

Contamination Statement

Planning Policy SPL3, Part C (b) requires that the development, including any additional road traffic arising, will not have unacceptable levels of pollution on: air, land, water (including ground water), amenity, health or safety through noise, smell, dust, light, heat, vibration, fumes or other forms of pollution or nuisance.

CO15 5QQ – Cliff Road, Holland on Sea

The United Kingdom identifies nitrate vulnerable zones as discrete zones in specific agricultural regions. There are at least 70 nitrate vulnerable zones in England and several in Wales, covering 600,000 hectares of surface water and ground water. Nitrate vulnerable zones were introduced by the United Kingdom government in response to the European Union mandate that all countries in the EU must reduce the nitrate in drinking water to a maximum of 50 NO₃⁻ mg/L to protect public health and environmental health.

The general effect of increased nutrient loading, or eutrophication, on aquatic ecosystems is well-understood and has been incorporated within the definition of eutrophication in recent European legislation (UWWTD) and agreements (OSPAR). These define eutrophication as:

The enrichment of water by nutrients, especially compounds of N and/or P, causing an accelerated growth of algae and higher forms of plant life to produce an undesirable disturbance to the balance of organisms present in the water and to the quality of the water concerned'.

The site is within a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone (Sandlings and Chelmsford); these are areas which are designated as being at risk from agricultural nitrate pollution. Nitrate Vulnerable Zones cover around 55% of England.

For farmers and land managers there are specific steps and controls which must be adhered to in order to prevent manure, fertiliser and soil getting into watercourses – known as diffuse water pollution (pollution).

These rules apply to farming or horticultural practices, such as:

- using and storing organic manure (manure) or manufactured fertiliser (fertiliser)
- planting and harvesting
- soil management – for example, ploughing or planting cover crops
- managing livestock on your land

In regard to water/land originating pollution there are no confirmed incidents of poisoning between the years of 2011 and 2016 within a 10km square. The area has no priorities for Groundwater Nitrate Issues, Surface Water Nitrates, Groundwater Pesticide Issues, Faecal Indicator Organisms Issues nor Sites Sensitive to Ammonia Pollution.