

LAND AT GUILDFORD ROAD, BUCKS GREEN (SITE
SA-574)

Access Arrangements

Stage 1 Road Safety Audit
Overseeing Organisation: West Sussex County Council

March 2025



Road Safety Engineering

Project: Land at Guildford Road, Bucks Green (Site SA-574)
Access Arrangements

Document: Stage 1 Road Safety Audit

Design Organisation: Motion

Overseeing Organisation: West Sussex County Council

Client: Motion

Gateway RSE ref: SG/WP/2503-09 RSA1 v1.0

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report describes a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit (RSA) of highway works at Bucks Green, near Rudgwick, within the District of Horsham and the County of West Sussex.
- 1.2 The audit brief, provided by Gemma Lester of Motion and dated 14th March 2025, describes the scheme as an all-purpose site access with two footways and an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing on its east side, providing access to the south side of Guildford Road. Two pedestrian accesses onto Guildford Road are also proposed, one each side of the main access. One, approximately 150 metres to the west, will also be provided with crossing facilities over Guildford Road. The second, about 50 metres east of the main access, will connect with a new 1.5m wide footway leading to an existing eastbound bus stop some 90 metres further east.
- 1.3 Guildford Road (A281) is a two-way single carriageway road running broadly west to east. It has a 30mph speed limit, an intermittent footway on the south side, and limited street lighting. There are no waiting/loading restrictions.
- 1.4 This Road Safety Audit Team comprised Steve Giles and Wendy Palmer. The Audit consisted of a desktop study and a site visit, which was carried out between 13:45 and 14:30 on Tuesday 18th March 2025, when the weather was fine and the road surface dry. Traffic flows were moderate, and no congestion was observed, whilst some pedestrian but no cyclist movements occurred. On-street parking was seen within the lay-bys on the north side of Guildford Road.
- 1.5 The terms of reference for this RSA are as described in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) document GG119. The Audit Team is independent of the project design team and has not been involved in the design process in any other capacity. The audit considers only the potential road safety implications of the scheme and has not verified compliance of the design with any other criteria.
- 1.6 The Audit Team has not been made aware of any Departures from Standard. Whilst reference may be made to design standards, this report is not intended to provide a design check.

- 1.7 Recommendations are aimed at addressing the identified potential road safety problems. However, there may be other acceptable ways to overcome a problem, considering wider constraints and opportunities; the Auditors would be pleased to discuss such alternative solutions as appropriate. The recommendations contained herein do not absolve the Designers of their responsibilities.

Collision Data

- 1.8 Personal Injury Collision (PIC) information was obtained from the Crashmap database (www.crashmap.co.uk) for the latest available five-year period (2019 to 2023). It indicates that one PIC occurred close to the proposed works, at the Guildford Road/Lynwick Street junction. It was in July 2019 and involved an HGV losing control, causing serious injuries to the driver.

Previous Road Safety Audit(s)

- 1.9 This Audit Team commenced but did not complete a Stage 1 RSA on proposals with some similarities September 2021, which are now superseded.

2 PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED BY THIS ROAD SAFETY AUDIT

General Matters

- 2.1 The Audit Team raises no concerns in respect of general matters.

Local Alignment

- 2.2 The Audit Team raises no concerns in respect of local alignment.

Junctions

2.3 Problem

Potential vehicle collisions due to foliage/boundary treatments obscuring junction visibility.

Location: Both sides of proposed access road junction

It is not clear to what extent foliage will be removed to provide the junction visibility splays. It could in future grow back and obstruct visibility from the site access along Guildford Road, which could lead to vehicle turning collisions.

Recommendation

Cut back foliage with sufficient clearance behind the junction visibility splays to minimise future maintenance and limit the risk of obstruction to the emerging driver's view.

Walking, Cycling and Horse Riding

2.4 Problem

Absence of pedestrian facilities may lead to trips or falls.

Location: Site access junction

No dropped kerbs or tactile paving are shown within the site access road. This could cause mobility or vision impaired pedestrians to trip or fall within the carriageway and potentially be struck by a moving vehicle.

Recommendation

Provide dropped kerbs and tactile paving for pedestrians wishing to cross the site access road, north of Guildford Road.

2.5 Problem

Trips/falls or collisions between vehicles and pedestrians.

Location: Pedestrian crossing on Guildford Road

Parking was observed within the lay-by on the north side of Guildford Road, immediately east of the proposed pedestrian crossing point. This restricts visibility between pedestrians and moving vehicles, which could lead to collisions.

Recommendation

Introduce measures to prevent parking at the proposed pedestrian crossing, providing suitable pedestrian/vehicle inter-visibility.

2.6 Problem

Pedestrian injuries due to trips/falls.

Location: Footways on south side of Guildford Road, at Loxwood Road junction (east of The Fox Inn) and opposite proposed site access

The new crossings will encourage pedestrians to use the existing footway along the south side of Guildford Road, which is uneven and may cause pedestrian trip/fall injuries.

Recommendation

The sections of footway (a) connecting Guildford Road and Loxwood Road, on the east side of The Fox Inn, and (b) opposite the site access, should be resurfaced.

2.7 Problem

Foliage growth may cause pedestrians to walk in the carriageway or bus lay-by, where they could be struck by vehicles.

Location: Proposed footway along north side of Guildford Road

It is not clear to what extent foliage adjacent to the new footway will be removed. It could encroach and force pedestrians to walk along the carriageway or within the bus lay-by, where they will be at risk of collision with passing vehicles, particularly at night.

Recommendation

Cut back foliage with sufficient clearance behind and above the proposed footway to minimise future maintenance and limit the risk of obstructing pedestrians.

2.8 Problem

Vehicle/pedestrian collisions

Location: Footpath connections from development site

The proposed footpath connections from the development site are perpendicular to Guildford Road and pedestrians emerging from the development may enter the carriageway without due care, leading to pedestrian/vehicle collisions or rear/front (shunt) type collisions between vehicles due to hard braking.

Recommendation

A short section of guard railing should be provided opposite the footpath to prevent pedestrians from entering the crossing injudiciously. Alternatively, design the footpath alignment avoiding a straight, perpendicular approach.

Road Signs, Carriageway Markings and Lighting

2.9 Problem

Night-time vehicle/pedestrian or vehicle turning collisions.

Location: Guildford Road

Guildford Road appears poorly lit. The likely increase in pedestrian and traffic movements arising from the development could increase the risk of night-time vehicle/pedestrian or vehicle turning collisions.

Recommendation

At the detailed design stage assess lighting levels at the junction and on the footway and, if appropriate, provide street lighting along Guildford Road.

3 AUDIT TEAM STATEMENT

- 3.1 We certify that this Road Safety Audit has been carried out in accordance with DMRB document GG119.

Audit Team Leader

Steve Giles
BEng (Hons), IEng, FIHE, MCIHT, MICE, CMILT, MSoRSA, HE Cert Comp
Senior Road Safety Engineer

Signed:



Date: 24/3/2025

Audit Team Member(s)

Wendy Palmer
MCIHT, MSoRSA, FIHE, HE Cert Comp
Senior Road Safety Engineer

Signed:



Date: 24/3/2025

APPENDIX A

Items Considered by this RSA

Items Considered by this Road Safety Audit

Document ref.	Rev.	Originator	Title
1810054-03	C	Motion	Proposed Access Strategy
1810054-04	B	Motion	Proposed Access Arrangement - Guildford Road

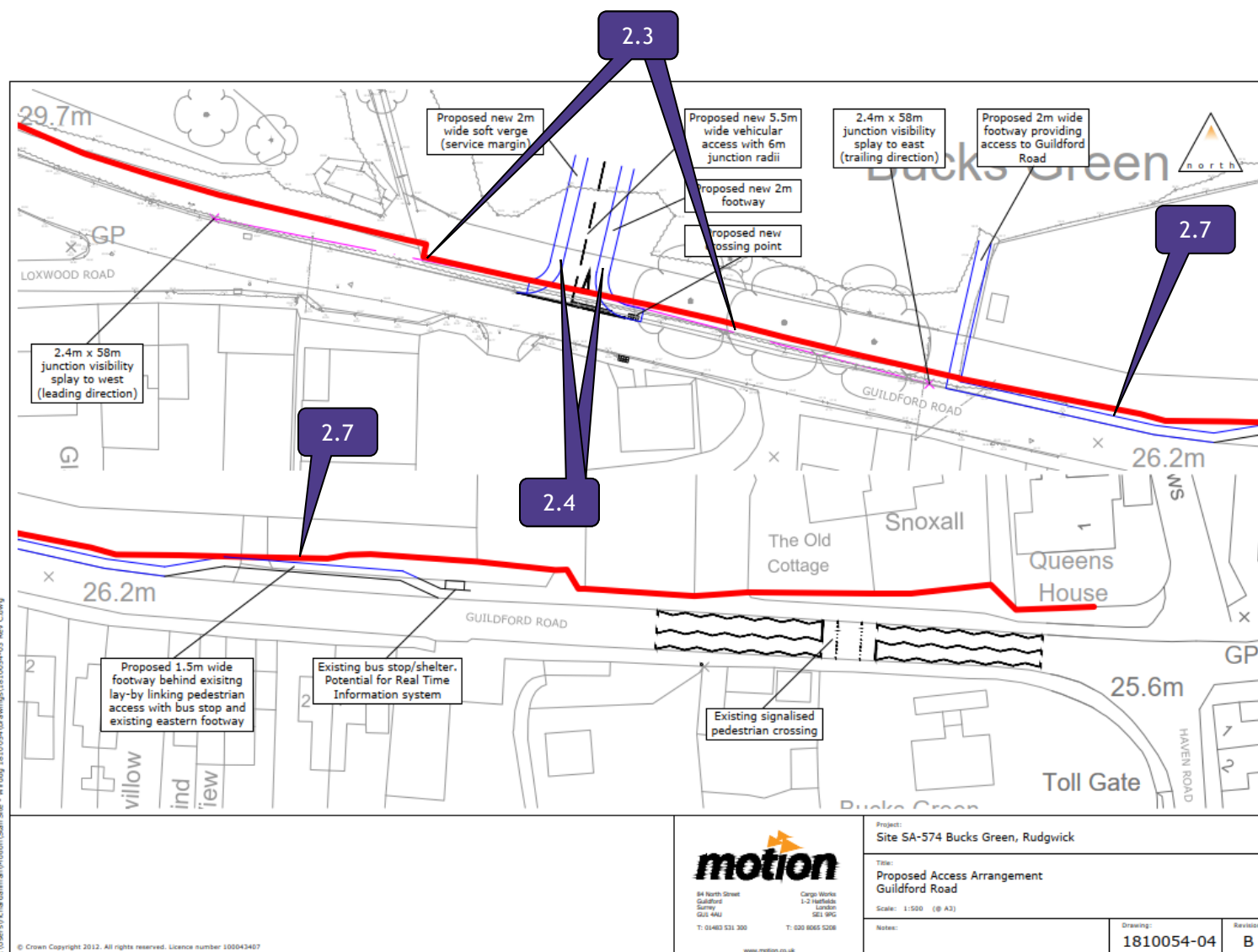
Additional/background information provided to the Audit Team

- Audit Brief dated 14/3/2025 (Motion)
- Draft Site Layout plan SL01 rev. P1 (Thrive Architects)

APPENDIX B

Location Plan(s)





ROAD SAFETY AUDIT RESPONSE REPORT

Project Details

Project: Land at Guildford Road, Bucks Green (Site SA-574)
Access Arrangements
GRSE Ref: SG/WP/2503-09 RSA1 v1.0
Status: Issued as v1.0
Issue date: 24/3/2025
Design Organisation: Motion
Overseeing Organisation: West Sussex County Council
Client: Motion

Authorisation

Prepared by:
Name:
Position:
Organisation: Motion

Approved by:
Name: Andrew Whittingham
Position: Director
Organisation: Motion
Signed:

The Scheme

The highway works considered by the Road Safety Audit comprise:

- All-purpose site access with two footways and an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing on its east side
- Pedestrian access approximately 150 metres to the west with crossing facilities over Guildford Road.
- Pedestrian access about 50 metres east of the main access and a new 1.5m wide footway leading to an existing eastbound bus stop some 90 metres further east.

Key Personnel

Overseeing Organisation:	[NAME (press F9)], [TITLE (press F9)] West Sussex County Council
RSA Team:	Steve Giles, Senior Road Safety Engineer, Gateway RSE
	Wendy Palmer, Senior Road Safety Engineer, Gateway RSE
Design Organisation:	Andrew Whittingham, Director, Motion
	Andrew Whittingham, Director, Motion

RSA Decision Log				
Item No.	RSA Recommendation	Design Organisation Response	Overseeing Organisation Comments	Agreed RSA Action
2.3	Cut back foliage with sufficient clearance behind the junction visibility splays to minimise future maintenance and limit the risk of obstruction to the emerging driver's view.	The junction visibility falls within the existing highway boundary. Roadside vegetation will be trimmed backed as required to ensure visibility is not obstructed		
2.4	Provide dropped kerbs and tactile paving for pedestrians wishing to cross the site access road, north of Guildford Road.	Dropped kerbs and tactile paving will be provided, this will be considered further at the detailed design stage.		
2.5	Introduce measures to prevent parking at the proposed pedestrian crossing, providing suitable pedestrian/vehicle inter-visibility.	Agreed, a measure will be considered at the detailed design stage.		
2.6	The sections of footway (a) connecting Guildford Road and Loxwood Road, on the east side of The Fox Inn, and (b) opposite the site access, should be resurfaced.	Agreed, this will be discussed and considered further at the detailed design stage.		
2.7	Cut back foliage with sufficient clearance behind and above the proposed footway to minimise future maintenance and limit the risk of obstructing pedestrians.	Agreed, foliage to be cut back. Site clearance drawings will be prepared at the detailed design stage.		
2.8	A short section of guard railing should be provided opposite the footpath to prevent pedestrians from entering the crossing injudiciously.	Agreed, a drawing will be prepared at the detailed design stage detailing the location of the guardrail.		

RSA Decision Log				
Item No.	RSA Recommendation	Design Organisation Response	Overseeing Organisation Comments	Agreed RSA Action
	Alternatively, design the footpath alignment avoiding a straight, perpendicular approach.			
2.9	At the detailed design stage assess lighting levels at the junction and on the footway and, if appropriate, provide street lighting along Guildford Road.	Noted.		

Design Organisation Statement:

On behalf of the design organisation, I certify that:

The RSA actions identified in response to the road safety audit problems in this road safety audit have been discussed and agreed with the Overseeing Organisation.

.....

Name: Andrew Whittingham

Organisation: Motion

Position: Director

Date: 27/05/2025

Overseeing Organisation Statement:

On behalf of the overseeing organisation, I certify that:

The RSA actions identified in response to the road safety audit problems in this road safety audit have been discussed and agreed with the Design Organisation.

The agreed RSA actions will be progressed.

.....

Name: [NAME (press F9)]

Organisation: West Sussex County Council

Position: [TITLE (press F9)]

Date: [DATE]