

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	Horsham District Council FAO: Bethan Tinning
FROM:	WSCC – Highways Authority
DATE:	23 April 2026
LOCATION:	Grainingfold Billingshurst RH14 9AT
SUBJECT:	DC/26/0063 Formation of agricultural access and hardstanding (off Horsham Road). An amended plan has been received.
DATE OF SITE VISIT:	n/a
RECOMMENDATION:	No Objection/More information

I refer to your consultation in respect of the above planning application and would provide the following comments.

Principle of Development

The proposal is for a shared gate access to the two separate parcels of land (under separate ownership). A main gate is proposed with 2 separate gates further into the site have also been provided for secure access to each parcel of land.

Following our previous comments, the applicant has undertaken a 7 day ATC survey to establish speeds and traffic volumes in the vicinity of the proposed access. A transport Statement has been provided with a review of the survey.

Transport Statement (TS) – April 2026

Direction	85 th Percentile Speed	WSCC Required SSD
Eastbound	46.3mph	128.7m
Westbound	43.8mph	117.3m

Figure 3.1: Required Stopping Sight Distances

The above table is an extract from the TS which shows the measured 85thile speeds and the required Sight Stopping Distances.

Horizontal splays of 2.4m x 128.7m to the west and 2.4m x 117.3m to the east have been shown on Drawing No.2026-7014-001 Rev A.

These visibility splays are acceptable to the Highway Authority.

Access Design

The access has been described as a bellmouth, however kerb radii have not been shown on the drawing. The access design is wide to allow for farm vehicle manoeuvres. Access has been drawn at over 20m wide at the edge of carriageway and over 10m at the narrowing (main gate location) which has been dimensioned at 9m back from the edge

of carriageway. The main gates need to open inwards and the distance between the edge of the carriageway needs to be sufficient for any farm vehicle to wait clear of the public highway. Confirmation that 9m is sufficient (vehicle/trailer) dependent is required along with confirmation that known farm vehicles can manoeuvre in and out of the site.

A S278/Minor Works Agreement/Licence will be required for works on the public highway, alterations to the kerb radii may be required at that stage of the process.

Details/location of the existing access points onto the land do not appear to have been provided. It is understood that the proposed new access is required to remove conflict with pedestrians/residents happening due to the existing access. Are the existing access points to be removed?

No expected traffic levels have been provided, however it is expected that as this is a farm gate access it is required to service the land only and levels will be low.

Access is to be surfaced using a bonded material.

No objection to the principle of a low use farm gate access at this location. The access of a width that vehicles can easily enter the site and visibility splays will be provided.

Please confirm the following:

- 9m is sufficient to the gates
- Vehicle manoeuvrability within the access
- Low vehicle movements
- Existing access location and if it is to be closed

Debbie Farrell
West Sussex County Council – Planning Services

Works within the Highway – Implementation Team

The applicant is required to obtain all appropriate consents from West Sussex County Council, as Highway Authority, to cover the off-site highway works. The applicant is requested to contact The Implementation Team Leader (01243 642105) to commence this process. The applicant is advised that it is an offence to undertake any works within the highway prior to the agreement being in place.