

4.7 Soakaways

Based on a visual assessment, the slightly silty sands of the Reading Beds are estimated to have a moderate soakage potential, though this may only be confirmed from the results of full-scale soakage tests.

Inundation of water from soakaways should be avoided within any Made Ground.

Due to the significant thickness of overlying sands and clays of the Reading Beds, it is considered that the risk of reactivating any solution features within the chalk by water inundation from shallow soakaways is low. However, we understand that solution features are prevalent in the area and it would therefore be prudent to consider this within the overall design by ensuring that all soakaways are constructed at least 10 metres remote from any residential unit.

4.8 Slope Stability

Steeply sloping ground with a very rough undulating surface was observed immediately beyond the southern and eastern boundaries of the site. In the area of Borehole 6, some slight localised settlement of the ground underlying the edge of the concrete slab was noted along the site boundary. In Boreholes 4, 5 and 6, which were drilled near to the boundary, the ground conditions were found to comprise a capping of Made Ground ranging in thickness from 0.4 metres to 3.0 metres and increasing in thickness in a southerly direction. The Made Ground was found to comprise in general, a mixture of sandy clays with brick and pockets of brick rubble. Medium dense to very dense silty sands of the Reading Beds were found to underlie the Made Ground in each of the boreholes.

Due to the presence of dense vegetation together with restricted access, observations of the stability of the sloping ground could not be made with any accuracy. However, the surface appeared to be very undulating, giving the impression that some disturbance has taken place. The apparent rough surface of the ground, the absence of any mature trees and the presence of some refuse may also

