedges on land adjacent to the proposed development site that could influence the development or might be important as part of the local landscape character?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

If Yes to either or both of the above, you will need to provide a full tree survey with accompanying plan before the application can be determined. The local planning authority should make clear on its website what the survey should contain, in accordance with the current 'BS5837: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations'

Assessment of Flood Risk

Is the site within an area at risk of flooding?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

[Refer to the Welsh Government's Development Advice Maps website.](#)

If Yes, and you are proposing a new building or a change of use, please add details of the proposal in the following table

Type	Residential (number of units)	Non-residential (Area of land)	
☐ Floodplain C1			Hectares
☒ Floodplain C2	0	0.16	Hectares

If the proposed development is within an area at risk of flooding you will need to consider whether it is appropriate to submit a flood consequences assessment.

Refer to Section 6 and 7 and Appendix 1 of [Technical Advice Note 15: Development and Flood Risk](#)

Is your proposal within 20 metres of a watercourse (e.g. river, stream or beck)?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Will the proposal increase the flood risk elsewhere?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

From 7 January 2019, all new developments of more than 1 dwelling house or where the construction area is 100 square metres or more, require Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for surface water designed and built in accordance with the Welsh Ministers' [Statutory SuDS Standards](#). SuDS Schemes must be approved by your local authority acting in its SuDS Approving Body (SAB) role. Please contact your local authority for details of how to apply.

How will surface water be disposed of?

- ☒ Sustainable drainage system
☐ Existing water course
☐ Soakaway
☐ Main sewer
☐ Pond/lake

Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

To assist in answering the following questions refer to the help text. The help text provides further information on when there is a reasonable likelihood that any important biodiversity or geological conservation features may be present or nearby and whether they are likely to be affected by your proposals.

Having referred to the help text, is there a reasonable likelihood of the following being affected adversely or conserved and enhanced within the application site, or on land adjacent to or near the application site?

a) Protected and priority species

- ☐ Yes, on the development site
- ☐ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development
- ☒ No

b) Designated sites, important habitats or other biodiversity features

- ☐ Yes, on the development site
- ☐ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development
- ☒ No

c) Features of geological conservation importance

- ☐ Yes, on the development site
- ☐ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development
- ☒ No

Supporting information requirements

Where a development proposal is likely to affect features of biodiversity or geological conservation interest, you will need to submit, with the application, sufficient information and assessments to allow the local planning authority to determine the proposal.

Failure to submit all information required will result in your application being deemed invalid. It will not be considered valid until all information required by the local planning authority has been submitted.

Your local planning authority will be able to advise on the content of any assessments that may be required.

Foul Sewage

Please state how foul sewage is to be disposed of:

- ☐ Mains sewer
- ☐ Septic tank
- ☐ Package treatment plant
- ☐ Cess pit
- ☐ Other
- ☒ Unknown

Are you proposing to connect to the existing drainage system?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ Unknown

Waste Storage and Collection

Do the plans incorporate areas to store and aid the collection of waste and have arrangements been made for the separate storage and collection of recyclable waste?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Trade Effluent

Does the proposal involve the need to dispose of trade effluents or trade waste?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Residential/Dwelling Units

Does your proposal include the gain, loss or change of use of residential units?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

All Types of Development: Non-Residential Floorspace

Does your proposal involve the loss, gain or change of use of non-residential floorspace?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Employment

Will the proposed development require the employment of any staff?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Existing Employees

Please complete the following information regarding existing employees:

Full-time

0

Part-time

0

Total full-time equivalent

0.00

Proposed Employees

If known, please complete the following information regarding proposed employees:

Full-time

10

Part-time

0

Total full-time equivalent

10.00

Hours of Opening

Are Hours of Opening relevant to this proposal?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Industrial or Commercial Processes and Machinery

Does this proposal involve the carrying out of industrial or commercial activities and processes?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Please describe the activities and processes which would be carried out on the site and the end products including plant, ventilation or air conditioning. Please include the type of machinery which may be installed on site:

The development will create a data centre. This will comprise of computer servers and racks installed withing modular units, which in turn will be supported by power modules and freestanding pumps, air coolers, chillers and associated equipment.

Is the proposal for a waste management development?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

Does your proposal involve the installation of a standalone renewable or low-carbon energy development?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Hazardous Substances

Does the proposal involve the use or storage of Hazardous Substances?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Neighbour and Community Consultation

Have you consulted your neighbours or the local community about the proposal?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Site Visit

Can the site be seen from a public road, public footpath, bridleway or other public land?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

If the planning authority needs to make an appointment to carry out a site visit, whom should they contact? (Please select only one)

- ☐ The agent
☒ The applicant
☐ Other person

Pre-application Advice

Has pre-application advice been sought from the local planning authority about this application?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Authority Employee/Member

With respect to the Authority, is the applicant or agent one of the following:

- (a) a member of staff
(b) an elected member
(c) related to a member of staff
(d) related to an elected member

Do any of these statements apply to you?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Ownership Certificates

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Please answer the following questions to determine which Certificate of Ownership you need to complete: A,B,C or D.

Are you the sole owner of ALL the land?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Certificate of Ownership - Certificate A

I certify/the applicant certifies that on the day 21 days before the date of this application nobody except myself/the applicant was the owner (owner is a person with a freehold interest or leasehold interest with at least seven years left to run) of any part of the land or building to which the application relates.

Person Role

- ☒ The Applicant
☐ The Agent

Title

Mr

First Name

Ben

Surname

Hooton

Declaration Date

10/03/2026

☒ Declaration made

Agricultural Holding Certificate

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Agricultural land declaration - you must select either A or B

☒ (A) None of the land to which the application relates is, or is part of an agricultural holding

☐ (B) I have/The applicant has given the requisite notice to every person other than myself/the applicant who, on the day 21 days before the date of this application, was a tenant of an agricultural holding on all or part of the land to which this application relates, as listed below

Person Role

☒ The Applicant

☐ The Agent

Title

Mr

First Name

Ben

Surname

Hooton

Declaration Date

10/03/2026

☒ Declaration made

Declaration

I/We hereby apply for Outline planning permission: Some matters reserved as described in the questions answered, details provided, and the accompanying plans/drawings and additional information.

I/We confirm that, to the best of my/our knowledge, any facts stated are true and accurate and any opinions given are the genuine opinions of the person(s) giving them.

I/We also accept that:

- Once submitted, this information will be made available to the Local Planning Authority and, once validated by them, be made available as part of a public register and on the authority's website;
- Our system will automatically generate and send you emails in regard to the submission of this application.

☒ I / We agree to the outlined declaration

Signed

Ben Hooton

Date

19/03/2026

The application site has reduced in size, the plans, Planning Statement and Flood Consequence Assessment have been amended. A revised covering letter has also been provided to refer to the correct plan references and updated document titles.