

## WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION

<b>TO:</b>	Horsham District Council FAO: Daniel Holmes
<b>FROM:</b>	WSCC – Highways Authority
<b>DATE:</b>	13 December 2025
<b>LOCATION:</b>	The Slips West End Lane Henfield West Sussex BN5 9RG
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	DC/25/1700 Change of use of the land for the stationing of 4no. gypsy and traveller static caravans for residential purposes and 5no. associated dayrooms.
<b>DATE OF SITE VISIT:</b>	n/a
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>	No Objection

West Sussex County Council (WSCC), in its capacity as Local Highway Authority (LHA), have been consulted on the above full application DC/25/1700 with regards to highway safety and capacity matters relating to the proposed development. The application is supported by a Planning Statement and associated plans.

### Background and Site Context

This application seeks the change of use of land to the stationing of 4 nos. gypsy and traveller static caravans for residential purposes and 5 nos. associated dayrooms with associated parking and landscaping. The site was previously subject to a similar scheme under application ref; DC/25/0519 which was later withdrawn.

### Access Arrangements

The site is located on West End Lane, an unclassified road subject to a speed restriction of 30 mph in this location. The site is served by an existing established vehicular access point onto West End Lane, and no alterations are proposed to this arrangement. From inspection of WSCC mapping, there are no apparent visibility concerns with the existing point of access onto the maintained highway. In addition, the proposed development is not anticipated to give rise to a significant material intensification of movements on the local highway network.

### Personal Injury Accident (PIA) Data

An inspection of collision data provided to WSCC by Sussex Police from a period of the last 5 years reveals no reported incidents of personal injury near to the access. Therefore, there is no evidence to suggest the existing access is operating unsafely or that the proposal would exacerbate an existing safety concern.

### Parking and Internal Layout

Regarding parking, the applicant proposes two car parking spaces per pitch for this development. Whilst technically a withdrawn document, the Good Practice Guide on Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites (2008) recommended a provision of two car parking spaces per pitch. As such, the LHA consider the proposed parking provision to be sufficient. Furthermore, there appears to be sufficient space for on-site turning to be achievable,

## **Sustainable Transport**

The site is situated just outside the periphery of Henfield but is within walking/cycle distance of the local services and amenities that the village provides. Cycling is a viable option, and provision for the parking of bicycles has been demonstrated for each plot. I would note that West End Lane lacks formal footways and street lighting in this location, which may encourage the use of the private car for few occupiers.

## **Conclusion**

*Paragraph 116 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states:*

*Development should only be prevented or refused on highways grounds if there would be an unacceptable impact on highway safety, or the residual cumulative impacts on the road network, following mitigation, would be severe, taking into account all reasonable future scenarios.*

Therefore, the Highway Authority do not consider that this proposal would have an unacceptable impact on highway safety or result in 'severe' cumulative impacts on the operation of the highway network; therefore, is not contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), paragraphs 114 -117, as revised December 2024. Therefore, there are no transport grounds to resist this proposal.

If the Local Planning Authority (LPA) mind to approve the application, the following condition should be applied:

### **CONDITION**

#### *Vehicle Parking*

No part of the development shall be first occupied until the vehicle parking spaces have been constructed in accordance with plans and details submitted to and approved by the LPA.

Reason: To provide adequate on-site car parking space for the development.

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**West Sussex County Council – Planning Services**