# WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION

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| **TO:** | Horsham District Council<br>FAO: Kate Turner |
| **FROM:** | WSCC - Highways Authority |
| **DATE:** | 15 March 2024 |
| **LOCATION:** | Rowfold Lodge, Coneyhurst Road, Billingshurst, RH14 9DD |
| **SUBJECT:** | DC/24/0304<br>Prior Notification for Change of Use of Agricultural Building to a single dwellinghouse |
| **DATE OF SITE VISIT:** | N/A |
| **RECOMMENDATION:** | Advice |
| **S106 CONTRIBUTION TOTAL:** | N/A |

**This application has been dealt with in accordance with the Development Control Scheme protocol for small scale proposals.**

This proposal seeks prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building to residential to form a single dwelling (C3 Use). The site is located on Coneyhurst Road, an A-classified road subject to national speed limit in this loation.

Under the current General Permitted Development Order (GPDO), it is permitted development to change use from agricultural to residential (Class C3) subject first to prior approval being granted. As part of the prior approval process, there are a number of matters to be considered. This includes matters relating to highways and transport. However, the GPDO is quite clear as to what highway matters can be considered, namely whether the proposal is likely to result in a material increase or a material change in the character of traffic in the vicinity of the site.

Generally, the change of use from agricultural to residential dwelling would generate a reduction in material use at the site. The existing use would create a certain number of movements throughout the day, whereas the movements associated with residential use would be anticipated within network peaks. Therefore, although the nature of trips would change, the frequency would likely not exceed that of the potential of the current use.

An inspection of collision data supplied to WSCC by Sussex Police over a period the past five years reveals there have been no recorded collisions within the vicinity of the site. Therefore, there is no evidence to suggest the existing access is operating unsafely or that the proposal would exacerbate an existing safety concern.

The WSCC Car Parking Demand Calculator indicates that the proposed development would require at least two car parking spaces. Parking provision has not been demonstrated, although the Planning Statement states that there is sufficient space for parking and turning within existing hardstanding. A review of WSCC mapping suggests there is suitable space within the site for this to be accommodated.

In summary, the movements associated with agriculture have done so safely with no known safety highways concerns, and C3 residential uses are considered less intensive. West Sussex County Council in its role as LHA has therefore considered the proposal on that basis. In principle, the current GPDO gives limited ability to consider wider highway

and transport impacts beyond those set out. The prior approval is therefore considered acceptable in highway terms.

**Kyran Schneider**
**West Sussex County Council – Planning Services**