



RE: Planning Application 25/01485/OUTM (Coulter Lane Farm) – Network Capacity Inquiry

TO: Severn Trent Developer Services (cc: Gillian Pinna-Morrell, LDC Case Officer)

FROM: Strategic Policy Team, Burntwood Action Group (BAG)

DATE: 10th January 2026

Dear Severn Trent Planning Team,

The Burntwood Action Group (BAG) welcomes your **Holding Objection** (Ref: P-251204-48209) dated 22nd December 2025 regarding the proposed 250-home development at Coulter Lane Farm.

As the Environment Agency has classified our region as being under "**Serious Water Stress**," and given the recent history of multiple water main failures in Burntwood, we request that your 10-week investigation addresses the following specific technical concerns:

1. Sewage Treatment Works (STW) Capacity

- Can you confirm which STW (e.g., Burntwood or Lichfield) will receive the foul waste from this site?
- What is the current **Dry Weather Flow (DWF)** permit limit for this works, and what is the recorded actual flow?
- Will the addition of 250 dwellings (plus the cumulative 750 dwellings currently proposed at Rake Hill and Hammerwich) cause the works to exceed its legal DWF permit?

2. Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) and Pollution

- How many **Storm Overflow** events were recorded in the Burntwood network in 2025?
- Given your warning of potential "pollution," is there a risk that this development will increase the frequency of untreated sewage discharges into local watercourses?

3. Network Structural Integrity

- Residents have documented five major water main bursts within a 1-mile radius of the site in the last 12 months. Does your investigation include a **stress-test of the aging cast-iron/asbestos-cement mains** that currently serve the Church Road area?
- What is the estimated cost of the "reinforcement works" required to ensure that 250 new homes do not cause a drop in water pressure or further bursts for existing residents?

4. Cumulative Impact Assessment

- We formally request that Severn Trent does not view this application in isolation. The Burntwood area is currently facing a **"surge" of approximately 1,000 proposed homes.**
- Does the current "surrounding Network" have the capacity to handle this cumulative volume without a total system upgrade?

The Burntwood Action Group is currently compiling a **"Community Flood & Leak Map"** with resident-submitted evidence of local network failures. We would be happy to share this data with your investigators to ensure your final response to the Council reflects the reality of our local infrastructure.

Yours sincerely,

The Strategic Policy Team Burntwood Action Group